

**CHAPTER 54.**

**COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY.**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.**

SECTION.

1. Short title.
2. Power to issue commissions of inquiry into matters of public nature, etc.
3. Power to appoint fresh Commissioners and to alter and revoke Commissions.
4. Commissions not affected by change of Governor.
5. Oath of office of Commissioners.
6. Power to appoint secretary.
7. Duties of Commissioners.
8. Division of opinion of Commissioners.
9. Commissioners' power to regulate proceedings.
10. Power to summon and examine witnesses and privilege of Commissioner from suit.
11. False evidence.
12. (1) Duty of witnesses summoned.  
Expenses of witnesses.  
(2) Penalty for contumacy, insult or interruption of proceedings.  
Indemnity to witnesses.
13. Appearance of counsel.
14. Attendance on Commissioners.
15. Remuneration to Commissioners, etc.
16. Publication of commissions, in Gazette.
17. As to proceedings for penalties.

**SCHEDULE.**

**CHAPTER 54.**

**COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY.**

**An Ordinance to enable the Governor to issue Commissions of inquiry with Special Powers.** 23 of 1909.  
20 of 1938.

[6TH NOVEMBER, 1909.]

**1.** This Ordinance may be cited as the Commissions of Inquiry Ordinance, and shall apply to the Colony and Protectorate. Short title.

**2.** It shall be lawful for the Governor, whenever he shall deem it advisable, to issue a commission appointing one or more Commissioners and authorising such Commissioners, or any quorum of them therein mentioned, to inquire into the conduct Power to issue commissions of inquiry into matters of public nature, etc.

of any officer in the public service, the conduct of any native chief, the conduct or management of any department of the public service or of any public or local institution, or into any matter in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the Governor, be for the public welfare. Each such commission shall specify the subject of inquiry, and may, in the discretion of the Governor, if there is more than one Commissioner, direct which Commissioner shall be chairman, and direct where and when such inquiry shall be made, and the report thereof rendered, and prescribe how such commission shall be executed, and may direct whether the inquiry shall or shall not be held in public. In the absence of a direction to the contrary, the inquiry shall be held in public, but the Commissioners shall nevertheless be entitled to exclude any particular person or persons for the preservation of order, for the due conduct of the inquiry, or for any other reason.

Power to appoint fresh commissioners and to alter and revoke commissions.

3. In case any Commissioner shall be or become unable or unwilling to act, or shall die, the Governor may appoint another Commissioner in his place; and any commission issued under this Ordinance may be altered, as the Governor may deem fit, by any subsequent commission issued by the Governor, or may be revoked altogether by a notification to that effect published in the *Gazette*.

Commissions not affected by change of Governor.

4. No commission issued under this Ordinance shall lapse by reason of, or be otherwise affected by, the death, absence or removal of the Governor issuing the same.

Oath of office of Commissioners.

5. It shall be the duty of each Commissioner appointed under this Ordinance to make and subscribe an oath that he will faithfully, fully, impartially and to the best of his ability discharge the trust and perform the duties devolving upon him by virtue of such commission, which oath may be taken before the Governor, or before such person as the Governor may appoint, and shall be deposited by the Commissioner with the Governor.

Power to appoint secretary.

6. The Governor may appoint a secretary to attend the sittings of the commission, to record their proceedings, to keep their papers, summon and minute the testimony of witnesses, and generally to perform such duties connected with such inquiry as the Commissioner shall prescribe.

Duties of Commissioners.

7. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners, after taking such oath, to make a full, faithful and impartial inquiry into the