

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 21.—1908.

*30th March.*

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Quarantine (Convention) Ordinance, 1905 (No. 20-1905).

[L.S.]

S. W. KNAGGS,

ACTING GOVERNOR.

*4th April, 1908.*

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

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Quarantine Ordinance, 1908. It shall be read as one with the Quarantine (Convention) Ordinance 1905, hereinafter referred to as the principal Ordinance. The principal Ordinance and this Ordinance may together be cited as the Quarantine Ordinances 1905 and 1908.

Amendment of Convention.

2. In lieu of Schedule I to the principal Ordinance shall be read the following:—

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**SCHEDULE I.**

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The West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention 1894, amended in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Report (dated 12th June, 1907) of the Central Quarantine Authority for the West Indies.

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1. The Quarantine Regulations annexed to the present Convention are adopted. The existing quarantine enactments and regulations in the Colonies adhering or acceding to this Convention shall be repealed by such Colonies so far as such enactments and regulations are repugnant to or inconsistent with this Convention and the Quarantine Regulations annexed thereto.

2. Every Colony shall as soon as possible notify by telegram to the other Colonies the first appearance within such Colony of recognised cases of infectious or contagious disease as defined in the Quarantine Regulations annexed to the present Convention. Such notification shall be accompanied or promptly followed by detailed information on the following points :

- (1.) The locality in which the disease has made its appearance.
- (2.) The date of its appearance, its source and the type which it presents.
- (3.) The known number of cases and deaths.
- (4.) In the case of plague, whether that disease or any unusual mortality has been observed among rats or mice in the locality.
- (5.) The measures adopted immediately upon the first appearance of the disease.

3. The notification and the particulars specified in Article 2 shall be followed by a weekly telegram notifying the occurrence of all new cases and by information systematically furnished in such fashion as to ensure that the other Colonies be kept acquainted with the progress of the disease. This information shall be sent at least once a week, if practicable, and shall be as complete as possible. It shall, in particular, indicate the measures adopted with a view to checking the spread of the disease and shall specify what steps are being taken :—

- (1.) In the way of medical and sanitary inspection, isolation, and disinfection ;
- (2.) In the case of plague, to secure destruction of rats ;
- (3.) In the case of yellow fever, to secure destruction of mosquitoes on and near infected premises ;
- (4.) In the case of smallpox, to secure vaccination and re-vaccination ;
- (5.) To prevent transmission of the disease to the other Colonies.

4. Every Colony shall immediately inform any Colony within which there is an infected place as defined in the Quarantine Regulations annexed to the present Convention, as to the measures which it is proposed to take against arrivals from that Colony or place; and shall, in like manner, inform such Colony as to the modification or withdrawal of these measures. Similar information shall immediately be communicated to every Colony adhering to the Convention.

5. Every Colony shall before the 31st day of December 1908, be provided with :—

- (1.) A proper station for the isolation of the persons liable to observation under the Quarantine Regulations hereto annexed.
- (2.) A proper building for the isolation and care of persons arriving suffering from, or who while under observation or surveillance develop an infectious or contagious disease as defined in such Regulations. A part of such building shall be screened against mosquitoes with wire gauze at least 18 meshes to the inch for the reception and isolation of persons suffering from Yellow Fever, or of persons under observation for Yellow Fever who present while under such observation an elevation in temperature above 99·2° Fahrenheit.
- (3.) An effective disinfecting apparatus.

Provided that in the case of a group of Islands under one Government, one such station, building and apparatus will suffice if such be respectively used when necessary without exception in respect of all arrivals at or departures from any of such Islands.

6. Colonies which have not taken part in the present Conference or which have not given their adhesion to this Convention may accede to it at their request.

7. The present Convention shall remain in force for five years from the date of the coming into operation of the confirmatory legislative enactments passed by the British West Indian Colonies which give their adhesion to this Convention. During that period no alteration or modification of this Convention or of the Quarantine Regulations annexed thereto shall be made without the consent of all the Colonies adhering or acceding thereto. It shall be renewed quinquennially, without formal extension, unless one of the adhering or acceding Colonies within six months before the expiration of the above-mentioned quinquennial period, has signified its intention of being no longer bound by the Convention, or its desire that the Convention should be altered or modified.

Amendment of  
Regulations.

3. The Quarantine Regulations contained in Schedule II to the principal Ordinance are hereby amended as follows :

I. In regulation 1 the following shall be respectively substituted as the definitions of "infected ship," "suspected ship," "observation" and "surveillance."

“Infected ship” means a ship on board of which a case of infectious or contagious disease is present or has occurred

- (1.) In the case of plague and cholera, within a period of seven days previous to the date of arrival of the ship;
- (2.) In the case of Small-pox, within a period of twelve days previous to such arrival; and
- (3.) In the case of Yellow Fever, within a period of eighteen days previous to such arrival.

“Suspected ship” means a ship on board of which a case of infectious or contagious disease has occurred during the voyage or during the stay of such ship in the port of departure, but on board of which no fresh case has occurred

- (1.) In the case of Plague and Cholera, within a period of seven days previous to the date of arrival of the ship;
- (2.) In the case of Small-pox, within a period of 12 days previous to such arrival; and
- (3.) In the case of Yellow Fever, within a period of 18 days previous to such arrival.

“Observation” means isolation of passengers, either in a proper station provided for that purpose or on board ship prior to their obtaining free pratique. In the case of Yellow Fever, the sick or those under observation who develop a temperature exceeding 99·2° Fahrenheit must be effectively screened from mosquitoes.

“Surveillance” means that passengers are not isolated. They receive free pratique at once and are allowed to proceed to their place of destination (the proper authority of which must be informed of their arrival) there to undergo medical supervision.

When the Health Officer is aware that while under such medical supervision they are leaving for another Country or Colony adhering to the Convention, he shall cause the fact to be entered on the Bill of Health of the vessel conveying them; when he does not become aware of such fact until after departure, he shall notify his Government, who shall telegraph to the Government of the Country or Colony of destination at the expense of such Country or Colony.

II. The following shall be substituted for Regulation 2:—

With a view to restricting the range of application of these Regulations, the measures therein specified shall be applied to arrivals not from all ports of clearance of a Country or Colony, but only to arrivals from such ports of clearance, if any, as having regard

to the nature and progress of the disease and to the extent and means of communication with the infected place, are likely in the opinion of the Health Officer to transmit the infectious or contagious disease with which such place is infected.

This limitation shall apply only if the Health officer is satisfied that the Country or Colony in which the infected place is situate takes the measures necessary to prevent export of the rags, clothing and bedding referred to in Article 14 from that place unless they shall have been previously disinfected, and also takes measures necessary to check the spread of the disease.

III. The following shall be substituted for regulation 3 :—

A place shall cease to be regarded as infected if the Health Officer is satisfied that :—

- (a.) There has been no new case of plague or cholera within five days, of Yellow Fever within eighteen days, or of Small-pox within twelve days of the isolation, or of the death or recovery of the last case ;
- (b.) Infected things have been disinfected or destroyed, and that in the case of plague, measures have been taken with a view to the destruction of rats in the infected locality, and in the case of Yellow Fever, of mosquitoes on and near the infected premises.

Conveying  
passenger not  
examined  
or goods not  
disinfected.

4. The master, owner or agent of any ship who knowingly conveys in such ship from an infected port in this Colony any passenger who has not complied with Regulation 17 in Schedule II to the principal Ordinance, or any merchandise or articles liable to be disinfected under the said Regulation and which have not been so disinfected, shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

Person suf-  
fering from  
disease  
embarking.

5. Any person who in the opinion of the Health Officer is suffering from any infectious or contagious disease who embarks as a passenger on any vessel about to leave an infected port in this Colony shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

Adoption of  
Scheme for  
Central  
Quarantine  
Authority.

6. This Colony hereby enters into, adopts, and adheres to, the Scheme for the establishment of a Central Quarantine Authority set out and contained in the Schedule hereto, and the provisions of the same shall have effect as if the same were enacted in this Ordinance.

Commence-  
ment.

7. This Ordinance shall commence and come into operation on such day as may be fixed by the Governor by Proclamation.

Passed in Council this Thirtieth day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eight.

ALFRED TAITT,  
*Acting Clerk of the Council.*

## SCHEDULE.

### SCHEME FOR A CENTRAL QUARANTINE AUTHORITY FOR THE WEST INDIES.

1. The Authority, exclusive of the President, shall include one Constitution, delegate from each of the Governments adhering to the West Indian Sanitary Convention, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent being taken as one Government for this purpose.

2. A President shall be appointed from time to time by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. He shall be selected from one of the contracting Colonies, and shall hold office during pleasure. <sup>President.</sup>

The Authority shall meet at least once in three years, but may be convened at any time by the President for the time being, on the request of two or more parties to the Convention. The Authority shall meet at Barbados, unless there shall be at any time any special circumstances which in the opinion of the President make it desirable that the meeting should be held elsewhere. <sup>Meetings.</sup>

3.—(1.) The Authority shall have power to interpret the meaning of any phrase, either in the Convention or in the Quarantine Regulations made under it, as to which doubt may arise, and to decide whether any disease occurring in the territory of the contracting Governments as to the nature of which there may be a conflict of opinion, is an infectious disease within the meaning of the Regulations. <sup>Powers.</sup>

(2.) The decision shall be by the majority of votes. The President shall have a casting but not an original vote on any question.

(3.) The Authority shall have no power to modify or alter the Convention or the Regulations; but they may submit recommendations for the consideration of the several Governments concerned.

4. The contracting Governments shall accept and act on the decision of the Authority as to the interpretation of the existing Convention and Regulations and as to the nature of any disease. <sup>Findings.</sup>

5. The recommendations of the Authority for the modification of the Convention and Regulations shall have no effect unless all the contracting Governments announce to the Secretary of State for the Colonies their willingness to accept them. <sup>Recommendations.</sup>

6. Each Government shall pay the travelling and maintenance expenses of its delegate. The expenses and remuneration of the President, and any general expenses incidental to the meeting of the Authority shall be divided equally amongst the Governments represented at the meeting. <sup>Expenses.</sup>