

I assent.

C. C. WOOLLEY,

Governor.

24th November, 1950.

ORDINANCE No. 45 of 1950.

AN ORDINANCE to render the owners of dogs liable for injuries done to persons, cattle or poultry by dogs; to provide better protection from dogs; and for purposes connected therewith.

[25th November, 1950].

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

A.D. 1950

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Dogs Ordinance, 1950.
2. In this Ordinance —
 “cattle” includes horses, mules, asses, sheep, goats and swine;
 “poultry” means domestic fowls, turkeys, ducks or guinea-fowls.

Short title.

Interpretation

3. (1) In any proceedings for damages against the owner of a dog for injury done to any person, cattle or poultry by that dog, it shall not be necessary for the person seeking such damages to show a previous mischievous propensity in the dog, or the owner's knowledge of such previous propensity.

Liability of owner of dog for injury to any person, cattle or poultry.

(2) Where any such injury has been done by a dog, the occupier of any house or premises where the dog was kept or permitted to live or remain at the time of the injury shall be presumed to be the owner of the dog, and shall be liable for the injury unless he proves that he was not the owner of the dog at that time:

Provided that where there are more occupiers than one in any house or premises let in separate apartments or lodgings, or otherwise, the occupier of that particular part of the house or premises in which the dog has been kept or permitted to live or remain at the time of the injury shall be presumed to be the owner of the dog, unless he proves he was not the owner of the dog at that time.

(3) Where any dog is proved to have injured any person, cattle or poultry, it shall be deemed to be a dangerous dog.

4. Where upon the hearing of a complaint before a magistrate that a dog is dangerous and not kept under proper control it appears to the magistrate that such a dog is dangerous and not kept under proper control, he may make an order directing that the dog be kept by the owner under proper control or destroyed, and any person failing to comply with such an order shall be liable to a penalty of two dollars for every day during which he fails to comply with such order.

Dangerous dogs may be destroyed