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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 15.

THURSDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 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 Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).

„ the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).

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

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

„ Ho KAI, M.B., C.M.

„ THOMAS HENDERSON WHITEHEAD.

„ EMANUEL RAPHAEL BELLIOS, C.M.G.

„ JAMES JOHNSTONE KESWICK.

„ WEI YUK.

ABSENT:

The Honourable CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, C.M.G.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 11th October, 1899, were read, amended and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minute, (No. 19), and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee:—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.  
2575 of 1899. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Two thousand Dollars (\$2,000) in aid of the vote "Water Account" (Meters, &c.).

Government House, Hongkong, 19th October, 1899.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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 11th October, 1899, (No. 6), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.—The Director of Public Works laid on the table the Report of the Public Works Committee dated the 19th October, 1899, (No. 3).

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

- (1.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay on the table a statement of the revised Estimate of Revenue to be received from the New Territory for the year 1899, if any, and 1900 separately, and give the principal sources from which same is to be derived and how collected?
- (2.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer lay upon the table a statement shewing the total cost of personal emoluments, pensions, and exchange compensation for the years 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898 separately, similar to that laid before the Council dated 3rd December, 1895?
- (3.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer lay upon the table a statement shewing the total Military Expenditure and contribution for Barrack Services and Defence Works separately for the last ten years, ending 31st December, 1898?
- (4.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer lay upon the table a statement shewing the total revenue and expenditure of the Post Office Department separately for the last ten years, ending 31st December, 1898?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY.—In reply to the first question of the Honourable Member I beg to answer as follows :—It is not possible to give accurate figures at present regarding the revenue which will be collected this year from the New Territory. As soon as the Government is in possession of the actual figures they will be published. As to the year 1900, the amount of revenue which it is estimated will be derived from the New Territory is given in the Estimates as \$100,000. The revenue of the New Territory will be collected at one or two centres by the staff of the Colonial Treasurer.

The COLONIAL TREASURER.—In reply to the second, third, and fourth questions, I have, by your Excellency's direction, to lay the statements asked for on the table, but I may say that there has been a mistake in the statement of the expenditure of the Post Office for the years 1899-90 which will be corrected.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO SOLICITORS.—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 APPLY A SUM NOT EXCEEDING TWO MILLION SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY-ONE DOLLARS TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE YEAR 1900.—The Colonial Secretary moved the second reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time

The Colonial Secretary moved that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE FURTHER PROVISION FOR THE SANITATION OF THE COLONY AND TO REPEAL CERTAIN ENACTMENTS OF THE CLOSED HOUSES AND INSANITARY DWELLINGS ORDINANCE, 1894.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill and addressed the Council.

The Director of Public Works seconded and addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

Council divided upon the question of the Honourable Acting Attorney General's proposed amendment, seconded by the Honourable T. H. WHITEHEAD, that the Hill District be not exempted from the operation of the Ordinance.

*For the Amendment.*

General Officer Commanding.  
Acting Attorney General.  
Captain Superintendent of Police.  
Dr. HO KAI.  
Mr. WHITEHEAD.  
Mr. WEI YUK.

*Against the Amendment.*

His Excellency the Governor.  
Colonial Secretary.  
Harbour Master.  
Colonial Treasurer.  
Director of Public Works.  
Mr. BELLIOS.  
Mr. KESWICK.

The amendment was lost by a majority of one.

The Acting Attorney General's further proposed amendments of clauses 1 and 2 were adopted. Further discussion on the fourth and following clauses was adjourned.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE RATING ORDINANCE, 1888.—Council in Committee on the Bill.

Council resumed and Bill reported with amendment.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until Tuesday, the 31st October, 1899, at 3 p.m.

HENRY A. BLAKE,  
*Governor.*

Read, amended and confirmed this 31st day of October, 1899.

R. F. JOHNSTON,  
*Acting Clerk of Councils.*

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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 599.

It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint CHARLES WALTER THORNTON BRETT to be an Inspector of Nuisances under section 9 of the Public Health Ordinance, No. 24 of 1887.

By Command,

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

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 27th October, 1899.

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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 600.

It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint JOHN JAMES McMICHAEL to be an Inspector of Nuisances under section 9 of the Public Health Ordinance, No. 24 of 1887.

By Command,

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

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 30th October, 1899.

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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 601.

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

Ordinance No. 17 of 1899, entitled—An Ordinance to continue the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance, 1899.

Ordinance No. 18 of 1899, entitled—An Ordinance for the Naturalization of WONG PING LAM, alias WONG Ū K'AI.

Ordinance No. 19 of 1899, entitled—An Ordinance for the Naturalization of YEUNG CHEUK HIN alias YEUNG SHUN KONG.

By Command,

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

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 31st October, 1899.

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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 602.

The following Telegram is published.

By Command,

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

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 2nd November, 1899.

“ SAIGON, 2nd November, 1899.

COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
“ HONGKONG.

“ Free pratique granted to arrivals.

“ CONSUL.”