

*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.