

for other purposes," approved May 15, 1931, as subsequently amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 50.—The Board of Commissioners created by this Act shall be composed of nine members. Five of these nine members shall be elected by the popular vote of the qualified voters of both precincts of San Juan at the general elections to be held in 1940 and each succeeding four years. The other four members shall be appointed by the Governor of Puerto Rico with the advice and consent of the Insular Senate. The nine members of the Board of Commissioners shall take office on the second Monday in February following each general election; *Provided*, That the five members of the Board of Commissioners elected at the general election of 1936 shall continue in office until the end of the terms for which they were elected, and said Board of Commissioners shall be increased in the manner indicated as soon as this Act takes effect.

"In case of the death, resignation, or civil disability of any member of the Board of Commissioners, the vacancy shall be filled in the following manner: If the vacancy is caused by a commissioner elected by popular vote, it shall be filled by appointment of the Governor on proposal of the central directing committee of the party or parties that elected him; and if the vacancy is caused by one of the four whom the Governor appoints, it shall be filled by appointment of the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate."

Section 2.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3.—This Act, being of an urgent character, shall take effect immediately after its approval.

*Approved, March 24, 1937.*

[No. 11]

AN ACT

TO CORRECT BY AMENDMENT AN ERROR COMMITTED IN THE NUMBER OF THE SECTION OF THE CIVIL CODE OF PUERTO RICO THAT WAS AMENDED BY ACT No. 46, APPROVED MAY 9, 1933, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 164 OF THE CIVIL CODE," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:*

Section 1.—Section 1 of Act No. 46, entitled "An Act to amend Section 164 of the Civil Code," approved May 9, 1933, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1.—Section 96 of the Civil Code of Puerto Rico, 1930 edition, is hereby amended as follows:

"Section 96.—The causes for divorce are as follows:

"1. Adultery on the part of either of the parties to the marriage;  
"2. Conviction of one of the parties to the marriage of a felony which may involve the loss of civil rights;

"3. Habitual drunkenness or the continued and excessive use of opium, morphine, or any other narcotic;

"4. Cruel treatment or grave injury;

"5. Abandonment of the wife by the husband or of the husband by the wife, for a longer period of time than one year;

"6. Absolute, perpetual, and incurable impotency occurred after marriage:

"7. Attempt of the husband or wife to corrupt their sons or to prostitute their daughters, and connivance in their corruption or prostitution;

"8. Proposal of the husband to prostitute his wife;

"9. Separation of both spouses for an uninterrupted period of more than seven (7) years; *Provided*, That when the separation for the said period of more than seven (7) years is satisfactorily proved, the woman, when the judgment is rendered, shall always be considered as the innocent spouse, with all the rights inherent in such condition following divorce."

Section 2.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3.—This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

*Approved, March 29, 1937.*

[No. 12]

AN ACT

TO AMEND SUBDIVISION 3 OF SECTION 70 OF THE CIVIL CODE, 1930 EDITION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:*

Section 1.—Subdivision 3 of Section 70 of the Civil Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"3. A person of the male sex under eighteen years of age, and a person of the female sex under sixteen years of age. Marriage

contracted by persons under the said age of puberty shall, nevertheless, be valid *ipso facto* and without an express declaration, if one day after having arrived at the legal age of puberty the parties shall have lived together without the representatives of either of them having brought suit against its validity, or if the woman shall have conceived before the legal age of puberty or before having established such suit; *And provided*, That every woman over fourteen and under sixteen years of age who has been seduced may contract marriage with the previous consent of her parents or tutor, and if these refuse it, with the consent of the district court of the place where the seduced woman resides; and every man over sixteen and under eighteen years of age who is under an accusation of having seduced a woman over fourteen and under sixteen years of age, may also contract marriage with the previous consent of his parents or tutor, and if these refuse it, with the consent of the district court of the place where the seduced woman resides; and such marriage shall be considered sufficient to bar all prosecution, in the same form as in the other cases referred to in Section 262 of the Penal Code."

Section 2.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3.—This Act shall take effect ninety days after its approval.

*Approved, March 29, 1937.*

[No. 13]

AN ACT

TO ADD A NEW SECTION TO ACT No. 42, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTING; CREATING A BOARD OF EXAMINERS; PROVIDING FOR THE GRANTING OF CERTIFICATES OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," APPROVED MAY 13, 1927, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:*

Section 1.—A new section, to be known as Section 8 *a* is hereby inserted between Section 8 and Section 9 of Act No. 42, entitled "An Act to regulate the practice of public accounting; creating a board of examiners; providing for the granting of certificates of certified public accountant, and for other purposes," approved May 13, 1927, which said Section 8 *a* shall read as follows:

"Section 8 *a*.—The board shall exempt from examination any person of good moral conduct, who is a citizen of the United States

and who is in the enjoyment of his civil rights, who is over twenty-one years of age and who obtains or may have obtained in the University of Puerto Rico a diploma in accounting or the degree of Bachelor of Business Administration, majoring in accounting, with not less than thirty-two (32) University credits in said specialty, and who has also practiced not less than three (3) years as accountant, chief accountant, or auditor, in any or various firms or corporations of recognized importance in the judgment of the board, or with the Insular Government, or with municipalities of the first class in such capacity, or who has practiced for not less than three years as a public accountant or as a teacher of advanced accounting in colleges recognized by the University of Puerto Rico. Said persons shall be entitled to have the board issue them the corresponding license, upon application therefor, the presentation of the necessary evidence, and the payment of the corresponding fees."

Section 2.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3.—This Act shall take effect ninety days after its approval.

*Approved, April 1, 1937.*

[No. 14]

AN ACT

TO PROVIDE FOR THE CODIFICATION OF ALL LAWS OF A GENERAL AND PERMANENT CHARACTER INTO A LEGAL BODY TO BE KNOWN AS THE *POLITICO-ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF PUERTO RICO*; TO ESTABLISH A PLAN FOR SAID CODIFICATION; TO AUTHORIZE THE JOINT CODE COMMISSION TO RENUMBER SUCH LAWS AS ARE INCORPORATED INTO SAID *POLITICO-ADMINISTRATIVE CODE*, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of Puerto Rico:*

Section 1.—All insular legislation of a general and permanent character, which does not form a part of the existing codes, shall be incorporated into a legal body to be known as the *Politico-Administrative Code of Puerto Rico*.

Section 2.—In making the codification hereby ordered, there shall be taken as a basis the Political Code of Puerto Rico approved March 1, 1902, with all amendments thereto up to the year 1937, without altering its titles, chapters, and numeration, except when incorporating therein the new executive departments created by the Organic Act of 1917: i. e., the Department of Health, the Department of