

NORTHERN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (EXCEPT POVERTY BAY)
FELLMONGERS, TANNERS, AND SOAP-WORKERS.—DETERMINATION
 OF CONCILIATION COMMISSIONER.

In the matter of the Finance Act, 1936, Part II, section 15 (3), and in the matter of a dispute between the Auckland Carriers and Beamsmen's Industrial Union of Workers, and parties to the current Northern Industrial District (except Poverty Bay) Fellmongers, Tanners, and Soap-workers' award, dated 19th July, 1934, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. XXXIV, p. 372.

DECISION OF CONCILIATION COMMISSIONER.

WHEREAS a question has been submitted for my decision, by the Honourable the Minister of Labour, to the following purport:—

What wages should be paid to beamsmen as from the 1st day of July, 1936, pursuant to the provisions of section 15 (3) of Part II of the Finance Act, 1936,—

I find the following facts:—

That prior to the general order of the Court of Arbitration dated the 29th day of May, 1931, which provided for the reduction of the wages of all workers covered by awards, &c., the wage for beamsmen was prescribed by the Northern Industrial District Beamsmen's award, Volume XXII, p. 183, as amended by two general orders of the Court of Arbitration dated the 10th May, 1922, and the 22nd November, 1922—viz., 2s. 1½d. per hour. The weekly hours prescribed immediately prior to the aforementioned order were forty-eight, which gave a wage per week of £5 3s.

Section 15 of the Finance Act, 1936, shows that the purpose of the section was to abrogate the effect of the general order of the Court of Arbitration dated the 29th day of May, 1931, by increasing the rates of remuneration fixed by all awards to the extent of restoring the original earnings per week.

In exercise, therefore, of the powers conferred upon me, and directions given by section 15 (3) of the said Act,—

I find that, as from the 1st day of July, 1936, beamsmen were entitled to be paid for a prescribed week's work not less than they received prior to the enforcement of the order of the Court of Arbitration dated the 29th day of May, 1931—viz., £5 3s. per week. The question of a variation in the hours of work per week from the original forty-eight hours does not affect the position.

Dated at Auckland, this 9th day of March, 1937.

(Sgd.) R. E. PRICE, Conciliation Commissioner.