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(5.) FURNITURE TRADES.

Before the Board of Conciliation in the Wellington Industrial District.—In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Wellington Furniture Trade Industrial Union of Workers and the employers of labour in the furniture trade.

The Board, having sat to consider this dispute, and having heard evidence on both sides, on the 16th day of September, 1897, made certain recommendations in writing, a copy whereof is annexed hereto. Fourteen days having elapsed since the making of such recommendations, and no industrial agreement in pursuance thereof having been signed, the Board reports that it has been unable to bring about any settlement of the dispute.

Dated this 1st day of October, 1897.

W. H. QUICK, Chairman.

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Conciliation Board, Wellington District.—In the matter of the dispute between the Industrial Union of Operative Furniture-makers and the employers of labour in the furniture trade.

*Decision of the Board of Conciliation.*

1. That the proportion of apprentices be not more than one to three men, or fraction of the first three men, the proportion to be gauged by full employment of journeymen for two-thirds of the

year; but with the exception that in the case of upholsterers a second apprentice can be allowed as soon as the first has served two years.

2. Time of apprenticeship to be five years. Terms of remuneration to be as follows: First year, 6s.; second, 9s.; third, 12s.; fourth, 15s.; and fifth year, £1 per week.

3. That the minimum wage be 8s. per day.

4. Overtime to be at the rate of time and a quarter for the first four hours, and after that time and a half.

5. That the Board does not deem it advisable to make any suggestion as to piecework. The evidence shows that at present there is so little piecework in the furniture trade in Wellington that the Board is not justified in suggesting any interference with the present state of things, even were it advisable so to do under other circumstances.

6. The employers, in employing labour, shall not discriminate against the members of the union. Employers shall not in the engagement and dismissal of their hands, or in the conduct of their business, do anything directly or indirectly to operate to the injury of the union.

7. That an industrial agreement be drawn up embodying the above recommendations (excepting clause 5), to last one year at least, which may be prolonged by consent of parties.

8. That such agreement be signed by both parties within fourteen days from date, failing which the Board must report that it has been unable to bring about any settlement of the dispute.

Dated this 16th day of September, 1897.

W. H. QUICK, Chairman.