

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

Hospitals.

No. 24—1898.

29th August.

AN ORDINANCE to amend and consolidate the provisions for the establishment, maintenance and management of Hospitals, Asylums and other Institutions for the relief of the sick and destitute poor.

[L.S.]

C. C. KNOLLYS,

ACTING GOVERNOR.

14th September, 1898.

WHEREAS it is expedient that Hospitals, Asylums and other Institutions for the relief of the poor and afflicted should be provided for and regulated: Be it enacted by the Governor of Trinidad and Tobago with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows :

1. In this Ordinance,

Interpretation.

The term "Institution" shall mean any institution kept up at the public expense for the relief of the sick and destitute poor;

The term "Local Authority" shall signify the Mayor and Burgesses of any Borough, and the Wardens of the several Ward Unions of the Island.

The term "Pauper" shall mean any person who for the time being has no available means of support.

Establishment
of Hospitals.

2. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the approval of the Legislative Council, to establish wherever required General and District Hospitals for the relief of the sick poor, special Hospitals for sick children and lying-in women of the pauper class, Hospitals and Asylums for the special care and treatment of persons suffering from mental disease, or persons afflicted with leprosy, or persons attacked by any infectious or contagious disease requiring the segregation of the sufferers, and Alms Houses, or Houses of Refuge for the imbecile, aged, infirm, or destitute poor.

Power to estab-
lish dispensa-
ries, soup
kitchens, &c.

3. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the approval of the Legislative Council, to establish wherever required public dispensaries, soup kitchens, and depôts or stations for the issue or distribution of medicines, medical comforts, or of any other approved out-door relief to the sick or destitute poor and such other Institutions as may be required for the benefit or relief of the afflicted or destitute poor.

Appointment
of officers and
servants.

4. The Governor may from time to time appoint such officers and servants as may appear necessary for the good management and administration of all Public Hospitals, Asylums, and other Institutions, and shall assign to them such quarters, salaries, or other remuneration as may from time to time be provided for them with the approval of the Legislative Council.

5. The Surgeon-General may from time to time make, alter or revoke Rules Power to make Rules.

(a.) For the government and management of all public hospitals, asylums and other institutions, and of the inmates thereof, and for the admission and discharge of inmates, and for the admission of visitors.

(b.) For determining the powers and duties of the officers and servants of such public hospitals, asylums or other institutions.

Rules made under Sub-section (a) may contain provisions for the punishment of breaches of them by penalties not exceeding Five Pounds, recoverable on summary conviction before a Stipendiary Justice of the Peace.

Rules made under Sub-section (b) may contain provisions for the punishment of breaches of them by such penalties not exceeding Two Pounds to be awarded in such manner and by such officers as may be determined by such Rules.

Provided that no officer or servant in receipt of a salary exceeding One Hundred Pounds sterling a year shall be liable to the penalties prescribed for the breach of such Rules.

6. All Rules made under the provisions of the previous Section shall be approved by the Governor in Executive Council and when approved, shall be published in the *Royal Gazette*, and shall come into operation at the date mentioned in the publication, and shall from and after the date of such publication have the same force and effect as if they were contained in, and formed part of this Ordinance.

District Hospitals
R.G. 95
229

Public Dispensaries
R.G. 176
229

7. Provided that all such Rules shall be subject to disallowance by Her Majesty.

Maintenance
dues to be
charged.

8. Maintenance dues to be fixed from time to time by the approved Rules, and any other personal expenses incurred shall be chargeable in respect of every inmate maintained or other persons relieved by the aforesaid Institutions.

Personal
liability.

9. Every person maintained or relieved in accordance with the foregoing Sections shall be personally liable for such dues or expenses.

Liability of
persons other
than patients.

10. For the full payment of such maintenance dues, parents shall be liable in respect of their children under sixteen years of age, and children shall be liable in respect of their parents, every man shall be liable in respect of his wife and in respect of any woman who may have lived with him as his wife for any period exceeding six months during the preceding twelve months, and every woman shall be liable in respect of her husband.

Maintenance
of Immigrants.

11. The foregoing Sections shall not apply to Immigrants introduced into the Colony under any Immigration Ordinance wholly or partly at the public expense who shall be under indenture or who shall not have completed five years industrial residence. Any other person or persons with regard to whom any contract or undertaking exists for their maintenance and treatment in any Public Medical Institution may, with the sanction of the Governor, be wholly or partly relieved from the liability imposed by the foregoing Sections.

Recovery of
dues.

12. Such dues may be recovered with costs of suit in an action of debt at the suit of the Surgeon-General or such other person as he may in writing appoint.

1898.

No. 24.

1898.

13. If any person deemed to be suffering from ^{Diseased} leprosy or any contagious or infectious disease is found ^{vagrants may} loitering or wandering about without any visible means ^{be committed} of support or is found begging, any Commissioned or Non-commissioned officer of Police or Constable or any Sanitary Inspector may without warrant apprehend such person and take him before any Stipendiary Justice of the Peace.

Such Justice, if satisfied that any person apprehended and brought before him is suffering from leprosy or any contagious or infectious disease and was found loitering or wandering as aforesaid, or was found begging, may order such person to be conveyed to and detained in any hospital or other Institution authorized by the Governor for the reception and treatment of such cases until the cure of such disease or until discharged by the competent authority.

14. So long as any patient in a Hospital or Institution continues to suffer from leprosy or any contagious or infectious disease it shall be lawful for the officer in charge of such Hospital or Institution to detain such person therein for such time as may in his judgment be necessary for the purpose of securing the public against the spread of such leprosy, contagious or infectious disease, and for such purpose to take all reasonable measures to restrain such person within bounds and to prevent his escape.

15. It shall be lawful for any officer of such Hospital or Institution or for any Policeman, Constable or Sanitary Inspector to pursue and without warrant to apprehend any person as in the last Section mentioned who shall have absconded from such Hospital or Insti-

tution during his period of detention or not having been discharged by the competent authority, and to re-convey such person to such Hospital or Institution.

16. The provisions of this Ordinance shall in no case be construed to interfere with any of the provisions of "The Lunatics Ordinance, 1877" (5—1877).

17. All offences punishable under the provisions of this Ordinance may be prosecuted and all penalties may be recovered in manner provided by the Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure) Ordinance, 1895 (47—1895), or any Ordinance amending or repealing the same.

Repeal.

18. The Ordinances specified in the Schedule to this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent mentioned in the third column of such Schedule, but any Rules and Regulations made under the above-mentioned Ordinances shall continue in force until superseded by Regulations made under this Ordinance: Provided that this repeal shall not affect anything done, or any right accrued, or any penalty, liability or forfeiture incurred before the commencement of this Ordinance or any remedy in respect of any such right, penalty, liability or forfeiture.

Passed in Council this Twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

C. J. ROOKS,
Acting Clerk of the Council.

1898.

No. 24.

Hospitals.

1898.

SCHEDULE.

No. and year of Ordinance.	Title or Short Title.	Extent of Repeal.
24-1895 ...	An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the provisions for the establishment, maintenance and management of Hospitals, Asylums and other Institutions for the relief of the sick and destitute poor.	The whole.
19-1896 ...	" The Hospitals Ordinance, 1896 " ...	The whole.
8-1897 ...	" The Hospitals Ordinance, 1897 " ...	The whole.
16-1897 ...	" The Hospitals (Amendment) Ordinance, 1897 "	The whole.

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