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(49.) DUNEDIN SADDLERS.

In the matter of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1894"; and in the matter of a dispute between the Otago Saddlers, Harness- and Collar-makers' Union and certain master saddlers.

The Conciliation Board for the Industrial District of Otago and Southland, having received the necessary proofs establishing its jurisdiction in the above matter, and having heard the parties and considered the evidence, hereby recommends as follows:—

That the parties to the said dispute enter into an industrial agreement for two years from the 1st day of July, 1900, to contain the following provisions:—

1. *Conditional Operation.*—The agreement shall not come into force unless three-fourths of the employers in the district sign it,

unless those who have not signed be brought in by the Court of Arbitration.

2. *Conditions of Labour.*—The recognised hours of work shall be from 8 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on five days of the week, and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, one hour to be allowed each day for dinner (Saturday excepted).

3. All journeymen working at any branch of the trade (except as hereinafter mentioned) shall be paid not less than £2 8s. per week.

4. Any journeyman who considers himself not capable of earning the minimum wage may be paid such less wage as may from time to time be agreed upon in writing between such journeyman and the president and secretary of the Otago Saddlers and Collar-makers' Union and the president and secretary of the Otago and Southland Master Saddlers' Association.

5. All time worked beyond the time mentioned in clause 1, or on holidays, shall be considered overtime, and shall be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter for the first four hours, and time and a half afterwards, on any day except Good Friday, Christmas Day, and Sunday, which shall be paid for at the rate of double time.

6. Holidays to be observed: 1st and 2nd January, Anniversary Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, birthday of reigning Sovereign, Labour Day, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day.

7. Employers shall employ members of the Otago Saddlers, Harness- and Collar-makers' Union in preference to non-members.

8. The proportion of apprentices to journeymen employed by any employer shall not exceed one apprentice to every three journeymen or fraction of three.

9. Men are to give and receive a week's notice of leaving the service or of dismissal, unless dismissed for cause.

10. The term of apprenticeship to be five years, and that the following wages be paid to apprentices: First year, 5s. per week; second year, 10s. per week; third year, 15s. per week; fourth year, £1 per week; fifth year, £1 5s. per week.

Dated this                      day of June, 1900.

[Several of the employers having refused to sign the agreement, the above recommendation was not signed, and it was decided by the Board that the matter be referred direct to the Court.]

G. A. KING, Clerk of Awards.