



VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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[1938

Factories and Shops Acts

DETERMINATION OF THE IRON AND STEEL ROLLING BOARD.

NOTE.—This Determination applies to the whole of the State of Victoria.

IN accordance with the provisions of the Factories and Shops Acts the Wages Board appointed to "determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons employed in the process, trade, or business of iron or steel rolling" has made the following Determination, namely:—

(1) That this Determination shall come into force and be operative as from the 21st day of December, 1937.

(2) WAGES.

Improvers.				Other Employees.							
				DAY SHIFT.							
				Wages per							
				Week of							
				44 Hours.							
				£ s. d.							
17 to 19 years of age	2	15	9	..	6	19	3	
19 to 21 years of age	3	7	0	..	6	11	6	
PROPORTION (in any place).											
One improver to every six adults receiving not less than 77s. per week of 44 hours.											
				Roller	..	..	..	..	6	19	3
				Furnaceman	..	..	..	..	6	11	6
				Rougher	..	..	..	..	6	6	6
				Catcher (three high roughing Rolls)	..	..	..	..	6	6	6
				Other Catchers	..	..	..	..	4	11	0
				Annealer or Heat Treatment Hand	..	..	..	..	5	2	0
				Roller's Assistant	..	..	..	..	5	0	0
				Charger	..	..	..	..	4	12	0
				Shearsman of scrap (Crocodile Shears)	..	..	..	..	4	12	0
				Yard Shearsman	..	..	..	..	4	12	0
				Billet Shearsman	..	..	..	..	4	12	0
				Scrap Bar Shearsman	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Other Shearsmen	..	..	..	..	4	3	6
				Setter Up	..	..	..	..	4	8	11
				Carrier Up (large mill)	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Underhand who also assists to feed furnace	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Hookman	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Middleman	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Straightener	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Straightener's Assistant	..	..	..	..	4	3	6
				Chipper	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Assistant Furnaceman	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
				Plate Hand	..	..	..	..	4	3	6
				Underhand	..	..	..	..	4	3	6
				Furnaceman at electric furnace	..	..	..	..	5	4	0
				Pitman at electric furnace	..	..	..	..	4	15	0
				Ladleman at electric furnace	..	..	..	..	4	15	0
				Assistant at electric furnace	..	..	..	..	4	0	8
				Assistant to Shearsman	..	..	..	..	4	1	0
				All others	..	..	..	..	3	17	0

NOTE.—If the employment is for hourly hiring, the rates prescribed above for other employees shall be increased by 5s. per week (see clause 9 (b).)

NOTE.—The Board has determined in accordance with section 25 (1) of the amended *Factories and Shops Act 1934* that the process, trade, business or occupation is so unskilled that no person shall be taken as an apprentice.

(3) PROHIBITION OF EMPLOYMENT.—The employment of any improver under the age of seventeen years is prohibited.

(4) HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT.—The ordinary hours of employment shall be 44 per week, to be worked in five days of 8 hours and one day (Saturday) of 4 hours, or five days of 8 hours 48 minutes each, continuously except for meal hour breaks at the discretion of the employer between 7 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. on Monday to Friday inclusive, and 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday: Provided that the spread of hours herein prescribed may be altered by mutual agreement between an employer and his employees.

By agreement between any employer and his employees ordinary hours may be worked on the basis of 88 per fortnight with one week of 40 and one of 48 hours.

5. **SHIFT WORK.**—The following percentage shall be added to the rates fixed for the day shift for persons employed on the afternoon or night shift:—12½ per cent.

6. **MIXED FUNCTIONS.**—An employee engaged for more than half of one day or shift on duties carrying a higher rate than his ordinary classification shall be paid the higher rate for such day or shift. If for less than half of one day or shift he shall be paid the higher rate for the time so worked.

7. **OVERTIME.**—(a) For all work done outside ordinary hours the rates of wage shall be time and a half for the first 4 hours and double time thereafter, such double time to continue to be paid until an employee has been relieved from work for at least 8 hours. Provided that an employee shall not be entitled to payment for such rest period.

(b) Except as provided above in computing overtime each day's work shall stand alone.

(c) An employee recalled after leaving his workshop to work overtime shall be paid for a minimum of three hours' work at the appropriate rate.

(d) An employee occasionally required to hold himself in readiness to work after ordinary hours shall until released be paid standing-by time at ordinary rates from the time from which he is so to hold himself in readiness. But any custom now prevailing under which an employee is required regularly to hold himself in readiness for a call back shall continue.

(e) An employee (other than on shift) who has worked up to or beyond midnight shall not be bound to continue work on the following day.

(f) As far as practicable employees shall not work overtime while competent labour is available.

(g) For work done during meal hours and thereafter until a meal hour break is allowed, time and a half rates shall be paid. An employee shall not be compelled to work for more than six hours without a break for a meal.

(h) An employee working overtime shall be allowed a crib time of twenty minutes without deduction of pay after each 4 hours of work, but this provision shall not prevent any arrangement being made for the taking of a longer meal period without pay.

(i) Before starting overtime after working ordinary hours a meal break of at least 45 minutes shall be allowed, unless the period of overtime is less than one and a half hours.

An employer and his employee may mutually agree to any variation of this sub-clause to meet the circumstances of the work in hand.

(j) An employee required to work overtime for more than two hours without being notified the day before that he will be so required to work, shall either be supplied with a meal by the employer or paid 1s. 6d., or if work extends into a second meal hour, 2s. 6d. for the two meals, but such payment need not be made to employees living in the same locality as their work-shop who can reasonably return home for meals.

If an employee pursuant to notice has provided a meal or meals and is not required to work overtime he shall be paid for each meal so provided.

(k) Subject to the provisions of the second part of the sub-clause (j) of this clause an employee shall work during meal breaks at the ordinary rates herein prescribed whenever instructed so to do for the purpose of making good break-downs of plant or upon routine maintenance of plant which can only be done while such plant is idle.

(l) When an employee working overtime finishes work at a time when reasonable means of transport is not available, the employer shall provide him with a conveyance or pay him his current wage for the time occupied in reaching his home.

8. **HOLIDAYS AND SUNDAY WORK.**—(a) Employees shall be entitled to the following public holidays (without pay except as hereinafter provided):—New Year's Day, Foundation or Anniversary Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Monday, King's Birthday, Eight Hours Day (or Labour Day), Anzac Day, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day, or such other day as is generally observed in the locality as a substitute for any of the said days respectively.

Exceptions.

By agreement between any employer and his employees, other holidays may be substituted for the said days or any of them as to such employer's undertaking.

(b) Employees not engaged in continuous work shall be paid at the rate of double ordinary time for work done on Sundays and public holidays, such double time to continue until the employee has been relieved from duty for at least 8 hours. Provided that the employee shall not be paid for the time he is resting.

Provided that employees engaged in repairs to or renewals of their employer's plant and machinery necessary for resumption of work the next following working day (not including the installation of new machinery) shall on holidays or Sundays be paid at the rate of time and a half.

(c) Employees, other than on shift work, required to work on Sundays or public holidays shall be paid for a minimum of three hours' work.

9. **CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.**—(a) With the exceptions hereinafter stated, employment may be by the week or by the hour. If by the week it shall be terminable on either side by one week's notice given on any day or (if the employer terminate it without such notice), by payment of one week's wages.

A contract for weekly employment may be terminated by any employer, without liability to pay for more than time actually worked, for misconduct or for absence from work without reasonable excuse.

If an employee engaged by the week absents himself from duty, except on public holidays or for days for which he produces a certificate from a medical practitioner or other proof satisfactory to his employer of sickness (aggregating 4 days' sickness in each year), a sum proportionate to his time of absence may be deducted from his pay, i.e., one-sixth of the weekly wage for each day of absence, including Saturday in shops working six days and one-fifth in shops working five days per week: Provided that only time actually lost shall be deducted when an employee is absent with leave on a Saturday.

(b) If the contract of employment is for hourly hiring, the total amount of the rates prescribed in clause 2 hereof shall be increased by 5s. per week for other employees (with a proportionate amount added to the wages of improvers), but such amount shall not be taken into account in computing overtime, Sunday, and holiday rates.

(c) Casual employees, i.e., employees for whom a full week's work is not provided shall for any such work be paid 10 per cent. in addition to the total wage prescribed for their occupations.

(d) An employee starting work on hourly hiring shall be entitled to a minimum of four consecutive hours' work or to four hours' pay for the job—such hours may be deemed to be consecutive if worked in ordinary hours at the end of a day and the beginning of the next succeeding day.

(10) **RIGHT OF ENTRY OF UNION OFFICIALS.**—A duly credited official of the Federated Ironworkers Association of Australia shall have the right to enter employers' workshops for the purpose of conducting union business during the midday meal hour or immediately prior to the starting of work by the night shift provided he notifies the management of his intention to visit the works.

(11) **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**—(a) Employers shall provide proper washing and sanitary conveniences and install showers and clothes hangers for the use of workmen.

(b) *Stoppage of Work re Breakdown of Machinery.*—In the event of the work of a factory being stopped by a breakdown of machinery or a stoppage of supply of power, or for any cause for which the employer cannot reasonably be held responsible, all employees who present themselves for work shall be found work for that day, or paid one day's wages in lieu thereof, but when such breakdown or stoppage occurs the employer may give notice to an employee that his services will not be required on the following day or days, and the employee shall not be entitled to any further payment in respect of any further days that he is out of employment by reason of such breakdown or stoppage.

(12) PERIODICAL ADJUSTMENT OF WAGES.—The wages rates set out in clause 2 are based upon the following basic wage, and pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of section 21 of the *Factories and Shops Act 1934*, the Board hereby determines that such rates shall be automatically increased or decreased by the same amount, and at the same time as such basic wage. Provided that the wages of improvers shall be adjusted proportionately to adjustments of the basic wage, such adjustments to be to the nearest 3d., half or less than half of 3d. to be disregarded.

The basic wage shown hereunder shall be adjusted as prescribed in clause 13.

Basic Wage.

Place.	Basic Wage.	Index Number Set Assigned.
	£ s. d.	
Within the area to which this Determination applies	3 11 0	Melbourne

(13) ADJUSTMENT OF BASIC WAGE.—(a) Until the beginning of the first pay period to commence in March, 1938, the amount of the basic wage shall be as prescribed in clause (12).

(b) During each future successive period beginning with the first pay period to commence in a March, a June, a September, or a December, the amount of the basic wage shall be adjusted by the following method according to the position and fluctuations (if any) of the Commonwealth Statistician's "All Items" retail price index numbers.

For the purposes of this Determination the expression "Commonwealth Statistician's retail price index numbers" or any like expression means the numbers stated to be such index numbers in any documents purporting, and not proved to be wrongly so purporting, to be printed by the Commonwealth Government Printer or to be signed by or on behalf of the Commonwealth Statistician:—

- (1) The index number set to be applied is that assigned to Melbourne.
- (2) The index number for the calendar quarter next preceding the period of thirteen weeks for which the adjustment is made is to be ascertained.
- (3) The amount assigned in the following table (or in any extension thereof) to the index number division comprising that number is to be ascertained.
- (4) The basic wage shall be of that assigned amount during such successive period.

Table.

Index Number Divisions.	Basic Wage.	Index Number Divisions.	Basic Wage.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
735-746	3 0 0	834-845	3 8 0
747-759	3 1 0	846-858	3 9 0
760-771	3 2 0	859-870	3 10 0
772-783	3 3 0	871-882	3 11 0
784-796	3 4 0	883-895	3 12 0
797-808	3 5 0	896-907	3 13 0
809-820	3 6 0	908-919	3 14 0
821-833	3 7 0	920-932	3 15 0

(14) PIECEWORK.—The lowest piecework price payable to any person employed shall be the price mentioned in the following Schedule, which Schedule shall form part of this Determination.

The Board has also determined that where any person employed on tonnage rates set out in such Schedule fails to earn during any day on which he is so employed an amount equal to one-fifth of the prescribed weekly rate he shall be paid for such day not less than one-fifth of the prescribed weekly rate. Provided that if such employee elects to work for a shorter period than the number of hours fixed for an ordinary day's work he shall be paid a sum proportionate to the time worked.

LARGE MILL.

	s. d.	
Roller	2 8½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	2 6½	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Rougher	2 0	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	3 7	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Catcher	1 4½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	2 1	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Middleman	1 4	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
Large Hook	1 3½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	1 10½	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Small Hook	1 3½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
Plateland	1 3½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
Leading Plateland	1 4	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	1 11½	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Furnaceman	4 3	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	6 2	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Underhand	2 8	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
	3 10	per ton of scrap iron bars.
Carrier Up	1 4	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.
Carrier Up	1 3½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel.

SMALL MILL.

	s. d.	
Roller	4 3	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	3 4½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
	2 10	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 40 lb. each.
Rougher	3 3	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	2 10	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
	2 6½	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 60 lb. each.
	2 5	per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 60 lb. each.

Catcher	2	2 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	1	9½ per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
	1	7 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 60 lb. each.
Middleman	1	6 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 60 lb. each.
	2	0 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	1	8 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
Furnaceman	1	6 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 60 lb. each.
	1	5 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 60 lb. each.
	6	10 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
Underhand	5	11 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
	5	4 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 60 lb. each.
	4	3 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 60 lb. each.
Plateman	4	0 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	3	4 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 40 lb. each.
	2	11 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 60 lb. each.
	2	8 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 60 lb. each.
	2	3 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles under 30 lb. each.
	1	5 per ton of finished bars of iron and steel billets and iron piles over 30 lb. each.

NOTE.—The furnaceman and underhand are paid for the output of one furnace.

D. GRANT, Chairman.

L. M. BRADY, Secretary.

Melbourne, 6th December, 1937.