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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 374.

With reference to Government Notification No. 294 of the 28th June last, the following Circular Despatch with its enclosures is published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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

CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,
5th July, 1898.

SIR,—With reference to my Circular despatch of the 5th May last forwarding papers relative to the treatment to be accorded by Germany to the subjects and products of Great Britain and her Colonies after the expiration, on the 30th July, 1898, of the Treaty of 1865, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Government, translations of the text of the law signed by the Emperor on the 11th May last, and of a Notice published thereunder in the "Reichsanzeiger" relative to the commercial relations between Germany and the British Empire after that date.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

The Officer Administering the Government of

HONGKONG.

Law regarding Commercial Relations with British Empire of May 11, 1898.

(Translation.)

WE, William, &c., decree in the name of the German Empire, after due approval by the Bundesrath and Reichstag, as follows:—

The Bundesrath is empowered to grant to the subjects and products of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as also to the subjects and products of British Colonies and British foreign possessions, for the period up to the 30th July, 1899, those privileges which are granted by the German Empire to the subjects and products of the most favoured nation.

Granted under our hand and seal at Urville, the 11th May, 1898.

(Signed) WILHELM.

(Signed) GRAF VON POSADOWSKY.

Extract from the "Reichsanzeiger" of June 14, 1898.

Notice respecting the Commercial Relations with the British Empire (June 11th, 1898).
(Translation.)

THE Bundesrath has decided that, by virtue of the Law of 11th May, 1898, concerning the commercial relations with the British Empire, there will be granted to the subjects and products of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as also to those of the British Colonies and foreign possessions, with the exception of Canada, all those advantages which are granted by the German Empire to the subjects and products of the most favoured nation. This treatment is to take effect from the 31st July of this year, and until further notice.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 375.

The following Minutes are published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th August, 1898.

No. 16.

Minutes of the proceedings of the SANITARY BOARD, at a meeting held on Thursday, the 11th day of August, 1898.

PRESENT :

The Captain Superintendent of Police, (The Honourable FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.), Vice-President.
The Acting Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM, Esquire).
The Acting Registrar General, (ARTHUR WIMBOLT BREWIN, Esquire).
The Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK).

Minutes.—The minutes of meetings held on the 28th of July, 1898, and of a confidential meeting held on the 14th July 1898, having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed.

Amendment of Bye-laws.—A draft bye-law for the regulation of Public Laundries was read and considered.

The Vice-President moved—

That the bye-law be made and transmitted to the Colonial Secretary for the approval of the Legislative Council.

The Acting Registrar General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Resignation of Mr. N. J. Ede.—A letter from the Secretary of State for the Colonies concerning the resignation of Mr. N. J. EDE was read and laid on the table.

Common Lodging Houses.—Some correspondence having reference to the alleged use of certain premises as common lodging houses was laid on the table.

The Vice-President moved—

That no further action be taken in this matter for the present.

The Acting Registrar General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Letter from the Commissioner of Imperial Maritime Customs.—A letter from Mr. H. M. HILLIER acknowledging the letter of thanks addressed to him by the Board, in reference to the assistance rendered by him during the recent outbreak of Bubonic Plague, was read.

The Vice-President moved—

That a copy of Mr. Hillier's letter be forwarded to the Government, with a recommendation that the Government should request H. B. Majesty's Consul in Canton to bring to the notice of the Chinese authorities the valuable assistance rendered by the officials named in Mr. Hillier's letter, to this Board, during the recent epidemic of Bubonic Plague.

The Acting Registrar General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Vaccine Institute.—Certain correspondence relating to the Vaccine Institute and the manufacture of vaccine lymph in this Colony was considered.

The Vice-President addressed the Board and moved—

(a) *That a letter be addressed to the Colonial Secretary setting out the necessity of obtaining a continuous supply of lymph for use in the Colony and the possibility of its being manufactured at the Vaccine Institute by the additions to the staff suggested by the Superintendent (Mr. C. V. Ladds), and by the Superintendent devoting more time to these duties in future, and recommending that the Superintendent should receive some extra remuneration for the duties.*

(b) *That the proposal of the Medical Officer of Health to grant to the House Surgeons of the native Hospitals some small remuneration for successful vaccinations be forwarded to the Government, with a recommendation from the Board that the proposal be adopted.*

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.