

## (6F.) INANGAHUA GOLD-MINERS.

Before the Board of Conciliation, in the Westland Industrial District.—In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Big River Gold-mining Company (Limited) and the Inangahua Miners' Industrial Union of Workers, and of a reference thereof for settlement.

The Board of Conciliation have the honour to report that they have been unable to bring about any settlement of the above-mentioned dispute satisfactory to the parties thereto; and, after careful consideration upon the questions submitted to them, the following recommendations are made:—

1. Shift bosses : Wages to remain as at present, 11s. 8d. per day. The Board suggests that shift bosses should not be members of union.
2. Timbermen : Wages to remain as at present, 11s. 8d. per day.
3. Rise-, winze-, and shaft-men : Wages to be 10s. per day.
4. Miners : Wages to remain as at present, 9s. 6d. per day.
5. Truckers : Wages to remain as at present, 8s. per day.
6. Battery-feeders : Wages to remain as at present, 8s. per day.
7. This reference is struck out.
8. Pick-and-shovel labour, 8s. 6d. per day.
9. Bushmen : Wages to be 9s. 6d. per day.
10. Men in charge of shifts or batteries : Wages to be 10s. per day.
11. Blanket-washers : Wages to be 8s. per day.
12. Men working rock-drills : Wages to be 10s. per day.
13. Engine - drivers and wheelmen : Stationary, £3 ; with winder's certificates, £3 10s.
14. Blacksmiths : Wages to be 11s. 8d. to 13s. 4d. per day.
- 15 and 16. Bracemen and chambermen : Wages to be 9s. per day.
17. This reference is struck out. (See below.) (Saturday's afternoon shift to leave the mine 11 p.m. Sunday night shift to go on at 1 a.m.)
18. This reference is struck out.
19. Where tenders are called for contracts, written specifications shall be provided to work by.
20. This reference is struck out. (See below.) (The Board will recommend to the Government the advisability of the appointment of an Inspector for gold-mines only.)
21. The Easter holidays are done away with. Christmas holidays to commence Christmas Eve and end New Year's Day, both days inclusive ; and that Queen's Birthday and Labour Day be holidays.
22. This reference is struck out.
23. That necessary work only be performed on Sunday. The extra pay in this clause is struck out.

24. Residents of the district, if competent, to have preference in employment.

Dated at Reefton this 17th day of July, 1897.

On behalf of the Board of Conciliation.

D. MACFARLANE, Chairman.

To the Clerk of Awards, Westland Industrial District.

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The recommendations were unanimously agreed upon by the Board.

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