

CANTERBURY INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.

(1197.) CHRISTCHURCH GAS STOKERS AND COKERS. — CLAIMS OF UNION.

HOURS OF LABOUR.

1. Forty-eight hours shall constitute a week's work. The work to be performed in shifts of eight hours each.

SUNDAY SHIFTS.

2. The shifts between the hours of 12 o'clock on Saturday night and 12 o'clock on Sunday night shall be termed Sunday shifts, and shall be paid double-time rates.

OVERTIME.

3. All time worked in extension of eight hours shall be paid at the rate of time and a half.

HOLIDAYS.

4. For work done on the following holidays double time shall be paid: Labour Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, birthday of the reigning Sovereign, and Prince of Wales's Birthday (or picnic-day).

WAGES.

5. The rate of wages shall be 10s. for a shift of eight hours.

TEMPORARY YARD-WORK.

6. When, owing to the gas-holders being full, or any other cause, cokers or stokers are sent into the yard to work temporarily, no reduction shall be made in the rate of wages.

VENTILATION.

7. That for the purpose of giving proper ventilation there be open doorways at distances of not more than 17 ft. apart from opening to opening.

WHEELING OF COAL.

8. Provision shall be made in the placing of coal so that no stoker shall be required to wheel it more than 11 yards.

CHARGING OF RETORTS.

9. The number of retorts to be charged in any one shift shall not exceed nineteen.

CLEANING OF FIRES.

10. The cleaning of fires not to be considered stokers' work.

VACANCIES FOR FOREMANSHIP.

11. When there is a vacancy for the position of foreman, stokers already in the employ of the Christchurch Gas Company to have preference of appointment.

WINTER HANDS.

12. When a winter hand finishes up in the stoke-house, he shall get preference of yard-work before outsiders.

POSITION OF STOKERS.

13. Every stoker to be put in or out of the stoke-house in his proper turn, subject to his conduct and ability being satisfactory to the manager.

LIGHTS IN YARD AND STOKE-HOUSE.

14. The yard and stoke-house shall be kept well lighted during night shifts.

DINING-ROOMS.

15. Suitable dining-rooms shall be provided, the employers to be responsible for the same being kept in a clean and sanitary condition. Lockers shall also be provided, one for each shift.

SIZE OF SCOOPS.

16. No scoop shall exceed 90 lb. in weight when empty.

PREFERENCE.

17. If and so long as the rules of the union shall permit, any person of good character and of sober habits may become a member of the union upon payment of an entrance fee not exceeding 5s. upon his written or verbal application without ballot or other election, and so to continue upon payment of subsequent contributions not exceeding 6d. per week.

Members of the union shall be employed in preference to non-members, providing there are members of the union ready and willing to perform the work.

DISMISSAL.

18. Twenty-four hours' notice shall be given before any stoker is dismissed. Stokers shall also be required to give twenty-four hours' notice before leaving the employ.

RECOMMENDATION.

SIR,—

The Conciliation Board for the Industrial District of Canterbury, 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, recommend as follows :—

HOURS OF LABOUR.

Clause 1.—The week's work shall consist of seven shifts of eight hours each, except when there are Sunday shifts, which shall be between the hours of 12 o'clock on Saturday night and 12 o'clock on Sunday night.

OVERTIME.

Clause 2.—All time worked in extension of eight hours, time and quarter first four hours, and time and half for all time if more than four hours is worked continuously. This shall not apply to the Sunday shift.

HOLIDAYS.

Clause 3.—For work done on the following holidays double time shall be paid : Labour Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, birthday of the reigning Sovereign, and Prince of Wales's Birthday (or, in lieu thereof, picnic-day).

WAGES.

Clause 4.—The rate of wages shall be 9s. 3d. for a shift of eight hours.

CHARGING OF RETORTS.

Clause 5.—The number of retorts to be charged in any one shift shall not exceed nineteen.

CLEANING THE FIRES.

Clause 6.—The cleaning of fires not to be considered stokers' work.

WINTER HANDS.

Clause 7.—When a winter hand finishes up in the stoke-house he shall get preference of yard-work before outsiders.

PREFERENCE.

Clause 8.—If and so long as the rules of the union shall permit, any person of good character and of sober habits may become a member of the union upon payment of an entrance fee not exceeding 5s. upon his written or verbal application, without ballot or other election, and so to continue upon payment of subsequent contributions not exceeding 6d. per week. Members of the union shall be employed in

preference to non-members, providing there are members of the union equally qualified and ready and willing to perform the work.

DISMISSAL.

Clause 9.—Twenty-four hours' notice shall be given before any stoker is dismissed. Stokers shall also be required to give twenty-four hours' notice before leaving the employ.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT.

Clause 10.—This recommendation to come into force on the 7th day of March, 1907, and remain in force till the 7th day of March, 1909, if not objected to on or before the 7th day of March, 1907.

Dated the 6th day of February, 1907.

J. R. TRIGGS, Chairman.

The Clerk of Awards, Christchurch.
