

(619.) OTAGO COAL-MINERS *v.* TARATU-KAITANGATA RAILWAY AND COAL COMPANY.—AGREEMENT.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900," and amendments thereof, this 29th day of May, 1903, between the Taratu-Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company (Limited) and the Otago Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers.

Balloting.

1. All places to be balloted for every three months. (a.) In the case of blanks being drawn, those drawing them to ballot for the first place or places to start, or which may be vacant. (b.) One man to ballot for his place out of two or more places in the same manner as two or more men would ballot for one place. (c.) The first man out of a place to start in the first place vacant, or to be broken off.

Piece Rates.

2. Bords, headings, levels, stentons, crosscuts, and pillars coal to be paid at the rate of 2s. 6d. per ton, filled with harp. Dross shall be paid for at the rate of 1s. per ton.

(a.) Bords to be 14 ft. wide. (b.) Miners breaking away bords narrow to be paid level-yardage rates to such time as a width of 14 ft. is obtained. (c.) Headings not less than 10 ft. wide to be paid 6s. per yard, single shift, in addition to tonnage rate. (d.) Levels not less than 7 ft. wide to be paid 5s. per yard, single shift, in addition to tonnage rates. (e.) Stentons not less than 10 ft. wide to be paid 4s. per yard, single shift, in addition to tonnage rate. (f.) Crosscuts to be paid 6s. per yard, single shift, in addition to tonnage rate.

3. Three and a half boxes of the size now used in the mine filled with coal to 3 in. above the level of the sides of the box to constitute a ton.

4. Dips to be worked on shift wages.

5. The company shall do all trucking.

6. Boxes to be fairly distributed throughout the mine.

7. Shift wages shall be 10s. per shift.

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

9. Men working in wet places shall be paid shift wages for six-hour shifts. If any dispute arises over wet places, the matter to be arranged between mine-manager and two representatives of miners.

10. Shift-men working between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. shall be paid 6d. per shift extra.

11. No coal to be worked on shift wages where piece rates are fixed.

12. No more than two workmen shall be employed in one place on the same shift, unless special arrangements have been made with

regard to price between the mine-manager and committee of the union.

13. All timbering sets to be done by the company. Miners to set props to 12 ft. from working-face.

14. Truckers shall be paid the following rates: From fourteen to fifteen years of age, 4s. per shift; from fifteen to sixteen years of age, 5s. per shift; from sixteen to seventeen years of age, 6s. per shift; from seventeen to eighteen years of age, 7s. per shift; from eighteen to nineteen years of age, 8s. per shift. Over nineteen years a wage to be paid as may be agreed upon between the mine-manager and the committee of the union. For youths of seventeen years of age, and who have had no previous experience in mines, a special wage may be paid as may be agreed upon between the mine-manager and committee of the union.

15. In the event of a vacancy or vacancies occurring in the coal, truckers over the age of eighteen years, and who have been trucking for a period of two years or more, may, with the consent of the manager, ballot for said vacancy or vacancies, provided always that in the event of a trucker so balloting the manager shall have the right to call upon him to act in the capacity of trucker at maximum truckers' wages for the term of one year—that is to say, in the event of there being a scarcity of truckers. Said clause not to apply when a trucker has previously been coal-getting for a period of two years or more.

16. Eight hours from bank-to-bank to constitute a shift.

17. During periods of slackness the manager shall not employ any additional men to such time as the mine is working five days per week, except in the event of men leaving, when he may fill his or their places. This clause not to apply to truckers.

18. Tools to be sharpened and repaired free of cost to workmen.

19. Any miner taken from the face to do any work, either inside or outside the mine, to be paid 10s. per shift.

20. All persons employed on shift to be paid overtime as follows: Not less than time and a quarter for work done through the week, and time and a half on Sundays and holidays.

21. No overtime to be worked by men on piece rates.

Holidays.

22. Christmas Day, Boxing Day, 1st and 2nd January, the King's Birthday, Labour Day, annual picnic-day, Good Friday, and Easter Monday; every pay Saturday during the summer months, and half-holiday during the winter-months. Should any of the above days fall on a Sunday the day following to be observed as a holiday.

23. Pay-day to be every alternate Saturday. The company to supply duplicate pay-tickets, one to be issued two days before pay-day, the other when workmen receive their pay.

24. Unionists to have the preference of employment.

25. Anything not provided for herein may be arranged between the mine-manager and the committee of the union.

26. This agreement shall take effect from the 27th May, 1903, and shall continue in force until the 27th May, 1904.

Signed for and on behalf of the Taratu-Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company (Limited)—

G. B. WATSON, Managing Director.

Witness—Joseph Hollows.

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

DONALD McINNES.

Witness—Hugh Miller.

(620.) OTAGO IRON-WORKERS AND OTAGO IRON-ROLLING MILLS COMPANY.—AGREEMENT.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900," this 22nd day of June, 1903, between the Otago Iron-rolling Mills Company (Limited), Burnside (hereinafter called "the employers"), of the one part, and the Otago Iron-workers' Industrial Union of Workers (hereinafter called "the union"), of the other part, witnesseth that it is hereby mutually agreed by and between the said employers and the said union as follows:—

Furnacemen.

1. Furnacemen shall work eight hours per shift, and the minimum wage shall be 10s. per shift. When they work on Saturdays they shall be paid 1s. 3d. per hour.

Furnace Underhands.

2. Furnace underhands shall work eight hours per shift, and the minimum wage shall be 7s. per shift. They shall be paid 10½d. per hour for Saturday work.

Forge Rolls.

3. Forge-roller shall receive 1s. per ton minimum price. The catcher (forge rolls) shall receive 8d. per ton minimum price. The hooker-up and the dragger-away (forge rolls) shall receive 7d. per ton.

Finished-iron Rollers.

4. The minimum price paid to finished-iron rollers shall be: Head-roller, 1s. 6d. per ton; bolter-up, 1s. 3d. per ton; bolter-down, 1s. 3d. per ton.

Shearman Finished-iron Cutter-down.

5. He shall work eight hours per shift, and the minimum wage shall be 7s. 6d. per shift.