

(4.) DENNISTON COAL-MINERS.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand.—In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Denniston Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers (hereinafter called "the union") and the Westport Coal Company (Limited) (hereinafter called "the company"), referred to the said Court under section 46 of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894."

The Court, after hearing the parties to the said reference by their agents and representatives, doth hereby award as follows:—

1. The rate to be paid by the company, and to be accepted by the union, for hewing coal in all solid workings shall be 2s. 4d. per ton.

2. Bords to be 18 ft., but not lower than 16 ft.

3. The amounts to be paid by the company and accepted by the union for headings to be as follows: 6 ft., 7s. per yard; 9 ft., 6s. per yard; 12 ft., 5s. per yard.

4. Pillars, tops, and bottoms to be worked by contract, or shift work, at the option of the company.

5. Six-inch sets of timber in bords not to be paid for by the company, but to be put in by the miners without charge.

6. Trucking to be by contract or shift work, at the option of the company.

7. Water to be removed from the working places by the company.

8. Cavilling to be every three months.

9. The amount to be paid by the company and accepted by the union to men taken from the face to be 10s. 6d. per man per day clear of cost.

10. The company to deduct check-weight money from the wages of each miner, if authorised by such miner to do so, under section 19, subsection (7) of "The Truck Act, 1891."

11. All unclaimed boxes to go to the check-weight fund.

12. If work is slack and the men wish it, the company is recommended (but not directed) to distribute the work among the men rather than discharge employés.

13. The working-hours are to remain the same as heretofore.

14. In the event of a workman being dismissed, and the union being dissatisfied, no direction is given, as the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides a remedy.

15. The company is to provide tamping, and place it conveniently for the truckers to take to the face.

16. Stone in the coal and at the top of the coal and in faults, downthrows, and jump-ups is to be paid for by the company, as a matter of right, at a reasonable rate.

17. The prices of different heights of coal to be paid for by the company and accepted by the union are as follows:—Any thickness down to 4 ft., 2s. 4d. per ton; from 4 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in., 2s. 7d. per ton. Below 3 ft. 6 in. to be a deficient place.

18. From 6 ft. down to 4 ft. to be single places.

19. No order is made in respect of the Granity Creek Mine.

20. That, as regards hewing coal and trucking and tipping, so long as there are sufficient capable men at Denniston out of work, the company shall employ these either by contract or day-labour provided they are willing to work at reasonable rates, before the company calls for tenders from outsiders or employs outsiders.

The provisions of this award are to come into force on Monday, the 21st day of September instant, and to continue in force for one year from that date. And the Court doth order that a duplicate of this award be filed in the Supreme Court Office at Hokitika.

In witness whereof the seal of the said Court is hereunto affixed, and the President of the said Court has hereunto set his hand, this 23rd day of September, 1896.

(L.S.)

JOSHUA STRANGE WILLIAMS, President.
