

CHAPTER 176.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION.

Ordinances
No. 56,
,, 23 of 1918,
,, 3 of 1919.

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS
AND DEATHS.

[16th December, 1847.]

Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance.

Interpreta-
tion. 2. In this Ordinance—

“ Public Institution ” means a Prison, Industrial School, Orphanage, Lunatic Asylum, Hospital, and any prescribed Public or Charitable Institution;

“ House ” includes a Public Institution as above defined;

“ Occupier ” includes the Keeper, Master, Matron, Superintendent, or other Chief Resident Officer of every Public Institution, also the owner and the manager of every estate and plantation in the Colony; and where a house is let in separate apartments or lodgings includes any person residing in such house who is the person under whom such lodgings or separate apartments are immediately held, or his agent;

“ Relative ” includes a relative by marriage;

“ Appointed Fee ” means the fee specified in the Second Schedule to this Ordinance.

Definition of Registrar and Supt. Registrar. 3. Where reference is made in this Ordinance to a Registrar or Superintendent Registrar in connection with any birth or death, or any register, such reference shall (unless the contrary be expressed) be deemed to be made to the Registrar who is the Registrar for the district in which such birth or death took place or who keeps the register in which the birth or death is or is required to be registered,

or who keeps the register referred to, and to the Superintendent Registrar who superintends such Registrar as aforesaid.

4. The Registrar-General shall keep at his office in Port-of-Spain a general register of births and deaths in the Colony.

General Register.

5. The Registrar-General shall send, once in every year, to the Governor a general abstract of the numbers of births and deaths registered during the twelve months ending on the last day of December then immediately preceding, in such form as the Governor from time to time may require; and every such annual general abstract shall be laid before the Legislative Council.

Annual abstract of registers to be sent to Governor.

Superintendent Registrars and Registrars.

6. The Governor shall appoint such person as he shall see fit as Superintendent Registrar of births and deaths within the City of Port-of-Spain, and such other person as he shall see fit as Superintendent Registrar of births and deaths within the town of San Fernando.

Superintendent Registrars for Port-of-Spain and San Fernando.

7. (1) Each Warden, within the district of which he is Warden, shall be the Superintendent Registrar of births and deaths.

Wardens and Assistant Wardens.

(2) All the powers and duties conferred and imposed on a Warden under this Ordinance may be exercised and performed by an Assistant Warden. (*Added by 3 of 1919.*)

(3) All fees received by Wardens and Assistant Wardens under this Ordinance shall be paid into the Treasury for the use of the Colony. (*Added by 23 of 1918, s. 1.*)

8. It shall be lawful for each such Superintendent Registrar, with the approval of the Registrar-General, to divide the city, town, county, or ward, of or for which he shall be Superintendent, into such and so many districts as he shall think fit; and from time to time, with such approval as aforesaid, to alter and vary the number of such districts; and every such district shall be called by a distinct name, and shall be a Registrar's district, and the Superintendent Registrar shall appoint a person with such qualifications as the Registrar-General may, by any

Districts.

District Registrars.

general rule, declare to be necessary to be Registrar of births and deaths within each district, and in every case of vacancy in the office of Registrar shall forthwith fill up the vacancy; and every such Registrar shall hold his office during the pleasure of the Registrar-General.

Deputy Registrars.

9. For every district for which a Registrar of births and deaths shall be appointed as aforesaid, the Registrar shall have power, subject to the approval of the Superintendent Registrar, to appoint by writing under his hand a fit person to act as his Deputy in case of the illness or unavoidable absence of such Registrar; and every such Deputy Registrar, whilst so acting, shall have all the powers and duties, and be subject to all the provisions and penalties herein declared concerning Registrars, and in case of the death of the Registrar shall act as Registrar until another Registrar is appointed, and every Registrar shall be civilly responsible for the acts or omissions of his Deputy.

Register boxes.

10. The Registrar-General shall furnish to every Superintendent Registrar, for the use of the Registrars under his superintendence, a sufficient number of strong iron boxes to hold the register books to be kept by such Registrars; and every such box shall be furnished with a lock and two keys and no more, and one of such keys shall be kept by the Registrar, and the other key shall be kept by the Superintendent Registrar, and the register books of each district, while in the custody of the Registrar and not in use, shall be always kept in the register box, and the register box shall always be left locked.

Transfer of books, etc., on removal of Registrar.

11. In every case in which any Registrar or Superintendent Registrar shall be removed from or cease to hold office, all register boxes, keys, books, documents, and papers in his possession as such Registrar or Superintendent Registrar shall be given up as soon as conveniently may be to his successor in office; and if any person shall refuse to give up any such box, key, books, documents, or papers in such case as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for any Justice for the district where such person shall be or reside, upon application for that purpose, to issue a warrant under his hand for bringing such person before the Magistrate of the district; and upon such person appearing, or not being found, it shall be lawful for such Magistrate to hear and determine the matter in a summary way; and if it shall

appear to the Magistrate that any such box, key, books, documents, or papers are in the custody or power of any such person, and that he has refused or wilfully neglected to deliver the same, the Magistrate shall commit such offender to prison, there to remain without bail until he shall have delivered up the same, or until satisfaction shall have been given in respect thereof to the person in whose custody the same ought to be; and the Magistrate may grant a warrant to search for such box, key, books, documents, or papers, as in the case of stolen goods, in any dwelling-house or other premises in which any credible witness shall prove upon oath that there is reasonable cause to suspect the same to be, and the same when found shall be delivered to the person in whose custody they ought to be.

12. Every Registrar and Deputy Registrar shall dwell within the district of which he is Registrar or Deputy Registrar, and shall cause his name, with the addition of Registrar or Deputy Registrar (as the case may be) for the district for which he shall be so appointed, to be placed in some conspicuous place on or near the outer door of his own dwelling-house, and the Superintendent Registrar shall cause to be printed and published in the city, town, county, or ward which he shall superintend, a list of the names and places of abode of every Registrar and Deputy Registrar under his superintendence.

Registrar to reside within the district.

13. The Registrar-General shall cause to be printed a sufficient number of register books for making entries of all births and deaths in the Colony, according to the Forms A and B of the First Schedule to this Ordinance; and such register books shall be of durable materials, and in them shall be printed upon each side of every leaf the heads of information by this Ordinance required to be known and registered, of births and deaths respectively; and every page of each of such books shall be numbered progressively from the beginning to the end, beginning with number one; and every place of entry shall be also numbered progressively from the beginning to the end of the book, beginning with number one; and every entry shall be divided from the following entry by a printed line.

Register books.

14. Every Registrar shall be authorized, and is hereby required, to inform himself carefully of every birth and every death which shall happen in his district, and to learn and register, as soon after the event as conveniently may

Registrars to inform themselves of all births and deaths.

be done, in one of the said books, the particulars required to be registered, according to the said Forms A and B respectively, touching every such birth or every such death, as the case may be, which shall not have been already registered, every such entry being made in order from the beginning to the end of the book.

Registration of Births.

Information concerning birth to be given to Registrar within 42 days.

15. In the case of every child born alive, it shall be the duty of the father and mother of the child, and in default of the father and mother, of the occupier of the house or tenement in which, or the person in charge of the plantation or estate on which, the child is born, and of each person present at the birth, and of the person having charge of the child, to give to the Registrar, within forty-two days next after such birth, information of the particulars required to be registered concerning such birth, and in the presence of the Registrar to sign the register.

Requisition by Registrar of information after 42 days.

16. Where a birth has, from the default of the parents or other persons required to give information concerning it, not been duly registered, the Registrar may, at any time after the end of forty-two days from such birth, by notice in writing, require any of the persons required by this Ordinance to give information concerning such birth to attend personally at the Registrar's office, or at any other place appointed by the Registrar within his district, within such time (not less than seven days after the receipt of such notice, and not more than three months from the date of the birth) as may be specified in such notice, and to give information, to the best of such person's knowledge and belief, of the particulars required to be registered concerning such birth, and to sign the register in the presence of the Registrar; and it shall be the duty of such person, unless the birth is registered before the expiration of the time specified in such requisition, to comply with such requisition.

Information respecting finding of new-born child to be given to Registrar.

17. In case any living new-born child is found exposed, it shall be the duty of any person finding such child, and of any person in whose charge such child may be placed, to give, to the best of his knowledge and belief, to the Registrar, within seven days after the finding of such child, such information of the particulars required to be registered concerning the birth of such child as the informant

possesses, and in the presence of the Registrar to sign the register.

18. (1) After the expiration of three months next after the birth of any child, a Registrar shall not register such birth except as in this section provided; that is to say, in case the birth of any child has not been registered as hereinbefore required, the Registrar may, after three, and not later than twelve, months next after the birth, by notice in writing, require any of the persons required by this Ordinance to give information concerning the birth to attend personally at the Superintendent Registrar's office, within such time (not less than seven days after the receipt of the notice, and not more than twelve months after the date of the birth) as may be specified in the notice, and make before the Superintendent Registrar a solemn declaration, according to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief, of the particulars required to be registered concerning the birth, and sign the register in the presence of the Registrar and Superintendent Registrar; and upon any of the said persons attending before a Registrar and Superintendent Registrar, whether in pursuance of a requisition or not, and making such a declaration as aforesaid, and giving information concerning the birth, the Registrar shall then and there, in the presence of such Superintendent Registrar, register the birth according to the information of the declarant, and the Superintendent Registrar before whom the declaration is made shall, as well as the Registrar and declarant, sign the entry of the birth.

Registry after expiration of three months from birth.

(2) After the expiration of twelve months next after the birth of any child, that birth shall not be registered except with the written authority of the Registrar-General for registering the same, and except in accordance with the prescribed rules, and the fact of such authority having been given shall be entered in the register.

Registry after twelve months from birth.

(3) Every person who registers or causes to be registered the birth of any child in contravention of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

19. (1) Any person required by this Ordinance to give information concerning a birth, who removes before such birth is registered out of the district in which such birth has taken place, may, within three months after such birth, give the information by making and signing in the presence

Registry of birth out of district in case of removal.

of the Registrar of the district in which he resides a declaration in writing of the particulars required to be registered concerning such birth; and such Registrar, on payment of the appointed fee, shall receive and attest the declaration and send the same to the Registrar of the district in which the birth took place; and the last mentioned Registrar shall, in the prescribed manner, enter the birth in the register; and the entry so made shall be deemed, for the purposes of this Ordinance, to have been signed by the person who signed the declaration.

(2) A person making a declaration in pursuance of this section in the case of any birth shall be deemed to have complied with the provisions of this Ordinance as to giving information concerning that birth, and with any requisition of the Registrar made under this Ordinance within the said three months to attend and give information concerning that birth.

Saving for
father of
illegitimate
child.

20. In the case of an illegitimate child, no person shall, as father of such child, be required to give information under this Ordinance concerning the birth of such child, and the Registrar shall not enter in the register the name of any person as father of such child, unless at the joint request of the mother and of the person acknowledging himself to be the father of such child, and such person shall in such case sign the register, together with the mother.

Registration
of name of
child or of
alteration of
name.

21. (1) When the birth of any child has been registered and the name, if any, by which it was registered is altered, or if it was registered without a name, when a name is given to it, the parent or guardian of such child, or other person procuring such name to be altered or given, may, within twelve months next after the registration of the birth, deliver to the Registrar or Superintendent Registrar such certificate as hereinafter mentioned, and the Registrar or Superintendent Registrar, upon the receipt of that certificate, and on payment of the appointed fee, shall, without any erasure of the original entry, forthwith enter in the register book the name mentioned in the certificate as having been given to the child, and, having stated upon the certificate the fact of such entry having been made, shall forthwith send the certificate to the Registrar-General, together with a certified copy of the entry of the birth with the name so added.

(2) The certificate shall be according to Form F or Form G in the First Schedule to this Ordinance, or as near thereto as circumstances admit, and shall be signed by the minister or person who performed the rite of baptism upon which the name was given or altered, or, if the child is not baptized, shall be signed by the father, mother, or guardian of the child, or other person procuring the name of the child to be given or altered.

(3) Every minister or person who performs the rite of baptism shall deliver the certificate required by this section on demand, on payment of a fee of one shilling.

22. (1) Every Registrar, immediately upon registering any birth, shall without fee or reward deliver to the person registering such birth a certificate under his hand according to Form H in the First Schedule to this Ordinance, and such certificate shall be delivered by the parent or guardian of such child, or other person registering the birth of such child, to the minister or person who shall be required to perform and who shall perform the rite of baptism, and if any child shall be baptized for which no such certificate shall have been so delivered, the minister or person who shall perform the rite of baptism shall forthwith give notice thereof to the Registrar.

Registrar to give certificate of birth to informant who shall deliver same to minister.

(2) Every minister or person who performs the rite of baptism for which no certificate shall have been duly made and delivered as aforesaid, and who shall not, within fourteen days, give notice thereof to the Registrar, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

Registration of Deaths.

23. The death of every person dying in the Colony, and the cause of such death, shall be registered by the Registrar in the manner directed by this Ordinance.

Registry of deaths.

24. When a person dies in a house, it shall be the duty of the nearest relatives of the deceased present at the death, or in attendance during the last illness of the deceased, and in default of such relatives, of every other relative of the deceased dwelling or being in the same district as the deceased, and in default of such relatives, of each person present at the death, and of the occupier of

Information where death occurs in house.

the house in which, to his knowledge, the death took place, and in default of the persons hereinbefore in this section mentioned, of each inmate of such house, and of the person causing the body of the deceased person to be buried, to give, to the best of his knowledge and belief, to the Registrar, within the five days next following the day of such death, information of the particulars required to be registered concerning such death, and in the presence of the Registrar to sign the register.

Information where death does not occur in house.

25. Where a person dies in a place which is not a house, or a dead body is found elsewhere than in a house, it shall be the duty of every relative of such deceased person having knowledge of any of the particulars required to be registered concerning the death, and in default of such relative, of every person present at the death, and of any person finding, and of any person taking charge of the body, and of the person causing the body to be buried, to give to the Registrar, within the five days next after the death or the finding, such information of the particulars required to be registered concerning the death as the informant possesses, and in presence of the Registrar to sign the register.

Notice preliminary to information.

26. If a person required to give information concerning any death sends to the Registrar a written notice of the occurrence of the death, accompanied by such medical certificate of the cause of the death as is required by this Ordinance to be delivered to a Registrar, the information of the particulars required by this Ordinance to be registered concerning the death need not be given within the said five days, but shall, notwithstanding such notice, be given within ten days next after the day of the death by the person giving such notice, or some other person required by this Ordinance to give the information.

Requisition by Registrar of information concerning deaths from qualified informant.

27. Where any death has, from the default of the person required to give information concerning it, not been registered, the Registrar may, at any time after the expiration of ten days and within twelve months from the day of such death or from the finding of the dead body elsewhere than in a house, by notice in writing, require any person required by this Ordinance to give information concerning such death to attend personally at the Registrar's office, or at any other place appointed by the Registrar within his district, within such time (not less than seven days

after the receipt of the notice, nor more than twelve months after the death or finding of the dead body) as may be specified in the notice, and to give the said information to the best of the informant's knowledge and belief, and to sign the register in the presence of the Registrar; and it shall be the duty of such person, unless the death is registered before the expiration of the time specified in the requisition, to comply with the requisition.

28. (1) After the expiration of twelve months next after any death, or after the finding of the dead body elsewhere than in a house, that death shall not be registered except with the written authority of the Registrar-General for registering the same, and except in accordance with the prescribed rules, and the fact of such authority having been given shall be entered in the register.

Death not to be registered after twelve months.

(2) Every person who registers or causes to be registered any death in contravention of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds.

29. (1) Where an inquest is held on any dead body, the Coroner shall enquire of the particulars required to be registered concerning the death, and the Coroner shall send to the Registrar, within five days after his finding on such inquest, a certificate under his hand giving information concerning the death and specifying his finding with respect to the said particulars, and to the cause of death, and specifying the time and place at which the inquest was held, and the Registrar shall, in the prescribed form and manner, enter the death and particulars. If the death has been previously registered, the said particulars shall be entered in the prescribed manner without any alteration of the original entry.

Information by Coroner.

(2) Where an inquest is held on any dead body, no person shall, with respect to such dead body or death, be liable to attend upon a requisition of a Registrar, or be subject to any penalty for failing to give information in pursuance of any other provision of this Ordinance.

Burials.

30. (1) A Coroner, upon holding an inquest upon any body, may, if he thinks fit, by order under his hand, authorize the body to be buried before registry of the death, and shall give such order to the relative of the deceased or

Coroner's order and Registrar's certificate for burial.

other person who causes the body to be buried, or to the undertaker or other person having charge of the funeral; and except upon holding an inquest, no order, warrant, or other document for the burial of any body shall be given by the Coroner.

(2) The Registrar, upon registering any death or upon receiving a written notice of the occurrence of a death, accompanied by a medical certificate as is before provided by this Ordinance, shall forthwith, or as soon after as he is required, give, without fee or reward, either to the person giving information concerning the death or sending the notice, or to the undertaker or other person having charge of the funeral of the deceased, a certificate under his hand that he has registered or received notice of the death, as the case may be.

(3) Every such order of the Coroner and certificate of the Registrar shall be delivered to the person who buries or performs any funeral or religious service for the burial of the body of the deceased; and any person to whom such order or certificate was given by the Coroner or Registrar who fails so to deliver or cause to be delivered the same shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds.

(4) The person who buries or performs any funeral or religious service for the burial of any dead body, as to which no order or certificate under this section is delivered to him, shall, within seven days after the burial, give notice thereof in writing to the Registrar, and if he fail so to do shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

Burial of
deceased
children
as still-born.

31. (1) A person shall not wilfully bury or procure to be buried the body of any deceased child as if it were still-born.

(2) A person who has control over or ordinarily buries bodies in any burial ground shall not permit to be buried in such burial ground the body of any deceased child as if it were still-born, and shall not permit to be buried or bury in such burial ground any still-born child before there is delivered to him either—

(a) a written certificate that such child was not born alive, signed by a registered

medical practitioner who was in attendance at the birth or has examined the body of such child; or

- (b) a declaration signed by some person who would, if the child had been born alive, have been required by this Ordinance to give information concerning the birth, to the effect that no registered medical practitioner was present at the birth, or that his certificate cannot be obtained, and that the child was not born alive; or
- (c) if there has been an inquest, an order of the Coroner.

(3) Any person who acts in contravention of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

Certificates of Cause of Death.

32. With respect to certificates of the cause of death, the following provisions shall have effect:—

Regulations
as to certifi-
cates of cause
of death.

- (1) The Registrar-General shall from time to time furnish to every Registrar printed forms of certificates of cause of death by registered medical practitioners, and every Registrar shall furnish such forms gratis to any registered medical practitioner residing or practising in such Registrar's District;
- (2) In case of the death of any person who has been attended during his last illness by a registered medical practitioner, that practitioner shall sign and give to some person required by this Ordinance to give information concerning the death a certificate stating to the best of his knowledge and belief the cause of death, and such person shall, upon giving information concerning the death, or giving notice of the death, deliver that certificate to the Registrar, and the cause of death as stated in that certificate shall be entered in the register, together with the name of the certifying medical practitioner;

- (3) In case of the death of any person who had not the services of a medical practitioner, or who had not been attended by a medical practitioner during his last illness, the Registrar-General, a Justice, Superintendent Registrar, District Registrar, Minister of Religion, or any commissioned or non-commissioned officer of Constabulary, may summon the nearest medical practitioner to view the dead body and to certify on such view, and according to the symptoms described to him by those who attended to the deceased person, what he conceives to be the cause of death. Such medical practitioner shall be entitled to receive a fee for such certificate on such scale as may be prescribed by the Governor in Executive Council. The medical practitioner's certificate shall be given to some person required by this Ordinance to give information concerning the death, and such persons shall deliver such certificate to the Registrar, and the cause of death as stated in that certificate shall be entered in the register together with the name of the certifying medical practitioner;
- (4) Where an inquest is held on the body of any deceased person, a medical certificate of the cause of death need not be given to the Registrar, but the certificate of the finding of the Coroner shall be sufficient;
- (5) Where by reason of inability to obtain the services of a medical practitioner to view a dead body and to certify as in this section required, the Warden, Constabulary or Ward Officer, Schoolmaster or other of the functionaries mentioned in this section may issue a certificate for the burial of such deceased person;
- (6) If any person to whom a medical certificate is given by a registered medical practitioner in pursuance of this section fails to deliver that certificate to the Registrar, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds.

Fees.

33. Every Superintendent Registrar and Registrar respectively shall be entitled to the fees specified in the Second Schedule to this Ordinance, and every such fee shall

be paid to him by the persons and on the occasions pointed out in such Schedule and may be recovered as a debt due to him, and, subject to the prescribed rules, he may refuse to comply with any application voluntarily made to him until the fee is paid.

34. (1) Every Registrar, when and as required by the Surgeon-General for the purposes of the Board of Health, shall transmit by post or otherwise a return, certified under the hand of such Registrar to be a true return, of such of the particulars registered by him concerning any death as may be specified in the requisition of the Surgeon-General.

Returns of Registrars to Surgeon-General.

(2) The Surgeon-General may supply a form of the prescribed character for the purposes of the return, and in that case the return shall be made in the form so supplied.

Correction of Errors.

35. With regard to the correction of errors in registers of births and deaths, the following provisions shall have effect:—

Correction of errors in registers.

- (1) No alteration in any such register shall be made except as authorized by this Ordinance;
- (2) Any clerical error which may, from time to time be discovered in any such register may be corrected by any person authorized in that behalf by the Registrar-General, subject to the prescribed rules;
- (3) An error of fact or substance in any such register may be corrected by entry in the margin (without any alteration of the original entry) by the officer having the custody of the register, upon payment of the appointed fee and upon production to him by the person requiring such error to be corrected of a statutory declaration setting forth the nature of the error and the true facts of the case, and made by two persons requiring by this Ordinance to give information concerning the birth or death with reference to which the

error has been made, or in default of such persons then by two credible persons having knowledge of the truth of the case;

- (4) Where an error of fact or substance (other than an error relating to the cause of death) occurs in the information given by a Coroner's certificate concerning a dead body upon which he has held an inquest, the Coroner, if satisfied by evidence on oath or statutory declaration that such error exists, may certify under his hand to the officer having the custody of the register in which such information is entered the nature of the error and the true facts of the case as ascertained by him on such evidence, and the error may thereupon be corrected by such officer in the register by entering in the margin (without any alteration of the original entry) the facts as so certified by the Coroner.

Miscellaneous.

Register
when not
evidence.

36. (1) An entry or certified copy of an entry of a birth or death in a register or in a certified copy of such a register, shall not be evidence of such birth or death, unless such entry either purports to be signed by some person professing to be the informant and to be such a person as is required by law at the date of such entry to give to the Registrar information concerning such birth or death, or purports to be made upon a certificate from a Coroner.

(2) When more than three months have intervened between the day of the birth and the day of the registration of the birth of any child, the entry or certified copy of the entry of the birth of such child in a register or in a certified copy of such a register, shall not be evidence of such birth, unless such entry purports—

- (a) if it appear that not more than twelve months have so intervened, to be signed by the Superintendent Registrar as well as by the Registrar; or

- (b) if more than twelve months have so intervened, to have been made with the authority of the Registrar-General, and in accordance with the prescribed rules.

(3) Where more than twelve months have intervened between the day of a death or the finding of a dead body and the day of the registration of the death or the finding of such body, the entry or certified copy of the entry of the death in a register or in a certified copy of such register, shall not be evidence of such death, unless such entry purports to have been made with the authority of the Registrar-General, and in accordance with the prescribed rules.

37. Every person required to give information concerning any birth or death, or any living new-born child, or any dead body, who wilfully refuses to answer any question put to him by the Registrar relating to the particulars required to be registered concerning such birth or death, or fails to comply with any requisition of the Registrar made in pursuance of this Ordinance, and every person who refuses or fails without reasonable excuse to give or send any certificate in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding two pounds for each offence; and the parent of any child who fails to give information concerning the birth of such child, as required by this Ordinance, shall be liable to a like penalty; and a person required by this Ordinance to give information concerning a death in the first instance, and not merely in default of some other person, shall, if such information as is required by this Ordinance is not duly given, be liable to the same penalty.

Penalty for not giving information.

38. Any person who forges or falsifies any certificate or declaration or order under this Ordinance, or, knowing any such certificate, declaration, or order to be false or forged, uses the same as true, or gives or sends the same as true to any person, shall for each offence be liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and, on conviction on indictment, to a fine, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding two years.

Offences.

Sending certificates, etc., by post.

39. All notices, informations, declarations, certificates, requisitions, returns, and other documents required or authorized by this Ordinance to be delivered, sent, or given to the Registrar-General, a Superintendent Registrar, or a Registrar, or by a Registrar to a person who is required to give information concerning any birth or death, or who gives notice of any death, may be sent by post, and the date at which they would be delivered to the person to whom they are sent in the ordinary course of post shall be deemed to be the date at which they are received; and in proving such sending, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter was properly addressed and put into the post.

Particulars to be registered concerning birth or death.

40. The particulars required to be registered concerning a birth or death shall be the particulars specified in Forms A and B respectively of the First Schedule to this Ordinance, or as altered in pursuance of this Ordinance.

Quarterly accounts.

41. Every Registrar shall make out an account four times in every year of the number of births and deaths which he shall have registered since the last quarterly account, and the Superintendent Registrar shall verify and sign the same, and the Treasurer shall pay to such Registrar, on the certificate of the Registrar-General, an allowance according to the following scale; that is to say, for the first ten entries of births and deaths in every year which he shall have registered, whether the same be of births or deaths indiscriminately, two shillings and sixpence each, and one shilling for every subsequent entry of births or deaths in each year.

Certified copies of registers to be sent quarterly, and register books when filled, to Supt. Registrar.

42. In the months of April, July, October, and January, on such days as shall from time to time be appointed by the Registrar-General, the Registrar of each district shall make and deliver to the Superintendent Registrar of his district, a true copy, on durable materials, certified by him under his hand according to Form C of the First Schedule to this Ordinance, of all the entries of births and deaths in the register book kept by him since the last certificate; and the Superintendent Registrar shall verify the same, and, if found to be correct, shall certify the same under his hand to be a true copy; and if there shall have been no birth or death registered since the delivery of the last certificate, the Registrar shall certify the fact, and such

certificate shall be delivered to the Superintendent Registrar as aforesaid, and countersigned by him; and the Registrar shall keep safely each of the said register books until it shall be filled, and shall then deliver it to the Superintendent Registrar, to be kept by him with the records of his office.

43. Every Superintendent Registrar shall, four times in every year, on such days as shall be therefor named by the Registrar-General, send to the Registrar-General all the certified copies of the registers of births and deaths which he shall have so received during the three calendar months next preceding such quarterly days of transmission respectively; and if it shall appear, by the interruption of the regular progression of numbers or otherwise, that the copy of any part of any book has not been duly delivered to him, he shall procure, as far as possible consistently with the provisions of this Ordinance, that the same may be remedied and supplied; and every such Superintendent Registrar shall be entitled to receive the sum of twopence for every entry in such certified copies; and every Superintendent Registrar shall make out an account, four times in every year, of the number of entries in the certified copies sent to him during the last quarter, and the certified copies so sent to the Registrar-General shall be thereafter kept in such order and manner as the Registrar-General, under the direction of the Governor, shall think fit, so that the same may be most readily seen and examined.

Supt. Registrars to send certified copies of registers to Registrar-General.

44. Every Registrar who shall have the keeping for the time being of any register book of births or deaths shall, at all reasonable times, allow searches to be made of any register book in his keeping, and shall give a copy certified under his hand of any entry or entries in the same, on payment of the fee hereinafter mentioned; that is to say, the sum of one shilling for every search extending over a period not more than one year, and sixpence additional for every additional year, and the sum of two shillings and sixpence for every single certificate.

Searches and certified copies.

45. Every Superintendent Registrar shall, when required so to do by the Registrar-General, cause indexes of the register books in his office to be made and kept with the other records of his office, and any person shall be entitled at all reasonable hours to search such indexes, and to have

Indexes and searches.

Supt. Registrars.

a certified copy of any entry or entries in the said register books under the hand of the Superintendent Registrar on payment of the fees specified in the Second Schedule to this Ordinance.

Indexes and searches.

Registrar-General.

Certified copies given at general register office to be sealed.

Fees.

Funds.

Fees received by Registrar-General to be paid into Treasury.

Penalty for neglecting to give notice or information.

Application of penalty.

Penalty for not duly registering, or losing or injuring registers, etc.

46. (1) The Registrar-General shall cause indexes of all the said certified copies of the registers to be made and kept in his office, and every person shall be entitled, on payment of the fees hereinafter mentioned, to search the said indexes at any time during office hours, and to have a certified copy of any entry in the said certified copies of the registers.

(2) The Registrar-General shall seal all such certified copies, and all such sealed copies shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which the same relate, without any further or other proof of such entry, and no certified copy purporting to be given in the said office shall be of any force or effect which is not sealed as aforesaid.

47. The Registrar-General shall be entitled to charge the fees specified in the Third Schedule to this Ordinance.

48. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to cause to be paid from the Treasury such moneys as may be required for the purpose of carrying this Ordinance into effect, and every sum received under the provisions of this Ordinance by or on account of the Registrar-General shall be accounted for and paid by the Registrar-General on the expiration of each month into the Treasury for the use of the Colony.

49. If any person required or directed by this Ordinance to give notice to any Registrar of any birth or of any death, or to give any information when required so to do of any of the particulars hereby required to be known and registered touching any child born or any person dead, shall omit or refuse so to do within the time limited in that behalf, every person so offending shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds; and one moiety of such penalty shall be paid to the informer, and the other moiety shall be paid to the Treasurer for the use of the Colony.

50. Every Registrar who shall refuse or without reasonable cause omit to register any birth or death of which he shall have had due notice as aforesaid, and every person having the custody of any register book or certified copy

thereof, or of any part thereof, who shall carelessly lose or injure the same, or carelessly allow the same to be injured whilst in his keeping, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

51. Every person who shall wilfully destroy or injure, or cause to be destroyed or injured, any such register book, or any part or certified copy of any part thereof, shall be guilty of felony. Destroying
or falsifying
register
books.

52. The forms in the First Schedule to this Ordinance or forms as nearly resembling the same as circumstances admit, shall be used in all cases in which they are applicable, and when so used shall be valid in law Forms.

53. (1) It shall be lawful for the Registrar-General, by order, to alter from time to time all or any of the forms contained in the First Schedule to this Ordinance, or in any order under this section, in such manner as may appear to him best for carrying this Ordinance into effect, or to prescribe new forms for that purpose, and to make regulations for prescribing any matters authorized by this Ordinance to be prescribed. Power to
alter forms.

Regulations.

(2) Any order made in pursuance of this section shall be published in the *Royal Gazette* and shall be laid before the Legislative Council within thirty days after the issue of the same.

(3) Every form when altered in pursuance of this section shall have the same effect as if it had been contained in the First Schedule to this Ordinance, and every regulation made in pursuance of this section shall while in force have the same effect as if it were enacted in this Ordinance.

54. (1) All penalties imposed by this Ordinance may, unless otherwise directed, be recovered on summary conviction before a Magistrate. Recovery of
penalties.

(2) Where the Magistrate before whom a person is charged summarily with an offence under this Ordinance which is also punishable on indictment, thinks that proceedings ought to be taken against such person by indictment, he may adjourn the case to enable such proceedings to be taken.

55. A prosecution on indictment for an offence under this Ordinance shall be commenced within three years after the commission of such offence. Limitation.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

(Section 13.)

FORM A.

19 Births in the Ward of

No.	When born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, description and residence of informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.	Baptismal name, if added after registration of Birth.	No. of house or locality where born.
1.	7 Jan.	James.	Boy.	William Green.	Rebecca Green, formerly Jennings.	Carpenter.	William Green, father, carpenter, Co-rynthe Estate.	9 Jan.	John Cox, Registrar.		

(Section 13.)

FORM B.

19 Deaths in the Ward of

No.	When died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or profession and country of birth.	Cause of death.	Signature, description and residence of informant.	When registered.	Signature of Registrar.	No. of house or locality where died.

(Section 42.)

FORM C.

I, _____ Registrar of Births and Deaths in the Sub-division _____ in the Ward of _____ do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Registrar's book of births (or deaths) within the said District from the entry of the birth (or death) of No. 1. _____ to the entry of the birth (or death) of No. 34.

Witness my hand this _____ day of _____ 19

Registrar.

(Section 30.)

FORM D.

I, _____ Registrar of Births and Deaths in the Sub-division _____ in the Ward of _____ do hereby certify that the death of _____ was duly registered by me on the _____ day of _____ 19

Witness my hand this _____ day of _____ 19

Registrar.

FORM E.

(Section 30.)

I, _____ Coroner for the _____ do hereby order the
 burial of the body now shown to me as the body of _____
 Witness my hand this _____ day of _____ 19____

 Coroner.

FORM F.

(Section 21.)

FORM CERTIFYING NAME GIVEN IN BAPTISM.

I, _____ of _____ in the Ward of _____, do hereby certify
 that on the _____ 19____, I baptized by the name of _____ a _____ male
 child produced to me by _____ as the _____ of _____, and
 declared by the said _____ to have been born at _____ in the Ward
 of _____ on the _____ 19____

 (Signed by Officiating Minister.)

FORM G.

(Section 21.)

FORM CERTIFYING NAME GIVEN NOT IN BAPTISM.

I, _____ do hereby certify that the _____ male child born on
 the _____, at _____, in the Ward of _____ to
 and _____ his wife, and registered in the District of _____ on
 the _____ 19____, has (without being baptized) received the name of _____
 Witness my hand this _____ day of _____ 19____
 _____ } of _____

FORM H.

(Section 22.)

I, _____ Registrar of Births and Deaths in the Sub-division _____
 in the Ward of _____, do hereby certify that the birth of _____ was
 duly registered by me on the _____ day of _____ 19____
 Witness my hand this _____ day of _____ 19____

 Registrar.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

(Section 45.)

FEEES TO REGISTRARS AND SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRARS.

Upon the registration of a birth when the child is more than three months old, if it is not more than twelve months old, to the Superintendent Registrar two shillings and sixpence, and to the Registrar (unless the delay is occasioned by his failure to issue a requisition, or otherwise by his default) two shillings and sixpence, and if it is more than twelve months old, and is registered with the authority of the Registrar-General, to the Superintendent Registrar five shillings, and to the Registrar (unless the delay is occasioned by his failure to issue a requisition, or otherwise by his default) five shillings, to be paid by the informant or declarant.

For taking, attesting, and transmitting a declaration made by an informant respecting a birth in another district, to the Registrar attesting the declaration two shillings, to be paid by the informant.

For entering the baptismal or other name of child upon certificate produced after registry of birth, to the Superintendent Registrar or Registrar one shilling, to be paid by the person procuring the name to be entered.

Correction of error of fact in register, to the Superintendent Registrar or Registrar two shillings and sixpence, to be paid by the person requiring the error to be corrected.

For every search, to the Superintendent Registrar, to be paid by the applicant for the search, if it is a general search, five shillings, if it is a particular search, one shilling.

For a certified copy of an entry given by the Superintendent Registrar, two shillings and sixpence to the Superintendent Registrar, to be paid by the applicant.

THIRD SCHEDULE.

(Section 47.)

	£	s.	d.
For every general search not directed to any particular entry	0	4	2
For every search for a particular entry	0	2	1
For every search for two or more particular entries and not exceeding four entries each	0	1	0½
For every search for any number of particular entries exceeding four	0	4	2
For every certified copy of any entry	0	2	1