



Isle of Man

Ellan Vannin

AT 1 of 1920

**CRIMINAL CODE (INFORMATIONS) ACT
1920**

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CRIMINAL CODE (INFORMATION) ACT 1920

Received Royal Assent: 3 December 1920
Passed: 21 December 1920
Commenced: 21 December 1920

AN ACT [concerning rules for informations.]

[Rules in Sch 1 reproduced below saved by Sch 2 (transitional provisions) to the *Criminal Jurisdiction Act 1993* notwithstanding the repeal of the 1920 Act by Sch 4 to the 1993 Act.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Not all of the offences, for which specimen counts are included in the Appendix, continue to exist (e.g. handling stolen goods which will now fall to be charged under section 24 of the *Theft Act 1981*)

SCHEDULE 1

RULES

1 Material, etc., for informations

(1) An information may be on parchment or durable paper, measuring thirteen inches by eight inches, or thereabouts, and may be either written or printed, or partly written and partly printed or type-written.

(2) A proper margin shall be kept on the left-hand side of each sheet.

(3) Figures and abbreviations may be used in an information for expressing anything which is commonly expressed thereby.

(4) An information shall not be open to objection by reason only of any failure to comply with this rule.

2 Commencement of the information

The commencement of the information shall be in the following form: —

The Attorney-General v. A.B.

(On behalf of the King).

COURT OF TRIAL.

INFORMATION.

A.B. is charged with the following offence (offences): —

3 Joining of charges in one information

Charges for any offences, whether felonies or misdemeanours, may be joined in the same information if those charges are founded on the same facts, or form or are part of a series of offences of the same or a similar character.

4 Mode in which offences are to be charged

(1) A description of the offence charged in an information or where more than one offence is charged in an information, of each offence so charged, shall be set out in the information in a separate paragraph called a count.

(2) A count of an information shall commence with a statement of the offence charged, called the statement of offence.

(3) The statement of offence shall describe the offence shortly in ordinary language, avoiding as far as possible the use of technical terms, and without necessarily stating all the essential elements of the offence, and if the offence charged is one created by statute, shall contain a reference to the section of the statute creating the offence.

(4) After the statement of the offence, particulars of such offence shall be set out in ordinary language, in which the use of technical terms shall not be necessary.

Provided that where any rule of law or any statute limits the particulars of an offence which are required to be given in an information, nothing in this rule shall require any more particulars to be given than those so required.

(5) The forms set out in the Appendix to these rules or forms conforming thereto as nearly as may be shall be used in cases to which they are applicable, and in other cases forms to the like effect or conforming thereto as nearly as may be shall be used, the statement of offence and the particulars of offence being varied according to the circumstances in each case.

(6) Where an information contains more than one count, the counts shall be numbered consecutively.

5 Provisions as to statutory offences

(1) Where an enactment constituting an offence states the offence to be the doing or the omission to do any one of any different acts in the alternative, or the doing or the omission to do any act in any one of any different capacities, or with any one of any different intentions, or states any part of the offence in the alternative, the acts, omissions, capacities, or intentions, or other matters stated in the alternative in the enactment, may be stated in the alternative in the count charging the offence.

(2) It shall not be necessary, in any count charging a statutory offence, to negative any exception or exemption from or qualification to the operation of the statute creating the offence.

6 Description of property

(1) The description of property in a count in an information shall be in ordinary language and such as to indicate with reasonable clearness the property referred to, and if the property is so described it shall not be necessary (except when required for the purpose of describing an offence depending on any special ownership of property or special value of property) to name the person to whom the property belongs or the value of the property.

(2) Where property is vested in more than one person, and the owners of the property are referred to in an information, it shall be sufficient to describe the property as owned by one of those persons by name with others, and if the persons owning the property are a body of persons with a collective name, such as “inhabitants”, “trustees”, “commissioners”, or “club” or other such name, it shall be sufficient to use the collective name without naming any individual.

7 Description of persons

The description or designation in an information of the accused person, or of any other person to whom reference is made therein, shall be such as is reasonably sufficient to identify him, without necessarily stating his correct name, or his abode, style, degree, or occupation; and if, owing to the name of the person not being known, or for any other reason, it is impracticable to give such a description or designation, such description or designation shall be given as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances, or such person may be described as “a person unknown.”

8 Description of document

Where it is necessary to refer to any document or instrument in an information, it shall be sufficient to describe it by any name or designation by which it is usually known, or by the purport thereof, without setting out any copy thereof.

9 General rule as to description

Subject to any other provisions of these rules, it shall be sufficient to describe any place, time, thing, matter, act, or information, in ordinary language in such manner as to indicate with reasonable clearness the place, time, thing, matter, act or omission referred to.

10 Statement of intent

It shall not be necessary in stating any intent to defraud, deceive or injure to state an intent to defraud, deceive or injure any particular person where the statute creating the

11 Charges of previous convictions, etc.

12 Saving for s 33(4) of Children Act, 1910

13 Duty to furnish copy of information

14 Short title

APPENDIX TO RULES.

FORMS OF INFORMATION.

1.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Murder.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading
of , murdered J.S.

2.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Accessory after the fact to murder.



A.B., well knowing that one, H.C., did on the _____ day of _____ in the Sheading of _____ murder C.C., did on the _____ day of _____ in the Sheading of _____ and on other days thereafter receive, comfort, harbour, assist and maintain the said H.C.

A.B., _____ on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, unlawfully killed, J.S.

A.B., _____ on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, had carnal knowledge of E.F. without her consent.

Wounding with intent, contrary to section 33 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading of _____, wounded C.D., with intent to do him grievous bodily harm, or to maim, disfigure, or disable him, or to resist the lawful apprehension of him the said A.B.

Wounding, contrary to section 35 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading

of _____, maliciously wounded C.D.

6.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Cruelty to a child, contrary to section 15 of the *Children Act, 1910*.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., between the _____ day of _____ and the
day of _____, in the Sheading of _____, being
a person over the age of sixteen years having the custody, charge, or care of C.D., a
child, ill-treated or neglected the said child, or caused or procured the said child to be
ill-treated or neglected in a manner likely to cause the said child unnecessary suffering
or injury to its health.

7.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

Larceny, contrary to section 197 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, being clerk or servant to M.N., stole from
the said M.N. ten yards of cloth.

8.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Robbery with violence, contrary to section 168 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, robbed C.D. of a watch, and at the time of
or immediately before or immediately after such robbery did use personal violence to
the said C.D.

9.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

First Count.

Larceny after a previous conviction.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading

of _____, stole a bag, the property of C.D.
A.B. has been previously convicted of burglary on the
day of _____, at the Court of General Gaol Delivery.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Second Count.

Receiving stolen goods, contrary to section 227 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, did receive a bag, the property of C.D.,
knowing the same to have been stolen.

10.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Burglary and larceny, contrary to section 179 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., in the night of the _____ day of _____
in the Sheading of _____, did break and enter the
dwelling-house of C.D. with intent to steal therein, and did steal therein one watch, the
property of S.T., the said watch being of the value of ten pounds.

11.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Sending threatening letter, contrary to section 171 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, sent, delivered or uttered to or caused to be
received by C.D., a letter accusing or threatening to accuse the said C.D. of an infamous
crime with intent to extort money from the said C.D.

12.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Obtaining goods by false pretences, contrary to section 224 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of _____, with intent to defraud, obtained from S.P.

five yards of cloth by falsely pretending that he, the said A.B., was a servant to J.S., and that he, the said A.B., had been sent by the said J.S., to S.P. for the said cloth, and that he, the said A.B., was then authorised by the said J.S. to receive the said cloth on behalf of the said J.S.

13.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Conspiracy to defraud.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B. and C.D. on the day of and on
divers days between that day and the day of ,
in the Sheading of , conspired together with
intent to defraud by means of an advertisement inserted by them, the said A.B. and
C.D., in the H.S. newspaper, falsely representing that A.B. and C.D. were then carrying
on a genuine business as jewellers at in the town of
and that they were then able to supply certain articles of jewellery to whomsoever
would remit to them the sum of two pounds.

14.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

First Count.

Arson, contrary to section 85 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of in the Sheading
of , maliciously set fire to a dwelling-house,
one F.G. being therein.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Second Count.

Arson, contrary to section 86 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading
of , maliciously set fire to a house with intent to
injure or defraud.

15.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCES.

A.B., arson, contrary to section 86 of the Criminal Code 1872.

18.

Forgery, contrary to section 261 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading
of, _____, with intent to defraud, forged a certain will purporting
to be the will of C.D.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Second Count.

Uttering forged document, contrary to section 261 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, in the Sheading of _____, uttered a certain forged will purporting to be the will of C.D., knowing the same to be forged and with intent to defraud.

19.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Uttering counterfeit coin, contrary to section 295 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of , at the public-house
called "The Red Lion", in the Sheading of
uttered a counterfeit half-crown, knowing the same to be counterfeit.

20.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

Uttering counterfeit coin, contrary to section 296 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the _____ day of _____, at the public-house called "The Red Lion", in the Sheading of _____ uttered a counterfeit sovereign, knowing the same to be counterfeit.

A.B. has been previously convicted of a misdemeanour under section _____ of the _____, on the _____ day



of at .

21.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCES.

Perjury, contrary to section 325 of the Criminal Code, 1872.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading of , being a witness upon the trial of an action in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, in which one, was plaintiff, and one, was defendant, knowingly falsely swore that he saw one, M.N., in the street called the Strand Street, Douglas, on the day of

22.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Libel.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading of , published a defamatory libel concerning E.F., in the form of a letter [book, pamphlet, picture, or as the case may be]. [Innuendo should be stated where necessary.]

23.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

First Count.

Publishing obscene libel.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

E.M., on the day of , in the Sheading of , sold, uttered, and published and caused or procured to be sold, uttered, and published an obscene libel the particulars of which are deposited with this information. [Particulars to specify pages and lines complained of where necessary, as in a book.]

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE.

Second Count.

Procuring obscene libel [or thing] with intent to sell or publish.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE.

E.M., on the day of , in the Sheading of , procured an obscene libel [or thing], the particulars of which are deposited with this information, with intent to sell, utter or publish such obscene libel [or thing].

24.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCES.

A.B., undischarged bankrupt obtaining credit contrary to section 87 of the Bankruptcy Code, 1892;

C.D., being accessory to same offence.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCES.

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading of , being an undischarged bankrupt obtained credit to the extent of twelve pounds from H.S. without informing the said H.S. that he then was an undischarged bankrupt.

C.D. at the same time and place did aid, abet, counsel, and procure A.B. to commit the said offence.

25.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

First Count.

Fraudulent conversion of property, contrary to section 3 of *Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1914.*

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

A.B., on the day of , in the Sheading of , fraudulently converted to his own use and benefit certain property, that is to say, £100 entrusted to him by H.S., in order that he, the said A.B., might retain the same in safe custody.

STATEMENT OF OFFENCE

Second Count.

Fraudulent conversion of property, contrary to section 3 of *Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1914.*

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCE

A.B., on the day of in the Sheading of , fraudulently converted to his own use and benefit certain property, that is to say, the sum of £200 received by him for and on account of L.M.

ENDNOTES

Table of Legislation History

Legislation	Year and No	Commencement

Table of Renumbered Provisions

Original	Current

Table of Endnote References

¹ Rule 13 substituted by Central Registry Act 2018 Sch.