(7907.) NORTHERN, WELLINGTON, NELSON, AND OTAGO AND SOUTH-LAND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS RETAIL SHOP-ASSISTANTS.— EXEMPTION FROM CLOSING-HOURS.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Northern Industrial District.—In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, and its amendments; and in the matter of section 69 of the Shops and Offices Act, 1921–22; and in the matter of the Northern, Wellington, Nelson, and Otago and Southland Industrial Districts Retail Shop-assistants' award, dated the 17th day of March, 1924, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. xxv, p. 111.

Wednesday, the 8th day of October, 1924.

Upon reading the applications of the undermentioned occupiers of retail shops for exemption from the provisions of clause 22 (a) of the Northern, Wellington, Nelson, and Otago and Southland Industrial Districts Retail Shop-assistants' award, dated the 17th day of March, 1924, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. xxv, p. 111, fixing the closing-hours of all shops in which the industries to which the award relates are carried on, and upon hearing counsel for the said occupiers, this Court, being of the opinion that the observance of the closing-hours fixed by the said award would cause undue hardship to the said occupiers, and by virtue of and in exercise of the powers conferred by the said Acts, and of every other power in that behalf thereunto enabling it, doth hereby order as follows:—

1. That during such time as the undermentioned occupiers shall (a) close their shops at 12 o'clock noon on the day of the statutory closing-day in each week, and not later than 6 p.m. on four other working-days of the week and at 9 p.m. on the day of the late night, and (b) comply with the provisions of the Shops and Offices Act, 1921–22, the said occupiers shall be exempt from the provisions of the said

clause 22 (a).

2. That the Court reserves to itself the power at any time to revoke or vary this order or substitute another order therefor.

3. That the occupiers hereinbefore referred to and their places of business are as follows:—

Gardner and Co., Mercers and Drapers, Taumarunui.

Goodman, M., Draper, Taumarunui.

4. That this order shall operate and take effect as from the day of the date hereof.

L.S.

F. V. Frazer, Judge.

MEMORANDUM.

This order is made in view of special circumstances obtaining at Taumarunui. The nature of the train-services and other conditions are unusual. This order accordingly is not to be regarded as a precedent. If assistants are employed after 8.30 p.m. on the late night they must be paid overtime rates for time worked after 8.30 p.m.