

(45.) SHAG POINT COAL-MINERS.

AGREEMENT, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894," and the amendments thereto, this 17th day of May, 1900, between the Shag Point Coal Company and the Otago Coal-miners' Union, in the Industrial District of Otago and Southland. Agreement to continue in force until the 1st day of December, 1901. Particulars as follows:—

1. All places to be balloted for every six months. In case of blanks those drawing them to ballot for the first place or places to start or which may be vacant. One man to ballot for his place out of two or more in the same manner as two or more men would ballot for one place. First man out of a place to be put into the first place vacant or to be broken off.

2. *Small Seam, Present Mode of working.*—

Headings, 6s. per ton.

Levels, 5s. per ton.

Bords, 5s. per ton; when crossing a heading, 6s. per ton.

Buildings in headings to be 8 ft. apart, brushing 7 ft. wide; buildings in bords and levels to be 7 ft. apart, brushing 4 ft. wide; and throughout the small seam the brushing to be no higher than 5 ft.

All places in this seam where a competent miner cannot earn 10s. per day at the above-mentioned rates to be deemed deficient, subject to an investigation by three members of the local committee of the union and the mine-manager.

The miner not to be responsible for the keeping of his road for a greater distance than from the heading to heading, or approximately 2 chains.

3. *No 1 Seam (Upper Portion).*—

Headings, 6s. per ton.

Bords, 5s. per ton for a width of 12 ft.

Levels, shift wages.

Stentons, shift wages.

Deficient places in this seam to be subject to the provisions of paragraph 5 of clause 2.

4. *Blakie Seam*.—All places in this seam to be paid shift wages.

5. *General*.—Company to lay roads and supply all hauling appliances in headings; workmen to lay roads in bords, material at hand.

In No. 5 seam the company to cut off the trucking between the pit-bottom and the lay-by. In No. 1 seam the miner not to truck his coal more than 75 yards from the face without the additional payment of 4d. per ton for every 25 yards or part of 25 yards beyond that distance.

Truckers' wages, 8s. per day. This matter to be settled by the Allandale case.

If a miner be taken from the face to do any work in connection with the mine, either inside or out, shift wages to be paid him.

Shift wages, 10s.

Wet places to be paid shift wages for six-hour shifts.

Boys and youths when on shift wages to be paid as follows: Fourteen to sixteen years of age, 5s.; sixteen to eighteen, 7s. 6d.; eighteen to twenty, 9s.; over twenty, 10s. per shift.

No coal to be worked on shift wages where piece-rates have been fixed.

No more than two persons to work in one place without arrangement having been made between the mine-manager and the local committee of the union.

The workmen not to be called upon for less than a half-day's work, or after 8 o'clock in the morning, unless in a case of uncertainty with regard to truck-supply.

Boxes to be regulated throughout the mine so that each man gets his share.

Boxes to be filled as at present.

6. *Timber*.—6 ft. sets, 2s.; 6 ft. to 8 ft., 2s. 6d.; 8 ft. to 10 ft., 3s. 6d.—that is, when the roof has not to be broken to get the timber up; where the roof has to be broken, extras or shift wages to be paid.

7. Union men to have the preference of employment.

8. Anything not provided for herein to be arranged between the mine-manager and the local committee or secretary of the union. In case of no agreement the matter to be referred to the Chairman of the Conciliation Board, and his decision shall be final.

9. Half-holiday after pay-day during the winter months; a full holiday during the summer months.

Signed on behalf of the Shag Point Coal Company—

THOMAS SHORE, Manager.

Signed on behalf of the Otago Coal-miners' Union—

THOMAS DIXON, Chairman.