

(7300.) WANGANUI GASWORKS EMPLOYEES: VERTICAL
RETORTS.—INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT.

In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, and its amendments; and in the matter of an industrial agreement between the Mayor, Councillors, and Burgesses of the Borough of Wanganui and the Wanganui Gasworks Employees Industrial Union of Workers.

THIS industrial agreement, made in pursuance of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, and its amendments, this 26th day of September, 1922, between the Mayor, Councillors, and Burgesses of the Borough of Wanganui (hereinafter called "the Council") of the one part, and the Wanganui Gasworks Employees Industrial Union of Workers (hereinafter called "the union") of the other part, whereby it is mutually agreed by and between the Council and the union as follows:—

SCHEDULE.

Hours of Work.

1. A week's work shall consist of seven shifts. A shift or working-day shall consist of eight hours. Thirty minutes shall be allowed each man per shift for meals.

Shortening Hands.

2. In shortening hands in respect to vertical-retort workers, work is to be found in the yard if possible for those being dispensed with, but no employee is to be discharged to make room.

Rate of Wages.

3. Each vertical-retort worker shall receive 16s. per shift of eight hours in addition to the cost-of-living bonus at the rate of 8s. per week; such cost-of-living bonus to be retained during the currency of this agreement.

Stokers' Duties.

4. (a.) So long as the conditions of manufacture of gas remain unaltered, one stoker shall be employed for every 8 tons of coal carbonized during each twenty-four hours. In the event of having to increase or reduce the number of retorts working or the quantity of coal to be used, the duties of the stoker shall be again reviewed.

The stokers shall do everything required for the making of gas and the proper and successful working of the retorts, with the exception of clinking the fires. A special man shall be employed to do this latter work.

Coal-trimmers' Duties.

(b.) One coal-trimmer shall be employed for every 20 tons of coal that has to be shovelled or wheeled into the coal-crusher. The trimmer shall shovel or wheel coal from the coal-store into the crusher,

and shall see that the same is crushed and sent up and tipped into the coal-hoppers where required. When the boat is discharging coal into the coal-stores and no coal has to be wheeled, one trimmer shall attend to the crusher, and work shall be provided for the other trimmer on the works.

Holidays.

5. (a.) Fourteen days' holiday on full pay for each twelve months shall be allowed each worker, such holiday to be taken in one of the months of December, January, February, or March of each year, as the Council shall determine.

(b.) In the event of an employee leaving the service of the Council or being discharged therefrom, he shall be paid for such proportion of his holidays as have accrued due up to the time of his leaving or being discharged.

Termination of Employment.

6. One week's notice of intention to terminate employment shall be given either by the employee or the Council.

Payment of Wages.

7. Wages shall be paid weekly on the Friday of each week, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Preference.

8. (a.) If the gas manager or any other person in charge of the gasworks shall hereafter engage any worker as a vertical-retort worker who shall not be a member of the union, and who within seven days after his engagement shall not become a member of the union and remain a member, 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.

(b.) Provided further that if a worker is engaged as a casual hand, and is a member of the Wanganui Labourers' Industrial Union of Workers or any other union of workers, it shall not be obligatory upon such worker to become a member of the union.

(c.) The provision 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 thereof upon payment of an entrance fee not exceeding 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.

Branch of Trade to which this Agreement refers.

9. (a.) This agreement shall have reference to the coaling, working, and charging of vertical retorts.

(b.) Clauses 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 8 shall also apply to the coaling, working, and charging of horizontal retorts if such retorts are at any time used wholly or partially for the manufacture of gas.

Term of Agreement.

10. This agreement shall come into force on the 1st day of September, 1922, and shall continue in force until 1st September, 1923.

The common seal of the Mayor, Councillors, and Burgesses of the Borough of Wanganui was hereto affixed by and in the presence of—

[SEAL.]

T. BOSWALL WILLIAMS, Mayor.

G. MURCH, Town Clerk.

Signed and sealed on behalf of the Wanganui Gasworks Employees Industrial Union of Workers—

[SEAL.]

HARRY JAMES DUFFY, President.

WILLIAM JAMES ROGERS, Secretary.

NOTE.—Section 25, subsection (4), of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, provides that, notwithstanding the expiry of the term of the industrial agreement, it shall continue in force until superseded by another industrial agreement or by an award of the Court of Arbitration, except where the registration of an industrial union of workers bound by such agreement has been cancelled.