

(11255.) **NORTHERN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT SADDLERS, HARNESS, COLLAR, AND COVER MAKERS; NORTHERN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT BAG-MAKERS.**—DETERMINATION OF CONCILIATION COMMISSION.

In the matter of the Finance Act, 1936, section 15 (3); and in the matter of a dispute between the Auckland Saddlers, Harness-makers, Collar-makers, Bag-makers, and Bridle-cutters' Industrial Union of Workers, and J. Wiseman and Sons, Ltd., Manufacturers, of Auckland.

DECISION OF CONCILIATION COMMISSIONER.

WHEREAS a question has been submitted for my decision as to what rate of wages are payable to saddlers, harness-makers, &c., and also to bag-makers, as from the 1st day of July, 1936, employed under the provisions of the Northern Industrial District Saddlers, Harness, Collar, and Cover Makers, and the Northern Industrial District Bag-makers awards, respectively: I find the facts to be as follows:—

An award known as the Northern Industrial District Saddlers and Harness and Bag-makers award dated the 11th September, 1924, was in force when the General Order of the Court of Arbitration dated the 29th May, 1931, imposing the 10-per-cent. cut in wages became operative. The award was superseded by industrial agreements until February, 1935, when bag-makers were provided for in a separate award which came into force, together with a saddlers and harness-workers' award on the 5th February, 1935.

The separation of bag-makers from saddlers was perpetuated by an award for each section made on the 31st March, 1936,

when bag-makers had their total weekly hours of work reduced from 48 to 44, while the hours for saddlers remained at 48 per week. By order of the Court of Arbitration the 40-hour week became operative from 1st September, 1936, in respect of all workers covered by the afore-mentioned awards.

The Finance Act, 1936 (section 15 (3)) provides in effect that the rate of wages ruling prior to the imposition of the 10-per-cent. cut shall be restored.

I find that whatever change occurred in the hours of work subsequent to the 10-per-cent. cut, either by agreement or pursuant to an Order of the Court of Arbitration made pursuant to section 21 of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment Act, 1936, such change did not affect the right of any worker employed under the provisions of the current awards from receiving the benefits of the restoration of rates of pay to the level ruling prior to the 10-per-cent. cut.

In other words, 48 hours' pay must be given for 40 hours' work as from the 1st day of September, 1936.

Dated at Auckland, this 22nd day of September, 1936.

R. E. PRICE, Conciliation Commissioner.
