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Labour and Industry Act 1953.

DETERMINATION OF A WAGES BOARD ADJUSTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 33 OF THE LABOUR AND INDUSTRY ACT 1953.

I, Henry Norman Jones, Secretary for Labour and Industry, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the Labour and Industry Act, hereby make and issue the following adjusted Determination of the Wages Board referred to hereunder showing adjusted rates and prices to operate from the beginning of the first pay period to commence in February, 1955.

Dated at Melbourne, this
29th day of March, 1955.

H. N. JONES,
Secretary for Labour and Industry.

ELECTRICAL TRADE BOARD.

Clauses 2, 3 and 4, of the Determination made on the 1st December, 1954, and in force as from the beginning of the first pay period to commence on or after the 13th December, 1954, shall be replaced by the following clauses:—

Adults	Wages per Week of 40 Hours.		
	Within a Radius of 20 Miles of G.P.O., Melbourne; 10 Miles of G.P.O., Geelong; at Warrnambool; and within Mildura and Gippsland Districts.	At Yallourn.	Other Parts of Victoria.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) General.			
Electrician in charge of electrical supply undertaking	17 10 0	17 16 6	17 7 0
Electrical instrument maker and/or repairer (as defined) .. .	16 15 0	17 1 6	16 12 0
Installation inspector and/or tender	15 17 6	16 4 0	15 14 6
Shift electrician	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Refrigeration mechanic or serviceman	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Electrician in charge of plant and/or installation	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Electrical fitter and/or armature winder	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Battery fitter	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Cable jointer, on high tension (over 6,600 volts)	15 7 6	15 14 0	15 4 6
Cable jointer, on low tension (under 6,600 volts)	15 2 6	15 9 0	14 19 6
Cable jointer's mate	12 18 0	13 4 6	12 15 0
Coremaker (transformers)	13 5 0	13 11 6	13 2 0
Electrical mechanic	15 10 0	15 16 6	15 7 0
Linesman	14 12 6	14 19 0	14 9 6
Linesman's assistant	12 18 0	13 4 6	12 15 0
Patrolman—			
(a) Inspecting and switching circuits, or repairing live feeders or distributors of 600 volt or over, or repairing faults on consumers' premises .. .	14 12 6	14 19 0	14 9 6
(b) Inspecting, switching or renewing lamps or fuses on circuits, but not repairing .. .	13 3 6	13 10 0	13 0 6
Meter tester (1st grade)	14 10 0	14 16 6	14 7 0
Meter tester (2nd grade)	14 0 0	14 6 6	13 17 0
Meter fixer	14 0 0	14 6 6	13 17 0
Switchboard attendant	14 8 6	14 15 0	14 5 6
Battery attendant	13 0 0	13 6 6	12 17 0
Electrical fitter's and mechanic's assistant	12 18 0	13 4 6	12 15 0
Process worker	12 17 0	13 3 6	12 14 0
Other employees with not less than three months' experience in the metal trades industry	12 4 0	12 10 6	12 1 0
Employee not elsewhere classified	11 18 0	12 4 6	11 15 0
(b) Wet Battery Manufacturing.			
Plante assembler	14 0 0	14 6 6	13 17 0
Battery repairer (factory)	13 12 6	13 19 0	13 9 6
Mixing and pasting by hand	13 7 6	13 14 0	13 4 6
Charging and moulding of grids	13 7 6	13 14 0	13 4 6
Group burning (placing separate chambers in batteries, burning posts to connectors on top of battery)	13 5 0	13 11 6	13 2 0
Formation process	13 0 0	13 6 6	12 17 0
All others in this subdivision	12 17 0	13 3 6	12 14 0

Ship Repairing.

Employees engaged on ship repairs shall be paid the following additional margins:—

	s.	d.
Tradesmen	7	6 per week.
All other labour	5	0

APPRENTICESHIP.

(Other than those covered by the Apprenticeship Commission.)

Apprenticeship Trades.

3. (a) Minors shall not be employed in the following occupations otherwise than under a contract of apprenticeship as hereinafter provided:—

Electrical fitter and/or armature winder (except the winding of armatures by specialized processes),
Electrical mechanic,
Refrigeration mechanic or serviceman.

Contract of Apprenticeship.

(b) Every contract of apprenticeship hereinafter made shall contain—

- (i) the names of the parties;
- (ii) the date of birth of the apprentice;
- (iii) a statement of the trade or trades to which the apprentice is to be bound and which he is to be taught during the course and for the purpose of the apprenticeship;
- (iv) a covenant by the master to teach and instruct or cause the apprentice to be taught or instructed in the trade to which the apprentice is bound;
- (v) the date at which the apprenticeship is to commence or from which it is to be calculated;
- (vi) all other conditions of apprenticeship.

Cancellation or Suspension of Indenture.

(c) Subject to the approval of the Secretary for Labour and Industry, but not otherwise, an indenture of apprenticeship may be suspended or cancelled—

- (i) by mutual consent;
- (ii) if through lack of orders or financial difficulties an employer is unable to find suitable employment for an apprentice and a transfer to another employer cannot be arranged;
- (iii) if, in the opinion of the Secretary for Labour and Industry, circumstances exist which render such suspension or cancellation necessary or desirable.

Any covenant in an indenture inconsistent with the provision of this clause shall be null and void, and of no force or effect while this Determination remains in force and applies to the parties to the indenture.

Instruction in Welding.

(d) The training of apprentices to electrical fitting shall include sufficient instruction in welding to enable them to perform the work of their trade in the shop in which they are trained.

Proportion.

(e) (i) An employer shall not employ apprentices in excess of the proportion hereinafter prescribed.

Subject to this sub-clause the proportion of apprentices who may be taken by an employer shall not exceed one apprentice to every three or fraction of three tradesmen in the trade concerned.

In the trade of—

Electrical mechanic,

the proportion of apprentices who may be taken by an employer shall not exceed one apprentice for every two or fraction of two tradesmen in the trade concerned.

For the purpose of ascertaining the number of apprentices, the number of tradesmen shall be deemed to be the average number working during the immediately preceding six months, and in ascertaining such proportion an employer actually working in any workshop shall be deemed to be a tradesman.

A person who is, for a term not exceeding two years, taking practical training in a workshop in continuance of a course of training for professional work shall not be taken into account in calculating the proportion of apprentices to journeymen.

(ii) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore provided in the trades of—

Electrical fitter,

Electrical mechanic, and

Refrigeration mechanic or serviceman,

an employer may with the consent of an apprenticeship authority and upon satisfying that authority that he has the plant, equipment and staff necessary for the proper tuition of each apprentice concerned take apprentices in excess of the proportion herein prescribed. Until further order apprentices so taken shall not be counted in future calculations of the proportion of apprentices to journeymen authorized by the Determination.

Period of Apprenticeship.

(f) The periods of apprenticeship shall be as follows:—

If the apprentice, when indentured is under the age of seventeen years—five years; if over the age of seventeen—four or five years, at the option of the contracting parties.

Adult Apprentices.

(g) Any apprentice who cannot complete his full term of apprenticeship before reaching his 22nd birthday may, by agreement with his master, serve as an apprentice until he reaches the age of 23 years.

Probationary Period.

(h) Minors may be taken on probation for three months, and if apprenticed such three months shall count as part of their period of apprenticeship. An employer shall within fourteen days of employing a probationer notify the appropriate apprenticeship authorities of the employment of such probationer to any of the trades mentioned herein.

LEADING HANDS.

Leading hands in charge of not less than three and not more than ten employees, 15s. per week extra; more than ten and not more than twenty employees, 30s. per week extra; more than twenty employees, 45s. per week extra.

Wages.

(i) The minimum weekly rates of wage for apprentices shall be the undermentioned percentages of the contemporaneous basic wage prescribed for the area in which they are employed, and in all contracts of apprenticeship hereafter made the employer shall covenant to pay wages of not less than such rates.

The total wages of apprentices and improvers shall be calculated to the nearest sixpence, any broken part of sixpence in the result not exceeding threepence to be disregarded.

(j) *Wages per Week of 40 Hours.*

	Percentage of Basic Wage.	Total Wage Payable—		
		Within 20 Miles of G.P.O., Melbourne; 10 Miles of G.P.O., Geelong; at Warrnambool; and within Mildura and Gippsland Districts.	At Yallourn.	Other Parts of Victoria.
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<i>Four and Five-year Terms.</i>				
1st year	32	3 15 0	3 17 6	3 14 0
2nd year	43	5 1 0	5 4 0	5 0 0
3rd year	54	6 7 0	6 10 6	6 5 6
4th year	83	9 15 0	10 0 6	9 12 6
5th year	100 plus 6s.	12 1 0	12 7 6	11 18 0
<i>Four-year Term.—Apprenticeship Commencing after the Age of 17 Years.</i>				
1st year	34	4 0 0	4 2 0	3 19 0
2nd year	54	6 7 0	6 10 6	6 5 6
3rd year	83	9 15 0	10 0 6	9 12 6
4th year	100 plus 6s.	12 1 0	12 7 6	11 18 0

An employee who is under 21 years of age on the expiration of his apprenticeship and thereafter works as a minor in the occupation to which he has been apprenticed shall be paid at not less than the adult rate prescribed for that classification.

Hours.

(k) The ordinary hours of employment of apprentices shall not in each workshop exceed those of the journeymen.

Overtime and Shift Work.

(l) No apprentice under the age of 18 years shall be required to work overtime or shift work unless he so desires.

No apprentice shall except in an emergency work or be required to work overtime or shift work at times which would prevent his attendance at technical school as required by any statute, Determination or regulation applicable to him.

Payment by Results.

(m) An apprentice shall not work under any system of payment by results.

Lost Time.

(n) The apprentice at the end of the calendar period of any year in which he has actually given service to the master upon less than the ordinary working days prescribed in this Determination, or in which he has unlawfully absented himself without the master's consent, shall, for every day short of the said number of working days, and for every day of such absence, serve one day, and the calendar period of the succeeding year of his service shall not be deemed to begin until the said additional day or days shall have been served. Provided that in calculating the extra time to be so served the apprentice shall be credited with time which he has worked during the relevant year in excess of his ordinary hours.

Prohibition of Premiums.

(o) An employer shall not, either directly or indirectly, or by any pretence or device receive from any person or require or permit any person to pay or give any consideration in the nature of a premium or bonus for the taking or binding of any probationer or apprentice.

Attendance at Technical Schools.

(p) Apprentices attending technical colleges or schools and presenting reports of satisfactory conduct shall be reimbursed all fees paid by them.

Annual and Sick Leave.

(q) Apprentices shall be entitled to sick and annual leave in accordance with the provisions of clauses 16 and 17 hereof respectively.

FEMALES AND UNAPPRENTICED MALE JUNIORS.

4. (a) Subject to the exceptions hereinafter provided, the minimum rates of wage for adult and junior females and for unapprenticed male juniors employed in occupations for which apprenticeship is not provided by this Determination shall be as follows:—

Wages per Week of 40 Hours.

	*Percentage of Basic Wage.	Margin.	Total Wage Payable—		
			Within 20 Miles of G.P.O., Melbourne; 10 Miles of G.P.O., Geelong; at Warrnambool; and within Mildura and Gippsland Districts.	At Yallourn.	Other Parts of Victoria.
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
<i>I.—Adult Females.</i>					
Under one month's experience	75	..	8 16 0	9 1 0	8 14 0
All others	75	16 0	9 12 0	9 17 0	9 10 0
When employed in a classification for which the corresponding margin in clause 26 of the Determination published in Government Gazette No. 309 of the 30th April, 1954, exceeded 28s. per week, but did not exceed 40s. per week—75 per centum of the margin now prescribed for that classification in clause 26 hereof in lieu of the 16s. herein prescribed.					
<i>II.—Junior Females.</i>					
17 years of age and under	52	3 6	4 15 0	4 17 6	4 14 0
18 years of age	62	4 0	5 13 0	5 16 0	5 12 0
19 years of age	72	4 6	6 11 0	6 15 0	6 10 0
20 years of age	82	5 0	7 9 6	7 13 6	7 7 6
<i>III.—Junior Males.</i>					
Under 16 years of age	24	2 0	2 18 6	3 0 0	2 17 6
16 years of age	34	3 0	4 3 0	4 5 0	4 2 0
17 years of age	46	4 0	5 12 0	5 15 0	5 10 6
18 years of age	58	5 0	7 1 6	7 5 0	6 19 6
19 years of age	73	6 0	8 17 6	9 2 6	8 15 6
20 years of age	88	7 0	10 14 0	10 19 6	10 11 0

* The percentages for junior females relate to the female basic wage, but, in all other cases, to the male basic wage.

The total wage shall be calculated to the nearest sixpence, any broken part of sixpence in the result not exceeding threepence to be disregarded.

(b) The minimum rate payable to a junior female of any age or a junior male of eighteen years or more each with less than six months' experience under this Determination shall, until he or she has had six months' experience, be 10 per cent. less than the amount represented by the percentage of the basic wage hereby prescribed for a junior employee of his or her age and in addition thereto the additional amount prescribed for such an employee:

Prohibited Occupations.

(c) Junior employees shall not be employed:—

if under the age of 16 years—

on oil or gas burners or fires used for heating of small articles: or
using electric arc or oxy acetylene blow pipe.

Clauses, other than clauses 2, 3 and 4, of the said Determination shall remain in force.