

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 17—1925.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

H. A. BYATT,
Governor.

6th May, 1925.

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Post Office Ordinance, 1918.

[6th May, 1925.]

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

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Post Office Short title.
(Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1925, and shall be read Construction.
as one with the Post Office Ordinance, 1918, hereinafter (10-1918)
called the Principal Ordinance.

2. Section 16 (1) of the Principal Ordinance is hereby Amendment of
amended by inserting the words "any officer of" after the section 16 of
word "or" in the fourth line. Principal
Ordinance.

[Price 2d.]

Despatch and
delivery of
book packets,
&c.

3. The following section shall be inserted as section 16A of the Principal Ordinance :—

16A. Where the despatch or delivery from a Post Office of letters would be delayed by the despatch or delivery therefrom at the same time of newspapers, book packets, pattern or sample packets, post cards, or parcels, those newspapers, packets, cards, or parcels, or any of them, may, subject and according to the Postal Regulations for the time being in force, be detained in the Post Office until the despatch or delivery next following that by which they would ordinarily be despatched or delivered.

Amendment of
section 17 of
Principal
Ordinance.

4. Section 17 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by inserting the word " mis-sending " after the word " delay " in the fourth line.

Detention and
opening of
postal packets
suspected to
contain
dutiable goods.

5. Section 20 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof shall be read the following :—

20. The Postmaster-General or any of his officers may detain any postal packet suspected to contain any goods liable to duty, and may, in the presence of the person to whom the same is addressed or of the accredited representative of such person, open and examine the same ; and in case, on any such examination, any goods liable to duty shall be discovered in such postal packet, it may be detained for the purposes of prosecution, or may be delivered to the person to whom the same is addressed or to his accredited representative on payment of the proper duty together with the postage, if any, charged thereon ; and in case no goods liable to duty shall be discovered in such postal packet, it may be delivered to the person to whom the same is addressed or to his accredited representative on payment of the postage, if any, charged thereon.

6. The following section shall be inserted as section 34A of the Principal Ordinance under the heading "Ship Letters":

Duty of master of outward-bound vessel as to mail bag.

34A.—(1) Every master of a vessel outward bound shall receive on board his vessel every mail bag tendered to him by an officer of the Post Office for conveyance, and, having received any such mail bag, shall deliver it, on arriving at the port or place to which such mail bag is addressed, without delay.

(2) If he fails to comply with this section he shall forfeit two hundred pounds.

7. Paragraph (b) of sub-section (1) of section 62 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by inserting the words

Indecent words, &c., in postal packet.

"or contains any words, marks, or designs of an indecent, obscene, or grossly offensive character"

after the words "obscene article."

8. In section 66 of the Principal Ordinance the expression "newspaper" shall include packets of printed papers, commercial papers, and samples.

Enclosing letters in newspapers.

9. Sections 11, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 of the Principal Ordinance are hereby repealed.

to be repealed.

Passed in Council this twenty-fourth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-five.

E. F. AANENSEN,
Acting Clerk of the Council

OBJECTS AND REASONS.

This Bill provides for some minor amendments which experience has shown will facilitate the working of the Post Office.

Clause 3 of the Bill will enable the Postmaster-General to provide for speedier delivery of letters by detaining other classes of mail until a subsequent delivery. This clause is, with the addition of newspapers and parcels, a copy of section 15 of the English Post Office Act of 1908.

With regard to Clause 5 of the Bill, the present law (Section 20 of Ordinance 10-1918) provides that postal packets suspected to contain dutiable articles are to be sent to the Customs Department to be examined. This entails much delay and inconvenience. The clause will enable such packets to be dealt with at the Post Office.

Clause 6 of the Bill follows section 26 of the English Post Office Act.

Clauses 2, 4, 7 and 8 provide for verbal amendments.

Clause 9 repeals some unnecessary provisions.