

(88.) OTAGO COAL-MINERS.—AGREEMENT WITH FORTIFICATION RAILWAY AND COAL COMPANY.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900," this 2nd day of August, 1901, between the Fortification Railway and Coal Company (Limited) and the Otago Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers, in the Industrial District of Otago and Southland. Agreement to continue in force until the 1st December, 1901. Particulars as follows:—

Balloting.

1. All places to be balloted for every three months.
 - (a.) Headings, levels, dips, pillars to be balloted for specially.
 - (b.) The names of those thrown out of the special ballot to be put in the general ballot.
 - (c.) In cases of blanks in the general ballot those drawing them to ballot for the first place or places to start or which may be vacant.
 - (d.) Unsuccessful balloters for special places, if desirous, to ballot for the first special places to start or which may be vacant.
 - (e.) One man to ballot for his place out of two or more men, in the same manner as two or more men would ballot for one place.

Piecework.

2. Bords 14 ft. wide and 6 ft. 6 in. high to be paid at the rate of 3s. 9d. per ton for riddled coal, 3s. filled with the shovel. Three boxes to constitute a ton.

3. Headings 8 ft. wide and 6 ft. 6 in. high to be paid at the rate of 3s. 9d. per ton for riddled coal, 3s. per ton for coal filled with shovel, with a yardage rate of 6s. per yard for one shift, 1s. extra per yard for two shifts.

4. Levels as per tonnage rates as stated for bords, with a yardage rate of 5s. per yard for one shift, 6s. per yard for two shifts.

5. Stentons not less than 12 ft. wide to be paid tonnage rates as stated for bords, with a yardage of 6s. per yard, and 7s. for two shifts.

6. Rates for dips to be arranged between the mine-manager and local committee.

7. The words "three boxes" where used herein mean three boxes of the size now used in the mine, filled with coal up to the

level of the sides of each box, and in the centre to the height of 6 in. above the level of the box.

8. Shift-wage to be 10s. per shift.

9. Deficient places to be paid 10s. per shift, and shall mean places where an average miner is unable to earn shift-wages.

10. Wet places to be paid shift-wages for a six-hour shift, and shall mean places where the miner is standing in water or water dripping on top of him.

11. All timbering required to be done to be paid for by shift-wages.

12. Any miner taken away from the place to do any work, whether inside or outside, to be paid shift-wages.

13. During periods of slackness caused through insufficient trade the manager not to employ any additional men until such time as the mine is working full time.

14. No more than two men to be employed in one place.

15. Picks and other tools to be sharpened and repaired by the company free of cost.

16. Boxes to be equally distributed throughout the mine.

17. Truckers to be paid at the rate arranged between the mine-manager and local committee.

18. The company to truck the coal from the face.

19. Drawing and saving props to be paid at the rate of 1s. 6d. per hour.

20. Pug to be paid at the rate of 1s. per box, except in extra hard places, when it will be settled between mine-manager and local committee.

21. Unionists to have the preference of employment.

NOTE.—There is no clause 22 in the agreement.

23. Dross to be paid at the rate of 1s. per ton.

24. Anything not provided for herein to be arranged between the mine-manager, secretary of the union, or local committee.

Signed for and on behalf of the Fortification Railway and Coal Company (Limited).

THE FORTIFICATION RAILWAY AND COAL COMPANY, (LIMITED).

THOMAS R. FISHER, Acting-Chairman.

M. H. SCOTT, Secretary.

Signed for and on behalf of the Otago Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers.

ROBERT STATHAM, President.

JAMES DONALDSON, Secretary.

(89.) OTAGO TIMBER-YARDS.—RECOMMENDATIONS.

In the matter of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900"; and in the matter of a dispute between the Otago Timber-yards and Sawmills Industrial Union of Workers and the under-mentioned sawmillers and timber merchants, namely: Reid and Gray, Princes Street, Dunedin; Thomson, Bridger, and Co.,