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CHAPTER 30. No. 9.

THEATRES AND DANCE HALLS.

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE USE OF THEATRES, DANCE HALLS AND OTHER PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING THEREOF. Ordinances No. 39—1934., 26—1935.

[1st January, 1935.]

Commencement.

1. (1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance. Short title.

(2) This Ordinance shall apply only to such towns or other areas as may be specified by the Governor in Council by proclamation in the *Royal Gazette*. A proclamation made under this subsection may be varied or revoked by proclamation made in like manner. Application. (a)

2. In this Ordinance—

“dance hall” means any building, tent or other erection open to the public gratuitously or otherwise, where public dancing or singing takes place;

Interpretation.

“licence” means a licence granted in the form in the Schedule hereto, and “licensed” shall be construed accordingly; Schedule.

“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; (b)

“proclaimed area” means any area to which the provisions of this Ordinance has been applied in accordance with subsection (2) of section 1;

(a) See Proclamations Nos. 5 and 91 of 1935.

(b) Commissioner of Police appointed Licensing Authority: see *Royal Gazette* of 24.1.1935.

“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;

“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.

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.”

Penalties.

4. (1) If any place is used as a theatre or dance hall 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, to a fine of twenty-four dollars 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, to a fine of ninety-six dollars, and in the case of a continuing offence to a fine of twenty-four dollars 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 constable detailed for the purpose, may 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, be liable to a fine of forty-eight dollars.

Power of entry.

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

Power to make 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 have no force or effect until they have been approved by the Legislative Council.

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 place in the control of any municipal authority or in any building thereon.

Savings and exemptions.  
Ord. 26-1935

(Section 2.)

**SCHEDULE.**

## FORM OF LICENCE.

COLONY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

*The Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance.*

Licence is hereby granted to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ to use the premises situate at \_\_\_\_\_ as a Theatre for the period of \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, subject to the provisions of the Theatres and Dance Halls Ordinance and any regulations made thereunder or any conditions endorsed hereon.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_.

*Licensing Authority.*

Fee paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_.