

CHAPTER 221.

THE DAVSON CENTENARY FUND.

[No. XIV of 1926.]

[12th June, 1926.]

Preamble.

Whereas Messieurs S. Davson & Company, Limited, on the eighteenth day of June, nineteen hundred and seventeen, inaugurated a fund, called the Davson Centenary Fund, to commemorate the completion of one hundred years of active association by that Company with the colony of British Guiana, and made a gift of five hundred pounds sterling to the colony, that sum to be invested and the interest earned to be used as follows:—

firstly, in defraying the cost of a gold medal to be presented every third year to the medical practitioner selected by a committee for specially valuable work in medical research done for the colony;

secondly, in defraying the cost of publishing pamphlets and actual expenses incurred;

thirdly, in making donations, as directed by a committee, to organisations or funds for the improvement of health or amelioration of disease in the colony:

And whereas on the twenty-fifth day of March, nineteen hundred and twenty-four, the Company augmented the fund by a further contribution of five hundred pounds sterling and intimated that whenever justified by circumstances it was the intention of the Company gradually to augment the fund by further contributions, and stipulated that half of any sum available for distribution in every period of three years should be allotted by the committee to an organisation or fund having for its object the improvement of health or amelioration of disease in the county of Berbice, and also that three essays, selected as being the best submitted to the committee, should be published in pamphlet form after the award was made, the cost to be defrayed out of the fund:

And whereas previous awards of the gold medal were made (a) in nineteen hundred and seventeen to Dr. J. E. A. Ferguson, I.S.O.; (b) in nineteen hundred and twenty to

Dr. E. D. Rowland, I.S.O., and (c) in nineteen hundred and twenty-three to Dr. C. P. Kennard, under regulations made by the Governor on the fifth day of May, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and the ninth day of August, nineteen hundred and twenty-three :

And whereas it is desirable that provision should be made for carrying the aforesaid purposes into effect and for the proper administration of the fund :

Be it, therefore, enacted by the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows :—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as The Davson Centenary Fund Ordinance. Short title.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires :— Interpretation.

“ gold medal ” means a medal in gold struck from the die registered at the office of the Crown Agents on the twenty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and seventeen, as pattern no. 457;

“ the committee ” means the committee appointed by the Governor in Council under the provisions of this Ordinance;

“ medical practitioner ” means any medical practitioner registered under the Medical (Consolidation) Ordinance, or any Ordinance amending or re-enacting it; Chapter 186.

“ the fund ” means the Davson Centenary fund.

3. The fund shall consist of the two sums of five hundred pounds each, and the further contributions to the fund, mentioned in the preamble of this Ordinance, and also any other contributions made by anyone whomsoever, and all interest received on investments belonging to the fund. Creation of the fund.

4. The fund is hereby vested in the Colonial Treasurer and his successors in office subject to the control of the committee, and he shall— Fund vested in Colonial Treasurer.

(a) have the custody of all securities belonging, and shall collect all moneys due, to the fund;

(b) make no disbursements whatsoever from the fund except on a certificate signed by three members of the committee;

- (c) only invest moneys belonging to the fund as directed by the committee; and
- (d) lay before the Governor in Council a full statement of the affairs of the fund at the end of every third year, the first statement being deemed to be due for the period ending the thirtieth day of September, nineteen hundred and twenty-six.

Appointment
of Com-
mittee.

5.—(1) The Governor in Council shall appoint a committee of four persons, who shall be the Surgeon-General of British Guiana, a medical practitioner resident in the colony who shall not be eligible to compete for any award, and two other suitable persons.

(2) The Surgeon-General shall be chairman of the committee, but in his absence from a meeting the members may elect their own chairman for that meeting.

(3) The fund shall be controlled and managed by the committee.

(4) In the event of a vacancy occurring on the committee owing to the death, resignation, or absence from the colony of any member, the Surgeon-General shall forthwith report the fact to the Governor in Council, who shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy.

(5) The Surgeon-General shall always be *ex officio* a member of the committee.

(6) Any three members of the committee shall form a quorum.

Distribution
of interest :

6.—(1) The interest derived from all securities, bonds, or moneys belonging to the fund shall be utilised in the first place in defraying the cost of a gold medal to be awarded to the medical practitioner selected by the committee for specially valuable work done for the colony in the matter of medical research, the cost of such silver medal as the committee may in its discretion award in special cases, and for paying all expenses incurred in publishing in pamphlet form one or more of the essays submitted.

(2) Any balance of interest available for distribution shall be divided as follows :—

- (a) one half of the amount to be presented to an organisation or fund having for its object the improvement of health or amelioration of disease in the county of Berbice; and

- (b) one half to be presented to any organisations or funds for the improvement of health or amelioration of disease in any part or parts of the colony of British Guiana elsewhere than in that county :

Provided that all selections shall be made by the committee, and that all awards and distributions shall be made at the end of every third year, the first award being deemed under this Ordinance to be due during the month of September, nineteen hundred and twenty-six. Proviso.

7.—(1) The committee shall have power to make and to amend any necessary regulations for the award of the gold medal, for any silver medal specially awarded, for the distribution of the balances apportioned and for the payment of expenses incurred. Regulations.

(2) The regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Governor in Council.
