

INTERPRETATION.

10 OF 1901.

TO AMEND THE LAW WITH REGARD TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF LAWS.

W. F. HAYNES-SMITH.]

[July 27, 1901.

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Interpretation Law, 1901.

Meaning of
certain words
in enact-
ments since
1879.

2. In this Law, and in every Law passed after the 17th of January, 1879, whether before or after the commencement of this Law, unless the contrary intention appears:—

- (a.) Words importing the masculine gender include females;
- (b.) Words in the singular include the plural, and words in the plural include the singular;
- (c.) The expression " Her Majesty " or " The Queen " includes the heirs and successors of her late Majesty Queen Victoria;
- (d.) The expression " His Majesty " or " The King " includes the heirs and successors of His Majesty King Edward VII.;
- (e.) The expression " High Commissioner in Council " means the Officer Administering the Government of Cyprus, with the advice of the Executive Council of the Island;
- (f.) The word " Commissioner " includes any Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of a District, or any person duly appointed by the High Commissioner to act as such;
- (g.) The word " Court " means any Tribunal empowered by Law to act judicially in the Island;
- (h.) The expression " Court of Competent Jurisdiction " means any Court having by law jurisdiction in the matter for adjudication;
- (i.) The word " District " means any division or subdivision of the Island so defined in any Law or Proclamation;
- (j.) The word " Island " means the Island of Cyprus with its dependencies;
- (k.) The word " master " means any person having charge of a ship or vessel;
- (l.) The word " month " means a calendar month;
- (m.) The words " oath," " swear," " affidavit " include the affirmation or declaration of any person allowed to make an affirmation or declaration in place of an oath;
- (n.) The word " person " includes any body of persons corporate or unincorporate;

- (o.) The word "pound" means pound sterling;
- (p.) The expressions "Public Office" or "Department" include any office or department performing public duty by authority and on behalf of His Majesty;
- (q.) The word "year" means twelve calendar months.

3. Where in this Law, or in any Law or Rule of Court passed or made after the date named in the last preceding section, whether before or after the commencement of this Law, reference is made to any public officer by the term designating his office, the term shall include the officer for the time being executing the duties of the office, and such other officer as may from time to time be appointed to undertake any portion of those duties.

Reference to public officers in enactments since 1879.

4. In all cases where any particular number of days is prescribed or mentioned in any such Law or Rule of Court passed or made after the dates aforesaid for the doing of any act or for any other purpose, they shall be reckoned exclusive of the first and inclusive of the last day.

Computation of time in enactments since 1879.

Provided that:—

- (a.) Where the number of days is less than six, Sunday and any day notified in the *Cyprus Gazette* as a public holiday shall not be counted, and
- (b.) When the number of days (whether less than six or not) expires on a Sunday or any day notified in the *Cyprus Gazette* to be a public holiday, the act or purpose shall be considered as done or effected on the day next afterwards, not being one of these days.

5. In this Law and every other Law, whether passed before or after the commencement of this Law, expressions referring to writing shall, unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

Meaning of "writing" in past and future Laws.

6. In this Law and in every Law passed after the commencement of this Law the following expressions shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have the meanings hereby assigned to them, namely:—

Meaning of certain words in future Laws.

- (1.) The expression "Secretary of State" means one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State;
- (2.) The expression "The United Kingdom" means the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland;
- (3.) The expression "Imperial Parliament" or "Parliament" means the Parliament of the United Kingdom;

- (4.) The expression "*travaux forcés*" or "imprisonment with *travaux forcés*," or "imprisonment with hard labour" means the punishment defined by Article 19 of the Ottoman Penal Code, as modified by the Criminal Law and Procedure Amendment Law, 1886;
- (5.) The expression "imprisonment" or "simple imprisonment" means the punishment defined by Article 34 of the said code;
- (6.) The expression "Loan Commissioners" means the Board of Commissioners constituted under the authority of the Public Loans Law, 1897;
- (7.) The expression "Municipal Authority" means the Municipal Council, Municipal Commission, or other body duly authorized by Law to exercise municipal authority and government;
- (8.) The expression "Village Authority" means the persons who are recorded in the office of the Commissioner of the District as being the *Mukhtar* and *Azas* for the time being of any village;

(9.) The expression "Village Commission" means the persons who are recorded in the office of the Commissioner of the District

Sec. 6 of Law 10 of 1901 (at p. 474) has been amended by the addition thereto of the following sub-sections:-

(18) The expression "Comptroller of Customs and Excise" means the Comptroller of Customs and Excise to the Government of Cyprus for the time being.

(19) The expression "Director of Land Registration and Surveys" means the Director of Land Registration and Surveys to the Government of Cyprus for the time being.

(20) The expression "Director of Education" means the Director of Education to the Government of Cyprus for the time being.

(21) The expression "Postmaster-General" means the Postmaster-General to the Government of Cyprus for the time being.

(22) The expression "Assistant District Judge" means an Assistant District Judge appointed under the provisions of the Cyprus Courts of Justice Order, 1927.

Wherever in any Laws, Proclamations, Regulations, or other enactments in force in Cyprus the words "Chief Collector of Customs and Excise" "Registrar General" "Chief Inspector of Schools" "Island Postmaster" or "Village Judge" occur, the words "Comptroller of Customs and Excise" "Director of Land Registration and Surveys", "Director of Education", "postmaster General" or "Assistant District Judge" respectively shall be read in place thereof.

Vide Law 21 of 1927

- (4.) The expression "*travaux forcés*" or "imprisonment with *travaux forcés*," or "imprisonment with hard labour" means the punishment defined by Article 19 of the Ottoman Penal Code, as modified by the Criminal Law and Procedure Amendment Law, 1886;
- (5.) The expression "imprisonment" or "simple imprisonment" means the punishment defined by Article 34 of the said code;
- (6.) The expression "Loan Commissioners" means the Board of Commissioners constituted under the authority of the Public Loans Law, 1897;
- (7.) The expression "Municipal Authority" means the Municipal Council, Municipal Commission, or other body duly authorized by Law to exercise municipal authority and government;
- (8.) The expression "Village Authority" means the persons who are recorded in the office of the Commissioner of the District as being the Mukhtar and Azas for the time being of any village;
- (9.) The expression "Village Commission" means the persons who are recorded in the office of the Commissioner of the District as being the Azas for the time being of any village;
- (10.) The expression "~~Chief~~ Secretary" means the Chief Secretary to the Government of Cyprus for the time being;
- (11.) The expression "financial year" means the twelve months ending the 31st of December;
- (12.) The word "days" means clear days;
- (13.) The word "Law" includes "Ordinance."
- (14.) The word "donum" or "scala" means an area of one thousand six hundred square yards according to the British Imperial Standard;
- (15.) The expression "Peace Officer" means any member of the Cyprus Military Police.

Amendment
or repeal of
Laws in same
session.

Construction
of statutory
rules, etc.

7. Any Law may be altered, amended, or repealed in the same session of the Legislative Council.

8. Where any Law whether passed before or after the commencement of this Law confers power to make, grant, or issue any instrument, that is to say, any Order in Council, Order, Warrant, Scheme, Rules, Regulations, or Bye-Laws, expressions used in the instrument, if it is made after the commencement of this Law, shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have the same meanings as in the Law conferring the power.

Law 14 of 1905