

NEW ZEALAND (EXCEPT NELSON AND WESTLAND) **CLOTHING-TRADE EMPLOYEES.**—AMENDMENT OF AWARD

In the Court of Arbitration of New Zealand, Canterbury Industrial District.—In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925, and the Economic Stabilization Emergency Regulations 1942; and in the matter of an application for amendment of the New Zealand (except Nelson and Westland) Clothing-trade Employees' award, dated the 29th day of March, 1945, and recorded in 45 Book of Awards 97.

IN pursuance and exercise of the powers vested in it by the Economic Stabilization Emergency Regulations 1942, and upon application made by a party to the New Zealand (except Nelson and Westland) Clothing-trade Employees' award, dated the 29th day of March, 1945, and recorded in 45 Book of Awards 97, this Court doth hereby order as follows:—

1. That the said award shall be amended in the manner following:—

(i) By deleting subclause (a) of clause 8 (Provisions relating to Cutters, Trimmers, and Tailors), and substituting therefor the following subclause:—

“(a) The minimum wage for a second-class chart-cutter shall be £5 19s. 2d. per week; for a stock-cutter and trimmer, £5 14s. 2d. per week.”

(ii) By deleting subclause (a) of clause 11 (Provisions relating to Examiners and Examiners' Assistants), and substituting therefor the following subclause:—

“(a) The minimum wage for examiners shall be £5 14s. 2d. per week.”

(iii) By deleting from subclause (c) of clause 11 the word and figures “Thereafter £5 12s. 6d.,” and substituting therefor the word and figures “Thereafter £5 14s. 2d.”

(iv) By deleting subclause (a) of clause 12 (Provisions relating to Pressers and others), and substituting therefor the following subclause:—

“(a) Pressers shall be paid a minimum wage of £5 11s. 8d. per week; clothing-oilers shall be paid the minimum time-wage prescribed for pressers.”

(v) By deleting from subclause (c) of clause 12 the word and figures "Thereafter £5 0s. 0d.," and substituting therefor the word and figures "Thereafter £5 1s. 8d."

(vi) By deleting subclause (g) of clause 12, and substituting therefor the following subclause:—

"(g) The minimum wage for male machinists employed in any department of the clothing trade covered by this award shall be £5 11s. 8d. per week."

2. That this order shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of April, 1945.

Dated this 8th day of July, 1946.

[L.S.]

A. TYNDALL, Judge.

DISSENTING OPINION OF MR. PRIME

I am quite unable to agree with the provision making the additional payment retrospective for over sixteen months. Minimum rates of wages have been fixed by awards of the Court, and employers who have based their costs on wages actually paid in accordance therewith are now unable to recoup themselves for any extra rates now payable as a result of this order. I admit that the Legislature has opened the way for the course adopted, but I know of no principle which justifies it.