

(b) Should a vacancy or temporary vacancy occur in any of the higher grades, the senior employee shall be entitled to promotion to the vacancy, providing he be considered competent to fill the higher grade.

11.—Under-rate Workers.

Any worker who by reason of old age or infirmity is unable to earn the minimum wage may be paid such lesser wage as may from time to time be agreed upon in writing between the Union and the Commissioner, and in default of such an agreement within twenty-four hours after such worker shall have applied to the Secretary of the Union stating his desire that such wage should be agreed upon, such wage shall be fixed by the most convenient Resident or Police Magistrate, upon the application of such worker after twenty-four hours' notice in writing shall have been given by him to the said secretary, who shall, if he so desires, be heard by the Magistrate upon such application. After having given notice to the secretary, and after lodging the application mentioned, and pending the Magistrate's decision thereon, the worker shall be entitled to work for and be employed at the proposed lesser rate. The determination of the Magistrate shall have effect for the period of six calendar months from the date thereof, and after the expiration of the said period until the wage shall have again been fixed at the instance of the said secretary in the manner prescribed. The secretary of the Union may, by writing under his hand, appoint an agent or substitute to represent the Union at the hearing of the application before the Magistrate.

12.—Preference.

Preference of employment in respect of tasks for which rates of wages are specified in this Agreement shall be given to members of the Federated Engine-drivers' and Firemen's Association of Workers of Western Australia; Provided that this clause shall not apply to employment of casuals in the event of there being no suitable members of the said Union offering for work.

13.—No Reduction.

This Agreement shall not in itself operate to reduce the wages of any worker who is at present receiving above the minimum rate prescribed for his class of work.

The Common Seal of the Commissioner of Railways was hereunto affixed by—

[L.S.]

E. A. EVANS,
Commissioner of Railways.

in the presence of—

A. A. Letch.

The Seal of the Federated Engine-drivers and Firemen's Association of Australasia (West Australian Branch) Association of Workers was hereto affixed in the presence of, and this Agreement executed by and on behalf of the Union by—

G. A. BRADSHAW,
General President.

[L.S.]

J. BREYDON,
General Secretary.

THE W.A. INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE.

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