

(1778.) WANGANUI GAS STOKERS, TRIMMERS, AND COKERS—
AGREEMENT.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of "The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908," this twentieth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and nine, between the Wanganui Gas Stokers, Trimmers, and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers, a duly registered industrial union having its registered office in the Town of Wanganui, in the Wellington Industrial District (herein called the "union"), of the one part, and the Mayor, councillors, and burgesses of the Borough of Wanganui (herein called "the Borough Council") of the other part, whereby it is mutually agreed as follows:—

1. That, as between the parties hereto the terms, conditions, stipulations, and provisions contained and set out in the Schedule hereto shall be binding upon the said parties, and the said terms, conditions, stipulations, and provisions shall be deemed to be and they are hereby incorporated in and declared to form part of this agreement.

2. That the said parties hereto shall respectively do, observe, and perform every matter and thing by this agreement and by the said terms, conditions, stipulations, and provisions respectively required to be done, observed, and performed, and shall not do anything in contravention of this agreement or of the said terms, conditions, stipulations, and provisions, but shall in all respects abide by and perform the same.

THE SCHEDULE HERETO.

Stokers' Regulations for Retort-house.

1. A week's work shall consist of seven shifts. A shift or working-day shall consist of eight hours. Thirty minutes to be allowed each man per shift for meals. The whole of the stokers shall not be absent from the retort-house at one time during the shift.

2. The maximum number of retorts to be drawn and charged in each shift not to exceed sixteen (16) for each stoker. Should blocks occur frequently, the manager to supply assistance for cleaning blocks.

3. *Weight of Charges.*—The maximum weight of coal per charge shall not exceed two and one-half ($2\frac{1}{2}$) cwt. in two scoops.

4. *Gasmaking stopped.*—When gasmaking has to be stopped through the holders being full, stokers shall not be required to work in the yard excepting in case of breakdowns or accidents, when stokers shall render assistance to repair the damage or defects if required.

5. *Shortening Hands.*—In shortening hands in the retort-house, work to be found in the yard for those coming out of the retort-house, if possible, but no employee to be discharged to make room.

6. *Rate of Wages.*—The leading stokers shall be paid 10s. per shift of eight (8) hours, the ordinary stokers 9s. 6d.

7. *Holidays.*—Twelve holidays on full pay every twelve months—to be taken in December, January, February, or March. On leaving the employment, holidays to be allowed at the rate of one per month. No holidays to be allowed for until employee has served at least six months.

8. *Payment of Wages.*—Wages shall be paid weekly on Friday of each week, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

9. *Preference.*—If the gas-manager or other person in charge of the gasworks shall hereafter engage any worker as a stoker who shall not be a member of the union and who, within three calendar months after his engagement by his employer, shall not become and remain a member of the union, the employer shall dismiss such worker from its service if requested to do so by the union, provided there is then a member of the union equally qualified to perform the particular work required to be done, and ready and willing to undertake the same.

10. The provisions of the foregoing clause shall operate only if and so long as the rules of the union shall permit any person of good character and sober habits to become a member of the union upon payment of an entrance fee not exceeding five shillings (5s.), upon a written or verbal application without ballot or other election, and to continue a member upon payment of subsequent contributions not exceeding 6d. per week.

11. A notice-board to be hung in the retort-house, and all notices or alterations in the mode of working, such as the size of charges, to be noted on the board, and signed by the person having authority to place such notice on the board.

This agreement shall continue in force for a period of twelve calendar months from date of the making thereof—namely, this twentieth day of February, 1909.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have executed these presents.

The common seal of the Wanganui Gas Stokers, Trimmers, and Cokers' Industrial Union of Workers was hereto affixed in accordance with a resolution of the union confirmed at a special meeting convened for that purpose, and this agreement was signed by the undersigned, the chairman and the secretary of the said union.

ALEXANDER ROBB,
Chairman of Union.

ANDREW BLACK, V.P.

THEOPHILUS GEORGE LOVE,
Secretary of Union.

[Seal.]

The common seal of the Mayor, Councillors, and Burgesses of the Borough of Wanganui was hereto affixed in accordance with a resolution of the Wanganui Borough Council by and in the presence of—

C. E. MACKAY, Mayor.
G. MURCH, Town Clerk.

[Seal.]