

18. No person shall be capable of being elected a Member of the Council, or, having been elected, shall sit or vote in the Council, who—

(1) is not of the age of twenty-five years or upwards; or

(2) has been sentenced by any competent British Court, whether of Sierra Leone or not, for any crime punishable by death, hard labour for any period, or imprisonment for a period exceeding one year, and has not received a free pardon from His Majesty for the crime for which he has been so sentenced; or

(3) is an undischarged bankrupt, whether he has been declared a bankrupt by a Court in Sierra Leone or by any other British Court; or

(4) has within five years before the election received charitable relief in Sierra Leone from any public source; or

(5) has been dismissed from the Government service; or

(6) has been debarred from practising as a legal or medical practitioner by order of any competent authority; or

(7) is of unsound mind; or

(8) is in receipt of salary payable out of the public revenue of Sierra Leone; or

(9) is not registered as an elector.

19. All questions which may arise as to the right of any person to be or remain an Elected Member of the Council shall be referred to and decided by the Supreme Court of the Colony.

20. Every person who—

(1) Having been returned as an Elected Member of the Council, but not having been, at the time of his election, qualified to be an Elected Member, sits or votes in the Council; or

(2) Having been duly returned as an Elected Member of the Council, sits or votes in the Council after his seat has become vacant,

shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds for every day on which he so sits and votes; and such penalty may be recovered, with costs, by an action in the Supreme Court of the Colony by any person who may sue for the same.

21. Every Elected Member of the Council shall vacate his seat at the expiration of five years from the date of his election, but shall be eligible for re-election if not disqualified under the provisions of this Order.

22. If any Elected Member of the Council shall at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Governor, resign his seat in the Council, or shall become subject to any of the disqualifications specified in Article 18 of this Order, or shall have any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any contract with the Government of Sierra Leone for or on account of the public service otherwise than as a member and in common with the other members of an incorporated company consisting of more than twenty-five persons, or shall take any oath or make any declaration of allegiance to any Foreign State or Power, his seat in the Council shall thereupon become vacant.

An Elected Member of the Council may, with the permission of the Governor, be absent from the sittings of the Council or from

Sierra Leone for a period or periods not exceeding twelve calendar months at any one time; but if any Elected Member shall for any reason be so absent for more than twelve consecutive calendar months, or shall be absent, except on the ground of illness, from the sittings of the Council for a period of two calendar months during the session of the Council, without the leave of the Governor, his seat in the Council shall thereupon become vacant.

Whenever the seat of an Elected Member has become vacant, the Governor shall, as soon as possible, issue directions for the election of a new Member in the place of the Member whose seat has become vacant.

23.—(1) Every male person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector, and when registered to vote at the election of Elected Members of the Council, who—

(a) is a British subject, or a native of the Protectorate of Sierra Leone; and

(b) is of the age of twenty-one years or upwards; and

(c) has been ordinarily resident for the twelve months immediately preceding the date of registration in the electoral district for which the election is being held; and

(d)—(i) has been, for the twelve months immediately preceding the date of registration, the owner or occupier (jointly or severally) of any house, warehouse, counting house, shop, store or other building (in this Order referred to as qualifying property) in the electoral district of which the annual value is, in the urban electoral district not less than ten pounds; and in the rural electoral district not less than six pounds: Provided that where any persons appear to be joint occupiers of any qualifying property the names of such persons shall be placed on the register of electors if the annual assessed value of such qualifying property divided by the number of joint occupiers is not less than ten pounds in the urban or six pounds in the rural electoral district; or

(ii) is in receipt of a yearly salary in the urban electoral district of at least one hundred pounds a year and in the rural electoral district of sixty pounds a year.

(2) The annual value of any qualifying property in respect of which any person shall claim to be registered as an elector shall be determined in the first instance and until objection is made thereto according to the amount at which such property is assessed for the purposes of city rates or house tax as the case may be, but when any objection is made to such assessment or if the qualifying property is not assessed for the above-named purposes then the annual value thereof shall be proved to the satisfaction of the person to be appointed to be the Registering Officer for the electoral district in which the property is situated.

24. No person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector, or when registered to vote at the election of Elected Members of the Council, who—

(1) Cannot read and write English or Arabic;

(2) has been sentenced by any competent British Court whether of Sierra Leone or not, for any crime punishable by death, hard labour for any period or imprisonment for