

SUPPRESSION OF LEPROSY ORDINANCE 1951.⁽¹⁾

No. 40 of 1951.

An Ordinance to provide for the Suppression of Leprosy.

BE it ordained by the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the *Papua and New Guinea Act 1949-1950*, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the *Suppression of Leprosy Ordinance 1951*.⁽¹⁾ Short title.

2. This Ordinance shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Administrator by notice⁽¹⁾ in the *Gazette*. Commencement.

3.—(1.) The *Suppression of Leprosy Ordinance 1923*⁽²⁾ of the Territory of New Guinea is repealed. Repeal.

(2.) All notices⁽³⁾ made under the Ordinance repealed by this Ordinance and in force immediately before the commencement of this Ordinance shall continue in force as if made under this Ordinance.

4. In this Ordinance, unless the contrary intention appears— Definitions.

“leper” means a person found by a Medical Officer to be affected with leprosy;

“Leper Station” means a place for the segregation or treatment of persons affected with leprosy;

“Medical Officer” means a medical practitioner who is in the employment of the Administration, or who is appointed by the Administrator by notice in the *Gazette* to be a Medical Officer for the purposes of this Ordinance.

5. The Administrator may by notice⁽⁴⁾ in the *Gazette* appoint places to be Leper Stations. Power to appoint Leper Stations.

(1) Particulars of this Ordinance are as follows:—

Date on which made by Cwth. Administrator in Council.	Date on which notified in <i>Cwth. Gaz.</i>	Date on which took effect.
24.10.1951	1.11.1951	19.11.1951 (Papua and N.G. <i>Govt. Gaz.</i> of 19.11.1951)

(2) Printed in *The Laws of the Territory of New Guinea 1921-1945 (Annotated)*, Vol. II., on pp. 2367-2368.

(3) Particulars of notices continued in force by Section 3 (2.) are contained in the relevant footnotes to this Ordinance.

(4) A notice (made under Sec. 4 of the repealed *Suppression of Leprosy Ordinance 1923* and continued in force by Sec. 3 (2.)) dated 24.11.1924 and published in *N.G. Gaz.* of 29.11.1924, appointed “the islands of Tab, Massas and Paeowai in the District of Madang to be a leper station.”

PART A : HEALTH—

Examination of persons suspected to be affected with leprosy.

6.—(1.) A Medical Officer may examine any person for the purpose of ascertaining whether that person is affected with leprosy.

(2.) A person who refuses, when called upon so to do by a Medical Officer, to allow himself to be examined for the purpose of ascertaining whether he is affected with leprosy, is guilty of an offence.

Confinement of lepers.

7.—(1.) A Medical Officer may authorize a leper to be confined in a Leper Station and a document in writing signed by a Medical Officer authorizing the confinement of a leper in a Leper Station shall be sufficient warrant to the person in charge of the Leper Station for detaining the leper therein.

(2.) A leper who leaves a Leper Station without the permission of a Medical Officer or of the person in charge of the Leper Station is guilty of an offence.

Report of persons affected with leprosy.

8. A person who knows or has reason to believe that he or another person not already found to be a leper, is affected with leprosy and who fails to report the facts forthwith to a Medical Officer or District Officer, is guilty of an offence.

Lepers not to be concealed, &c.

9. A person who knowingly detains, harbors, conceals or secretes a person affected with leprosy or who supports a person affected with leprosy who is living in concealment, is guilty of an offence.

Penalty.

10. The penalty for an offence against this Ordinance is a fine of Ten pounds, or imprisonment for six months, or both.