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號四第 日八初月正年戌戊 日九十二月正年八十九百八千一 簿四十四第

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 16.

MONDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1897.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

(Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.).

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding (Major-General WILSONE BLACK, C.B.).

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary and Registrar General, (JAMES HALDANE STEWART LOCKHART).

the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).

the Captain Superintendent of Police, (FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.).

the Colonial Treasurer, (THOMAS SERCOMBE SMITH).

the Director of Public Works, (ROBERT DALY ORMSBY).

CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, C.M.G.

HO KAI, M.B., C.M.

THOMAS HENDERSON WHITEHEAD.

EMANUEL RAPHAEL BELILIOS, C.M.G.

WEI YUK.

ABSENT:

The Honourable the Attorney General, (WILLIAM MEIGH GOODMAN).

JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

His Excellency the Governor stated that the Attorney General was unable to be present owing to his detention in the Supreme Court.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 8th December, 1897, were read and confirmed.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee dated the 8th December, 1897, (No. 12), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

RESOLUTION.—The Harbour Master addressed the Council and moved the following resolution:—

Whereas, by sub-section (1) of section 33 of The Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1891, (No. 26 of 1891) it is enacted as follows:—

“The owner or master of every ship which enters the waters of the Colony, shall pay such dues in respect of the said lighthouses, buoys, beacons, cables, wires and other apparatus, as may, from time to time, be fixed by Order of the Governor, pursuant to resolution of the Legislative Council to such officers, as the Governor shall, from time to time, appoint to collect the same, and the same shall be paid by such officers into the Colonial Treasury.

Provided that unless and until such Order is made, the dues in Table P to this Ordinance shall be payable.”

And whereas, it is desirable that the dues mentioned in the said Table P should be altered, and other dues be fixed by Order of the Governor, pursuant to Resolution of the Legislative Council, and made payable on and after the 1st day of January, 1898.

This Council hereby resolves as follows :—

In lieu of the dues mentioned in Table P in the Schedule to Ordinance No 26 of 1891, it is desirable that the following Dues should be fixed and made payable by Order of the Governor, on and after the 1st day of January, 1898, namely :—

Light and other Dues payable under section 33 of The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1891, from and after the 1st day of January, 1898.

1. All ships which enter the waters of the Colony, except British and Foreign Ships of War, and except such other ships as are, hereby, exempted, in whole or in part, shall pay the following Dues, viz. :—

One cent per ton.

2. Such dues shall be paid either at the time of "entry" or at the time of "clearance."

3. All steamers plying only between Hongkong and Canton, or Macao, or the West River, which enter the waters of the Colony by day, and all Chinese Junks, are, hereby, exempted from the payment of such Dues.

4. All steamers plying only between Hongkong and Canton, or Macao, or the West River, which enter the waters of the Colony by night, shall pay, as Dues, one-third of a cent per ton.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

QUESTION.—Mr. WHITEHEAD, pursuant to notice, asked the following question :—

Will the Government lay upon the table a copy of the correspondence which has passed between the home authorities and the Colonial Government in connection with the proposed new Public Offices subsequent to that already published?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FOR THE NATURALIZATION OF WONG CHUK-YAU, alias WONG MAU, alias WONG SUN-IN.—The Colonial Secretary moved the first reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE FOR THE MORE EFFECTUAL PUNISHMENT OF BRIBERY AND CERTAIN OTHER MISDEMEANORS.—The Colonial Secretary moved the first reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

Read and confirmed this 25th day of January, 1898.

J. G. T. BUCKLE,
Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.--No. 30.

It is hereby notified that Her Majesty has not been advised to exercise her power of disallowance with respect to the following Ordinance :—

No. 20 of 1897, entitled—An Ordinance for the Naturalization of U HOI CHAU alias U CHIU TSUN.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th January, 1898.