



*I assent,*

T. A. V. BEST,

*Acting Governor,*

*15th December, 1916.*

## **ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS.**

### **No. 9 of 1916.**

An Ordinance to prohibit the formation of Trade and Labour Unions during the present War.

[ ]

**B**E IT ORDAINED by the Governor and Legislative Council of Saint Christopher and Nevis as follows :—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Trade and Labour Unions (Prohibition) Ordinance, 1916.

Short Title.

2. Any person who forms, or is concerned in the formation of :—

Nature of offence and Penalty.

No.9 of 1916 *Trade and Labour Unions(Prohibition) Ordinance 1916.*

- [a] any trade union ;
- [b] any labour union ;
- [c] any trade and labour union ;
- [d] any combination, whether temporary or permanent, which has for its object, or one of its objects, the regulation of the relations between masters or employers of labour and servants or labourers, or the imposing of restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade, business or plantation ;

shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance and shall be liable, on summary conviction thereof before a District Magistrate, to a penalty not exceeding Fifty pounds or to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months or to both fine and imprisonment, as the District Magistrate may direct.

Interpretation  
Clause.

3. For the purposes of this Ordinance, any person who ;

- [a] receives or solicits a subscription from any person on behalf of any such union or combination as hereinbefore mentioned, whether such union or combination has already been formed or is proposed to be formed ;
- [b] enrolls, or solicits or advises the enrollment of, the name of any person as a member of any such union or combination ;
- [c] prints, publishes, circulates or distributes or causes to be printed, published, circulated or distributed any circular, leaflet or pamphlet notifying persons of the formation or the proposed formation of any such union or combination ;
- [d] signs any such circular, leaflet or pamphlet intended to be printed, published, circulated or distributed ; or
- [e] being a member or promoter of any such union or combination does any act which may induce or encourage any person to join or subscribe to any such union or combination ;

shall be deemed to be concerned in the formation of such union or combination.

4. Whenever it is made to appear on oath that there is reasonable cause to suspect that an offence is being committed against this Ordinance it shall be lawful for any District Magistrate by warrant under his hand to authorise any member of the Leeward Islands Police Force to enter (and if necessary, by force) and search any place either in the day or in the night and if any circular, leaflet, pamphlet, book or other document dealing with or relating to the formation or operation of any such union or combination as hereinbefore mentioned is found in any place so searched to seize and secure the same for the purpose of being produced in evidence in any proceeding before any Court of Justice in which the same may be required. And any person who hinders or molests any person acting under the authority of any warrant issued under this section shall be liable on summary conviction thereof before a District Magistrate to pay a fine not exceeding Fifty pounds or to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months.

Search Warrant  
authorised for  
documents relating  
to Unions.

5. Whenever upon any such search as in the last preceding section mentioned any circular, leaflet, pamphlet, book or other document dealing with or relating to the formation or operation of any such union or combination as aforesaid is found, the person in whose possession or on whose premises it is found shall be deemed, unless and until the contrary is proved, to be a person concerned in the formation of such union or combination within the meaning of this Ordinance at the time when such document was found.

Possession of  
documents relating  
to Unions.

6. This Ordinance shall come into operation on such day as the Governor may appoint in that behalf by Proclamation and shall remain in force until the termination of the present War.

Commencement  
and duration.

T. A. V. BEST,  
*President of the Council.*

Passed the Legislative Council the 14th day of  
December 1916.

G. C. JOHNSON,  
*Clerk of the Council.*

Duly published in the Town of Basseterre the  
16th day of December 1916.

EDW. A. EVELYN,  
*Acting Provost Marshal.*