

(4.) That the words "or industries" in section 5, Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1908, should be struck out. The inclusion of these words enables a union of workers to be formed and registered, and it may contain within its ranks only fifteen persons employed in fifteen distinct industries having no affinity to one another, and thus prevent subsequent action being successfully taken towards forming a separate union in any one of the industries embraced in the original union's registration.

(5.) In order that no person carrying on business when an award comes into operation should be exempt from its effects, the provisions of the Act as at present should apply as to the method of citing probable parties. In addition to the foregoing provision, and so that no persons carrying on business should have the opportunity of being exempt owing to their citation having been overlooked, a public notification as to the dispute, its nature, the time and place of hearing, &c., should be inserted in the newspapers circulating within the district in which it is suggested the award or agreement should operate. A notification of this description should be deemed to be a sufficient service to the few persons who had been overlooked by direct citation.

In submitting these suggestions for your consideration I feel confident that their adoption would tend to improve the present Act in the directions indicated.

The Secretary of Labour, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
P. HALLY,
Commissioner of Conciliation.

CHRISTCHURCH.

REPORT OF CONCILIATION COMMISSIONER FOR THE CANTERBURY AND OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1912.

Commissioner's Office, Council of Conciliation,
Christchurch, 19th April, 1912.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Hon. Minister for Labour, the following report on the conciliation provisions of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act in the above districts for the year ending 31st March, 1912.

During the period mentioned 36 industrial matters have been dealt with by Conciliation Councils, 24 unanimous recommendations were fully arrived at, 4 partially made, and in the other 8 instances no settlements were made, and the disputes were referred to the Arbitration Court; in 6 instances industrial agreements were arrived at between the parties, with my assistance, without the appointment of assessors: total, 42. The following industrial unions of workers were concerned:—

Otago and Southland Iron and Brass Moulders.
Canterbury Flour-mills.
United Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Ship-builders of Canterbury.
Canterbury Tanners, Fellmongers, and Skinners.
Canterbury Freezing-works, Bacon, &c., Workers.
Canterbury Licensed Victuallers' Employees.
Dunedin Musicians.
Bluff Waterside Workers.
Canterbury Carpenters and Joiners.
Canterbury Soap-workers.
Canterbury Woollen-mill Workers.
Christchurch Tinsmiths and Sheet-metal Workers.
Dunedin Tinsmiths and Sheet-metal Workers.
Southland Slaughtermen.
Southland Builders' Labourers.
Southland Public Bodies' and Contractors' Labourers.
Invercargill Gasworks Labourers.
Invercargill Drivers.
Dunedin Canister-makers.

South Canterbury Timber-yards, Sawmills, and Coal-yard Workers.
Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Labourers.
Canterbury Labourers.
Christchurch Tramway-workers.
South Canterbury Bakers and Pastrycooks.
Dunedin and Mosgiel Woollen-mill Workers.
Canterbury Motor-car, Horse-drivers, and Livery-stable Workers.
Canterbury Bakers and Pastrycooks.
Christchurch Painters.
Canterbury Sheep-owners' Workers.
Otago and Southland Sheep-owners' Workers.
Bluff Waterside Shed Hands.
Invercargill Carpenters and Joiners.
Dunedin Trawlers.
Otago Carpenters and Joiners.
Christchurch Gardeners.
Christchurch City Council Drivers.
Southland Sawmillers and Timber-yard Workers.
Dunedin Wool and Grain Stores Workers.
Timaru Hotel and Restaurant Employees.
Christchurch Stonemasons.
Canterbury Curriers.
Christchurch Furniture Trades.

At the various conferences held between the representatives of the employers and employees both sides have spoken in appreciative terms of the work done by the Conciliation Councils, and of the opportunity afforded of being able to meet to discuss matters in connection with the different industries.

I beg to thank the officers of the Labour Department for the assistance rendered during the past year.

The Secretary of Labour, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
J. R. TRIGGS,
Conciliation Commissioner.