

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

**No. S. 177.**—The following bill, which it is proposed to introduce into the Legislative Council shortly, is published for general information :—

C.S.O. 3041/24.

[No. 10 :—4.7.24.—1.]

A BILL

INTITLED

An Ordinance to amend the Piers Ordinance, 1899.

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 Piers Amendment Ordinance, 1924. Short title.

2. Section 4 of the Piers Ordinance, 1899, is repealed, and the following section is substituted therefor :— Amendment of Ordinance No. 11 of 1899, s. 4.

Duration and revision of scale of rents. 4.—(1) The scale of rents specified in the Schedule shall continue in force until revised as hereinafter provided.

(2) It shall be lawful for the Legislative Council by resolution from time to time to revise the said scale of rents in any way whatsoever, and any such revised scale of rents shall continue in force for such period as may be specified in the said resolution: Provided that no such revised scale of rent shall be made to take effect before the 1st day of January, 1925, and that any such revised scale of rents brought into force after the 31st day of December, 1924, and before the 1st day of January, 1950, shall continue in force until the end of the year 1949.

*Objects and Reasons.*

The Piers Ordinance, 1899, contains in the Schedule a scale of pier rents. Section 4 of the Ordinance provides that the Governor in Council may revise this scale as from and after the 1st January, 1925. The section also provides that such revised scale shall be in force from the 1st January, 1925, to the end of the year 1949, after which date the scale shall be again subject to revision. One effect of this provision is that if the scale of rents is to be revised at all before the year 1950 it must be revised by the end of this year. It is, however, considered unnecessary to revise the scale at present. The object of this bill is to preserve the right to revise the scale and to keep it alive during the whole of the period between the end of this year and the end of the year 1949. In accordance with the policy declared in section 4 of the principal Ordinance, the bill proposes that any revised scale which may be adopted shall remain in force until the end of the year 1949.

J. H. KEMP,  
*Attorney General.*

26th June, 1924.