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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 5.

MONDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 1899.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

(Sir Henry Arthur Blake, G.C.M.G.).

His Excellency Major-General William Julius Gascoigne, C.M.G., General Officer Commanding. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (James Haldane Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.).

- ,, the Acting Attorney General, (HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK).
- ,, the Harbour Muster, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).
- the Captain Superintendent of Police, (Francis Henry May, C.M.G.).
- the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).
- ,, 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.
- JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING.
- , WEI YUK.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 13th February, 1899, were read and confirmed.

PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following papers:—

- 1. Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for the Year 1898.
- 2. Report on the proposed erection of a Refuse Destructor for the City of Victoria, Hongkong.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minute, (No. 5), and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee:—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three thousand and Five hundred Dollars (\$3,500) for the erection of a temporary Bungalow at "The Cliffs."

Government House, Hongkong, 14th February, 1899.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question-put and agreed to.

Sanitary Byr-Laws.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the Bye-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 13, sub-section 14, of "The Public Health Ordinance, 1887," and moved that they be approved.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Notice of Questions.—Mr. Belilios gave notice that at the next meeting he would ask the following questions:—

- (1.) There being an understanding between the subscribers to the Fund for the commemoration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee that the Jubilee Road shall be constructed, the funds for which are now lying in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank untouched though nearly two years have elapsed since their subscription, will the Government be good enough to state whether the survey and planning of the Road have been completed?
- (2.) Will the Government be good enough to state when it is proposed to commence work on the first section of the Jubilee Road?
- (3.) Will the first section be made round Mount Davis?
- (4.) Can the Government give the approximate date of the completion of the section to its juncture with the Aberdeen Road?

QUESTIONS.—Mr. WHITEHEAD, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions:—

- (1.) Are the Government taking steps to provide for the flushing of the drains and sewers and the watering of the roads throughout the city by the construction of tanks along the upper levels either for fresh or salt water, and if the latter for the construction of the necessary pumping stations?
- (2.) Are the Government taking any steps to introduce destructors for the disposal of the city refuse?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

- Mr. Belilios, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions:-
 - (1.) The Special Commissioner appointed to report on the newly-leased territory at the back of Kowloon having duly made such report to the Colonial Office, returned to Hongkong, and resumed his duties as Colonial Secretary, will the Government lay on the table copy of his report and of all correspondence in connection with the extension of the Colony?
 - (2.) Will the Government be good enough to state when and how the new territory will be taken possession of?
 - (3.) Has any hitch occurred in the negotiations to cause the delay which has taken place?
 - (4.) Will the leased area become part and parcel of the Colony of Hongkong administered by the existing officials or is it designed to appoint a separate staff of officials to govern the new territory?
 - (5.) If it has been decided to make it a separate administration, will the Government say whether any estimate has been given of the cost of such undertaking?
 - (6.) Has the question of Chinese jurisdiction or otherwise in the City of Kowloon been settled?
 - (7.) If Kowloon City is not included in the concession, will the Government state what steps have been taken to relieve the harbour of Hongkong of the supervision of the Chinese Customs Cruisers?
 - (8.) Are the existing Customs stations on the borders of the Harbour to be set back to the outer edge of the new frontier?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF DIVINE WORSHIP AND OTHER SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RITES AND CEREMONIES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AT SAINT JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CHURCH AT VICTORIA AND ELSEWHERE IN THIS COLONY; FOR THE INCORPORATION OF A CHURCH BODY IN WHICH THE SAID CATHEDRAL CHURCH SHALL BE VESTED AND BY WHICH IT SHALL BE ADMINISTERED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES CONNECTED WITH THE SAID CATHEDRAL CHURCH.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND CONSOLIDATE THE LAW RELATING TO PRISONS.—The Acting Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to. Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

The Council then proceeded to consider the Jury List for 1899 in private.

Adjournment.—The Council then adjourned till Monday, the 13th March, 1899, at 3 p.m.

HENRY A. BLAKE, Governor.

Read and confirmed this 13th day of March, 1899.

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

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION. -No. 156.

It is hereby notified that at a Meeting of St. John's Cathedral Seatholders, held on the 30th January, 1899, the following gentlemen were elected Lay Members of the Church Body for 1899:—*

Sir John Carrington, C.M.G.

Hon. ROBERT DALY ORMSBY.

Hon. ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY.

THOMAS JACKSON, Hon. Treasurer.

ALEXANDER PALMER MACEWEN.

HENRY ROBERT HARDCASTLE, Hon. Secretary.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 16th March, 1899.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 157.

Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., Honorary Colonel of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, having left the Colony, has resigned the appointment of Honorary Colonel of the Corps, as from the 31st January, 1899.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 16th March, 1899.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 158.

With reference to Government Notification No. 374 of the 9th September, 1897, His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint John William Jones to be Acting Appraiser in the Supreme Court with effect from the 9th September, 1897, and during the absence from the Colony of Francis Arthur Hazeland, or until further notice.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 18th March, 1899.