

(1253.) OTAGO COAL - MINERS (CROMWELL AND BANNOCKBURN
COLLIERIES).—CLAIMS OF UNION.*

THE EXCELSIOR, WILSON'S, AND CAIRNUIR KAWARU MINES.

Balloting.

1. All places to be balloted for every three months.

(a.) In the case of blanks being drawn, those drawing them are to ballot for the first place or places to start.

(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 away.

Hewing-rates.

2. For Excelsior and Wilson's Mine, in all places 7 ft. wide and 5 ft. 6 in. high and over, 3s. 9d. per ton. For Kawaru and Cairnmuir

* For award, see March.

Mines, in all places 8 ft. wide and 6 ft. high and over, 4s. per ton. Rails to be laid up to the face.

3. The employer to truck the coal from the face. In places where the rails are not laid up to the face, and the miner is required to drag the bags to the truck, the following rates shall be paid: Any distance up to 25 ft., 3d. per ton extra; over 25 ft. to 50 ft., 6d. per ton shall be paid; over 50 ft., to be arranged between mine-manager and local committee of the union.

4. Places worked on two shifts to be paid 6d. per ton extra. When worked by three shifts, 1s. per ton extra shall be paid. Places worked by two men on the same shift to be paid for at the rate of 6d. per ton extra.

5. Sixteen 4-bushel bags to constitute a ton. Bags to be equally distributed throughout the mine.

6. Deficient places to be paid shift wages, and to mean places driven through soft, stony, or faulty coal, and in the case of Kawaru Mine places under 8 ft. wide and 6 ft. high.

7. Wet places shall be paid shift wages for a six-hours shift. A "wet place" to mean a place where water is dropping from the roof or lying underfoot and the miner cannot keep dry.

8. When miners are employed on shift wages they shall be paid 11s. per shift.

9. No shift man to be employed in a place where piece rates have been fixed.

10. Any workman taken away from the face to do any work, whether inside or outside the mine, to be paid shift wages—viz., 11s. per shift.

11. Every workman to receive an equal share of work.

12. All timbering-work to be done on shift wages.

13. During periods of slackness the manager shall not employ any additional men until such times as the mine is working full time.

14. Wages to be paid fortnightly.

15. Workmen to provide their own picks, all other tools to be provided by the employer. The employer shall sharpen all tools free of cost to the workmen.

16. Workmen to provide their own lamps. Tallow or oil to be provided by the employer.

17. Preference of employment to be given to members of the Otago Coal-miners' Industrial Union of Workers, provided there are members of the union ready and willing to do the work required of them.

18. The union shall keep at the Bannockburn Post-office a book, to be called "the employment-book," wherein shall be entered the names, addresses, and occupation of members of the union who shall from time to time be desirous of obtaining employment with any of the employers mentioned herein.

19. The employers shall not, in the engagement or dismissal of their hands, discriminate against members of the union, nor in the conduct

of their business do anything for the purpose of injuring the union, whether directly or indirectly.

20. Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter. Time and a half shall be paid for all time worked on Sundays and statutory holidays.

21. Anything not herein provided for to be arranged between the mine-manager and local committee of the union. Should they fail to agree, the matter may be referred to the Chairman of the Conciliation Board for this district. His decision shall be final.
