

(20.) DENNISTON COAL-MINERS.

THIS agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894," this 21st day of October, 1898, 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; below 4 ft. to be a deficient place. If the company put in machines in any particular district of the mine to work the high coal then being worked by miners at tonnage rates, the existing rate, 2s. 4d. per ton, shall be paid in that district for any height of coal down to 5 ft.; below 5 ft. to be 2s. 6d. per ton. N.B.—"District" means part of a section of the mine. This does not apply to Big Dip section, for which special rates are paid.

2. Bords to be 18 ft. wide, but in case of bad roof the manager to have the power to reduce the width to not less than 16 ft.

3. Headings: Level and rise headings 6 ft. wide, 7s. per yard; 9 ft. wide, 6s. per yard; 12 ft. wide, 5s. per yard. Wet dip headings as per arrangement.

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. If ordered to drive narrow through a pillar the miner shall be paid ordinary pillar yardage rates—viz., 4s. per yard.

6. Pillars: Prices to be paid for pillars as follows: From 4 ft. up to 5 ft. 6 in., 2s. per ton; from 5 ft. 6 in. up to 6 ft. 6 in., 1s. 10d. per ton; from 6 ft. 6 in. to 9 ft., 1s. 9d. per ton; over 9 ft., 1s. 8d. per ton. Below 4 ft. to be a deficient place.

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 6 ft. 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 6 ft. of coal the stone scale shall cease, and no allowance made for stone. This scale is not applicable to Big Dip, as special charges are paid there.

10. All places which the company desire to be worked by hand-labour at tonnage rates shall be cavilled for every three months. Any new headings being started by hand-labour during the cavil shall be cavilled for among all men who are competent for the work. In any case where a man has finished his place for the time being in any section of the mine, or has to remove to another section from any cause whatever, he shall have the first place that is ready in the section which he left, or return to his own place if it is ready to start during the quarter.

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 the company.

13. Water to be removed from working-places by the company, and if the water is not out when the miner starts work he shall be paid for its removal.

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 wage 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 face.

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 employs outsiders. N.B.—This clause only applies to those men employed by the company and discharged during the terms of this agreement.

20. That the turn of trucks throughout the mine be regulated as evenly as possible.

21. Youths having been employed in the mine for two years and over, and being over the age of eighteen years, to have preference whenever practicable before outsiders, if men are wanted for coal-hewing.

22. When the company are starting machines the men then employed hewing coal shall have the preference of employment if they are competent.

23. Fillers, Machine-men, and Youths: Fillers and machine-men as heretofore. Youths over sixteen years of age, 5s. 6d. per day.

24. Miners' representatives to be permitted to visit the scene of any accident with the manager.

25. Holidays to be Good Friday, Easter Monday, Queen's Birthday, and Labour Day. Christmas holidays to be the same as heretofore.

26. The company shall have the undisputed right to work any part or the whole of the mines by machinery, on giving fourteen days' notice to each individual collier employed in those places where machinery is to be introduced.

The provisions of this agreement to continue in force for one year from this date.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have hereto set their hands, this 21st day of October, 1898, at Westport, in the Colony of New Zealand.

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

ADAM JAMIESON.

THOMAS BROWN.

AFRED B. LINDOP.

Witness—C. E. Warden, Solicitor, Westport.

For the Denniston Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers—

JOHN FOSTER, Chairman.

JAMES PATZ, Secretary.

Witness—G. Leith, Westport.

(21.) GRANITY CREEK COAL-MINERS.

THIS agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894," this 21st day of October, 1898, between the Westport Coal Company (Limited) Industrial Union of Em-