

TASMANIAN INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1984

T No. 3923 of 1992

IN THE MATTER OF an application by
the Federated Clerks Union of
Australia, Tasmanian Branch to
vary the Printers Award

re new classification structure -
clerical employees

COMMISSIONER IMLACH

HOBART, 27 August 1992

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Unedited

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: I will take appearances.

MR D. FRY: If the commission pleases, I appear on behalf of the Federated Clerks Union of Australia, Tasmanian Branch, FRY, D.J.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Thanks, Mr Fry.

MR J. HARGRAVE: If the commission pleases, I appear on behalf of the Printing and Allied Trades Employees Federation of Australia, HARGRAVE, J.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Thanks, Mr Hargrave.

MR S. CLUES: If it please the commission, I appear on behalf of the Tasmanian Confederation of Industries, CLUES, S.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Thanks, Mr Clues. Mr Fry?

MR FRY: Mr Commissioner, thank you for your cooperation in listing this matter today. What we have done in recent times is try to bring to a head some outstanding matters that have been around for quite some time and the way we did it was to lodge the application to, sort of, put a bit of pressure on, not only the employers but ourselves, to get these things together. What I'd like to give to you today is virtually to report progress.

That document, sir, is nothing more than a draft which was put to the union yesterday afternoon as a result of some discussions. It - I haven't read it in full detail, but it does, as you'll see, take us through a new wage structure and what we would be doing in this award is abolishing the two different divisions that apply to newspapers and to printing houses. There would be one wage structure.

I - really, I don't want to go into the merits of the case today, sir. What I'm really looking for is another date from you and before you open the proceedings, we had our diaries out and we were rather hopeful that the matter might be relisted with the idea of bringing to you a consent document in the week of 5 October.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Well all I can say, off the cuff, there will be no trouble with that at all. Perhaps we'll hear from the others first, Mr Fry, then we'll settle that.

MR FRY: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Do you want to mark this document or just leave it as it is?

MR FRY: I think if we just leave it as a draft at this stage, sir, and you might call it FCU.1 if you wish, but it

will help to identify it.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Yes. All right, FCU.1 we'll call that. Thanks, Mr Fry. Mr Clues?

MR CLUES: Mr Commissioner, as has been indicated by Mr Fry on behalf of the FCU, the parties to date have had some discussions in relation to the restructuring of the classification structure within this award. The TCI, in conjunction with PATEFA, developed a joint agenda. To date the TCI is prepared to put its weight behind that agenda. PATEFA, for its part, will address where they stand at this point in time, but as I understand it, they are yet to have that document approved by their executive.

It would be the intent of the parties that the matter be relisted during the week commencing 5 October 1992 with a view to reaching a consent position and having that ratified by this commission. There isn't a lot more to be reported at this stage other than to say there is no commitment from either the FCU nor PATEFA to the document you have before, yet it is hoped by the time we next appear before you, that will have been rectified. If it pleases the commission.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Thanks, Mr Clues. Mr Hargrave?

MR HARGRAVE: Commissioner, the document referred to as FCU.1 is a working offices document and I place it no higher than that. It would be submitted to our executive of the Tasmanian region of PATEFA within the coming few days. I might also take the commission to the matter that there are a number of other organisations which are represented in Tasmania - although not within this commission - and I refer to the Regional Dailies of Australia who have clerks employed at the Launceston 'Examiner' and the Burnie 'Advocate'.

I've had an opportunity to talk to Regional Dailies this morning but they have not seen the document at this stage, so obviously Regional Dailies would be reserving their position in relation to those two regional daily newspapers. Subject to the executive of PATEFA of the Tasmanian region looking at the document, we would support the situation suggested by Mr Fry, that hopefully we would be able to come back before this commission during that week commencing the 5th of October and hopefully, at that particular stage, it would be as a consent variation to the award. If the commission pleases.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Thanks, Mr Hargrave. Well I have no difficulty with that, except to say it seems to me that the way the climate is at the moment, the sooner we get things settled and tied down, it might be better for all of us, but I might be wrong in that, I don't know. Does anyone want to - I am available that week - does anyone want to fix a day.

MR FRY: Wednesday the 7th would be acceptable to me.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Is that all we need?

MR HARGRAVE: Commissioner, if I could, could we have it probably late-ish in the morning instead of 9.30. That allows me to get a flight out of Melbourne into Hobart.

MR FRY: Make it 11 o'clock - make it 11 o'clock.

MR HARGRAVE: Eleven o'clock would be most suitable.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: All right, we'll fix it now - 11 am. on Wednesday, 7th October.

MR CLUES: Is the commission interested in whether the TCI can appear on that date or - ?

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: I thought you were writing it down as if you were going to appear, Mr Clues. We're intensely interested, yes.

MR CLUES: Well I'll make a few amendments to my diary and I'll try and squeeze it in, Mr Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER IMLACH: Pull together. Right. Well I confirm, with Mr Clues' cooperation and approval, that we will meet again at 11 am. on Wednesday, October the 7th. Thank you, gentlemen.

HEARING ADJOURNED