

NEW ZEALAND (EXCEPT WESTLAND) **FREEZING WORKERS.—**  
**AMENDMENT.**

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Wellington Industrial District.—In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925, and its amendments; and in the matter of the New Zealand (except Westland) Freezing Workers' award, dated the 24th day of April, 1940, and recorded in Book of Awards, Vol. XL, p. 385; and in the matter of a dispute between the New Zealand Freezing-works and Related Trades' Industrial Association of Workers and the Auckland Farmers' Freezing Co., Ltd., Thomas Borthwick and Sons (A'sia), Ltd., and the Westfield Freezing Co., Ltd.

JUDGMENT OF THE COURT, DELIVERED BY TYNDALL, J.

SECTION 10 of the New Zealand (except Westland) Freezing Workers' award (Book of Awards, Vol. XL, p. 385) reads:—

Should any alteration in the methods of work for pieceworkers be required at any time, the unions shall meet the employer's wishes in this respect. Any adjustment of rates of payment entailed by such alteration shall be mutually agreed upon between the unions and the employers.

Due to the necessity for conserving shipping-space, prime ox and cow beef are now being boned before export. Prior to this change, boners on piecework were required to bone inferior beef only, and it is claimed by the workers that the piecework rates for boning in the award were based on this practice.

As a result of instructions from higher authority, the method of cutting quarters of prime beef is different from the method used in the case of inferior beef. The workers claim that the alteration in method, combined with the fact that prime beef is now being boned, necessitating greater care and skill than in the case of inferior grades, justifies an adjustment of the piecework rates for boning, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the award.

No agreement on the matter was reached between the workers' union and the employers, and the dispute was therefore referred to the Court of Arbitration under Section 12 of the award.

The employers agree that an alteration in method has occurred, but they are of the opinion that the change is not substantial enough to justify an adjustment of the piecework rates.

After hearing the evidence called by the parties the Court has decided that the following rates shall apply so long as the current award is in operation and the present methods continue to be used:—

*Boners on Piecework—*

Boning prime ox beef for export, per	s.	d.
quarter	..	.. 1 0
Boning prime cow beef for export, per		
quarter	..	.. 0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$

Both the above rates are to be subject to the 5-per-cent. increase awarded under the Court's general order of 9th August, 1940 (Book of Awards, Vol. XL, p. 1153).

Dated this 9th day of June, 1941.

[L.S.]

A. TYNDALL, Judge.

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ADDENDUM.

Since the above decision was issued the Court has been advised that a further difference has arisen between the parties in regard to the date from which the decision should operate. The Court directs that the new piecework rates for boners set out in its decision upon the dispute referred to it shall operate from the dates on which the two sections of the dispute arose—namely, 1st March, 1941, in the case of prime cow beef for export, and 14th March, 1941, in the case of prime ox beef for export.

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