

Clause 6 gives to the Police and to the Registrar General's officers extended powers of visitation and search and interrogation for the purposes of this Ordinance.

Clause 7 reproduces the provisions of "The English Vagrant Act, 1898," with an added power of banishment. The class of persons to be dealt with under this clause is said to be on the increase in this Colony.

Clause 8 is passed under instructions from the Secretary of State for the amendment of section 30 of Ordinance 9 of 1897.

HENRY A. POLLOCK,  
*Acting Attorney General.*

## A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance for the prevention of the concealment of Opium on board steamships.

Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Concealment of Opium Ordinance, 1899. Short title.

2. The expression "steamship" as used in this Ordinance shall mean any vessel propelled by steam. Interpretation.

3. Any person who shall conceal or secretly place any raw or prepared opium in any part of any steamship shall be liable upon summary conviction before a Magistrate to the payment of a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and in default of payment of such fine to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months with or without hard labour, and any opium concealed or secretly placed as aforesaid shall be seized and the Magistrate may, whether any person is charged with or convicted of any offence under this Ordinance or not, order such opium to be forfeited. Penalty for concealing opium on steamship.

### *Objects and Reasons.*

The object of this Ordinance is to impose a penalty upon any person found concealing opium on board of any ship.

This Ordinance has been brought forward in consequence of representations made by the Chamber of Commerce to the effect that persons have sometimes concealed opium on board of ships bound for Saigon, and that such concealment has led to very heavy fines being inflicted upon the ship on her arrival in Saigon, upon such opium being pointed out by informers there who most probably have been in communication with the actual concealers of the opium.

HENRY E. POLLOCK,  
*Acting Attorney General.*

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 441.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Dr. JAMES ALFRED LOWSON to be Acting Medical Officer of Health and Acting Sanitary Superintendent with effect from the 31st July, 1899, during the absence from the Colony of Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK, or until further notice.

His Excellency has further been pleased to appoint Dr. LOWSON to be a member of the Sanitary Board for the above period.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 1st August, 1899.