

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

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No. 39—1934.

I ASSENT,

[L.S.]

A. C. HOLLIS,
Governor.

17th December, 1934.

AN ORDINANCE to regulate the use of Theatres, Dance Halls and other places of entertainment and to provide for the licensing thereof.

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 Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance, 1934, shall commence on the 1st day of January, 1935, and shall apply only to such Towns or other areas as may be specified by the Governor in Executive Council by proclamation in the *Royal Gazette*. A Proclamation made under this section may be varied or revoked by Proclamation made in like manner.

2. In this Ordinance—

“Stage Play” includes any tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, prologue, epilogue, concert or other dramatic or musical entertainment or any part thereof.

Short title.
Commence-ment.
Application.
Definitions.

“ Theatre ” means any building, tent or other erection open to the public, gratuitously or otherwise, where a stage play is performed, presented or held and includes a Dance Hall.

“ Dance Hall ” means any building, tent or other erection open to the public gratuitously or otherwise, where public dancing or singing takes place.

“ Licensing Authority ” means any person or body of persons appointed by the Governor by notice in the *Royal Gazette* to be a Licensing Authority for any Proclaimed area specified in such notice.

“ Licence ” means a licence granted in the form in the Schedule to this Ordinance and “ licensed ” shall be construed accordingly.

“ Proclaimed Area ” means any area to which the provisions of this Ordinance has been applied in accordance with section 1 of this Ordinance.

Grant and
conditions of
licences.

3.—(1) After the commencement of this Ordinance a place within a Proclaimed area shall not be used as a Theatre or Dance Hall without a licence.

(2) A Licensing Authority may grant licences for any period not exceeding twelve months to such persons as it thinks fit to use places as Theatres or Dance Halls on such terms and conditions as may be imposed by regulations made under this Ordinance or as may be endorsed on the licence by the Licensing Authority.

(3) A Licensing Authority may transfer any licence to any person whom it thinks fit.

(4) A Licensing Authority may, in its discretion refuse to grant a licence or transfer of a licence or may grant it subject to such terms and conditions as it may think desirable.

(5) The following fees shall be payable to the Licensing Authority granting a licence or transfer of a licence in respect of a Theatre or Dance Hall :—

	\$	c.
For a licence for one specific occasion .. ..	..	50
For a licence for a period not exceeding 14 days ..	..	1 00
For a licence for a period not exceeding 1 month ..	..	1 50
For a licence for a period not exceeding 6 months ..	..	3 00
For a licence for a period not exceeding 12 months ..	..	5 00

(6) Except where the period for which a licence is in force does not exceed fourteen days, there shall be affixed and kept affixed in some conspicuous place and so as to be easily legible on or immediately over and on the outer side of the main entrance of every licensed place, the words "Licensed in pursuance of the Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance, 1934".

4.—(1) If any place is used as a Theatre or Dance Hall Penalties. without a licence the owner or occupier thereof, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the Court that the place is so used without his consent or connivance shall be liable on summary conviction before a Magistrate to a penalty not exceeding five pounds for every day on which the place is so used.

(2) If the holder of a licence acts in contravention of or fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance or any regulation made thereunder or with any term, condition or restriction on or subject to which the licence is granted, he shall be liable on summary conviction before a Magistrate to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds and in the case of a continuing offence to a daily penalty not exceeding five pounds for each day on which the contravention continues after conviction therefor and the licence of any person so convicted may be revoked by the Licensing Authority.

5. Any Police Constable detailed for the purpose, may Power of entry. at all reasonable times enter upon any licensed premises with a view to seeing whether the provisions of this Ordinance or any regulations made thereunder or the conditions of any licence, are being or have been complied with. Any person preventing or obstructing such entry shall, on summary conviction before a Magistrate, be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

6.—(1) The Governor in Executive Council may make Power to make regulations. regulations—

(a) prescribing conditions to be observed in reference to the erection, alteration and equipment of any theatre or dance hall ;

- (b) prescribing conditions to be observed in reference to the safety from fire or otherwise of any theatre or dance hall or for the safety, convenience and control of persons attending any such theatre or dance hall ;
- (c) generally for the more effective carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance.

(2) Regulations made under this section shall not have any force or effect until they have been approved by the Legislative Council and when so approved shall be published in the *Royal Gazette* and as from the date of such publication or from the date specified therein such regulations shall have the same force or effect as if they were contained in and formed part of this Ordinance.

Savings and exemptions.

Cap. 253.

7. Nothing in this Ordinance shall exempt any person or place from the provisions of any other enactment requiring the licensing for any purposes of that person or place or shall apply to any cinema licensed under the provisions of the Cinematograph Ordinance, or to any place in the control of any municipal authority or in any building thereon.

SCHEDULE.

Form of Licence.

COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

The Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance, 1934.

LICENCE is hereby granted to.....
of.....to use the premises
situate at.....as a Theatre
Dance Hall
for the period of.....from the.....day
of.....subject to the provisions of the Theatres and
Dance Halls Ordinance, 1934 and any regulations made thereunder or any
conditions endorsed hereon.

Dated this.....day of.....193.....

.....
Licensing Authority.

Fee paid \$.....

Passed in Council this seventh day of December,
in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and
thirty-four.

J. O'CONNOR,
Clerk of the Council.