

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 424.

The following Minutes are published for general information..

By Command,

A. LISTER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th October, 1889.

No. 23.

Minutes of the Proceedings of the SANITARY BOARD, at a Meeting held on Wednesday, the 25th day of September, 1889:—

PRESENT :

The Surveyor General, (The Honourable SAMUEL BROWN), President.
The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, (Major-General ALEXANDER HERMAN ADAM GORDON), Vice-President.
The Acting Registrar General, (The Honourable NORMAN GILBERT MITCHELL-INNES).
The Colonial Surgeon, (Dr. PHILIP BERNARD CHENERY AYRES).
The Honourable WONG SHING.
JOHN DAVID HUMPHREYS, Esquire.
NATHANIEL JOSEPH EDE, Esquire.

ABSENT :

JOHN JOSEPH FRANCIS, Esquire, Q.C.
Dr. JAMES CANTLIE.
Dr. HO KAI.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of a meeting held on the 11th September, 1889, were read and confirmed.

Mortality Returns.—The Returns for the weeks ended the 14th and 21st September, 1889, respectively, were laid on the table by the Secretary.

Final disposal of City Refuse.—The papers on this subject were laid on the table and the question discussed.

The following Memorandum by the President was read by the Secretary,—

Reasons against Incinerator or Destructor:—

- 1.—No suitable site on Green Island, nor elsewhere, within reasonable distance. If a site were found on any remote part of the Island of Hongkong the cost of carrying the refuse there would be as great as of depositing it at sea by Hopper Barges.

Reasons against Mongkok scheme:—

- 1.—That unless properly protected from the action of the sea the deposits would be removed by the waves, and strewn on the shores of the Bay. This would have bad results from a sanitary point of view, as there is a considerable population on both sides of the bay, and houses within a short distance of the proposed place of deposit.
- 2.—That to efficiently protect the deposits from the action of the sea would involve an outlay greatly in excess of the estimated cost.
- 3.—The main objection I have, as Surveyor-General, to the scheme is that, having regard to the future extension of Kowloon, it appears to me highly probable that the proposed site of deposit may be reclaimed and become profitable building land. I need hardly say that there are the strongest objections from a sanitary point of view to the erection of dwelling houses over deposits of town rubbish.

The Acting Captain Superintendent of Police moved,—

That the report of the Committee be adopted by the Board and that the Secretary report to the Government accordingly.

The Colonial Surgeon seconded.

The Acting Registrar General moved as an amendment.

That the Mongkok scheme be given a trial either at Mongkok or elsewhere before the proposal of the Committee is adopted.

Amendment not seconded.

The Board divided on the original motion,—

Ayes.

Noes.

Mr. EDE.
Mr. HUMPHREYS.
The Honourable WONG SHING.
THE COLONIAL SURGEON.
THE VICE-PRESIDENT.
THE PRESIDENT.

THE ACTING REGISTRAR GENERAL.

Motion carried.

A letter dated the 31st August, 1889, from a Mr. YAU SUI WAN concerning the disposal of the city refuse was again before the Board.

Mr. EDE moved,—

That the Board is unable to recommend the acceptance of Mr. Yau Sui Wan's proposal as put forth in his letter of the 31st August.

The President seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Bye-Laws.—A report dated the 23rd September, 1889, by the Committee appointed to consider the draft Bye-laws to be made under Sections 13, 14 and 16 of Section 13 of Ordinance 24 of 1887 as well as the Bye-laws referred to in the report were read.

Mr. EDE moved,—

That the Bye-laws as read be passed and transmitted to the Government in the usual manner.

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Pok-fu-lam Water-supply.—Certain papers concerning the pollution of this Water-supply were laid on the table and the minutes thereon read. After some discussion Mr. HUMPHREYS moved,—

That as the rainy season is now over no proceedings be taken by the Board in this matter at present, but that notice be served on all those tipping earth on private land that they are expected to take the steps necessary to prevent any of it going into the reservoir.

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Report.—A report by the Surveyor in reply to Messrs. DANBY & LEIGH's statements concerning his actions was read.

The Acting Registrar General moved,—

That a copy of the Sanitary Surveyor's reply be transmitted to Messrs. Danby & Leigh with a request that they will state whether they desire to make any further statement.

Mr. EDE seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Adjournment.—The Board then adjourned till Wednesday, the 9th October, 1889.

S. BROWN,
President.

Read and confirmed this 9th day of October, 1889.

HUGH MCCALLUM,
Secretary.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 425.

The following Return from the Acting Registrar General is published for general information.

By Command,

A. LISTER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th October, 1889.