

(113.) UNION STEAMSHIP EMPLOYEES.—RECOMMENDATIONS.

In the Otago and Southland Industrial District.—In the matter of “The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900,” and amendment thereof; and in the matter of a dispute between the Union Steamship Company (Limited) Industrial Union of Employers and (by amendment as to parties) the Dunedin Section of the New Zealand Branch of the Australasian Federated Seamen’s Industrial Association of Workers.

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 their evidence, and having carefully inquired into the said dispute, recommends as follows:—

That the parties to the said dispute enter into an industrial agreement for a period commencing after the expiry of one month from the filing hereof, and enduring until the 1st day of January, 1904; the agreement to contain the following provisions:—

1. The parties agree (subject to the amendments hereinafter mentioned) to extend until the expiry of the said period the operation of the award of the Arbitration Court dated the 30th day of November, 1899, and during such period to be and continue bound by the provisions of the said award according to the tenor thereof.

2. The following amendments in the terms of the said award are agreed to:—

(a.) Clause 23 is to be amended so as to run as follows: Donkeymen’s overtime shall commence from the time when the steam is ordered to be made ready.

- (b.) Clause 28 is to be amended so as to run as follows: When a vessel leaves port on a Sunday, having been in port on the previous day, only those of the crew actually employed in loading mails, luggage, or cargo shall be allowed overtime at schedule rates for the time so employed.
- (c.) Clause 29 is to be amended so as to run as follows: When a vessel leaves port prior to 5 p.m. on a holiday, having been in port the previous day, each man shall be paid not less than 3s. In the event of the men working time that exceeds 3s. in value, such excessive time shall be paid to those employed at schedule rates.
- (d.) Clause 30 is to be amended by the addition thereto of the following paragraph: When a vessel works more than one port on a Sunday or holiday, overtime shall only be paid for the time actually employed, not exceeding in all 8s. and not less than 4s. per man.

Dated this 5th day of December, 1901.

FREDK. CHAPMAN, Chairman.

In this case cross-demands were filed, that filed by the union including a party not bound by that filed by the Union Steamship Company's Industrial Union. This has rendered it necessary for the Board to file two recommendations, but, as the interests of the steamship-owners appear to us to be nearly identical, these two recommendations are identical. The Board had not before it any evidence showing any material difference in the conditions now prevailing from those which prevailed when the Court made the last award; in these circumstances the Board sees no ground for altering the conditions of labour as settled by the Court. Against the allegation that the cost of living has increased, the Board has before it the fear which seems to prevail generally that the Australian Federal tariff will detrimentally affect the interests of carriers by sea. Several minor alterations are recommended by the Board, mainly for the purpose of bringing the award into accord with the interpretation adopted by the parties. It was suggested by the representative of the Union Steamship Company that two of the provisions of the award were inserted inadvertently by the Court. The Board could not attribute a mistake to the Court unless its existence were demonstrated. The Board does not think that the clauses referred to are shown to have been adopted by mistake.

(114.) OTAGO COAL-MINERS (ALLANDALE).

In the Otago and Southland Industrial District.—In the matter of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900"; and in the matter of a dispute between the Otago Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers and the Allandale Coal Company (Limited).