

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 34.—1918.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

J. R. CHANCELLOR,
Governor.

20th December, 1918.

AN ORDINANCE to prohibit the payment of wages otherwise than in money.

[By Proclamation.]

BE it enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows:—

Short Title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Truck Ordinance, 1918.

Interpretation. 2. In this Ordinance unless the context otherwise requires:

“Employer” includes any master, manager, foreman, clerk or other person engaged in the hiring, employment or superintendence of the service work or labour of any labourer within the meaning of this Ordinance;

“Labourer” means any person employed for wages in work of any kind, and whether under or above the age of 21 years, but does not include domestic servants.

“Money” means coin of the realm current in the Colony, and includes Government Currency notes and the notes of any banking corporation carrying on business in the Colony;

3. In every agreement or contract for the hiring of any labourer or for the performance by any such labourer of any work within the Colony, except as otherwise provided in this Ordinance, the wages of such labourer shall be made payable in money and not otherwise, and if in any such agreement or contract the whole or any part of such wages shall be made payable in any other manner, such agreement or contract shall be illegal, null and void.

Agreements to pay wages otherwise than in money illegal.

4. No employer shall directly or indirectly by himself or his agent, impose as a condition, express or implied, in any agreement or contract for the employment of any labourer any terms as to the place or the manner in which, or the person with whom, any wages or portion of wages paid to the labourer are or is to be expended, and every agreement or contract between an employer and a labourer wherein any such terms are expressed or implied shall be illegal, null and void.

Agreements as to place, manner, etc. of spending wages illegal.

5. Except where otherwise permitted by the provisions of this Ordinance, the entire amount of the wages earned by or payable to any labourer in respect of any work done by him shall be actually paid to him in money, and every payment of or on account of any such wages made in any other form shall be illegal, null and void.

Wages to be paid entirely in money.

6. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall render illegal an agreement or contract with a labourer for giving to him food, a dwelling place or other allowances or privileges in addition to money wages as a remuneration for his services.

Remuneration other than wages.

Persons work-
ing in
co-operation.

7. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall be held to apply to any body of persons working on an agreement of co-operation.

Labourer's
right to
recover.

8. Every labourer shall be entitled to recover in an action so much of his wages exclusive of sums lawfully deducted in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance as shall not have been paid to him in money.

deductions
from wages.

9. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall extend or be construed to extend to prevent any employer of any labourer or agent of such employer from making any stoppage or deduction from the wages of such labourer for or in respect of any tools and implements to be used by such labourer in his occupation as such, or for land rent then due and payable.

Fines for
negligence
or injury.

10. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall be construed so as to render illegal deductions from wages of fines incurred by labourers under any contract or regulations governing their employment or in respect of negligent work or injury to materials.

Interest, dis-
count, etc.,
forbidden.

11. Whenever any advance of money or of any of the articles specified in Section 9 hereof is made by an employer to a labourer it shall not be lawful for the employer to make any deduction in respect of such advance on account of poundage, discount, interest, commission or any similar charge.

Indentured
Immigrants.

12. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall be held to apply to any immigrant under indenture.

Penalties.

13. If any employer or his agent contravenes any of the foregoing provisions of this Ordinance, such employer or agent, as the case may be, shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance, and shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding £5 for the first offence, to a penalty not exceeding £10 for the second offence, and in case of a third offence such employer or agent shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour and on conviction thereof shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding £50.

14. All offences under this Ordinance punishable on summary conviction shall be prosecuted before a Magistrate in the manner set forth in the Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure) Ordinance, 1918. Procedure.

15. This Ordinance shall commence on a day to be fixed by the Governor by proclamation in the *Royal Gazette*. Commencement.

1-1-20

Passed in Council this Twenty-ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

J. M. FARFAN,
Acting Clerk of the Council.
