

Bill No. 16 of 1963

PUBLISHED 6TH APRIL, 1963

BILL NO. 16 OF 1963 (L.A.)

TRADES UNIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1963

Arrangement of Sections

Section

1. Short title.
2. Amendment of section 2 of Chapter 113.
3. Insertion of section 8A in Chapter 113.
4. Substitution of Minister for Governor in Council in Chapter 113.

A BILL

Intituled

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Trades Unions Ordinance.

Enacted by the Legislature of British Guiana—

A.D. 1963.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Trades Unions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1963, and shall be construed and read with the Trades Unions Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Ordinance, and any Ordinance amending the same.

Short title.

2. Section 2 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion immediately before the definition of the expression "trade union" of the following new definitions—

Amendment of section 2 of Chapter 113.

- "the Minister" means the Minister for the time being charged with responsibility for labour;
- "representative" includes an officer of a trade union registered under this Ordinance and any member thereof authorised in writing by the President or Secretary to act on behalf of such union.

3. The Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion immediately after section 8 of the following section—

Insertion of section 8A in Chapter 113.

"Entry of trade union representatives upon private land.

8A. (1) Any representative may, in order to gain access to the place of abode of a workman with a view to furthering the purposes of the representative's trade union, enter or traverse any land under the control of the workman's employer and the representative shall be immune from civil or criminal proceedings in respect of his presence by virtue of this subsection upon any land under such control:

Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to confer upon any representative the right to enter any dwelling house or land within the curtilage thereof without the consent of the occupier of the dwelling house or to hinder, obstruct, delay, interrupt, speak to or deliver any book, paper, writing or any other material whatsoever to a workman engaged in the execution of his work without the consent of both the workman and his employer.

(2) Everyone who assaults, resists, obstructs or wilfully delays any representative in the exercise of any power

conferred upon him by this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding five hundred dollars."

Substitution
of Minister
for Governor
in Council in
Chapter 113.

4. The Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the substitution for the expression "the Governor in Council" wherever it appears therein of the expression "the Minister".

OBJECTS AND REASONS

In accordance with recommendations contained in the report of the sub-committee on Labour-Management Relations in the Timber Industry, which were accepted at the Tripartite Technical Meeting on the Timber Industry held in Geneva in December, 1958, this Bill seeks to confer an immunity from legal process upon representatives of trades unions who enter upon the land of an employer for the purpose of gaining access to workmen to promote trade union activities among workers who reside on the land.

2. The expression "the Governor in Council" being no longer applicable to any of the institutions created by the new Constitution, opportunity has been taken to provide in the Bill that the Minister of Labour, Health and Housing should exercise the functions formerly assigned to the Governor in Council.

RANJI CHANDISINGH,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.

(M.P. L: 56/7/7 II)
(Bill 16/1963 (L.A.))