

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT.

(1728.) DUNEDIN GAS STOKERS AND COKERS.—AGREEMENT.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908," this 4th day of November, 1908, between the Corporation of the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Dunedin (hereinafter called "the employer") of the one part and the Dunedin Gas Stokers' and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers (hereinafter called "the union") of the other part, witnesseth that it is hereby mutually agreed between the employer and the union as follows:—

Hours.

1. A day's work shall consist of three shifts of eight hours each, except where for the purpose of changing shifts twelve hours may be worked. All work done on Sundays shall be paid for at time-and-a-quarter rates, and not less than eight hours shall be worked by any one stoker.

2. Shifts shall commence at 8 o'clock a.m., 4 o'clock p.m., and 12 o'clock midnight, except when changing shifts, when they shall commence at 12 o'clock noon and 12 o'clock midnight. Shifts shall be changed fortnightly.

3. The Dunedin Gas-stokers' Union will undertake to some extent the responsibility of insuring a member turning out to work, in so far as for each and every defaulter the union shall pay 5s. per shift, such forfeit to be given to a relief man in addition to the ordinary shift-pay.

4. The employer reserves to itself the right of altering such hours in the event of the change proving detrimental to the interests of the employer.

Wages.

5. The wages of stokers shall be ten shillings (10s.) per shift of eight hours (paid fortnightly).

Holidays.

6. For work done on the following holidays double time shall be paid: New Year's Day, Good Friday, Picnic Day, Labour Day, birthday of the reigning sovereign, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day.

General Conditions of Labour.

7. When the ascension-pipes are badly blocked, extra hands shall be employed to clear them. Stokers working on the top floor shall be exempt from cleaning fires.

8. When a vacancy for the position of leading stoker occurs, stokers at present employed at the gasworks and who are members of the Dunedin Gas Stokers' and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers shall have preference of appointment to the position.

9. When a winter hand finishes up in the retort-house he shall have preference of yard-work before all men entering the service on the same date or thereafter, provided he is a member of the Dunedin Gas Stokers' and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers.

10. All stokers shall be put in or out of the retort-house in their proper turn.

11. Stokers shall be exempt from riddling ashes, also from going outside the coal-shed for coal or shale.

12. Stokers shall not shovel or wheel coke to a height exceeding 6 ft. 6 in. Coke-heaps shall be sufficiently lighted at night.

13. No stoker shall charge or draw on an average more than sixteen (16) retorts per shift of eight hours, nor more than twenty-four (24) per shift of twelve hours.

14. When a stoker is stood off in consequence of a bed being let down, he shall make up his week's work at yard-work.

15. Preference of employment shall be given to members of the Dunedin Gas Stokers' and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers.

16. This agreement shall remain in force for the term following (which shall not exceed three years), that is to say—during

such time as carbonising operations are carried on under the present conditions—and shall lapse when the new plant is in operation, and thereafter a new agreement shall be entered into.

The common seal of the Corporation of the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of the City of Dunedin was hereto affixed in the presence of—

[Seal.]

J. McDONALD, Mayor.

THOS. SCOTT, Councillor.

Signed on behalf of the union.

[Seal.]

W. HUNT, President.

J. HAYMES, Secretary.