

PROCLAMATION.

BY

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

No. 10, 1912.—DATED 27th FEBRUARY, 1912.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision with regard to the recruitment of native labourers within the territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate herein after referred to as "the territory."

PROCLAMATIONS:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers, in me vested, I do hereby proclaim, declare and make known as follows:—

Penalty when native recruit deserts or enters into a second contract while first still exists.

1. Any native

- (a) who having entered into a contract for employment beyond the borders of the territory and signed such contract as provided by section *one* of Proclamation No. 7 of 1909 without lawful cause deserts or absents himself from his place of employment or fails to enter upon or carry out the terms of his contract of employment; or
- (b) who after having in the territory entered into an agreement whether oral or in writing with a labour agent and having received an advance in respect thereof accepts another advance from another labour agent in consideration of entering upon any other contract of service before he has completed his term of service under the first mentioned agreement

shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or in default of payment to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding two months.

Proof of terms of contract.

2. In any proceedings under the last preceding section a copy of any contract duly signed as provided by section *one* of Proclamation No. 7 of 1909 which is certified as a correct copy by any such officer as is therein mentioned may be produced and shall thereupon be *prima facie* evidence of the terms of the contract.

Amount of advances limited.

3. It shall not be lawful for any labour agent in the territory to make any advance to any native in excess of the sum or value of £2 exclusive of any charges for railway transport or any amount due for any hut tax or fine advanced by the labour agent, and no interest shall be charged by the labour agent on any advance made. Any person who shall contravene this section shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding two months.

Commencement of Proclamation.

4. This Proclamation shall be read as one with the Bechuanaland Protectorate Native Labour Proclamation 1907 and Proclamation No. 7 of 1909 and shall take effect from the date of its publication in the *Gazette*.