

## CHAPTER 64.

## CENSUS.

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## SECTION.

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## CHAPTER 64.

## CENSUS.

**An Ordinance to make provision for the taking from time to time of a census of the Colony or any area therein and for otherwise obtaining statistical information with respect to the population.** 1 of 1946.

[16TH FEBRUARY, 1946.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Census Ordinance. Short title.
2. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, by order published in the Gazette, from time to time to direct that a census shall be taken for the Colony, or for any part thereof, and any order under this section may prescribe—
  - (a) the date on which the census is to be taken, and
  - (b) the persons by whom and with respect to whom returns for the purpose of the census are to be made, andPower to direct a census to be taken.

(c) the persons by whom information for the purpose of the census is to be furnished, and

(d) the particulars to be stated in the returns :

Provided that—

(i) an order shall not be made under this section so as to require a census to be taken in any year unless at the commencement of the year at least five years have elapsed since the commencement of the year in which a census was last taken ; and

(ii) no particulars shall be required to be stated other than particulars with respect to such matters as are mentioned in the schedule to this Ordinance.

(2) An order made under this section may be revoked, amended or varied by a subsequent order.

Appointment  
and payment  
of Census  
Officer and  
his duties.

3. (1) It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint by writing under his hand a fit and proper person to be Census Officer, and such appointment shall be published in the Gazette.

(2) The Census Officer shall receive such remuneration for his services and the performance of his duties in connection with the taking of a census as the Governor shall direct.

(3) It shall be the duty of the Census Officer to make such arrangements and do all such things as are necessary for the taking of a census in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and of any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance, and for that purpose to make arrangements for the preparation and issue of the necessary forms and instructions and for the collection of the forms when filled up.

(4) The Census Officer in the exercise of his powers and in the performance of his duties under this Ordinance or under any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance shall be subject to the control of, and shall comply with any directions given by, the Governor.

(5) Any expenses incurred with the sanction of the Governor by the Census Officer in connection with the taking of a census or otherwise in connection with the exercise of his powers or the performance of his duties under this Ordinance or under any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by the Legislative Council.

Appointment  
and payment  
of supervisors  
and  
enumerators.

4. (1) It shall be lawful for the Census Officer, with the approval of the Governor, to appoint a sufficient number of fit persons to act as supervisors and enumerators in connection with the taking of a census and all supervisors and enumerators

in the performance of their duties under this Ordinance or under any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance shall be under the control of, and shall comply with any directions given by, the Census Officer.

(2) A supervisor or enumerator shall be entitled to receive such remuneration for his services in the performance of his duties in connection with the taking of a census as may be approved by the Governor.

5. (1) It shall be lawful for any supervisor or enumerator so appointed, when necessary for the purpose of taking a census, to enter into any house or other place within the district or sub-district to which he may be assigned on the day appointed for the taking of a census and from time to time within the four weeks immediately preceding and the three months immediately following that day, whenever it may be necessary for the purpose of obtaining, verifying, or correcting any information relating to a census.

Power to enter house or other place.

(2) Every person who obstructs or impedes a supervisor or enumerator in the exercise of his power of entry under subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction thereof to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding three months.

6. (1) Every person who has the custody or charge of any public records from which any information relating to a census may be obtained shall grant access thereto to the Census Officer and to any supervisor, enumerator, or other person authorised in writing by the Census Officer who desires to inspect the same for the purposes of a census and he shall permit him to make copies thereof or extracts therefrom.

Right of census official to inspect public records.

(2) In this section "public records" means any book, document or other writing of whatever kind belonging to the Government of British Guiana, or to any municipal or other public corporation or to any local authority under the Local Government Ordinance, or to the authorities of any church or school.

Cap. 150.

7. (1) The Census Officer shall, as soon as may be after the taking of a census, prepare or cause to be prepared from the census returns, a tabulated report in the form and with the particulars directed by the Governor.

Preparation of tabulated report.

(2) No particulars comprised within any return shall be set out in such a manner in any report, summary of statistics or other publication as to enable the person to whom they relate to be identified.

Power of  
Governor in  
Council to  
make  
regulations.

8. (1) The Governor in Council shall have power to make regulations with respect to any matter or thing which may be necessary for the purpose of enabling any order in council directing a census to be taken to be carried into effect, and in particular he may make regulations—

(a) providing for the division of the Colony into districts and sub-districts for the purpose of the census and the appointment of persons to act in those districts and sub-districts in connection with the census ;

(b) requiring all justices of the peace, priests, clergymen, and ministers of the religious denominations referred to in section 2, of the Churches (Financial Assistance) Ordinance,\* as amended by section 2 of the Churches (Financial Assistance) Ordinance, 1945\*, superintendent registrars, registrars, teachers employed in government schools and in schools receiving a colonial grant within the meaning of the Education Ordinance, policy superintendents, non-commissioned officers of police, constables, revenue officers, district sanitary inspectors, road overseers, agricultural superintendents and inspectors and all other persons in receipt of wages or salary from public funds, if required by the Census Officer, to perform such duties in connection with the taking of the census as may be prescribed by the regulations ;

(c) requiring all such persons as may be employed for the purpose of a census to perform such duties in connection with the taking of the census as may be prescribed ;

(d) requiring the superintendent, keeper, or other person in charge of every gaol, prison, lock-up or other place of confinement and the officer in charge of any hospital or other public or charitable institution to make returns with respect to the inmates thereof, and to conform to such instructions as may be given to him ;

(e) requiring information to be given to the persons liable to make returns by the persons with respect to whom the returns are to be made or by any other person possessing such information ;

(f) with respect to the forms to be used in the taking of a census ;

Cap. 228 of  
the 1929  
Edition.  
No. 6 of 1945.  
Cap. 91.

\* Both these Ordinances, being spent, are omitted from this edition of the laws.

(g) for the allowances to be paid to persons employed in connection with the taking of a census ; and

(h) requiring persons by whom returns are to be made for the purpose of the census to make a written declaration with respect to the performance of their duties and prescribing the form of such declaration.

(2) Regulations made under this section shall be laid before the Legislative Council as soon as may be after they are made.

9. It shall be the duty of the Registrar General of births and deaths appointed under the Registration of Births and Deaths Ordinance from time to time to collect and publish any available statistical information with respect to the number and condition of the population in the interval between one census and another, and otherwise to further the supply and provide for the better co-ordination of such information, and the Registrar General may make arrangements with any Government Department or local authority for the purpose of acquiring any materials or information necessary for the purpose aforesaid.

Collection and publication of statistics between one census and another. Cap. 162.

10. (1) If any person—

(a) refuses or neglects to comply with, or acts in contravention of, any of the provisions of this Ordinance or of any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance, or

(b) being a person required under this Ordinance or any order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance to make, sign, or deliver any documents, makes, signs or delivers or causes to be made, signed or delivered a false document, or

(c) being a person required in pursuance of this Ordinance or of any such order in council or regulations to answer any question or to supply any information, refuses to answer any question or to supply any information, or knowingly gives a false answer to any question or supplies false information,

he shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one hundred and twenty dollars or to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding three months.

(2) If any person—

(a) being a person employed in taking a census, without lawful authority publishes or communicates to any person otherwise than in the ordinary course of such employment any information acquired by him in the course of his employment, or

Offences and penalties.

(b) having possession of any information which to his knowledge has been disclosed in contravention of this Ordinance, publishes or communicates that information to any other person, or

(c) in the pretended performance of duties under this Ordinance or an order in council or regulations made under this Ordinance obtains, or seeks to obtain, information which he is not authorised to obtain,

he shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and forty dollars or to imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding six months.

Jurisdiction.

11. The Summary Jurisdiction Ordinances shall apply to all informations, complaints, and other proceedings, in respect of offences against the provisions of this Ordinance.

s. 2 (1)  
Prov. (ii).

#### SCHEDULE.

##### MATTERS IN RESPECT OF WHICH PARTICULARS MAY BE REQUIRED.

1. Name, sex, age.
2. Occupation, profession, trade or employment.
3. Nationality, birthplace, race, language.
4. Place of abode and character of dwelling.
5. Condition as to marriage or civil condition, relation to head of family, issue born in marriage or out of wedlock.
6. Religious persuasions.
7. Literacy.
8. Infirmities.
9. Crops, acreage held and form of tenure, livestock and other agricultural matters.
10. Equipment and methods employed in fishing.
11. Any other matters with respect to which it is desirable to obtain statistical information with a view to ascertaining the social, civil and economic conditions of the population.