

(9.) DENNISTON COAL-MINERS.

THIS agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894," this 21st day of October, 1897, between the Westport Coal Company (Limited) Industrial Union of Employers and the Denniston Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers, the said parties to this agreement, agree that—

1. Tonnage rates on all solid workings to be 2s. 4d. per ton. Any place below 4 ft. to be a deficient place.

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

3. Headings: 6 ft., 7s. per yard; 9 ft., 6s. per yard; 12 ft., 5s. per yard.

4. Bottoms: When taking up bottoms in bords the full width, any thickness down to 3 ft. 6 in. to be paid for at pillar rates; from 3 ft. 6 in. down to 2 ft. to be paid for at bord rates; below 2 ft. to be a deficient place.

5. In the event of a man driving narrow work through one pillar to take out another pillar, he shall in all such cases be paid ordinary pillar yardage rates—that is, 4s. per yard.

6. Pillars: Prices to be paid for pillars as follows: Any thickness from 6 ft. 6 in. and upwards, 1s. 8d. per ton; below 6 ft. 6 in. and down to 5 ft. 6 in., 1s. 10d. per ton; below 5 ft. 6 in. and down to 4 ft., 2s. per ton; places below 4 ft. to be deficient places.

7. All pillars below 6 ft. in height to be single places; the manager to have the right to put on two men if necessary.

8. Tops to be classed as pillars.

9. In any height of coal up to 5 ft. 6 in. thick, if stone in coal or stone on top of coal which cannot be kept up, the price to be paid shall be for anything up to the first 3 in. 1d. per ton, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton per inch afterwards. Before any stone scale comes into force the stone must be of sufficient thickness to necessitate its being picked out of coal. Above 5 ft. 6 in. of coal the stone scale shall cease, and no allowance will be made for stone. This scale is not applicable to Big Dip, as special prices are paid there.

10. All coal to be cavelled for every three months. Bords, pillars, and headings: All men who are competent to be included in the cavel; and in any case where a man has finished his place in any section of the mine, and has to remove to another section through scarcity of places, he shall have the first place that is ready in the section which he left.

11. Six-inch sets of timber in bords not to be paid for by the company.

12. Trucking to be by contract or shift work at option of company.

13. Water to be removed from working-places by the company.

14. Men taken from the face to be paid 10s. 6d. per day, clear of cost.

15. The company to deduct check-weigh 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."

16. All unclaimed boxes to go to the check-weigh fund.

17. Working-hours to be the same as heretofore.

18. The company to provide tamping, and place it conveniently for truckers to take to the place.

19. 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 that they are willing to contract or work at reasonable rates, before the company calls for tenders from outsiders or employ outsiders.

20. That the turn of trucks throughout the mine be related as evenly as possible. The prices for Big Dip section to remain as at present.

21. Mechanics: To be the same as heretofore.

The provisions of this agreement to continue in force for one year from this date, 21st October, 1897.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have hereto set their hands, this 21st day of October, 1897, at Westport, in the Colony of New Zealand.

For the Westport Coal Company (Limited) Industrial Union of Employers—

ADAM JAMIESON, Agent.

THOMAS BROWN,

ALFRED B. LINDOP.

For the Denniston Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers—
JOHN FOSTER, Chairman.

Signed, on behalf of the said Westport Coal Company (Limited) Industrial Union of Employers, by Adam Jamieson (agent), and Thomas Brown and Alfred B. Lindop; and on behalf of the Denniston Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers by John Foster (chairman), in the presence of—

C. A. BARTON, Clerk of Awards.