
CHAPTER 247

THE LEPERS ACT

THE LEPER HOME RULES

Arrangement of Rules
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S.R.O. (L.I.) 3/1944.
S.R.O. (L.I.) 24/1946.

THE LEPER HOME RULES, MADE UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE
LEPERS ACT.

PART I

ADMINISTRATION

1. SHORT TITLE. These Rules may be cited as the Leper Home Rules.

2. SUPERINTENDENT. (1) The Medical Superintendent of the Leper Home shall have the charge and superintendence of the Home subject to the general direction of the Chief Medical Officer.

(2) He shall visit the Home once a week and oftener if necessary, and shall record the progress or other information concerning the inmates in a medical journal kept for this purpose.

(3) He shall be responsible for the medical and surgical treatment of the inmates.

(4) He shall inspect all parts of the Home during his weekly visit and give the necessary instructions to the Master for keeping the Home in a sanitary condition. These instructions shall be written in a sanitary diary.

(5) He shall examine every inmate on admission, and shall enter in the medical journal such description of the case and such directions as to diet and treatment, as may be necessary.

(6) He shall have power to vary the prescribed diet of each sick inmate and shall record in the medical journal his directions and any variations so made.

(7) He shall frequently inspect the diet of the inmates and satisfy himself that it is of proper quality and quantity, and in accordance with the prescribed dietary scale.

(8) He shall investigate all charges of misconduct or breach of rules made against inmates and may direct that any inmate found guilty of any such charge be placed on half rations, or on bread and water for a period not exceeding seven days. He may also order the detention of such inmate in a room provided for that purpose for a period not exceeding seven days:

Provided that if any inmate is found guilty of the charge of persistent misconduct or of misconduct of so grave a nature that the power of punishment conferred on the Superintendent is considered inadequate, the Superintendent shall report the same to the Chief Medical Officer who shall have power, in addition to ordering such inmate to be placed on half rations or on bread and water for seven days, to order detention for a period not exceeding fourteen days.

An inmate shall be liable to be charged with persistent misconduct if within the space of three months he is charged and found guilty of misconduct or breach of rules on three separate occasions.

(9) He shall keep a record of all fines which are inflicted.

(10) All subordinate officers of the Home shall be under his immediate control and direction, and he shall report any serious breach of the rules by any such officer to the Chief Medical Officer.

3. DIETARY SCALE. The dietary scale shall be prescribed by the Chief Medical Officer and approved by the Minister.

4. MASTER. (1) The master shall reside at the Home, and have full charge of the entire Home during the absence of the Medical Superinten-

dent, and shall devote his whole time and attention to the duties of his office. He shall not be absent without the permission of the Medical Superintendent.

(2) He shall have control of the matron and male and female attendants and servants, and shall report to the Medical Superintendent any breach of the rules.

(3) He shall report immediately to the Medical Superintendent the illness of any inmate and shall see that all directions for medical treatment of sick inmates are carried out.

(4) He shall report immediately to the Medical Superintendent all deaths, and make all arrangements for the burial of deceased inmates.

(5) He shall be responsible for all stores, clothing, etc., and for all deficiencies in the same.

(6) He shall regularly superintend the issue of food, and shall take care that it is wholesome and good and in accordance with the prescribed dietary scale. Only such alcoholic stimulants or other medical extras as are directed by the Medical Superintendent in writing shall be allowed to any inmate.

(7) He shall endeavour to promote economy, and prevent waste, and shall pay attention in particular to the prevention of the waste of water.

(8) He shall be responsible for carrying out the instructions of the Medical Superintendent regarding the sanitation of the Home.

(9) He shall keep the accounts of the Home, and the following books—

- (a) Register of inmates.
- (b) Daily journal.
- (c) Store book (provisions).
- (d) Store book (other stores).
- (e) Visitors book.

(10) He shall treat the inmates with kindness and consideration, and shall take care that they are so treated by the staff of the Home.

5. MATRON AND ATTENDANTS. (1) The Matron and the male and female attendants shall reside at the Home and devote their whole time and attention to the service of the Home. They shall not be absent, without leave from the Master.

(2) They shall attend to the inmates in accordance with the instructions of the Medical Superintendent, or in his absence, those of the Master.

(3) They shall be responsible for all stores issued to them by the Master.

(4) They shall be allowed such rations or a ration allowance in lieu thereof as may be fixed by the Chief Medical Officer with the approval of the Minister.

(5) They shall obey all orders in respect of their duties, which they may from time to time receive from the Medical Superintendent or the Master.

6. SERVANTS. (1) The head cook, the assistant cook, the kitchen maid and the washer shall reside at the Home, and devote their whole time and attention to their duties. They shall not be absent, without leave from the Master.

(2) They shall be responsible for all stores and rations issued to them by the Master.

(3) They shall be allowed such rations as may be fixed by the Chief Medical Officer with the approval of the Minister.

(4) The head cook shall be responsible for the cooking of the Government rations, and the assistant cook shall be responsible for the inmates "extras". All cooking shall be done only at the hours ordered by the Medical Superintendent.

(5) They shall obey all orders in respect of their duties, which they may from time to time receive from the Medical Superintendent or the Master.

7. INMATES. (1) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (6) and (8) of Rule 2 the inmates shall receive such rations as are prescribed in the dietary scale.

(2) They shall be allowed to receive their friends on Sundays and public holidays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and on Thursdays between the hours of 1 p.m. and 5 p.m:

Provided that no visitor shall be allowed under the age of fifteen years. Such friends and visitors shall not be allowed inside the inmates rooms, but they may be received on the verandahs.

(3) No visitor shall be allowed to carry to any of the inmates any articles of food or drink or anything whatever without the express sanction of the Medical Superintendent or the Master, and any person who infringes this rule shall be refused permission to visit anybody in the Home, in addition to any other penalty which may be inflicted according to law.

(4) No person shall leave the Home with or take or remove, or cause to be taken or removed, from the Home any food, provision, clothing or property of any kind whatever of or belonging to the said Home, or any inmate thereof, without the leave of the Master.

(5) The sexes shall be kept apart in their own houses.

(6) They shall show proper respect and obedience to the officers placed over them and shall obey such instructions as are given to them for the proper management of the Home.

(7) Unless disabled by illness, they shall rise at the time ordered by the Master; arrange their beds, remove their chamber utensils, and wash and clean themselves.

(8) They shall keep their beds, rooms, verandahs and possessions clean and tidy. Further, they shall not be allowed to keep any objects in their rooms which are considered by the Medical Superintendent likely to prejudice the sanitary condition of the same.

(9) They shall have their food cooked at the regular hours by the cooks.

(10) They shall not injure, destroy or sell clothing, bedding or food, or other Government property.

(11) Garden plots shall be allotted to inmates by the Master subject to the approval of the Medical Superintendent. All provisions cultivated shall be such as can be made use of by the inmates of the Home and no produce shall be sold to or for the use of any one outside the Home.

(12) Inmates shall not be allowed to cultivate garden plots other than on Government land provided for the purpose without the express sanction of the Medical Superintendent.

(13) Any inmate leaving the Home without permission shall be guilty of an offence under these rules, and shall be punished under the provisions of paragraph (8) of rule 2.

(14) Any inmate guilty of misconduct, or breach of the rules of the Home, shall be punished under the provisions of paragraph (8) of rule 2.

(15) The houses shall be opened and closed at the times regulated by the Master, instructed by the Medical Superintendent.

(16) No person shall be admitted into the home as an inmate except in accordance with an order made by the Governor-General as provided in the Lepers Act.

PART II

ISOLATION

8. APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE ISOLATION. An application in the prescribed form shall be made on behalf of a person suffering from leprosy for permission to be privately isolated.

9. CONDITIONS OF PRIVATE ISOLATION. Permission for private isolation granted on the prescribed form to a person suffering from leprosy (hereinafter called "the patient") shall be subject to the following conditions—

The patient shall—

(a) occupy premises approved by the Chief Medical Officer and not occupied by any other person except the attendants of such patient who shall not be under the age of thirty years and approved by the Chief Medical Officer;

(b) not occupy or use, as the case may be, the same bedroom, bathroom, or latrine occupied or used by a person not suffering from leprosy;

(c) not absent himself from such premises except with the permission of the Chief Medical Officer and subject to such conditions as he may prescribe;

(d) not be visited by persons under the age of fifteen years and subject to their being first approved by the Chief Medical Officer;

(e) avoid all contact with tradesmen who may come to such premises.

10. SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS FOR PRIVATE ISOLATION. (1) Glasses, cups, plates, knives, forks, cooking and other domestic utensils and clothing intended for use by the patient shall be separately stored and be used exclusively by the patient.

(2) Soiled clothing, bedding and other similar articles used by the patient shall before washing be disinfected or otherwise dealt with in such manner as the Chief Medical Officer may direct.

(3) The articles referred to in sub-rules (1) and (2) of this rule shall be washed on the premises where the patient is isolated and kept apart from articles used by persons not suffering from leprosy.

(4) All discarded articles which have been used by the patient shall be destroyed.

(5) No articles (including money and letters) which have been in contact with the patient shall be permitted to leave his premises without the approval of the Chief Medical Officer.

(6) All discharges from the nose, ulcers or otherwise and all expectorations of the patient shall be deposited in special receptacles and disinfected or otherwise dealt with in such manner as a Medical Officer may direct.

11. PRIVATE ISOLATION PREMISES. (1) Separate bathroom, bedroom and latrine shall be provided for the patient.

(2) All premises including any outhouses, bath house and latrine used or occupied by the patient shall be inspected by a person authorised by the Minister in that behalf and be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected under his supervision at least once a month.

(3) The authorised person shall forthwith report every inspection and disinfection to the Chief Medical Officer specifying the measures which have been adopted.

12. CARE OF PATIENT. (1) Every person responsible for the care of the patient shall satisfy the Chief Medical Officer that all necessary and suitable nutrition and amenities are available at all times for the use of such patient.

(2) Every patient or person responsible for his care shall satisfy the Chief Medical Officer that the patient is undergoing such treatment as may be necessary.

13. FORMS. The forms set out in the Second Schedule shall be the prescribed forms for use in the cases to which they refer.

PART III

GENERAL

14. FINES. (1) The Master, Matron, Attendants and Servants shall be liable to be fined by the Medical Superintendent for disobedience or misconduct, or the breach of any rules, at the rates prescribed in the First Schedule.

(2) All fines shall be paid monthly into the Treasury to the credit of a fund to be called "The Leper Home Fine Fund", which shall be administered at the direction of the Medical Superintendent subject to the approval of the Minister.

15. ANIMALS. (1) Animals of such kind only as the Medical Superintendent shall approve may be kept in areas specially defined for the purpose. An area shall be defined for the animals of inmates and another for the animals of the staff.

(2) The animals shall be kept tethered or in pens maintained in a sanitary condition to the satisfaction of the Medical Superintendent.

(3) The owners of animals shall be responsible for any damages caused by their animals and any loss or damage caused by any animal belonging to an inmate may be recovered from the price paid for the animal by the Master, who shall have power to value and take over the same for the use of the Home.

16. CARE OF UNIFORM. (1) The various articles of uniform dress issued to the Master, Matron and Attendants shall be kept in proper and complete repair at all times by them and at their own expense.

(2) When on leave, the Master, Matron and Attendants may wear either plain clothes or uniform dress; but if the latter, it must at all times be complete.

(3) All articles of uniform dress issued to the staff of the Home shall remain the property of the Government until they are replaced by new

issues, and must be surrendered, or their value paid, on the termination of employment.

17. MINISTERS OF RELIGION. All ministers of religion shall have free access to the Home, except between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

18. OFFICIAL INSPECTION. The Minister and the Chief Medical Officer, may at any time of the day or night enter the Home and inspect any part thereof. Except as herein provided, no person, not being an officer or servant employed in the Home, shall be permitted to enter or remain in the Home between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. unless by special permission of the Medical Superintendent or Master.

19. OFFICIAL VISITORS. (1) The Minister may appoint such persons as he thinks fit to be official visitors of the Home.

(2) The official visitors may visit the Home at any time between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day and inspect the books and interrogate the officers and inmates of the Home.

(3) Each official visitor, on the occasion of a visit to the Home, shall enter in a book to be kept for the purpose, such remarks as he may think fit.

(4) The Medical Superintendent shall without delay forward through the Chief Medical Officer to the Minister a copy of all such entries.

FIRST SCHEDULE

r.14 (1).

FINES

	\$
1. Neglecting to keep the earth closets or latrines in all respects, clean and properly supplied with dry earth	.15
2. Coming late on duty, the first 5 minutes	.15
3. For every additional 5 minutes or less	.10
4. Leaving keys in a door or lying about	.15
5. Cursing, swearing, or using indecent or immoral language	.25
6. Allowing dirt to accumulate in the houses, yards, passages or other places under his or her charge	.15
7. Omitting to report any injury done to clothing, furniture, or any marks or defacing on the walls, windows, or partitions or other parts of the Home	.15

	\$
8. Omitting to report any misconduct or breach of the rules	.25
9. Appearing on duty or in public improperly dressed, slovenly or dirty ...	.15
10. Allowing strangers to enter the Home unless by order of some competent authority	.50
11. Wrangling, whether on duty or not; or in any way obstructing the duties of the Home	.15
12. Quitting post without leave	.50
13. Making unnecessary noise in or about the Home	.15
14. Smoking or reading on duty	.15
15. Sleeping while on duty	.25
16. Serving more or less than the inmate's proper allowance of food	.15
17. Neglecting to report any defects in the quality of the provisions	.15
18. Disobedience of order, or negligence with respect to any rules or regulations not herein expressly mentioned, or to any order given by his or her superior officer, or by any person in authority connected with the Home	.15
19. Disrespect to a superior officer	.04

If any of these offences be repeated a second time within six months, the offender shall be subject to a fine of double the amount herein set down.

If any of these offences be repeated a third or subsequent time within twelve months, the offender shall be subject to a fine of treble the amount.

SECOND SCHEDULE

FORM No. 1

r.13.

APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE ISOLATION

Application is hereby made for permission for
of _____ who is suffering from leprosy to be privately isolated.

The said _____ can be effectively isolated, maintained
and treated at his/her own place of abode situate at _____

I agree to be responsible for the care of the said
and to give security in the form of a bond in accordance with the provisions of
section 15 of the Lepers Act.

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Lepers

Applicant.

FORM No. 2

Dated the day of 19 .

Be it remembered that on the _____ day of _____ 19____
(1) _____ of _____
personally came before me, the undersigned Magistrate
and acknowledged himself/themselves to owe to the Attorney-General of _____

and his successors in office, to and for the use of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, the sum of \$240, to be made and levied of his/their several goods and chattels, lands and tenements respectively to the use of Our said Lady the Queen, Her Heirs and Successors, if the said (1)

fails/fail in the condition hereby endorsed.

Signed

Taken and acknowledged the day and year first above written before—

.....
Magistrate

THE CONDITION of the above written Bond is such that if (2)
suffering from leprosy, shall be properly isolated, maintained and treated in private according to the Rules made by the Cabinet under section 28 (5) of the Lepers Act, and shall not be suffered to be at large, then the said bond shall be void, but otherwise shall remain in full force and effect.

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- (1) Name of person giving Bond. (2) Name of patient whether he is
the person giving Bond or not.
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S.R.O. (L.I.) 12/1945.

PROCLAMATION MADE UNDER SECTION 12 (1) OF THE LEPERS ACT
SETTING APART A PORTION OF CERTAIN PREMISES AT THE
LEPER HOME AS A PLACE FOR DETENTION OF LEPERS.

WHEREAS by section 12 (1) of the Lepers Act it is enacted that the Governor-General may by proclamation to be published in the *Gazette*, set apart any portions of any leper home as places in which lepers sentenced to imprisonment or who have been certified as suffering from mental illness shall respectively be detained:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the eastern room of the second two-roomed hut directly to the west of the kitchen at the Leper Home at Pearn's in

the Parish of St. Mary in the Island of Antigua should be set apart as a place in which lepers sentenced to imprisonment shall be detained.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governor-General doth hereby order and appoint that the said room at the Leper Home aforesaid shall be and the same is hereby set apart as a place in which lepers sentenced to imprisonment may be lawfully detained.
