

CHAPTER 231.

TRADE PROTECTION.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

SECTION.

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Assaulting, intimidation or threatening violence to purchasers of produce.
4. Forcibly hindering a person from trading.
5. *Poro* laws.
6. Chiefs placing or concerned in placing *poro* on produce so as to hinder trade.
7. Procedure for recovery of penalties.

CHAPTER 231.

TRADE PROTECTION.

14 of 1897.
7 of 1898.

An Ordinance to protect and safeguard the trade of the Colony of Sierra Leone and its Protectorate and those engaged and interested in the same.

[18TH NOVEMBER, 1897.]

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Trade Protection Ordinance, and shall apply to the Colony and Protectorate.

Interpreta-
tion.

2. In this Ordinance, the term "produce," shall include palm oil, palm nuts, palm kernels, groundnuts, benniseed, rubber, gum, corn, rice or other grain, flour, cocoa, coffee, plantain, bananas, yam, cassada, sweet potatoes, or other produce of the soil, whether growing, cut or gathered, to be disposed of in the ordinary course of trade.

Assaulting,
intimidating
or threaten-
ing violence
to purchasers
of produce.

3. Every person who—

(1) assaults, intimidates, or uses any threat of violence to any person with intent to deter or hinder him from buying, gathering, selling or otherwise disposing of any produce;

(2) assaults, intimidates, or uses any threat of violence to any person having the care or charge of any produce whilst on the way to, or from, any place in the Colony or Protectorate, with intent to stop or hinder the conveyance of the same;



shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to a penalty of twenty pounds, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months, or both.

4. Any person who unlawfully, and with force, or by any other means whatsoever, molests, hinders or prevents any person from working at or exercising his lawful trade, business or occupation, or assaults or uses any threats of violence to any such person, with intent to hinder or prevent him from working at or exercising the same, shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to a penalty of twenty pounds, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term, not exceeding six months, or both.

Forcibly
hindering a
person from
trading.

5. Any person who, by having recourse to any kind of *poro* laws or customs, native fetish practices whatsoever, intimidates, hinders, interrupts or deters any other person from gathering, buying, selling or otherwise disposing of his produce, or working at or exercising his lawful trade, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine, not exceeding twenty pounds, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months, or both.

Poro laws.

6. Any chief or person claiming to be such, who directly or indirectly, permits, encourages, aids, abets, incites or is concerned in placing or imposing *poro* laws or customs or native fetish on any produce, so as thereby to hinder the trade in or from any towns, villages, or places in which such chief or person claims to have authority, or who, knowing of any such *poro* or fetish being placed on any such produce within such towns, villages or places, does not, with all reasonable diligence, report the same to the police, or who, if called upon to remove the same, fails, neglects, or refuses to do so, shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine, not exceeding twenty pounds, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding six months, or both.

Chiefs
placing or
concerned in
placing *poro*
on produce so
as to hinder
trade.

7. All proceedings for the recovery of any penalty herein provided for may be heard, tried and determined in the District in which the offence occurred, before a Magistrate.

Procedure for
recovery of
penalties.