

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. S. 422.—The following Bill, to be read a first time at the Meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on the 19th instant, is published for general information :—

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to prevent the undue and improper interference with or hampering of lawful business and commercial undertakings.

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

Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Boycott Prevention Ordinance, 191 .

Definitions. 2. In this Ordinance :—

Boycotting. "Boycotting" means and includes the use of any words, the making, placarding or dissemination of any writings or the doing of any acts intended or calculated to persuade or induce any person or persons

(a.) not to let, hire, use, make use of or occupy any immovable or movable property in any lawful manner ; or

(b.) not to deal with, trade with, work for or hire in any lawful manner any person or persons in the ordinary course of trade, business, occupation, employment or undertaking ; or

(c.) not to carry out or comply with the requirements of the Law, or

(d.) to refuse to comply with or to interfere with the administration of the Law.

Intimidation. "Intimidation" includes any words or acts intended or calculated to put any person in fear of any injury or danger to himself, or to any member of his family, or to any person in his employment, or in fear of any injury to or loss of property, business, employment, means of living or membership of or status in any "society" as defined in this Ordinance.

Person. "Person" includes any society as defined in this Ordinance.

Society. "Society" includes any corporation, company, club, guild, or any combination or association of any kind whatsoever consisting of more than two persons whether such combination or association be known or designated by any distinctive name or not.

Member of a Society which commits violence, threat or intimidation. 3. Any person who shall be a member of or take part in any society which shall use violence, threat or intimidation to or towards any person or persons with the view of causing any person or persons either to do any act which such person or persons has or have a legal right to abstain from doing or to abstain from doing any act which such person or persons has or have a legal right to do shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance.

Person committing violence threat or intimidation. 4. Any person who shall use violence, threat or intimidation to or towards any person or persons with the view of causing any person or persons either to do any act which such person or persons has or have a legal right to abstain from doing or to abstain from doing any act which such person or persons has or have a legal right to do shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance.

5. Any person who shall commit boycotting as defined in this Ordinance shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance.

Penalty for boycotting.

6. Any person who shall aid, abet, incite, induce or attempt to induce any person or persons to commit any offence against the provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed to have committed an offence against the provisions of this Ordinance.

Aiding or inciting to commit offence of boycott.

7. Any person who commits any offence against the provisions of this Ordinance shall be liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding one year or to both such punishments in addition to any other penalty or civil claim to which such person may be legally liable in respect of any act committed by him in or in connection with the commission by him of any offence against the provisions of this Ordinance.

Penalty for offence against Ordinance.

8.—(1.) The Governor-in-Council may whenever it shall appear to him desirable for the prevention, detection or punishment of offences against the provisions of this Ordinance declare by Proclamation published in the *Gazette* that any area in the Colony shall be deemed to be a boycotting district.

Proclamation of boycotting area.

(2.) Upon any such area being declared to be a boycotting area in manner provided in the preceding sub-section the Governor-in-Council may order by Proclamation published in the *Gazette* that a special rate be levied upon and payable by the inhabitants of such proclaimed area.

Levy of special rate in proclaimed area.

(3.) Any such order for the levy and payment of a special rate as aforesaid shall prescribe the amount of such rate, the class or classes of property upon which such rate shall be levied and the period for which such rate shall be levied.

Order to prescribe amount and mode of levy.

(4.) The payment of any special rate imposed under the provisions of this section shall be made and shall be capable of being enforced in the same manner as are rates levied under the provisions of the Rating Ordinance 1901.

Payment of special rate.

(5.) The Governor-in-Council may in his discretion exempt from the payment of any special rate levied under the provisions of this section any person who is an inhabitant of or property owner in any area proclaimed as a boycotting area under the provisions of this section.

Exemption from payment.

(6.) It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to order the payment to any person who may have incurred pecuniary loss or suffered damage by reason of any offence committed against the provisions of this Ordinance of the whole or any part amount of any special rate levied under the provisions of this section.

Compensation to person damaged.

9. This Ordinance shall come into operation on the day of 191 , but if at the expiration of seven days after the date of the coming into operation of this Ordinance any state of boycotting or condition of boycotting which may be in existence at the date of the coming into operation of the Ordinance has not entirely ceased and abated it shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to declare by Proclamation published in the *Gazette* that the provisions of section 8 of this Ordinance shall operate retrospectively and shall be deemed to have been in force as from such date as may by the said Proclamation be determined and upon the publication of such Proclamation the provisions of section 8 of this Ordinance shall be as from such date so determined in such Proclamation of full legal force and effect. For the purpose of this section the expressions "state of boycotting" and "condition of boycotting" shall mean any such state or condition of affairs as may in the opinion of the Governor-in-Council be regarded as a state of boycotting or condition of boycotting.

Date of coming into operation.