

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. S. 458.—The following Bill was read a first time at a meeting of the Council held on the 24th November, 1938 :—

[No. 24 :—2.11.38.—1.]

A BILL

INTITULED

An Ordinance to amend the Sedition Ordinance, 1938.

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 Sedition Amendment Ordinance, 1938.

Amendment
of s. 3 (1)
of Ordinance
No. 13 of
1938.

2. Section 3 of the Sedition Ordinance, 1938, is amended—

(a) by the repeal of the words “But it is not a seditious intention —” in the eighteenth line of sub-section (1) thereof, and the substitution of the following words therefor :—

“But an act, speech or publication is not seditious by reason only that it intends —”;

(b) by the repeal of the proviso at the end of sub-section (1) thereof.

Objects and Reasons.

1. Doubts have been expressed as to the effect of the proviso in section 3 (1) of the principal Ordinance, on the ground that it may be understood as nullifying to a large extent the provisions of the second part of the definition “seditious intention” which state what is not a seditious intention.

2. In order to remove these doubts, clause 2 of this Bill repeals the proviso and amends the second part of the definition accordingly.

C. G. ALABASTER,
Attorney General.

November, 1938.