LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. S. 259.—The following Bill, which will be read a first time at the next meeting of the Legislative Council, is published for general information.

WARREN BARNES, Colonial Secretary.

22nd September, 1911.

ABILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to amend the Railways Ordinance, 1909.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Railways Amendment Ordinance, 1911.

Amends Ordinance No. 21 of 1909.

Carriage of goods of a

dangerous or offensive

nature.

- 2. The Railways Ordinance, 1909, is hereby amended as follows:—
 - (a.) in section 32 (1)(1) thereof by inserting the words "and for granting exemptions from such charges" after the word "railway";
 - (b.) in section 36 thereof by the insertion of the words ",unless exempted from the payment of fare by any General Rule made under section 32," after the words "no person";
 - (c.) in section 36 thereof by the insertion of the words "not so exempted," after the words "Every person" and also after the words "any person";
 - (d.) by the repeal of section 48 thereof and by the substitution therefor of the following section:—
 - "48.—(1.) No person shall carry or cause to be carried upon a railway any dangerous goods as defined by section 2 of Ordinance No. 1 of 1873 or any goods which may be declared dangerous or offensive by any General Rule made under section 32 of this Ordinance, except in accordance with the provisions of any General Rule made under the last mentioned section.
 - (2.) If any person shall carry upon or deliver for carriage by the railway any dangerous goods without distinctly declaring the nature of the same he shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars.
 - (3.) It shall be lawful for any railway official to refuse to carry any luggage or parcel that may be suspected to contain dangerous or offensive goods and to require the same to be opened and in case any such luggage or parcel shall have been received by any official for the purpose of being carried on the railway it shall be lawful for any railway official to stop the transit thereof until he shall be satisfied that the nature and contents of the luggage or parcel are not dangerous or offensive."

Objects and Reasons.

This Bill renders it possible for General Rules to be made with regard to granting free passes, and also puts restrictions on the carriage of dangerous goods.

C. G. Alabaster, Attorney General.