



VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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Factories and Shops Acts.

DETERMINATION OF THE BAG MAKERS 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 which since the 18th December, 1934, has had the power to determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to persons employed in making or repairing jute, hessian, or cotton bags, or in making or repairing wool packs, has made the following Determination, namely:—

1. That as from the beginning of the first pay period to commence in February, 1954, the last previous Determination of this Board shall be revoked and replaced by this Determination.

2.

IMPROVERS—MALE.							IMPROVERS AND JUVENILE WORKERS—FEMALES.						
Wages—Per Week of 40 Hours. Commencing Age.							Wages—Per Week of 40 Hours. Commencing Age.						
—	15 Years and under.	16 Years.	17 Years.	18 Years.	19 Years.	20 Years.	—	15 Years and under.	16 Years.	17 Years.	18 Years.	19 Years.	20 Years.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1st 6 months	74 0	85 6	102 6	157 0	207 0	246 0	1st 6 months	75 0	87 6	103 6	121 6	134 0	150 0
2nd 6 months	85 6	102 6	157 0	207 0	246 0	..	2nd 6 months	87 6	103 6	121 6	134 0	150 0	..
2nd year	102 6	157 0	207 0	246 0	..	..	2nd year	103 6	121 6	134 0	150 0	..	..
3rd year	157 0	207 0	246 0	..	..	..	3rd year	121 6	134 0	150 0	..	..	..
4th year	207 0	246 0	..	..	..	..	4th year	134 0	150 0	..	..	..	..
5th year	246 0	..	..	..	..	..	5th year	150 0	..	..	..	..	..
PROPORTION.							PROPORTION.						
<i>Males.</i>							<i>Females Improvers.</i>						
One male improver to every three or fraction of three male workers receiving not less than 266s. per week of 40 hours.							Two female improvers to every six or fraction of six female workers receiving not less than 185s. per week of 40 hours.						
							JUVENILE WORKERS.						
							Two juvenile workers to every six or fraction of six female workers receiving not less than 185s. per week of 40 hours.						
							NOTE.—A juvenile worker is a female person under 21 years of age (other than an apprentice or an improver) employed in bag-making at machining, cutting, turning, folding, breaking-off, or flying.						

OTHER EMPLOYEES.

	Males.		Per Week of 40 Hours.
	s.	d.	
Combination bag-making machine attendant	266 0
Repairs by hand	266 0
Repairs by machine	266 0
Machinist on combination bag-making machine	253 0
All others	248 0
<i>Females.</i>			
Bag-making machinist	189 6
Repairs by hand	196 9
Repairs by machine	196 9
Persons over 21 years of age bag-making (hand or machine) without previous experience at the trade—			
1st 3 months	180 9
2nd 3 months	180 9
Persons over 21 years of age repairing (hand or machine) without previous experience at the trade—			
1st 3 months	180 9
All others	185 0

NOTE.—The Board determines that no person shall be employed as an apprentice.

TIME OF BEGINNING AND ENDING WORK.

3. Time of beginning—	Time of ending—
7.30 a.m.	12.30 p.m. on the day on which the half-holiday is observed locally.
7.30 a.m.	6 p.m. on the other five working days of the week.

OVERTIME.

4. (a) All time worked outside the usual times of beginning and ending work in the establishment concerned shall be paid for as follows:—

(1) Time Workers.—At the rate of time and a half for the first four hours and double time thereafter.

(2) Pieceworkers shall be paid the ordinary piecework prices for work done and in addition thereto shall receive the following payments:—

(i) For the first four hours of overtime work an amount equal to one half the amount that a time worker would receive for working the same hours during ordinary working hours.

(ii) Thereafter an amount equal to the amount that a time worker would receive for working the same hours during ordinary working hours.

(b) In computing overtime each day's work shall stand alone.

(c) An employer may require any employee to work reasonable overtime at overtime rates and such employee shall work overtime in accordance with such requirement.

SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

5. That double time shall be paid for all work done on Sundays, New Year's Day, Australia Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Monday, Labour Day, Queen's Birthday, Christmas Day, and Boxing Day; but, if any other day be by Act of Parliament or Proclamation substituted for any of the above-named holidays, the special rate shall only be payable for work done on the day so substituted.

HOLIDAYS.

6. (a) All employees shall be entitled to the following holidays without any deduction in pay:—New Year's Day, Australia Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Monday, Labour Day, Queen's Birthday, Anzac Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and Fuel and Fodder Picnic Day (only those employed within the Metropolitan District as defined in the Factories and Shops Act and Order in Council thereunder), or day or days substituted by Act of Parliament or Proclamation in lieu of such public holidays. Provided that Melbourne Cup Day may be substituted for Queen's Birthday, at the election of the employers.

Provided further, that in any industry or establishment in which a Picnic Day is observed for the majority of the employees on a working day, such day shall be regarded as the holiday in lieu of the above-mentioned Picnic Day.

(b) An employee absent from his or her employment on the working day or part of the working day before or after a holiday without reasonable cause, or without the employer's consent shall not be entitled to payment for such holiday.

(c) Pieceworkers.—All pieceworkers shall be entitled to the same holidays as are granted to time workers and they shall be paid for such holidays the amount for each holiday based on time wages as set out in this Determination.

6A. In connexion with the visit to Australia of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II., where a public holiday or public half-holiday is proclaimed by Order in Council throughout any municipality or part thereof, or within any defined area, such public holiday or public half-holiday shall, so far as such municipality or part thereof, or such defined area is concerned, be deemed to be included in the list of holidays prescribed in clauses 5 and 6 hereof.

Provided that an employee who fails to attend for work on the working day before and/or after such public holiday or public half-holiday without reasonable excuse shall not be entitled to be paid for such public holiday or public half-holiday.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY.

7. The annual holiday shall be as prescribed by the provisions of the *Factories and Shops (Annual Holidays) Act 1946*, No. 5111, and any amendments which may be made thereto from time to time.

SICK LEAVE.

8. (a) Any employee who, having had at least three months' service with the same employer, is absent from duty as a result of personal ill health shall be entitled to sick pay as follows:—

(i) During the first year—3½ hours' ordinary pay for each complete month of service.

(ii) During any subsequent year of service—40 hours' ordinary pay.

Provided that, in either case such employee produces or forwards within 24 hours of the commencement of such absence evidence satisfactory to the employer that his or her non-attendance was due to personal ill health necessitating such absence.

(b) If the full period of sick leave as prescribed above is not taken in any year such portion as is not taken shall, provided an employee remains in the service of the one employer, or any successor of such employer, be cumulative from year to year. For the purposes of this sub-clause, service prior to the 1st September, 1949, shall be disregarded providing that any accumulated sick leave (not exceeding 80 hours of working time) standing to the credit of the employee on the 1st September, 1951, shall not be reduced by virtue of the provisions of this sub-clause.

REST PERIOD FOR FEMALES.

9. A rest period of ten minutes, between 9.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m., and between 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. each day shall be given to all female employees, without deduction of pay.

MEAL MONEY.

10. Any employee required to work overtime for more than one and half hours after the usual finishing time shall either be supplied with a meal by the employer or be paid 3s. 6d. as meal money.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT.

11. An employee willing, ready and available for work shall be paid the full weekly wage fixed herein. To terminate employment one week's notice shall be given on either side at any time during the week or one week's wages shall be paid or forfeited, as the case may be. This shall not effect the right of the employer to dismiss any employee without notice for malingering, inefficiency, neglect of duty or misconduct, and in such cases the wages shall be paid up to the time of dismissal only or to deduct payment for any day or part of a day the employee cannot be usefully employed because of any strike or through any breakdown of machinery or any stoppage of work by any cause for which the employer cannot reasonably be held responsible.

EMERGENCY PROVISIONS.

11A. Notwithstanding anything elsewhere contained in this Determination, the following provisions shall apply in the case of an employer who is subjected to restriction or rationing in the use of electric energy and/or coal gas and/or the emergency disconnection thereof in accordance with orders or regulations approved by the appropriate lawful authority.

- (i) If by reason of such restriction or rationing or emergency disconnection he is unable usefully to employ an employee for the whole or part of any day, he may deduct from the wages of that employee payment for any part of the day such employee cannot be usefully employed provided that—
 - (1) if an employer requires the employee to attend for work but is not able to employ him usefully the employee shall be entitled to be paid for two hours' work;
 - (2) where an employee commences work he shall be entitled to be paid for four hours' work;
- (ii) He may require any day worker to perform his ordinary hours of work (or any such ordinary hours of work) at any time on any day other than on a Sunday on the basis of 40 hours per week. The following rates of pay shall apply for such work—
 - (1) for work performed on Mondays to Fridays from 7 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7 a.m. to noon—ordinary time;
 - (2) for work performed between noon and midnight on Saturdays—ordinary rates plus 25 per cent;
 - (3) for work performed at all other times other than on a Sunday—ordinary rates plus 10 per cent.
- (iii) He may alter the time at which meal breaks are usually taken and/or the duration of them, in order to avoid or mitigate the effects of such interference, without being liable to pay penalty rates for work done during the normal meal breaks; provided that the commencing time of any meal break is not made more than one hour earlier or later than usual and that a meal break of at least twenty minutes is allowed; and provided also that the employer shall, whenever it is practicable, consult with the representative of the Union or Unions before acting under this paragraph.

Notwithstanding anything elsewhere contained in this Determination, the provisions of this clause shall also apply (*mutatis mutandis*) in the case of an employer who uses auxiliary power plant for the purpose of providing employment for his employees whilst such restriction or rationing or emergency disconnection is in force and who—

- (i) is unable usefully to employ an employee for the whole of any day by reason of a breakdown in such plant through no fault of his own; or
- (ii) because of the inability of the auxiliary power plant to meet the normal demands for power—
 - (1) finds it necessary to require any employee to perform his ordinary hours of work (or any of such ordinary hours of work) outside the hours normally worked by such employee; or
 - (2) finds it necessary to alter the time at which meal breaks are usually taken and/or the duration of them.

RIGHT OF ENTRY OF UNION OFFICIAL.

12. The Secretary of the Federated Fodder and Fuel Trades' Industrial Union shall have the right to enter, during the mid-day meal hour, the portion of any employer's establishment in which any of the classes of labour covered by this Determination are done, for the purposes of interviewing employees on legitimate Union business.

PIECE-WORK.

13. The lowest piece-work rates to be paid to any person for doing work of the description referred to in the following Schedule shall be—

Machine repairing wool packs (employer to provide twine)	2d. each.	} Plus 10 per cent. With 220/1 per cent. added.
Machine repairing first selection washed sugar bags, by darning (employer to provide twine)	4½d. per dozen.	
Machine repairing washed sugar bags (employer to provide twine)	5½d. „	
Machine repairing ordinary bags (employer to provide twine)	4½d. „	
Machine repairing mill or coal bags (employer to provide twine)	11d. „	
Machine repairing uncleaned lime or hide bags—i.e., bags which have not been through any cleaning process such as a mechanical cleaner or by washing (employer to provide twine)	11d. „	
Machine repairers on piece-work shall also be paid 1s. 9d. per hour for any time occupied in cleaning machines or cutting patches.		
Hand repairing ordinary bags (employee to provide twine)	10d. per dozen.	
Hand repairing mill, coal, lime, or hide bags (employee to provide twine)	1s. 6d. „	
Hands repairing wool packs (employee to provide twine)	4½d. each.	

Clauses, other than clauses 2 and 13, of the said Determination shall remain in force.

PIECE-WORK WHICH MAY BE FIXED BY AN EMPLOYER.

14. The Board determines that any employer may fix and pay piece-work rates to any person employed at repairing by machine (employer to provide twine) or by hand (employee to provide twine) bags other than those for which the Board has fixed a piece-work rate, provided that such pieceworker shall be paid in any week, at least the amount payable to a time-worker performing the same class of work for the same number of hours as such piece-worker.

WAITING TIME.

15. All piece-workers kept waiting for work, or any materials, or for repair of machines shall be paid the hourly rate of the corresponding time-worker for such waiting time.

UNIFORMS.

16. Where the employer requires any female employee to wear a uniform, the employer shall supply such uniform free of cost to the employee.

PERIODICAL ADJUSTMENT OF WAGES.

17. The wages rates set out in clause 2 are based upon the following basic wage and, pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the *Factories and Shops Act 1934*, the Board hereby determines that such rates shall be automatically adjusted as prescribed by clause 18.

Provided that the piece-work prices shall be subject to adjustment according to the fluctuations in the basic wage on the following basis:—The percentage difference between 83s. (such amount being the rate provided for a Repairer by Machine—Male—in the Determination which came into force on the 2nd September, 1938), and the amount payable to a Repairer by Machine—Male—after adjustment as hereinbefore provided.

Basic Wage.

Place.	Basic Wage (Adjustable).	Index Number Set Assigned.
	£ s. d.	
Throughout the State	11 18 0	Melbourne

ADJUSTMENT OF BASIC WAGE.

18. (a) For the purposes of this Determination the expression "Commonwealth Statistician's 'all items' retail price index numbers" or any like expression means the numbers stated to be such index numbers in any document 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.

(b) Until the beginning of the first pay period to commence in May, 1954, the amount of the basic wage be as prescribed in clause 17.

(c) During each future successive period beginning with the first pay period to commence in a May, an August, a November, or a February, the amount of the basic wage shall be adjusted by the following method, namely, by multiplying the last published Commonwealth Statistician's "all items" retail price index number by the factor .103 taken to one place of decimals, the resultant whole number being the amount of the basic wage expressed in shillings, but, should the decimal number reach .5 or more the basic wage shall be taken to the next higher shilling.

(d) The wages rates for adult females are based on a basic wage being 75 per cent. of the basic wage for adult males calculated to the nearest 6d. half or less than half of 6d. to be disregarded. The wages rates for adult females shall be adjusted by increasing or decreasing such rates by the amount of the difference from time to time in the said basic wage for females.

(e) The wages of improvers and juvenile workers shall be the appropriate percentages as set out hereunder, such wages shall be calculated to the nearest 6d. half or less than half of 6d. to be disregarded.

IMPROVERS—MALE.							IMPROVERS AND JUVENILE WORKERS—FEMALES.						
Commencing Age.							Commencing Age.						
	15 Years and under.	16 Years.	17 Years.	18 Years.	19 Years.	20 Years.		15 Years and under.	16 Years.	17 Years.	18 Years.	19 Years.	20 Years.
Percentage of Basic Wage.							Percentage of Female Basic Wage.						
1st 6 months	31	36	43	66	87	100 %+ 8s.	1st 6 months	42	49	58	68	75	84
2nd 6 months	36	43	66	87	100 %+ 8s.		2nd 6 months	49	58	68	75	84	
2nd year ..	43	66	87	100 %+ 8s.			2nd year ..	58	68	75	84		
3rd year ..	66	87	100 %+ 8s.				3rd year ..	68	75	84			
4th year ..	87	100 %+ 8s.					4th year ..	75	84				
5th year ..	100 %+ 8s.						5th year ..	84					

P. A. RANDES, J.P., Chairman.

J. V. WILLOX, Secretary.

Melbourne, 19th January, 1954.