1956 No. 415

The Trinidad and Tobago (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1956

Made - - - - 22*nd March*, 1956
Coming into Operation 28*th March*, 1956

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 22nd day of March, 1956

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas by the Trinidad and Tobago (Constitution) Order in Council, 1950(**a**), as amended by the Trinidad and Tobago (Constitution) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1951, and the Trinidad and Tobago (Legislative Council—Extension of Duration) Order in Council, 1955(**b**), (which Orders are hereinafter together referred to as "the existing Orders") there is established a Legislative Council for the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago:

And Whereas it is proposed that in due course, in place of the aforesaid Legislative Council, there should be established for the Colony a Legislative Council (hereinafter referred to as "the proposed Legislative Council") containing twenty-four elected members in addition to certain other members:

And Whereas it is expedient that, for the avoidance of delay in constituting the proposed Legislative Council, the Legislature of the Colony established by the existing Orders should be empowered to make provision for the election of members to the proposed Legislative Council, notwithstanding that the same has not yet been established by Order of Her Majesty in Council:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers vested in Her by the Trinidad and Tobago Act, 1887(**c**), and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

Citation, commencement and publication

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Trinidad and Tobago (Electoral Provisions) Order in Council, 1956.

(2) This Order shall come into operation on the twenty-eighth day of March, 1956, and shall be published in the Trinidad Royal Gazette.

Interpretation

2. In this Order "the Colony" means the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago.

(**a**) S.I. 1950/510 (1950 II, p. 1156).
(**b**) S.I. 1951/1944, 1955/1397 (1951 II, p. 869; 1955 II, p. 2751).
(**c**) 50 & 51 Vict. c. 44.

Provision for election of members to proposed Legislative Council

3.—(1) Provision may be made, by or in pursuance of any law enacted under the existing Orders, for the election of twenty-four members to the proposed Legislative Council, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power) the following matters, that is to say :—

(*a*) the qualifications and disqualifications of electors ;

(*b*) the registration of electors ;

(*c*) the ascertainment of the qualifications of persons who submit themselves for election ;

(*d*) the establishment in the Colony or any part thereof of electoral districts (by whatever name called) for the purpose of returning members to the proposed Legislative Council ; and the division of electoral districts for any purpose connected with elections ;

(*e*) the holding of elections ;

(*f*) the determination of any question which may arise as to the right of any person to be or remain an Elected Member of the proposed Legislative Council ;

(*g*) the definition and trial of offences relating to elections and the imposition of penalties therefor, including disqualification for membership of the proposed Legislative Council or for registration as an elector, or for voting at elections, of any person concerned in any such offence ; and

(*h*) the disqualification for election as members of the proposed Legislative Council of persons holding, or acting in, any office the functions of which involve any responsibility for, or in connection with, the conduct of any election or the compilation or revision of any electoral register.

(2) No election of members to the proposed Legislative Council shall be held under any law enacted in pursuance of subsection (1) of this section until provision shall have been made by Order of Her Majesty in Council for the establishment of the proposed Legislative Council and that provision shall have come into operation ; but registration of electors in pursuance of any such law may take place at any time after the commencement of this Order.

W. G. Agnew.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.*)

This Order enables the Legislature of the Colony of Trinidad and Tobago to make provision for the election of members to a new Legislative Council which it is proposed should hereafter be established for the Colony, and enables registration of electors in pursuance of any such provision to take place.