

(5431.) CANTERBURY SADDLERS, HARNESSMAKERS, COLLAR-
MAKERS, AND BAGMAKERS.—ORDER AMENDING AWARD.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Canterbury Industrial District.—In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, and its amendments; and in the matter of the War Legislation and Statute Law Amendment Act, 1918; and in the matter of the Canterbury Saddlers, Harnessmakers, Collarmakers, and Bagmakers' award dated the 17th day of October, 1918, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. xix, p. 940.

UPON reading the application of the Christchurch Saddle, Harness, and Collar Makers' Industrial Union of Workers filed herein on the 13th day of June, 1919, and upon hearing the duly appointed representatives of the said union and of the employers parties to the said award, this Court, having regard to all the relevant considerations and being of opinion that it is just and equitable to amend the said award, doth hereby order that the said award shall be amended in manner following, that is to say—

1. Clause 1 of the said award shall be deleted, and the following provisions substituted therefor:—

“ 1. The hours of work shall be forty-eight in each week. On Saturday in each week the hours of work shall expire not later than 1 p.m., except in districts where the statutory half-holiday is on any other day of the week, when the hours of work shall expire not later than 1 p.m. on that day. All time worked beyond the time mentioned in this clause or on holidays shall be considered overtime, and shall be paid for at the rate of time and a half for the first three hours, and thereafter double time on any day except the days mentioned in clause 10 of the said award, on which days, including Sundays, all work shall be paid for at the rate of double time. Any time lost through the worker's own default in any one week shall be made up before overtime rates shall be payable. By mutual agreement between the individual employer and his workers the dinner-hour may be curtailed to not less than half an hour.”

2. The following additional subclause shall be added to clause 3 of the said award:—

“(e.) In addition to the minimum wage prescribed in sub-clause (a) of this clause there shall be paid to journeymen a bonus of 2½d. per hour unless and until the Court shall otherwise order.”

3. This order shall operate and take effect from the 22nd day of September, 1919.

Dated this 12th day of September, 1919.

T. W. STRINGER, Judge.

MEMORANDUM.

The present minimum rate throughout the Dominion for journeymen saddlers, who are admittedly skilled workers, is 1s. 6d. per hour, and this rate was agreed to by the employers and workers in the industry in the Auckland District when before the Conciliation Council in the early part of this year, and the agreement was embodied in an award of the Court dated the 12th day of February, 1919. In June last an application was made by the Auckland Saddlers' Union under the War Legislation and Statute Law Amendment Act, 1918, for an increase of such minimum rate, but the Court refused the application on the ground that the union had failed to prove any increase in the cost of living since the award above mentioned was made, and therefore was not entitled to any amendment of the award.

Since the refusal of such application the Court has had to deal with similar applications made on behalf of the Saddlers' Unions in Otago and Canterbury, with the result that the Court is now satisfied that it is anomalous and inequitable that the minimum rate for these skilled workers should remain at 1s. 6d. per hour, which is the amount now being paid to unskilled workers. In order, therefore, to place the journeymen saddlers in a position more in accordance with that of other skilled workers than they at present occupy the Court has decided to amend the existing awards by adding to the present minimum rate a bonus of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, and this order is made accordingly. The rates of overtime have been brought into conformity with the rates recently granted in the Otago and Southland Industrial District.

T. W. STRINGER, Judge.