

(9.) AUCKLAND PLUMBERS AND GASFITTERS.

Before the Board of Conciliation, in the Northern Industrial District.—In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Auckland Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Metal-workers' Industrial Union of Workmen, and R. Tudehope and others.

The Board of Conciliation, having taken into consideration all matters arising out of the above dispute, and having taken evidence and heard argument, do hereby recommend as follows:—

1. That the hours per week be optional—not to exceed forty-seven hours per week, ordinary time.

2. That the rate of payment be according to the ability and energy of the employé, the minimum wage to be at the rate of 1s. per hour.

3. That employers pay all fares to and from any job more than one mile and a half beyond the city boundary, and ordinary wages for time going to such job.

4. When working at the North Shore, employés to catch the 7.30 a.m. boat, returning by the 5.10 p.m. ; on Saturdays, returning by the 12.10 p.m. boat. All fares to be paid by the employers.

5. That payment for overtime on work outside the shop shall be as follows: From 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., time and a quarter; after 9 p.m., time and a half; and for work inside the shop—namely, repairs and alterations to employer's plant and machinery—ordinary time only.

6. That for work done on Saturday after 1 p.m. the rate of pay be time and a quarter (subject to reservation, as per clause 5).

7. That for work done on New Year's Day, Easter Monday, Queen's Birthday, Anniversary Day, Boxing Day, and Prince of Wales Birthday the rate of pay shall be at the rate of time and a half up to 5 p.m., and after 5 p.m. double. For Sunday, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, double time (subject to reservation, as per clause 5).

8. That all apprentices shall serve six years, after a probation of three months, with one employer or firm only, the rate of wages to be 6s. per week for the first year, 8s. for the second year, 10s. for the third year, 12s. for the fourth year, 15s. for the fifth year, and £1 for the sixth year. That the number of such apprentices shall be arranged as follows: That each firm shall be entitled to one apprentice, and after that the number employed shall not exceed one extra apprentice to every two journeymen, the proportion to be gauged by full employment of journeymen for two-thirds full time during the previous six months.

9. That workers who at present come under the definition of "improvers," having worked at the trade for any period not exceeding the term of apprenticeship, shall forthwith enter into a proper agreement with an employer to serve the balance of term, and shall receive a certificate on the completion of their term of six years, which shall declare them to be duly qualified journeymen; but that from the date of this industrial agreement no other improvers shall be engaged.

10. That on all country jobs necessitating the employés living away from home, all fares thereto and therefrom shall be paid by the employers, and time of travelling to and from such job, and an additional pay of 3d. per hour, these terms to include apprentices.

11. That employers shall provide men with soldering-bolts, iron pipe-fitting tools, metal-pots, plumbing-irons, mandrills, and files.

12. That wages shall be paid weekly, and on Friday.

13. That any employé who, through age or physical infirmity, may consider himself unable, or may be considered unable, to earn the minimum wage, may apply to the Chairman of the Conciliation Board, who shall then appoint a committee, consisting of two employers and two employés, and himself, or his nominee (not being engaged in the trade) acting as chairman, who may give a certificate to that effect; such certificate to entitle the employé to work for any wage that may be mutually agreed upon by the employer and employé.

14. That this statement shall not take effect until three months after the date of this finding, and shall hold good for two years therefrom.

15. That the penalty for any breach of this statement shall not exceed £10; such penalty to be recoverable before a Stipendiary Magistrate.

16. The recommendations to refer to plumbers and gasfitters, and those following such occupation.

A. H. COLLINS, Chairman.

Supreme Court, Auckland, 21st January, 1899.

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