

Draft Bills.

No. S. 342.—The following bills are published for general information :—

[No. 25 :—1.9.31.—1.]

A BILL

INTITULED

An Ordinance to amend the Money-lenders Ordinance, 1911.

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

Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Money-lenders Amendment Ordinance, 1931.

Amendment of Ordinance No. 16 of 1911, s. 4. 2. Section 4 of the Money-lenders Ordinance, 1911, is amended

- (i) by the deletion of the words “, not exceeding ten dollars for each registration or renewal,” in the sixth and seventh lines of sub-section (1).
- (ii) by the deletion of the words “three years” in the second and fourth lines of sub-section (2) and by the substitution therefor in each case of the words “one year”.

Objects and Reasons.

1. Section 4 of the Money-lenders Ordinance, 1911 following as closely as local circumstances permitted the form of section 3 of the Act of 1900 (63 & 64 Vict. c. 51), limited the registration and renewal fees for money-lenders to \$10 and made registration and renewal effective for periods of three years.

2. Section 3 of the Act of 1900 was repealed by section 19 of the Act of 1927 (17 and 18 Geo. 5, c. 21), under section 1 of which annual money-lenders excise licences have to be taken out, the excise duty being £15.

3. It is intended to provide, in the Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 4 of the principal Ordinance, for an annual registration or renewal fee of \$50.

4. This Ordinance therefore deletes from section 4 (1) the limitation of the fee to \$10 and by amendments to section 4 (2) reduces the effectiveness of registrations and renewals from three years to one year.

C. G. ALABASTER,
Attorney General.

September, 1931.

C.S.O. 26 in 3084/31.

A B I L L.

INTITULED

An Ordinance to amend the Land Registration Ordinance, 1844.

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

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Land Registration Amendment Ordinance, 1931. Short title.

2. Section 26 of the Land Registration Ordinance, 1844, is amended by the repeal of sub-section (2) thereof and by the substitution therefor of the following sub-sections :— Amendment of Ordinance No. 1 of 1844, s. 26.

(2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3), the true consideration shall be stated in all documents registered in the Land Office.

(3) Where the amount or value of the consideration money is not stated in any deed, assignment, mortgage or other instrument tendered for registration in the Land Office, or where no consideration money or merely nominal consideration money passes thereunder, the value of the property, to which such deed, assignment or other instrument relates, shall be determined by the Land Officer and the like fees shall be paid as if the value so determined were the amount or value of the consideration money.

3. The Second Schedule to the Land Registration Ordinance, 1844, is amended— Amendment of Ordinance No. 1 of 1844, Second Schedule.

(i) by the addition of the following proviso at the end of the paragraph 2 :—

“ Provided that where the amount or value of the consideration money exceeds \$20,000 and the deed, assignment, mortgage or other instrument relates to three or more lots, or sections or portions of lots, a further fee of \$3 shall be paid in respect of the third and of each subsequent lot, section or portion.”

(ii) by the addition of the following words after the word “certificate” in the fourth line of paragraph 3 :—

“ for each lot, section or portion of a lot to which such document relates ”.

(iii) by the addition of the following paragraphs at the end thereof :—

15. For legal charges for and incidental to the preparation and issuing of a Crown Lease and counterpart\$ 30

16. For the Survey when a Crown Lease is issued for the whole or any portion of a lot formerly held under demise by Crown Lease.\$ 20

Objects and Reasons.

1. Section 2 of this Ordinance substitutes two subsections for section 26 (2) of the principal Ordinance, the meaning of which was obscure and appeared to limit the Land Officer's valuations to property worth under \$5,000, with no provision for valuations of property worth more than that amount. Thus in the case of a Partition, Exchange, Gift *inter vivos* or Assignment by a Trustee to a *Cestuique trust* (wherein no consideration money is stated) there has been, in most cases, no proper statutory method of determining the appropriate fee.

2. Section 3 of this Ordinance makes certain additions to the fees set out in the Second Schedule to the principal Ordinance.

C. G. ALABASTER,
Attorney General.

September, 1931.

[No. 23 :—14.9.31.—2.]

C.S.O. 3181/14 Part IV.

A BILL

INTITULED

An Ordinance to amend further the Stamp Ordinance, 1921.

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

- Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Stamp Amendment Ordinance, 1931.
- Commencement. 2. This Ordinance shall come into operation on the first day of January, 1932.
- Amendment of Ordinance No. 8 of 1921, s. 21 (1).
Ordinance No. 58 of 1911.
Ordinance No. 26 of 1930.
3. Sub-section (1) of section 21 of the Stamp Ordinance, 1921 is amended
- (i) by the insertion after the word "chemist" in the fourth line of the words " , auditor on the current authorised list published under section 113 (1) of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, as amended by the Companies Amendment Ordinance, 1930."
- (ii) by the insertion at the end of the said sub-section of the following proviso :—
- “ Provided that this sub-section shall not be deemed to require an additional certificate in respect of practice under a firm name where the names of the individual professional partners, assistants and servants of the firm appear on the said current authorised list.”
- Amendment of Ordinance No. 8 of 1921, Schedule Heading No. 13.
4. Heading No. 13 in the Schedule to the Stamp Ordinance, 1921, is amended in the third column by the deletion of the figure "\$25" and by the substitution thereof of the figure "\$50".

Objects and Reasons.

1. The principal Ordinance (No. 8 of 1921, s. 21 and Schedule Heading 13) requires annual certificates in the case of architects, barristers, dentists, medical practitioners, pharmaceutical chemists and solicitors practising in the Colony.

2. The object of this Ordinance is to add auditors authorised to audit companies accounts, who practise in the Colony, and to raise the annual fee from \$25 to \$50.

3. Section 2 defers the commencement of the amendment until the 1st January, 1932, so as to permit current certificates to expire.

4. Sections 3 and 4 effect the amendments contemplated.

5. The proviso added by section 3 (ii) is inserted because by section 113 (10) of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, as amended by section 8 of Ordinance No. 15 of 1925, the word "person" in reference to authorised auditors includes a firm.

C. G. ALABASTER,
Attorney General.

September, 1931.

NOTICES.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

No. S. 343.—Statement of Sanitary Measures adopted against Hong Kong.

Place or Port.	Nature of Measures.	Date.	Reference to Government Notification.
Philippine Ports.	Inspections outside Manila harbour from 20th April. Third class passengers and new crew must comply with the vaccination requirements.	16th April, 1924.	—
All ports in the United States of America, including the Hawaiian Islands.	Inspections outside the ports from 1st April. Steerage passengers must comply with the vaccination requirements. Cabin passengers must produce a vaccination certificate or be vaccinated by ships doctor or quarantine authorities.	30th April, 1926.	—
Bangkok.	Vessels detained at river mouth and passengers and crew vaccinated unless they can produce evidence of successful recent vaccination.	29th October, 1926.	No. S. 301.

W. T. SOUTHORN,
Colonial Secretary.

25th September, 1931.