

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

No. 7—1918.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

J. R. CHANCELLOR,
Governor.

27th April, 1918.

AN ORDINANCE to provide for the discipline and reformation of habitual idlers.

[By Proclamation.]

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 Habitual Idlers' Short Title. Ordinance, 1918.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise ^{Interpre-} requires:— _{tation.}

“Habitual idler” means any male person who has no visible lawful means of subsistence and who, being able to labour, habitually abstains from work.

“Habitually abstains from work,” and cognate expressions, as applied in this Ordinance to any person, means that such person, during the 7 days

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~~immediately preceding the laying of a complaint against him, or his arrest, under this Ordinance, has not worked for a period of 4 hours during each of 3 such days or for a period of 14 hours during such period of 7 days;~~

“Constable” means a member of the Constabulary Force.

Summons to suspected habitual idler.

3. A constable may sue out a summons from a Magistrate or Justice calling upon any person whom he has reasonable cause to suspect of being a habitual idler to appear before a Magistrate to answer why he should not be dealt with as a habitual idler.

Constable may demand name and address.

4. A constable may demand the name and address of any person whom he has reasonable cause to suspect of being a habitual idler; and if such person neglects or refuses to give his name or address as aforesaid or gives a name or address which the constable has reasonable grounds for believing is incorrect, the constable may arrest such person and take him before a Magistrate or Justice to be dealt with according to law.

Determination of whether person is habitual idler.

5.—(1.) On the appearance before a Magistrate of any person who is charged with being a habitual idler, such Magistrate shall hear and determine the charge.

(2.) The prosecutor shall not be bound to prove that such person has no visible lawful means of subsistence or habitually abstains from work, but it shall be for such person to prove that he has lawful means of subsistence or that he does not habitually abstain from work.

How habitual idler dealt with.

6.—(1.) If the Magistrate decides that any such person is a habitual idler, he shall inform him of the fact, but shall adjourn the proceedings for a month or for such further period as to the Magistrate seems proper, to allow of such person obtaining or endeavouring to obtain work during the period of such adjournment.

(2.) At the end of the period of adjournment the case shall again be called on, and if any such person does not satisfy the Magistrate that he has obtained or endeavoured

to obtain work, or if such person does not appear at such adjournment, the Magistrate may deal with him as in the next succeeding section mentioned.

(3.) It shall be lawful for the Magistrate to accept such evidence, whether strictly legal or not, of the fact that such person has obtained or has endeavoured to obtain work as the Magistrate thinks fit.

7. If any such person does not satisfy the Magistrate that he has obtained or endeavoured to obtain work, or if he does not appear at the time and place to which the proceedings have been adjourned, the Magistrate may order him to be taken and detained in a settlement as hereinafter in this Ordinance provided, for any period not less than three months or more than twelve months. Detention in settlement.

8. For the purposes of this Ordinance the Governor in Executive Council may by proclamation declare any area to be a settlement within the meaning of this Ordinance. Settlements.

9.—(1.) The Governor in Executive Council may make regulations for the management of settlements, and may, but without limiting the general power of making regulations conferred by this section, make regulations for all or any of the following purposes:— Regulations for government of settlements.

- (a) For providing for the appointment and remuneration of officers of such settlements;
- (b) For providing for the discipline of persons detained in any such settlements;
- (c) For providing for the method of housing and rationing of such persons;
- (d) For providing for the work to be performed by them, and for the awarding of remuneration to those behaving and working satisfactorily;
- (e) For allowing of such persons being employed away from a settlement before the expiration of their period of detention therein, and for providing for the times and conditions of such employment, and of their return to the same or another settlement;
- (f) For providing for the arrest of persons deserting from any such settlement, or employment.

Repealed by the 1927.

13. The procedure in respect of offences under this Procedure. Ordinance shall be that laid down in the Summary Conviction Offences (Procedure) Ordinance, (No. 1).

14. This Ordinance shall commence on a day to be fixed by the Governor by Proclamation in the *Royal Gazette*.

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ment. Pro 44/1918

Passed in Council this Nineteenth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen.

J. M. FARFAN,
Acting Clerk of the Council.
