

WELLINGTON INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT (EXCEPT WANGANUI DISTRICT) **FURNITURE TRADE.**—APPRENTICESHIP ORDER.

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Wellington Industrial District.—In the matter of the Apprentices Act, 1923, and its amendments; and in the matter of the conditions of apprenticeship in the furniture trade in the Wellington Industrial District (except Wanganui District).

Thursday, the 21st day of March, 1940.

WHEREAS pursuant to section 4 (1) of the Apprentices Act, 1923, an Apprenticeship Committee has been set up for that portion of the Wellington Industrial District within a radius of twenty miles from the chief post-office in the City of Wellington in connection with the furniture trade: And whereas the duly appointed delegate of the Court has heard the employers, workers, and other persons concerned, and has considered the recommendations made to it by the said Committee: And whereas the duly appointed delegate of the Court has deemed it expedient to make an order under section 5 of the said Act prescribing the wages, hours, and other conditions of employment to be incorporated in contracts of apprenticeship in the said industry in the Wellington Industrial District (except Wanganui District), and prescribing such other matters and things as the Court is required and authorized by the said section to prescribe: Now, therefore, the duly appointed delegate of the Court doth hereby order and prescribe as follows:—

1. The locality in which this order shall have effect is the Wellington Industrial District, except that area which is bounded by a straight line drawn from the mouth of the Patea River to Pipiriki, up the Wanganui River to the 39th parallel, along the 39th parallel to the Ruahine Ranges, along the Ruahine Ranges to the Kawhatu Stream, thence along the Kawhatu Stream to the Rangitikei River, continuing along the Rangitikei River to the sea.

2. The trade or industry to which this order shall apply is cabinetmaking, upholstering (upholstering work shall include all kinds of bedding, and measuring, planning, and laying of carpets, linoleums, and floor coverings of all descriptions, also measuring and fixing of drapings and blinds), chair and frame making, machining, wood-carving, turning, pianoforte-making (other than mechanism), polishing, wire-mattress making (in all branches), picture-frame making and mounting, leadlight working, glass-cutting, hand and machine bevelling, silvering, and glass-polishing. Glass-bevelling shall consist of roughing, smoothing, pumicing, rouging, drilling, mitreing, and brilliant cutting.

The provisions of this order shall apply to all employers of apprentices in the industry in the district (whether bound by an award or industrial agreement relating to the said industry or not) and to all apprentices employed by such employers in such industry, and to all contracts of apprenticeship between such employers and apprentices.

3. Every employer shall within three days after engaging any person as an apprentice give notice of such engagement to the District Registrar of Apprentices for the locality concerned.

4. Contracts of apprenticeship, and every alteration or amendment thereof, shall be registered with the District Registrar for the district within a period of fourteen days after the commencement of the employment of the apprentice, or the expiration of any period of probation served by him, pursuant to the Apprentices Act (in the case of an original contract) or within fourteen days after the making of the alteration. If the contract or alteration is not presented for registration as aforesaid, the parties thereto are severally liable to a fine of £10 under the Apprentices Act, 1923.

5. Every employer desiring to employ an apprentice in any branch or branches of the trade shall, before engaging the proposed apprentice, make application in writing to the Apprenticeship Committee, and the Committee shall either grant or refuse the application, after inquiring into the facilities within the scope of the proposed employer's business for teaching the proposed apprentice.

6. The minimum age at which a person may commence to serve as an apprentice shall be fifteen years.

7. The term of apprenticeship shall be five years in all cases, except in the wire-mattress making and picture-frame making branches, where the term of apprenticeship shall be three years.

8. (a) The proportion of apprentices to journeymen shall not exceed one to every two journeymen or fraction of two employed in the branch of the trade in which such apprentice is apprenticed.

(b) For the purpose of determining the number of apprentices each employer may employ the number shall be computed upon the total number of journeymen employed for two-thirds full time for six months prior to the taking-on of an apprentice in each of the following branches of the trade: Cabinetmaking, upholstery, chair and frame making, machining, wood-carving, turning, pianoforte-making (other than mechanism), polishing, wire-mattress making (in all branches), picture-frame making and mounting, leadlight working, glass-cutting, hand and machine bevelling, silvering, and glass-polishing.

(c) Before taking an apprentice an employer shall have been in business for at least eight months.

9. The powers and discretions provided for in section 13 of the Apprentices Act, 1923, may be exercised by the District Registrar and the Apprenticeship Committee, notwithstanding that the employer to whom it is proposed to transfer an apprentice is already employing the full quota of apprentices as determined by the apprenticeship order.

10. (a) The minimum rate of wages payable to apprentices who commence employment as such when under eighteen years of age shall be:—

			Per Week.		
			£	s.	d.
First six months	..	..	0	15	0
Second six months	..	..	0	19	0
Third six months	..	..	1	3	0
Fourth six months	..	..	1	7	0
Fifth six months	..	..	1	12	0
Sixth six months	..	..	1	17	0
Seventh six months	..	..	2	2	6
Eighth six months	..	..	2	7	6
Ninth six months	..	..	2	15	6
Tenth six months	..	..	3	5	0

(b) The minimum rate of wages payable to apprentices who commence employment as such when eighteen years of age or over shall be:—

			Per Week.		
			£	s.	d.
First six months	..	..	1	10	0
Second six months	..	..	1	15	0
Third six months	..	..	2	0	0
Fourth six months	..	..	2	5	0
Fifth six months	..	..	2	10	0
Sixth six months	..	..	2	15	0
Seventh six months	..	..	3	0	0
Eighth six months	..	..	3	5	0
Ninth six months	..	..	3	10	0
Tenth six months	..	..	3	15	0

(c) The minimum rate of wages payable to apprentices in the branches of the industry for which a three-year apprenticeship is provided shall be:—

			Per Week.		
			£	s.	d.
First six months	..	..	1	2	6
Second six months	..	..	1	10	0
Third six months	..	..	1	17	6
Fourth six months	..	..	2	5	0
Fifth six months	..	..	2	12	6
Sixth six months	..	..	3	2	6

11. Whether ordered to do so by the Court or a Committee or not, if any apprentice attends a technical college or other approved institution during the first three years of his apprenticeship, or until he shall have obtained the certificate hereinafter mentioned, the employer shall refund the apprentice the amount of his fees for each term in which his attendance is not less than 70 per cent. of the maximum possible.

12. Every apprentice who, whether he has been ordered to attend such classes or not, shall have obtained from the principal of the college, school, or institution in which he has attended classes as before mentioned a certificate that he has passed an examination of a standard to be arranged between the management of the college, school, or institution and the Committee, but at least equivalent to that required to be passed in order to obtain a certificate, in the branch of the trade to which he is apprenticed, in Grade 2 of the City and Guilds of London Institute shall, upon production of such certificate to his employer, be paid during the fourth year of his apprenticeship at the rate of not less than 5s. per week in excess of the minimum rate provided in clause 10 hereof, and during the first year of his apprenticeship at the rate of not less than 7s. 6d. in excess of the minimum.

13. The period of probation to be prescribed in any contract of apprenticeship to enable the employer of any apprentice to determine his fitness shall not exceed four months in the case of a first apprenticeship to the trade, and shall not exceed one month in any other case.

14. A person under twenty-one years of age who has served part of his apprenticeship to the trade outside of New Zealand may complete the term of apprenticeship herein provided with an employer in the district on furnishing to the District Registrar a certificate from his former employer and/or such other evidence (if any) as the District Registrar may require in order to show the time served by such person as an apprentice outside of New Zealand. The District Registrar may refuse to register any contract of apprenticeship entered into under the provisions of this clause until such evidence has been furnished to him. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the District Registrar may within fourteen days appeal to the Court, whose decision shall be final and conclusive. The period of probation in cases coming within the scope of this clause shall not exceed three months, and shall not count in the proportion.

15. An apprentice shall make up any time lost by him in any six-monthly period through his own default, or sickness, or through accident (unless arising out of and in the course

of his employment), or for any cause not directly connected with the business of the employer, before he shall be considered to have entered on the next succeeding period of his apprenticeship, or, if in the final period to have completed his apprenticeship.

An apprentice working overtime shall have such time added to his ordinary time in calculating the respective years of his apprenticeship.

16. An employer shall be entitled to make a rateable deduction from the wages of an apprentice for any time lost by him through sickness in excess of two weeks in any year, or accident not arising out of or in the course of the employment, or through his own default: Provided that if an apprentice is absent through sickness the employer may require the apprentice to furnish a medical certificate to the effect that sickness prevented him from attending at work, and if the apprentice fails to furnish such medical certificate the employer shall be entitled to make a rateable deduction from the wages of the apprentice for the time lost.

17. The hours worked by an apprentice shall, subject to the provisions of any statute, be those normally worked by journeymen in accordance with the provisions of the award or industrial agreement relating to the employment of journeymen for the time being in force in the district.

18. An employer shall not require or permit an apprentice under seventeen years of age to work more than six hours' overtime in any one week.

19. No apprentice under eighteen years of age shall be permitted to work after 9 p.m., and no other apprentice shall be permitted to work after 10 p.m.

20. An employer shall not require or permit an apprentice to work overtime unless journeymen are employed at the same time, and the number of apprentices employed shall not exceed one apprentice to each two or fraction of two journeymen employed.

21. The minimum rate of overtime for apprentices shall be time and a half for the first four hours and double time thereafter, or 1s. 6d. per hour, whichever is the greater.

22. The conditions of the award or industrial agreement referred to in clause 17 hereof, in so far as they relate to the method and time of payment of wages, holidays, travelling-time, suburban work, country work, meal-money, and other matters (other than preference to unionists) relating generally to the employment and not in conflict with this order, shall be applicable to apprentices.

23. Every contract of apprenticeship shall accord with the provisions of the Apprentices Act, 1923, and this order, and shall make provision, either expressly or by reference to the said Act or this order, for the several matters provided for therein, and shall not contravene the provisions of any Act relating to the employment of boys and youths.

In default of such provision being made in any such contract of apprenticeship, or in so far as such provision being made in any such contract is defective or ambiguous, the contract shall be deemed to provide that the conditions of apprenticeship shall be not less favourable to the apprentice than the minimum requirements of this order.

24. It shall be an implied term in every contract of apprenticeship that the apprentice will diligently and faithfully obey and serve the employer as his apprentice for the prescribed term, and will not absent himself from the employer's service during the hours of work without the leave of the employer or except as permitted by this order, and, further, will not commit or permit or be accessory to any hurt or damage to the employer or his property, nor conceal any such hurt or damage if known to him, but will do everything in his power to prevent the same.

25. It shall be an implied term in every contract of apprenticeship that the employer will during the prescribed term, to the best of his power, skill, and knowledge, train and instruct the apprentice or cause him to be trained and instructed, as a competent journeyman in the trade or branch or branches of the trade to which he is apprenticed, as carried on by the employer, in accordance with the provisions of the Apprentices Act, 1923, and of this order, and any amendments thereof: Provided, however, that if the business carried on by the employer does not comprise all the operations usually included in the training of a journeyman in the trade or branch or branches of the trade to which the apprentice is apprenticed the operations to be taught the apprentice shall be specifically set out in the contract of apprenticeship, and in default thereof the employer shall be deemed to have contracted to train and instruct the apprentice in all the operations usually included in the training of a journeyman in the trade or branch or branches of the trade to which the apprentice is apprenticed.

26. No premium in respect of the employment of any person as an apprentice shall be paid to or received by an employer, whether such premium is paid by the person employed or by any other person.

27. The provisions of this order shall not necessarily apply in the case of a special contract of apprenticeship entered into under the provisions of section 7 of the Statutes Amendment Act, 1936.

28. It shall be an implied term in every contract of apprenticeship that the provisions of the Master and Apprentice Act, 1908, shall not apply thereto.

29. The powers conferred on the Court by paragraphs (b) to (l) inclusive of section 5 (4) of the said Act are hereby delegated by the Court to the said Committee in so far as those powers relate to the said industry within that part of the Wellington Industrial District lying within a radius of twenty miles from the chief post-office in the City of Wellington, but reserving, nevertheless, power to the Court at any time and from time to time to withdraw all or any of such powers.

30. The order dated the 28th day of April, 1933, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. XXXIII, p. 445, and any amendments thereof, are hereby revoked.

31. This order shall operate and take effect as from the day of the date hereof.

J. A. GILMOUR, Stipendiary Magistrate,  
[L.S.] Acting as a duly appointed delegate  
of the Court of Arbitration.

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MEMORANDUM.

This order follows the recommendations of the Apprenticeship Committee.

At the hearing, Mr. Mountjoy, on behalf of the Wellington Furniture and Furnishing Trades Industrial Union of Employers, asked for certain alterations to the proportion clause. In framing the clause the Apprenticeship Committee adopted the corresponding clause of the Northern Industrial District Furniture Trades Apprenticeship Order, which was inserted by me after hearing evidence and argument. It is desirable that there should be uniformity of conditions in the industry throughout the Dominion, and I have decided therefore to retain the clause agreed upon by the Committee.

J. A. GILMOUR, Stipendiary Magistrate.

*[For suggested form of apprenticeship contract see page 41.]*