

Puponga Coal-miners.—Recommendation of Conciliation Council.

In the Council of Conciliation, Nelson Industrial District.

In the matter of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, and its amendments; and in the matter of an industrial dispute between the Puponga Miners' Industrial Union of Workers and the Seaford Coal Company.

THE Council of Conciliation's recommendation as made this 1st day of May, 1914, in respect to the above dispute is as follows:—

RECOMMENDATION.

SCHEDULE.

THE following provisions shall apply to all solid workings being worked by hand labour:—

Clause 1.

(a.) Solid Workings, No. 2 Seam: From 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. thick, 4s. per ton; from 3 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. thick, 3s. 7d. per ton.

The above-mentioned rates shall apply only to such places wherein the miners brush their own road and lay all rails.

In cases where the Company does the brushing and road-laying (except 6 ft. rails) the following shall apply: From 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. thick, 3s. 10d. per ton; from 3 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. thick, 3s. 6d. per ton; from 4 ft. to 4 ft. 6 in. thick, 2s. 10d. per ton; from 4 ft. 6 in. to 5 ft. thick, 2s. 6d. per ton; from 5 ft. thick and over, 2s. 4d. per ton.

(b.) Solid Workings, No. 1 Seam: From 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. thick, 4s. 2d. per ton; from 3 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. thick, 3s. 9d. per ton.

The above-mentioned rates shall apply only to such places wherein the miners brush their own road and lay all rails.

In cases where the Company does the brushing and road-laying (except 6 ft. rails) the following shall apply: From 3 ft. to 3 ft. 6 in. thick, 4s. per ton; from 3 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. thick, 3s. 8d. per ton; from 4 ft. to 4 ft. 6 in. thick, 3s. per ton; from 4 ft. 6 in. to 5 ft. thick, 2s. 8d. per ton; from 5 ft. thick and over, 2s. 6d. per ton.

(c.) When hewers are engaged to produce coal by hand labour at shift wages they shall be paid at the rate of not less than 12s. per shift. This clause is to apply to coal-miners only, and such coal-miners shall have the right, if they so desire, to be paid tonnage as prescribed by this agreement.

(d.) When hewers are employed hewing coal they shall have the option of either holing or cutting the coal, but must use one of these methods.

Clause 2.—Breaking away Bords.

When bords are broken away narrow, narrow-work rates shall be paid for 3 yards. Two yards shall be driven narrow before commencing to widen out. Bords to be 18 ft. wide, but in case of bad roof or other circumstances which may cause the work to become dangerous the Manager shall have the right to reduce the width to not less than 16 ft. If width be reduced below 16 ft. and not less than 14 ft., quarter yardage to be paid; between 12 ft. and 14 ft., half yardage; below 12 ft., full yardage shall be paid.

Clause 3.—Yardage Rates.

Narrow work, 6 ft. wide, 7s. per yard; narrow work, 9 ft. wide, 6s. per yard; narrow work, 12 ft. wide, 5s. per yard.

Wet dip headings as per arrangement between the Management and the Committee of the Union.

Clause 4.—Pillars.

If ordered to drive any width, from 9 ft. up to 12 ft. inclusive, through a pillar for the purpose of extracting that pillar, the miner shall be paid 4s. per yard on pillar tonnage rates. Should the miner be removed from such narrow work by the Management before extracting any of the pillar so driven through, from any cause other than the ordinary caving, he shall be paid solid yardage and tonnage rates.

Clause 5.—Pillar Rates.

Coal from 3 ft. 6 in. to 4 ft. thick, 3s. per ton; coal from 4 ft. to 5 ft. 6 in. thick, 2s. 3d. per ton; coal from 5 ft. 6 in. to 6 ft. 6 in.