

## (17.) WAIHI GOLD-MINERS.

Before the Board of Conciliation, Northern Industrial District.—

In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Waihi-Silverton Gold-mines (Limited) and the Thames Miners' Industrial Union, and a reference thereof for settlement.

The Board, having considered this case and heard evidence in this case, recommend as follows:—

1. That the week's work shall consist of forty-six hours for men working day shifts and afternoon shifts, and forty-seven hours for men working night shifts, work to commence on Monday at 1 o'clock a.m. and cease on Saturday at 8 o'clock p.m.

2. That the minimum rate of pay per day shall be: Shift bosses, 10s.; men working in the face, driving or stoping, 8s.; truckers, experienced, 8s.; truckers, inexperienced, 7s. 6d.; blacksmiths, 9s. 6d.; tool-sharpeners, 8s.; engine-drivers, 9s. 6d.; shaft-men, 9s.; shaft-men working in wet shafts for a day of six hours, 9s.; chambers-men, 8s.; brace-men, 8s.; brace-men assistants, 7s. 6d.; rock-drillmen, 9s.; carpenters and timber-men, 9s.; pit-men, 10s.; stokers, 7s. 6d.; filling-in men, 8s.

3. That the proportion of boys or youths employed shall not be more than one to every four competent miners.

4. That all overtime worked between 1 o'clock a.m. on Monday and 11 o'clock p.m. on Saturday shall be paid at the rate of time and a quarter for the first three hours, and time and a half for all overtime worked after the first three hours. Work on Sundays shall be paid at the rate of double time, except in the cases of the influx of water that would be detri-

mental to the progress of the mine, or to secure ground that would in any way be dangerous to human life, or in order to effect repairs to machinery on the surface or below, the neglect of which would cause operations to cease on the recognised working-days, which work shall be paid at ordinary rates.

5. That preference of employment be given to members of the Miners' Union, provided they are equally qualified with non-members to do the particular work required.

6. That this industrial agreement shall continue in operation for a period of two years—viz., from the 1st September, 1899, to the 31st August, 1901. The penalty for any breach of this industrial agreement shall be any sum not exceeding £20.

A. H. COLLINS, Chairman.

Miners' Hall, Waihi, 3rd August, 1899.

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Before the Board of Conciliation, Northern Industrial District.—In the matter of an industrial dispute between the Waihi-Silverton Gold-mines (Limited) and the Thames Miners' Industrial Union, and a reference thereof for settlement.

The Board, having considered this case and having heard evidence and made a recommendation thereon, have been unable to bring about a settlement. The Board have to report that clauses 1 and 3 of the Board's recommendations were accepted by the representative of the Waihi-Silverton Gold-mines (Limited), and that clauses 2, 4, 5, and 6 were rejected. The Board therefore refer the dispute to the Court of Arbitration for settlement.

A. H. COLLINS, Chairman.

Miners' Hall, Waihi, 3rd August, 1899.

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*Statement of Union.*

That the week's work consist of forty-six hours for men working day shift and afternoon shift, and forty-seven hours for men working night shift. Work to commence at 1 a.m. on Monday and cease at 8 p.m. on Saturday.

That the rate of pay per day shall be as follows: Shift bosses, 11s.; men working in face, driving or stoping, 8s.; truckers, experienced, 8s.; truckers, learners, 7s. 6d.; blacksmith, foreman, 9s. 6d.; blacksmith, ordinary, 9s.; tool-sharpeners, 8s.; engine-drivers, 9s. 6d.; shaft-men, 9s.; shaft-men, in wet shafts for six hours, 9s.; chamber-men, 8s.; brace-men, 8s.; brace-men, assistants, 7s. 6d.; rock drill-men, 9s.; carpenters and timber-men, 9s.; pit-men, 10s.; stokers, 8s.; filling-in, experienced men, 8s.; filling-in, inexperienced men, 7s. 6d.

That the proportion of boys employed shall not be more than one to every four competent miners.

That all overtime worked between 1 a.m. on Monday and 11 p.m. on Saturday shall be paid for at the rate of time and a half,

and all overtime worked on Sunday shall be paid for at the rate of double time.

That the three shift bosses—viz., Messrs. Snelgar, Parslow, and Pearse—who have been discharged for declining to accept a reduction in wages be reinstated.

That preference of employment be given to members of the union, provided they are equally qualified with non-members to do the particular work required.

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