

CHAPTER 52

PUBLIC LIBRARY 1904-10

This Act came into operation on 10th December, 1904.

Amended by:

1944-26

1949-5

1967/168

Guide to symbols in historical notes:

- indicates an amendment made by an Act

/ indicates an amendment made by statutory instrument

CHAPTER 52

PUBLIC LIBRARY 1904-10

Arrangement of Sections

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Public library and museum
4. Five trustees to be appointed in whom property to be vested
5. Trustees may make rules for good government of public library
6. Librarian to have control of administration
7. Punishment for destroying or defacing books
8. Annual grant for purchase and repair of books
9. Trustees authorised to dispose of useless books
10. Grant for the maintenance of a public library in Speightstown
11. Sums to be charged upon Consolidated Fund

**BARBADOS****PUBLIC LIBRARY**

1904-10

An Act to consolidate the Acts of this Island relating to the Public Library.

[Commencement: 10th December, 1904]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Public Library Act.

Interpretation

2. For the purposes of this Act, the expression—
“the public library” means the library and museum called the Barbados Public Library and Museum and shall be deemed to include the branch library in Speightstown maintained under this Act;
“trustees” means the persons for the time being appointed under this Act to be trustees.

Public library and museum

3.(1) The public library shall be open and free to all persons residing in Barbados, subject to any rules and regulations which may be made by the trustees under section 5.

(2) The library shall consist of such books, prints, maps, philosophical and other instruments and apparatus and such natural and scientific objects and productions of art as are from time to time contributed thereto by donation and accepted by the trustees or purchased out of any moneys which may be contributed for that purpose by private persons or otherwise or out of any sums which may be voted for the purpose by Parliament.

(3) The Governor-General shall be the patron of the public library.

Five trustees to be appointed in whom property to be vested

4.(1) The property of the library shall be vested in the trustees, and such trustees shall consist of five fit and proper persons to be nominated by the Minister.

(2) In case of the death, resignation, refusal or incapacity to act or absence without leave from the Island for any period exceeding two months of any person appointed as a trustee, the Minister is hereby authorised to nominate and appoint some other fit and proper person to act as trustee in the place of such trustee.

[1967/168]

Trustees may make rules for good government of public library

5.(1) The trustees shall have power to make all necessary regulations for the good government, arrangement and preservation of the public library, and for the temporary loan of books, not being books of reference, therefrom under such precautions and restrictions as to them seem right.

(2) All such rules shall be submitted to the Minister for his approval, and when approved shall be published three times in the *Official Gazette*, and thereafter

shall be binding in all respects on the officers of the public library, and on all persons resorting thereto.

Librarian to have control of administration

6. The Librarian shall have control over the administration of the public library and over the officers thereof, subject to the orders and regulations made in that behalf by the trustees.

Punishment for destroying or defacing books

7. Any person who wilfully destroys or damages any book or other thing or is guilty of writing or drawing in any book belonging to the public library shall, on complaint brought before any magistrate in the name of the Librarian or person lawfully acting as such, be liable to a penalty of nine dollars and sixty cents, and also to pay such further sum not exceeding twenty-four dollars as to the magistrate seems reasonable compensation for any injury done, and in default of payment forthwith, or within such time as the magistrate may direct, such person shall be committed to prison for a period of one month or until the sum ordered, together with costs, be duly paid by him.

Annual grant for purchase and repair of books

8. An annual grant of a sum not exceeding nine hundred and sixty dollars for the purchase of books and periodicals and for the binding and repairing of books and periodicals shall be paid to the trustees in quarterly payments.

Trustees authorised to dispose of useless books

9. The trustees are hereby authorised to sell or otherwise dispose of all books, pamphlets and other publications belonging to the public library, which are or may hereafter become useless or not worth repairing, and to pay the proceeds of any such sale to the Accountant-General to be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

Grant for the maintenance of a public library in Speightstown

10.(1) An annual grant of the sum of one hundred and seventy-two dollars and eighty cents in four equal quarterly instalments, shall be paid to the trustees for the maintenance in Speightstown of a library.

(2) The said library in Speightstown shall form part of and be a branch of the public library.

Sums to be charged upon Consolidated Fund

11. All sums payable under this Act shall be charged upon and paid from the Consolidated Fund, and unless herein otherwise directed shall be payable in equal monthly sums.

[1967/168]