SOUTHLAND GROCERS' ASSISTANTS.—APPLICATION FOR NEW AWARD.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Otago and Southland Industrial District.—In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925, and its amendments; and in the matter of the Southland grocers assistants' dispute between the Southland Grocers Assistants' Industrial Union of Workers and the Southland Master Grocers' Association, Dee Street, Invercargill and others.

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT, DELIVERED BY O'REGAN, J.

This is an application for a new award for grocers' assistants to cover the Southland portion of the Otago and Southland Industrial District. The evidence was heard by this Court prior to Mr. Justice Page's illness. Decision was reserved, and Mr. Justice Page has been unable since to deal with the evidence.

As now constituted, the Court feels that it is impracticable to deal adequately with evidence which the Acting-Judge has not heard, and accordingly it has been decided to make no

award at the present stage.

As there is a large number of awards in the grocery trade expiring shortly and about the same time, the Court is of opinion that the time is opportune for the pronouncement of a Dominion award. The trade appears to be carried on throughout New Zealand on more or less uniform lines, and the Court accordingly inclines to the view that a Dominion award is desirable.

Dated this 14th day of June, 1937.

L.S.

P. J. O'REGAN, Judge.