Leeds University Library

E FOX & SONS, LTD.

Shoddy and mungo merchants, Calder Bank Mills, Dewsbury.

Established 1845.

Handlist of business records (1896-1913) deposited in the Brotherton Library, compiled by Miss P. Hudson, Pasold Research Fellow, University of York.

1-4 Sales Books, 1896-1911

1. Sold day book, 'Shoddy' November 1896 - May 1902.

Daily record of sales of shoddy to named concerns, giving description of goods, amount, and prices charged / received. Location of purchaser not given but most are West Riding concerns. Page reference to 'Goods sold' ledger is given for each transaction. Monthly summary of types and values of shoddy passing to Soft Rags Dept. is given.

2. Sold day book, 'Mungo', July 1897 - April 1905.

As number 1 but records mungo sales.

3. Ledger of goods sold, July 1899 - February1906.

Accounts of named purchasers (with their locations) - mostly in the West Riding, with some London exporters, Scottish and west European concerns. Goods sold are unspecified but details of payment and discount are given on the credit side. Ledger indexed by name of purchaser.

4. Ledger of goods sold, March 1906 - June 1911.

As number 3, with some Canadian purchasers included.

5. Purchase Book, 1906-1913.

Bought ledger, March 1906 - February 1913. Detailed accounts of named suppliers of rags, oil, coal, coke, caustic soda, soap, belting, cartage, freight, repairs and various other items. Suppliers are mostly in the West Riding, especially Dewsbury, with some in London, South Lancashire, and Germany.

6-10 Wages Books, 1901-1913

6. Wages book, March 1901 - December 1906.

Record of weekly wages paid to named workers. Number of hours worked often indicated. Occupational divisions included are: soft rag pickers; seamers; soft rag

foremen; mungo rag pickers; grinders; lifters; extracting; dyeing; power; office; mechanics; scouring; 'wool'. Weekly totals paid to each department are given.

7. Wages book, December 1906 - July 1912.

As number 6, with addition of Scribbling Dept.

8. Wages book, July 1912 - October 1912.

Continued from number 7, with the same departments, etc., but more detail given of workers' ages, hours worked, rates, gross wages, workers' deductions, net wages, and employers' contributions.

9. Wages book, October 1912 - March 1913.

As number 8 but age of worker only given in case of minors.

10. Wages book, March 1913 - Sept. 1913.

As number 9.

11. Framed Notice

Dated 4th February 1858.

An agreement of the Shoddy & Rag Wool Merchants of the Dewsbury district about alteration of the system of credit and discounts. The new rules for discount and credit are given.