



BELIZE

**PUBLIC ROADS ACT
CHAPTER 232**

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CHAPTER 232

PUBLIC ROADS

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[1st October, 1923]

PART I

Preliminary

- Short title. **1.** This Act may be cited as the Public Roads Act.
- Interpretation.
40 of 1963. **2.** In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,
 “Board” means a District Road Board appointed by the Minister under section 4 of this Act;
- 14 of 1968. “cattle” means any bull, ox, cow, steer, heifer, mule and the male, female, and young of the horse, ass, sheep, goat, swine, and of any animal, other than a dog, ordinarily kept or used as a beast of burden, or for draught, riding or the production of wool, hair, meat, milk or hides;
- 2 of 1962. “Chief Engineer” means the Chief Engineer, and includes any person or persons to whom the Chief Engineer may delegate his powers under this Act;
- 23 of 1995. “highway” means any public road or thoroughfare which is or may from time to time be specified in the Schedule to this Act;
- “improved public road” means any public road that has been graded, gravelled, surfaced, dressed or paved;

“officer” means an officer of the Public Works Department or of the Survey Department;

“owner” means the owner or reputed owner or lessee and, in the case of joint owners or lessees or tenants in common of any land, any one of such joint owners or lessees or tenants in common of any land, or the attorney or agent of any such owner or lessee in charge of such land, and, if no such owner or lessee or agent is known or is resident in Belize, the person in possession or in occupation of such land;

“public road” means any road, street or thoroughfare which may hereafter be declared by Order of the Minister under this Act, and includes all carriageways, cartways, bridle-tracks and pathways as well as bridges, ferries, drains, dams, shoulders, embankments, causeways, fences and ditches belonging or appertaining to a public road, and such land adjoining any public road as may be reserved for its protection or benefit by Order of the Minister,

40 of 1963.

Provided that where any road, street or thoroughfare other than a highway as defined in this Act falls within the limits of Belize City, the City of Belmopan or any other town mentioned and referred to in the Schedule to the Town Councils Act, Cap. 87, the powers conferred on the Minister and the Chief Engineer under this Act shall, in respect of each town established under the Town Councils Act, be vested in the respective Town Council, and in the case of Belize City or the City of Belmopan, be vested in the Belize City Council or the Belmopan City Council,

40 of 1963.
6 of 1960.
3 of 1990.
23 of 1995.

Provided further that the powers conferred upon the Minister by sections 6 and 7 of this Act shall, in respect of Belize City or the City of Belmopan and district towns, be exercised by the Belize City Council, the Belmopan City Council or the Town Council, as the case may be, with the consent of the Minister of Local Government;

“river” includes all public navigable streams, lakes, estuaries, creeks and embankments belonging thereto.

PART II

*Duties of Chief Engineer, Appointment of District Road
Boards and Declaration of Roads*

Responsibility of
Chief Engineer.
2 of 1962.
40 of 1963.

3. The Chief Engineer shall be charged, subject to the authority, control and direction of the Minister, with the construction, alteration, maintenance and supervision of all public roads of Belize, and he may delegate to any officers any or all of the powers conferred on him under this Act.

Appointment of Dis-
trict Road Boards.
40 of 1963.

4.—(1) The Minister may appoint, in all or any of the districts of Belize, District Road Boards, which shall be composed of such number of persons not less than three as the Minister may think fit to appoint.

40 of 1963.

(2) The Minister shall appoint one of the members of each Board to be its Chairperson and any two members, including the Chairperson, shall form a quorum.

(3) The Minister may remove any member of a Board and appoint another person in his stead.

(4) Absence from three consecutive meetings of a Board duly called for the transaction of business shall be deemed to be a sufficient cause for the removal of a member who is not a salaried officer of the Government.

40 of 1963.

(5) Boards may, from time to time, with the approval of the Minister, make rules regulating their proceedings.

Functions of Boards.

5. Boards shall advise on all such questions and matters concerning the public roads of their respective districts as may be referred to them by the Chief Engineer.

Minister may de-
clare public roads.

6. The Minister may by Order declare any road, street or thoroughfare to be a public road for the purposes of this Act and such road, street or thoroughfare

shall from the time specified in such Order be deemed to be a public road.

40 of 1963.

7.–(1) Upon application by the Chief Engineer, the Minister may by Order declare,

Minister may declare new public roads to closed or diverted.
40 of 1963.

- (a) that any new road be opened, and in the said Order declare such road to be a public road for the purposes of this Act;
- (b) that any existing public road be closed, diverted or turned, and that some other shorter or more convenient course be substituted for any public road so closed, diverted or turned as the public advantage may require; and
- (c) that any public road may be widened and enlarged in such manner as he thinks fit.

(2) Whenever it appears to the Minister that, having regard to the limited use made of any public road, the closing thereof without the provision of any other course will not result in serious handicap or inconvenience to the public, he may order that such road be closed without ordering that any other road be substituted therefor.

40 of 1963.

8.–(1) The jurisdiction for the exercise of powers and functions in respect of the construction, maintenance, repairs and all other works of a similar nature contained in this Act shall, in respect of all highways, be vested in the Minister and the Chief Engineer irrespective of whether any part of any highway falls within the limits of a City, a Town, a Village or any other local authority.

Jurisdiction over highways
23 of 1995.

(2) For the purpose of discharging the functions specified above, the Minister and the Chief Engineer shall have power to regulate the traffic, including the power to divert, prohibit or otherwise control traffic on the highway irrespective of whether the affected portion of highway passes through a City, Town, Village or other built up area.

23 of 1995.

23 of 1995. (3) The jurisdiction conferred on the Minister and the Chief Engineer under subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall, in respect of any part of a highway which falls within the limits of a City, a Town, a Village or any other local authority, be exercised by them after consultation with the local authority concerned, as the case may be.

23 of 1995. (4) The Chief Engineer shall be responsible for the maintenance of all highways and shall comply with any directions given to him by the Minister.

23 of 1995. (5) No local or municipal authority or other body shall carry out any works on a highway without the permission in writing of the Chief Engineer.

23 of 1995. Schedule. (6) The Minister may from time to time by Order published in the *Gazette* amend the Schedule.

PART III

Powers over Adjacent Land when Executing Road Works

Appropriation of cultivated lands. 40 of 1963. **9.**-(1) All lands not built upon or cultivated which may be required for the purpose of opening any new public road or for diverting, turning, widening or enlarging any existing public road in the execution of any such Order of the Minister as provided for in section 7 of this Act, may be absolutely taken and appropriated without tender or payment by way of compensation and shall vest in the Government without any formal transfer thereof.

20 of 1962. 40 of 1963. (2) Notice of the terms of the application of the Chief Engineer under section 7 of this Act, shall be inserted in the *Gazette* at least four weeks previously to the date of the said Order of the Minister.

Appropriation of uncultivated lands. 40 of 1963. 2 of 1962. **10.**-(1) If, in the execution of any Order of the Minister made under section 7 of this Act, it becomes necessary to take possession for the public use of the land of any person, other than land which is not built upon or cultivated referred to in section 9 of this Act, the Chief Engineer,

subject to the approval of the Minister, may make an agreement on behalf of the Government with the owner for the compensation to be made for that land, and for any building, tree, fence or cultivation thereon.

(2) If the Chief Engineer cannot agree with the owner as to the compensation to be made, or if the owner cannot be found, proceedings may be taken for obtaining possession of the land and for compensating the owner in the manner prescribed by any law or Act in force at the time providing means for taking private lands for public purposes.

2 of 1962.

11. The Chief Engineer may enter into all contracts relating to matters necessary for the purposes of this Act, and in the event of any breach thereof or of any claims or disputes arising out of the execution of the powers conferred upon him by this Act, civil proceedings by or against the Government may be taken under the Crown Proceedings Act, Cap. 167.

Contracts and proceedings on the breach thereof, etc.
2 of 1962.

12. The Chief Engineer and any officers or workmen employed by or under him may at all reasonable times and with all necessary vehicles, animals and other means enter upon any land adjacent or near to any existing or pro-posed public road, and may carry out all acts, matters and things necessary for the purpose of surveying, tracing, measuring, opening, constructing, repairing, clearing, altering, diverting, improving, fencing or excavating any such public road, and for performing any act, matter or thing under this Act.

Power of Chief Engineer to enter upon lands.
2 of 1962.

13.-(1) The Chief Engineer and any officers or workmen employed by or under him, or any contractor or other person or persons authorised by him may, at all reasonable times and with all necessary plant, vehicles and animals, enter upon any land not built upon or cultivated, and for the purpose of tracing, measuring, opening, constructing, repairing, clearing, altering, diverting, improving or fencing any public road or for the purpose of the construction or repair of any buildings whatever required on or near any such public road for the use of any officers, workmen, plant, vehicles, animals, tools and materials employed in his service may search for, dig, cut, take and carry away any water, timber, brushwood, stone, gravel, clay or any materials whatever without tender or payment by way of compensation to any person or persons entitled to or claiming to be entitled to such materials.

Power of Chief Engineer to take materials from uncultivated lands.
2 of 1962.

(2) In the execution of any works under this section, no dangerous pits shall be left on any such land, and all necessary steps shall be taken to prevent the collection of stagnant water.

Power of Chief Engineer to take materials from cultivated lands.
2 of 1962.

14.—(1) Where sufficient materials as defined in section 13 of this Act, cannot conveniently be obtained from the adjacent or neighbouring uncultivated lands, the Chief Engineer may take any such materials where he can conveniently procure them.

2 of 1962.

(2) No such materials shall be dug or cut or taken away from any yard, lawn, garden, plantation or cultivated field without the consent of the owner thereof, who shall receive reasonable compensation for all such materials so taken away, or for any damage done to any land by the passage of such materials through such land as shall be agreed upon between the Chief Engineer and the owner of the land, and in case of difference between the Chief Engineer and the owner, such compensation may be assessed in the manner provided under section 25 of this Act.

(3) Where the materials taken are not of any marketable value, the compensation to the owner of the land from which they have been taken shall be nominal.

2 of 1962.

(4) The Chief Engineer shall rail or fence off any quarries or pits from which any such materials are taken so that they shall not be dangerous to any person or animal, or allow the collection of stagnant water.

Power of Chief Engineer to erect buildings.
2 of 1962.

15. The Chief Engineer may, when surveying, tracing, measuring, opening, constructing, repairing, altering, diverting, clearing, improving and excavating any public road,

- (a) construct temporary buildings on any land adjacent or near thereto for the accommodation of any officers, workmen, plant, vehicles, animals, tools and materials employed by him during the progress of the work;
- (b) keep duly tethered and stabled all such animals as may be employed upon any lands near or adjacent thereto, and may continue so to keep the said animals on such lands for such time as may be necessary,

Provided that,

- (i) no such building shall be erected nor any such animals kept on any land which shall be under cultivation where there are neighbouring uncultivated lands or bush or common or abandoned grounds available for the purpose; and
- (ii) reasonable compensation for any damage done to the land shall in all cases be made to the owner by the Chief Engineer.

2 of 1962.

16. In the surveying, tracing, measuring, opening, constructing, repairing, altering, diverting, clearing, improving and excavating of any public road, the Chief Engineer may throw upon any lands adjacent or near thereto such earth, rubbish or materials as it shall or may be necessary to remove from the place of any such work.

Power of Chief Engineer to throw rubbish upon adjacent lands.
2 of 1962.

17. The Chief Engineer may make a road through the grounds adjacent or near to any public road during the execution of any work thereupon or in any way connected therewith, provided that such road shall not run over any ground whereon any building stands nor over an enclosed garden or yard.

Power of Chief Engineer to make temporary roads.
2 of 1962.

18. In the execution of any of the works mentioned in this Act, it shall not be lawful for the Chief Engineer or for any other person acting as his agent to dig, cut, excavate or in any way disturb any mound of ancient origin or construction of like character, or to remove or carry away any spoil, earth or stone therefrom unless he has previously been granted a permit to do so by the Archaeological Commissioner.

Disturbing ancient mounds.

19. Subject to the provisions of the National Institute of Culture and History Act, Cap. 331, the rights of ownership to any relic discovered in the course of the execution of any works mentioned in this Act on any private land or on land which has been taken and appropriated for the purpose of a public road are hereby reserved to the owner of such land.

Rights of ownership to relics.

Chief Engineer to give notice.
2 of 1962.

20. Whenever the Chief Engineer or any person authorised by him intends to take action as provided for under sections 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17 of this Act, he or such person shall give seven days' notice in writing of such intention to the owner of such land, or he may without giving such notice take any such action with the consent of the owner of the land.

PART IV

Powers regarding cutting Trees, erecting Fences, Bridges, etc.

Power of Chief Engineer to cut overhanging trees.
2 of 1962.

21.—(1) Where any tree or the branches thereof or any bush, shrub or other vegetation overhangs any public road or river, or causes any obstruction thereon, the Chief Engineer may serve a notice in writing on the owner or occupier of the lands whereon such tree, shrub or other vegetation is planted requiring the owner or occupier to cut and remove such bush, shrub or other vegetation.

2 of 1962.

(2) If the owner or occupier refuses or neglects to comply with such notice within one week from the date of the service of the notice, it shall be lawful for the Chief Engineer and any other person duly authorised by him to cut and remove the tree or the branches thereof or the bush, shrub or other vegetation, and for that purpose to enter upon the land whereon that tree, bush, shrub or other vegetation is planted, and the expenses incurred by the Chief Engineer in the execution of the work hereby authorised may be recovered from the owner or occupier.

Power of Chief Engineer to construct fences.
2 of 1962.

22. The Chief Engineer may construct and maintain fences, hedges, ditches, drains or banks on the side of any public road whenever it appears necessary to him.

Power of Chief Engineer to make and keep open ditches and lay trunks, etc.
2 of 1962.

23. The Chief Engineer may excavate, cleanse, clear and keep open all ditches, drains, gutters and water courses, and also may construct such tunnels, culverts or bridges as he thinks necessary for the protection, preservation, improvement, repair or construction of any public road in or through any lands or grounds adjoining or lying near to such public road.

24. The Chief Engineer may place any stone, gravel, wood or other matter or thing whatever upon any public road and may allow the same to remain there during the time such public road is under repair, and for such time before the repairs are commenced and after the repairs are completed as may be necessary for facilitating the making of such repairs, or for preventing damage to such recently repaired public road, but he shall take due and reasonable precaution for preventing danger or injury to persons, vehicles or animals passing along such public road.

Power of Chief Engineer to place stones, etc., on public road.
2 of 1962.

25.—(1) Every person who considers himself entitled to compensation under section 14 of this Act, or in respect of any loss or damage by reason of the exercise of any powers conferred under sections 15, 16 and 17 of this Act, shall make application in writing in that behalf to the Chief Engineer at any time before the expiration of three months after the act, matter or thing has been done in respect of which compensation is claimed, and if he fails to make application within the period of three months his claim to compensation may be disallowed.

Compensation for injury to property by authorised officer.

(2) An application under subsection (1) of this section may be served by posting it in a registered letter addressed to the Chief Engineer at Belmopan.

(3) Every such application shall contain particulars of the compensation so claimed.

(4) If the claim is not satisfied within three months from the date of the application made under subsection (1) of this section, the person making such claim may take civil proceedings against the Government in respect thereof under the Crown Proceedings Act, Cap. 167.

PART V

Miscellaneous

26.—(1) Nothing contained in this Act shall prevent any public officer duly authorised in that behalf from making temporary use of any part of any public road for the public service, or prevent the Chief Engineer from granting his licence to any person or persons for the erecting of

Where the erecting of temporary premises is allowed.
2 of 1962.

temporary fences and enclosures upon any public road for the purpose of the building, pulling down or repairing of their houses and other buildings or of temporary decorations.

(2) The length and breadth of such enclosures shall be described in every such licence, which shall provide for sufficient room for vehicles and carts to pass.

2 of 1962.

(3) The person or persons obtaining such licence shall immediately after sunset during all the time that the enclosure continues, if so required in the licence by the Chief Engineer, place and keep a sufficient light upon the premises till sunrise, and every person who removes or extinguishes such light during such time shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars.

Survey by registered surveyor to be sufficient evidence until contrary is proved.

27. Any plan or survey produced in evidence purporting to be signed by a land surveyor in any proceedings under this Act shall, until the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence of the facts contained therein.

Removal of obstructions or encroachments.

2 of 1962.

28.—(1) The Chief Engineer may give notice in writing to any person obstructing or encroaching on any public road requiring him forthwith to remove or abate such obstruction, and if any such person to whom such notice is given refuses or neglects to comply with the same within a reasonable time, or if there be any doubt as to who is the proper person to whom such notice should be given, the Chief Engineer, after due notification of his intention in that behalf by a notice affixed in a conspicuous manner on or adjacent to the said obstruction or encroachment, may cause such obstruction or encroachment to be forthwith removed or abated.

2 of 1962.

(2) For the purpose of removing or abating any such obstruction or encroachment, the Chief Engineer or any person, authorised in writing by him, may enter into any house, garden, enclosure or other premises and cause to enter therein such persons with such instruments and things as are necessary for such removal or abatement, and may recover the costs thereby occasioned from the person causing such obstruction or encroachment.

29.—(1) The Chief Engineer may prohibit all persons from riding or driving any kind of beast or vehicle on any public road for such space of time as he considers necessary, not exceeding one month, after such public road has been built or repaired.

Closing new public road for certain time after making.
2 of 1962.

(2) Every person who wilfully disobeys such order, the same being duly notified by a notice affixed to a board or boards erected upon or near to such public road, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars.

30.—(1) Whenever in the opinion of the Chief Engineer the surface of any public road or any part thereof, through disrepair, heavy rains or floods, or from any other cause whatever, is in such a condition that vehicular traffic would cause excessive damage thereto, it shall be lawful for any member of the Belize Police Department, on the written instructions of the Chief Engineer, by taking up duty thereat or by posting a notice or by the erection of a barrier, to prohibit the use of vehicular traffic, or any particular class of vehicular traffic, on such public road or part thereof.

Power to prohibit vehicular traffic over public road.
2 of 1962.
42 of 1999.

(2) Any person who uses any public road, or any part thereof in contravention of any such prohibition commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or in default to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

31.—(1) If the Chief Engineer incurs any extraordinary expenditure with respect to the repair or maintenance of any public road which has been damaged by reason of any excessive weight being carried over or along it or by any extraordinary traffic maintained thereon by any person, the Government may recover, in proceedings taken in accordance with the provisions of the Crown Proceedings Act, Cap. 167, from the person by whose act, neglect or default such damage was caused, the amount of such extraordinary expenditure.

Recovery of expenditure for damage to public road.
2 of 1962.

(2) The Chief Engineer may agree with any person upon the amount to be paid in respect of any such extraordinary expenditure, and the sum certified by the Chief Engineer as incurred for extraordinary expenditure in the repair and maintenance of any public road by reason of any such damage shall, until the contrary is proved, be sufficient evidence of the amount payable by such person.

2 of 1962.

Owner to have bridge etc., over drain leading to his house.

32.—(1) If the owner or occupier of any house or premises adjoining any public road by the side of which a drain has been made or excavated requires the means of access to such house or premises from such public road, he shall be bound to place over such drain a bridge, platform or arch which shall in no case cover less than four feet of the length of such drain.

2 of 1962.

(2) If it comes to the knowledge of the Chief Engineer that any parties have any access to any house or premises so situated without such bridge, platform or arch as mentioned in subsection (1) of this section, he may call upon the owner or occupier thereof forthwith to construct the same, and if the owner or occupier fails to do so within a reasonable time the Chief Engineer may cause the same to be done and recover the costs incurred from the owner or occupier.

Pigs straying liable to be destroyed.

33.—(1) Any owner of any pig found tied, straying, burrowing or wallowing in any public road shall be liable to a fine of one hundred dollars.

(2) It shall be lawful for any road supervisor or police officer to kill, by shooting or otherwise, any pig that he may find so tied, straying, burrowing or wallowing in any public road.

Proceedings.

34.—(1) All proceedings under this Act, unless otherwise provided, may be taken under the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Act, Cap. 98 and Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act, Cap. 99.

(2) In any proceedings under this Act where any question arises as to ownership of any land or tree or part thereof, the onus of proof shall lie on the defendant and not on the prosecutor.

(3) All fines and penalties incurred under this Act or under any regulation made thereunder may be proceeded for by the Superintendent of Police or by the police officer or non-commissioned officer in charge of any police station.

Power to Chief Engineer to grant permission for erection of gates or grids.
2 of 1962.

35.—(1) It shall be lawful for the Chief Engineer, by licence under his hand, to grant permission to the owners of any land adjacent to a public road, or through which a public road has been constructed, to erect gates or grids across such road for the protection and safekeeping of cattle.

(2) Every such licence shall specify the number, position, and design or type of such gates or grids and shall define the conditions under which the licence is granted.

36.—(1) It shall be lawful for the Minister, upon application being made in that behalf, to grant permission to any person to lay, construct and maintain any tramway along the route of any public road under such conditions as he may consider expedient to prescribe.

Licence to lay tramway along road.
40 of 1963.

(2) Notice of the terms of the application under this section shall have been inserted in the *Gazette* at least three weeks previously to the date of the Order of the Minister.

40 of 1963.

(3) Any application under this section shall be made through the Chief Engineer, and shall be accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars.

2 of 1962.

37. Any person who wilfully resists, obstructs, hinders or molests, or who incites, assists or procures others to resist, obstruct, hinder or molest any person acting under the authority of this Act in the discharge of any duty or the performance of any act which he is authorised or required to perform by this Act commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars.

Obstruction of officers.

38. A person who without proper authority,

- (a) destroys, pulls up, defaces, breaks or injures any mile-stone, mile-post, lamp-post or direction post or any bridge, arch, wall, dam, drain, sluice, lock or embankment, abutment, mound, prop, post, lamp, railing, chain or fence belonging to any public road or put up at or near any pit opened or used for getting road materials;
- (b) removes any fence, post, stone, log or other thing laid or erected by the authority of the Chief Engineer on or in any public road for the temporary prevention of the use thereof or for preventing danger or injury to persons passing along the same whilst undergoing repair;

Offences relating to mile-stones, etc., temporary fences, stones, ditches, fences, buildings and sign boards.
2 of 1962.

- (c) gathers or heaps up or removes any stone, gravel, sand or other material, or any dirt, drift or soil from any public road or from stockpiles adjacent or near to any public road for intended use thereon;
- (d) makes or causes to be made any dam, ditch, drain or watercourse upon or across, or shall otherwise break up or injure the surface of any public road;
- (e) constructs any house or other building so as to project over or encroach upon any public road; or
- (f) places or causes to be placed any sign board or bill board or any sign whatever regardless of size on any public road,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, in addition to the payment of the costs occasioned by the damage done or by the removal of the obstruction.

39. Any person who,

- (a) leads or drives any horse, mule, pig or other animal from, on or off or into any public road in such manner as to cause injury to it, or suffers any animal to damage it;
- (b) obstructs the free passage on a public road by exposing goods or merchandise of any description thereon; or
- (c) drives or causes to be driven on any improved public road, except with the written permission of the Board or the Chief Engineer, any tractor or other heavy implement or equipment,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars, in addition to the payment of the costs occasioned by the damage done or by the removal of the obstruction.

Injuring public road by driving animals, and obstructing free passage.
2 of 1962.

40. Any person who,

- (a) obstructs or causes to be obstructed the passage of water from a public road or from any ditch or drain leading therefrom; or
- (b) being the owner or occupier of any land adjacent or contiguous to a public road, permits any water, filth or other matter or thing to flow from such land into or upon the said public road or suffers any accumulation of dirt or rubbish from off his land to impede the flow of the water in any ditch or drain on such public road,

Obstructing passage of water from public road, and allowing water, etc., to flow therefrom.

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, in addition to the payment of the costs occasioned by the damage done or by the removal of the obstruction.

41. Any person who hauls or draws upon any public road any timber, stone, or other thing otherwise than upon wheeled carriages, or shall suffer any timber, stone or other thing which shall be carried principally or in part upon wheeled carriages to drag or trail upon such public road to the damage thereof commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, in addition to the payment of the costs occasioned by the damage done or by the removal of the obstruction.

Hauling or trailing timber, etc.

42.-(1) Any person who,

- (a) (i) turns or permits to be turned lose any cattle upon any public road;
- (ii) tethers or causes to be tethered any cattle in, upon or near a public road so that such animal causes obstruction or inconvenience to the passers-by, unless such animal shall be so tethered during the time required for loading or unloading of any cart to which it may belong;

Miscellaneous offences.
14 of 1968.

14 of 1968.

- (b) loads or drives any horse, mule, ox, sheep, goat, or other animal on any public road without proper and sufficient assistance;
- (c) slaughters on any public road any animal except such as may have met with an accident, or for public safety, or other reasonable cause ought to be killed on the spot;
- (d) places or throws or causes to be placed or thrown, any stones, bricks, timber, sand, lime, dung, straw, rubbish or scouring of any ditch or drain, or other object or thing on or in any public road;
- (e) encroaches on any public road by making or causing to be made thereon without proper authority any building, platform, hedge, ditch or fence or other obstruction;
- (f) after having blocked or stopped any cart, carriage or other vehicle, causes or suffers to be or remain on any public road the stone, timber or other thing with which such cart, carriage or other vehicle shall have been blocked or stopped;
- (g) in any manner wilfully prevents any person or any carriage or other conveyance or vehicle from passing along any public road,

commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

(2) Nothing contained in subsection (1) of this section, shall render any officer in charge of any work on any public road or any road contractor liable to any fine for any act done by such officer in the discharge of the duties of his office, or by such contractor in the necessary execution or performance of his contract.

(3) Every officer in charge of any work on a public road or road contractor who lays or causes to be laid any heap of stones, gravel,

rubbish or other matter whatever upon any public road and allows the same to remain there at night to the danger or damage of any person, vehicle or animal passing thereon, all due and reasonable precaution not having been taken by him to prevent any such danger or damage, commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars.

43.-(1) The Minister may make by-laws,

- (a) for fixing the size of the tyres of the wheels of any cart, carriage, motor vehicle, or any other conveyance whatever used upon any public road for the transport of passengers, goods, wares and materials of any kind whatever;
- (b) for regulating the traffic on public roads and the general good rule and government thereof;
- (c) for the general control, use, management, survey, construction and repair of all public roads, bridges and ferries, and the prevention of obstruction thereto with power to impose, levy and collect from any person using any bridge or ferry, such dues, tolls and fees as may be decided upon;
- (d) for the licensing, control, use and general management of private ferries across rivers, with power to impose licence fees and conditions for the working of the same;
- (e) for lighting public roads;
- (f) for directing the manner in which oxen or horses in teams shall be driven, yoked or harnessed upon a public road;
- (g) to impose penalties for offences against any such by-laws not exceeding two hundred dollars for each offence.

Power to make
by-laws.
40 of 1963.

(2) Any by-laws made under this Act shall be published in the *Gazette*.

SCHEDULE

PUBLIC ROADS ACT
Names and Description of Highways
[Sections 2 and 8]

NORTHERN HIGHWAY

Starting at the junction of Princess Margaret Drive and Belcan Bridge going on a Northerly Direction towards Haulover Bridge and onwards towards Ladyville Village; passing through Sand Hill and onwards to Biscayne Village passing over Tower Hill Bridge and towards Chan Pine Ridge Junction to meet the Old Belize - Corozal Road passing through Orange Walk Town through Victoria Avenue and going North through Otro Benque main street towards Buena Vista Village and onwards to meet the junction of Libertad then turn left towards Corozal Town passing through Main Street and 7th Avenue to meet Santa Rita Junction then turn right to Santa Elena at the Mexican Border.

WESTERN HIGHWAY

Starting at the intersection of Central American Boulevard and Cemetery Road going West passing through Lord's Ridge Cemetery and onwards passing through Hattieville Village, continuing west passing through Roaring Creek Village and onwards passing over Hawkesworth Bridge going around Columbus Park; onwards on Buena Vista Street going West, passing through Succotz Village through Benque, passing through the new by-pass and the Boulevard to the Western Border.

SOUTHERN HIGHWAY

Starting at the Junction of the Valley Road at approximately Mile 6, going on a Southerly Direction and passing in front of Silk Grass Village and onwards towards Kendall Bridge and proceeding South passing through the villages of San Roman and Santa Rosa to meet the Junction of Mango Creek Road and turning right on a South Easterly direction passing over

Swasey Bridge and hence South passing over Bladden River Bridge and onwards passing over Deep River and Golden Stream Rivers, passing in front of Big Falls Village and onwards towards Big Falls Bridge to meet the Junction of San Antonio Road at the dump then turning left towards Machaca Forest Station passing over Jacinto Creek Bridge and through Forest Home Settlement passing through Cattle Landing then turning right along the coastline to meet Joe Taylor Bridge.

CENTRAL AMERICAN BOULEVARD

Starting at the Junction of Princess Margaret Drive and the Northern Highway going on a South Direction on the Central American Boulevard towards Belcan Bridge and onwards towards the Junction of Cemetery Road and Central American Boulevard, then proceeding South on Central American Boulevard to the Port.

HUMMINGBIRD HIGHWAY

Starting at the “Y” Junction of Havana Street, Dangriga and Valley Road, going in a Westerly Direction towards Pomona Village, passing through Alta Vista, going onwards to Middlesex Village, towards Belmopan to meet the Junction of the Western Highway at approximately Mile Post 48 Roaring Creek Village on the Western Highway.

BELIZE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HIGHWAY

Starting at approximately Mile 9 on the Northern Highway, going on a South Easterly Direction to meet the gate of the Terminal Building Compound.

HATTIEVILLE/BURRELL BOOM/NORTHERN HIGHWAY

Starting at approximately Mile 14 on the Western Highway and proceeding on a Northerly Direction, passing through Burrell Boom Village towards Mile 14 on the Northern Highway.

COASTAL PLAIN HIGHWAY

Starting at approximately Mile 30 on the Western Highway and going on a South Easterly Direction towards Sibun River Bridge and onwards crossing over Soldier Creek Bridge and proceeding to the Junction of Gales Point Road then turning right to meet the Valley Road at approximately Mile 11.