

C H A P . 71

An Act relating to the retention of a proportion of laborers' wages for purposes of insurance.

[Assented to 5th March, 1915]

Preamble.

WHEREAS certain employers retain out of the wages of their workmen amounts intended to pay premiums on insurance policies issued against accidents or sickness happening by reason of or in the course of their work; and whereas serious inconvenience results therefrom; Therefore, His Majesty, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

Subsection and article of R. S., enacted.

1. The Revised Statutes, 1909, are amended by inserting therein, after the third subsection of the fourteenth section of the first chapter of the twelfth title thereof, a new subsection and articles, as follows:

“§4.—*Retention of a proportion of workmen's wages for purposes of insurance*

Retention of wages forbidden.

“**7436a.** It is forbidden for any employer to make any retention of any part of the salary or wages of his workmen or employees for purposes of insurance against accidents or sickness happening by reason of or in the course of their work, even with the consent of such workmen or employees.

Agreement null.

“**7436b.** Any agreement under which such a retention is made or authorized shall be null and of no effect.

Workman or employee may recover.

“**7436c.** In any case where such retention is made, the workman or employee, in the three months following the end of his contract of work, may recover, before any court of competent jurisdiction, the amount so irregularly withheld from his salary or wages.”

Not retro-active.

2. This act shall not apply to any retentions which may have been legally made before its coming into force.

Certain railway employees not affected.

3. This act shall not apply to railway employees who individually, and in good faith, take out policies of insurance, and give written orders to their employers to pay the premiums out of their wages or salaries.

Coming into force.

4. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.