

(6091.) NORTHERN, TARANAKI, WELLINGTON, CANTERBURY, AND OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS MALE BOOT OPERATIVES.—ORDER AMENDING AWARD.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Northern, Taranaki, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago and Southland Industrial Districts.—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 Northern, Taranaki, Wellington, Canterbury, and Otago and Southland Industrial Districts Male Boot Operatives' award, dated the 19th day of October, 1918, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. xix, p. 975; and in the matter of an order amending the said award dated the 17th day of December, 1919, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. xx, p. 1454.

Upon reading the application of the union party to the said award filed herein on the 26th day of May, 1920, 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, and by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred by the said Acts and of every other power in that behalf enabling it, doth hereby order that the said award shall be amended in manner following, that is to say—

1. The said order dated the 17th day of December, 1919, is hereby cancelled, and this order is substituted therefor.

2. Clause 9 of the said award shall be deleted, and the following provisions substituted therefor:—

“ 9. (a.) Except where otherwise herein provided the minimum rate of pay for all workers within the scope of this award shall be not less than 1s. 6d. per hour.

“ (b.) The wage in every case is an hourly one, and a worker shall be entitled to be paid only for the time actually worked.

“ (c.) The above minimum wage shall be increased by a bonus of 3½d. per hour unless and until the Court shall otherwise order.”

3. Clause 11 of the said award shall be deleted, and the following provisions substituted therefor:—

“ 11. (a.) An ordinary working-week shall consist of forty-five hours. Any time worked beyond these hours shall be paid for at

the rate of time and a half for the first three hours, and thereafter double time.

“(b.) In computing the amount payable for overtime the bonus hereinbefore mentioned shall be excluded from the computation.

“(c.) If a public holiday intervenes, or time is lost under the direction of the employer, the time thus lost shall be deducted from the forty-five hours and not from the overtime.”

4. This order shall operate and take effect as from the 1st day of May, 1920.

Dated this 12th day of August, 1920.

T. W. STRINGER, Judge.

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MEMORANDUM.

At the hearing of this application the union asked for an alteration in the basic wage. This, however, meant a new classification of the workers, and, although it was admitted by the employers that many of the workers were highly skilled, and that a new classification was desirable, the Court did not have sufficient data before it to do so. In so highly technical a trade as the boot manufacturing industry undoubtedly is the Court is of opinion that the classification of the skill of the workers can best be done by a conference of experts, who are only to be found amongst the parties themselves. In view of the early expiration of the award the Court recommends that this course be adopted.

T. W. STRINGER, Judge.