

*Objects and Reasons.*

The object of this Bill is to introduce into the Colony the provisions of the Obscene Publications Act, England, 20 & 21 Vict. c. 83, which empowers Magistrates and Justices of the Peace to issue warrants to search for obscene books, pictures, and other articles, and, after giving parties who may be interested an opportunity of being heard, to order the destruction of any obscene articles so seized. Such a power does not exist in this Colony at present.

J. H. KEMP,  
*Attorney General.*

**No. S. 137.**— The following Bill as passed in Committee at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 7th May, 1914, is published for general information:—

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to provide for the registration of qualified Dental Surgeons and otherwise to regulate the practice of Dentistry.

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

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Dentistry Short title. Ordinance, 1914.

2. In this Ordinance,—

Interpreta-  
tion of  
terms.

“Dental Board” means the Dental Board established under the provisions of this Ordinance.

Dental  
Board.

“Dental operation” includes the extraction of teeth, the administration of any general or local anæsthetic or any operation on the teeth involving the use of any instrument.

Dental  
operation.

“Exempted person” means a person who has been granted a certificate of exemption under the provisions of section 5 (2) of this Ordinance.

Exempted  
person.

“Registered Dental Surgeon” means any person who has been registered as a Dental Surgeon in the Register of Dental Surgeons established under the provisions of this Ordinance.

Registered  
Dental  
Surgeon.

3.—(1.) A Board to be styled “the Dental Board” shall be established and shall consist of the Principal Civil Medical Officer (who shall be Chairman of the Board), two persons registered under the provisions of the Medical Registration Ordinance, 1884, and two dental practitioners.

Constitution  
of Dental  
Board.

(2.) The un-official members of the Dental Board shall be appointed by the Governor and shall hold office for 3 years but may be re-appointed or removed by the Governor at his pleasure.

Appoint-  
ment of  
members of  
Dental  
Board.

(3.) Three members of the Board shall form a quorum.

Quorum.

4.—(1.) The Colonial Secretary shall keep a Register of Dental Surgeons qualified to practise in this Colony and of persons exempted under the provisions of section 5 (2) of this Ordinance and such Register shall be styled the “Dental Register”.

Dental  
Register:  
To be kept.

Form of. (2.) The said "Dental Register" shall be as nearly as may be according to the Form in the Schedule to this Ordinance.

Annual publication in *Gazette* of. (3.) A copy of the Dental Register as it stands at such date shall be published by the Colonial Secretary in the first *Gazette* issued after every 3rd May.

*Gazette* to be evidence of registration. (4.) Any copy of the *Gazette* containing the most recent copy of the said Register shall be *prima facie* evidence in all legal proceedings that the persons therein specified are registered or exempted persons as the case may be under the provisions of this Ordinance and the absence of any name from such copy shall be *prima facie* evidence that such person is not registered or exempted as the case may be under the provisions of this Ordinance.

Qualification for registration. 5.—(1.) Any person who on applying in writing to the Colonial Secretary and furnishing him with such proof of such qualifications as may be prescribed by regulation made under the provisions of this Ordinance and who in the opinion of the Governor-in-Council with the advice of the Dental Board is a fit and proper person to be registered as a Dental Surgeon shall be entitled to be registered in the Dental Register.

Special certificate of exemption to unqualified dentists of long local practice. (2.) It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council with the advice of the Dental Board to grant a certificate exempting from any or all of the provisions of this Ordinance any person who, although otherwise unqualified, is, by reason of his long practice of dentistry in the Colony prior to the date of the coming into operation of this Ordinance or on any other ground which may be by the Governor-in-Council deemed adequate, in the opinion of the Governor-in-Council a person to whom exemption from all or any of the provisions of this Ordinance may properly be granted. Provided that any such certificate so granted may be at any time revoked or amended in such manner and for such cause as may by the Governor-in-Council be deemed necessary or desirable.

Removal from Register : (3.) It shall be lawful for the Colonial Secretary to remove from the Dental Register the name of any Registered Dental Surgeon or exempted person who—

on death ; (a.) is believed to be deceased ;

on leaving Colony ; (b.) has ceased for a period extending over 5 years to reside in the Colony ;

after serious criminal offence ; (c.) has been convicted of any felony or misdemeanour ;

or infamous professional conduct ; (d.) has been in the opinion of the Dental Board and of the Governor-in-Council guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect ;

on revocation of exemption certificate. (e.) being an exempted person has had the certificate of exemption granted to him revoked under the provisions of the preceding subsection.

Restoration to Register. (4.) It shall be lawful for the Colonial Secretary to restore to the Dental Register at any time the name of any person by order of the Governor-in-Council.

Unqualified persons prohibited from using incorrect or misleading titles or statements of capacity. 6.—(1.) No person other than a Registered Dental Surgeon or an exempted person shall by any public or private advertisement or in any way whatsoever describe himself or hold himself out as or offer his services as a Dental Surgeon, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Licentiate in Dental Surgery, or Dentist, or under other like title or designation or as in any way licensed or authorized or qualified to perform or as otherwise capable of performing any dental operation.

Dental practitioners prohibited from using any title which has not been properly conferred upon them. (2.) No person who practises dentistry or dental surgery shall by any public or private advertisement or in any way whatsoever describe himself or hold himself out as or offer his services as or in any way use the title or designation of Doctor, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Licentiate in Dental Surgery, or any other like title or designation, unless and until he shall have proved to the satisfaction of the Governor-in-Council with the advice of the Dental Board

that the title or designation which he proposes to use has been duly conferred upon him by some university, corporation, college or other body which in the opinion of the Governor-in-Council with the advice of the Dental Board may properly be recognized as capable of duly conferring such title or designation.

(3.) Any Registered Dental Surgeon or exempted person shall be entitled to perform dental operations and to practise dentistry and dental surgery in the Colony and to demand and recover reasonable charges for any dental operation, attendance, advice, or aid, and the cost of any dental medicines, dental appliances, dental plates or artificial dentures supplied by him. Registered or exempted person may practise and recover charges.

7.—(1.) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of section 6 of this Ordinance shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$500 and to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 6 months. Penalties: for contravention of preceding section;

(2.) Any person who fraudulently procures or attempts to procure himself or any other person to be registered under or exempted from the provisions of this Ordinance by making or producing or causing to be made or produced any false or fraudulent representation or declaration, either oral or in writing, and every person who aids and assists him therein shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and being convicted thereof shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding 2 years. for fraudulent misrepresentation;

(3.) Any person who practises dentistry or dental surgery, under the designation of any company, association, dental institute, dental hospital or dental college or in any other manner than under his own name or under the name of his firm each member of which shall be either a Registered Dental Surgeon or an exempted person shall be liable for each offence to a fine not exceeding \$250 and to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 3 months. for practising under assumed name.

8. It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to make regulations:— Governor-in-Council may make regulations.

- (a.) prescribing the qualifications for registration as a Dental Surgeon;
- (b.) prescribing the conditions under which a certificate of exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance may be applied for;
- (c.) prescribing the fees to be paid on registration as a Dental Surgeon;
- (d.) prescribing the fees to be paid on the grant of a certificate of exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance;
- (e.) generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance.

9. This Ordinance shall come into operation on the day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1914. Date of coming into operation.

SCHEDULE.

DENTAL REGISTER.

Name.	Address.	Qualification and Date.
1. J. Doe.	1330 Vicar Street, Causeway Bay, Kowloon.	License in Dental Surgery, England: Dated 1st December, 1896.
2. R. Roe.	2146 Smith Street, Victoria, Hongkong.	Not qualified for registration but exempted from provisions of Ordinance by certificate dated 1st April, 1914, having practised in the Colony since 7th May, 1891.

*Objects and Reasons.*

The object of this Bill is to endeavour to protect the public in some measure against the practice of dentistry by incompetent and unqualified persons.

The Bill contemplates the establishment of a Register of Dental Surgeons which shall be published annually in the *Gazette* and shall contain the names of all persons properly qualified to perform dental operations. The qualification for enrolment on the Register as a Dental Surgeon will be prescribed by regulation.

In order to protect the rights of any persons who may by long practice have acquired suitable proficiency in the subject without definite academic degree the Bill enables certificates of exemption to be granted to such persons which will enable them to continue to earn their living in the manner in which they have hitherto done.

The main substantive provision of the Bill is that no person other than a Registered Dental Surgeon or an exempted person shall by any public or private advertisement or in any way whatsoever describe himself or hold himself out as or offer his services as a Dental Surgeon, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Licentiate in Dental Surgery, or Dentist, or under other like title or designation, or as in any way licensed or authorised or qualified to perform or as otherwise capable of performing any dental operation.

The Bill also provides that no person who practises dentistry shall use any academic title to which he has no right.

The penalty for contravention of these prohibitions is a heavy fine and the possibility of imprisonment.

The Bill also declares that Registered Dental Surgeons and persons holding exemption certificates shall be entitled to recover reasonable charges for any dental operation, attendance, advice, or aid, and the cost of any dental medicines, dental appliances, or dentures supplied by them. This sub-section is adapted from section 7 of the Medical Registration Ordinance, 1884.

J. H. KEMP,  
*Attorney General.*

**NOTICES.**

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

**No. S. 138.**—Returns of the Average Amount of BANK NOTES in Circulation and of Specie in Reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th April, 1914, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks:—

BANKS.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	SPECIE IN RESERVE.
	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, .....	4,076,007	2,000,000*
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, .....	20,691,083	15,500,000
Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, .....	1,070,840	700,000†
TOTAL,..... \$	25,837,930	18,200,000

\* Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at \$1,798,766.

† Securities with the Crown Agents £68,040.