

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 655.

The following Minutes are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th November, 1899.

**No. 37.**

Minutes of the proceedings of the SANITARY BOARD, at a meeting held on Thursday, the 9th day of November, 1899.

PRESENT :

The Principal Civil Medical Officer, (Dr. JOHN MITTFORD ATKINSON), President.  
The Captain Superintendent of Police, (The Honourable FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.), Vice-President.  
The Director of Public Works, (The Honourable ROBERT DALY ORMSBY).  
The Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK).  
EDWARD OSBORNE, Esquire.

**Minutes.**—The minutes of regular meeting No. 35 of the 26th October, and of a confidential meeting held on the same date as well as those of special meeting No. 36 of the 30th October, were confirmed.

**Latrine and Urinal Accommodation.**—A report, drawn up by the Sanitary Surveyor, on the Latrine and Urinal Accommodation of the City of Victoria, and its connection with the fouling of Storm Water Drains was considered.

The Director of Public Works addressed the Board and moved—

*That copies of the report be forwarded to the Government for favourable consideration, and that the Government be asked to call upon the Public Works Department for a design and estimate for an underground latrine in a suitable locality, and also to provide the necessary funds for the construction of the same next year.*

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board and moved—

*That the thanks of the Board be accorded to Mr. Drury for the very able manner in which he had drawn up the report.*

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board and moved—

*That a Select Committee consisting of the Director of Public Works, the Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. Edward Osborne, be appointed to consider what recommendations in the report could be adopted at present, and what recommendations must await the new Conservancy Contract.*

The Vice-President addressed the Board and seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Quarterly Inspection of Health Districts.**—A report by the Visiting Sub-Committee, of an inspection for the fourth quarter of 1899 of District No. 9 was laid on the table.

**Site for a Public Latrine.**—The Honourable Director of Public Works addressed the Board and moved—

*That the Board recommend the erection of a public latrine with 40 seats on a corner lot of Crown Land in Taipingshan, bounded on the West by Tank Lane, and on the South by Bridges Street.*

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Cremations at Happy Valley.**—A report of a nuisance being caused by the mode of conducting on the cremation of bodies on the present site was considered.

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board and moved—

*That the Government be asked to refer this matter to the Director of Public Works to select some more suitable site, and that regulations be framed for the control of these cremations.*

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Assistant Medical Officer of Health.**—A letter from the Colonial Secretary asking why the Board considers an Assistant Medical Officer of Health necessary, and calling for a statement showing what duties that Officer will have to discharge which cannot be undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health, was considered.

It was agreed to forward a list of the duties pertaining to the proposed office of Assistant Medical Officer of Health which has been drawn up by the Medical Officer of Health, and to state that the growth of the Colony, the constant recurrence of epidemic disease, and the important legislation that is constantly taking place in sanitary matters have so much increased the work of the Medical Officer of Health that one man cannot now efficiently perform the whole of those duties.

**Exemption from Lime-washing and Cleansing.**—An application from the Secretary of the Hongkong Land Investment Company for exemption of Houses Nos. 26 to 36, Staunton Street; 16 to 26, Elgin Street; and 50 and 52, Peel Street, from lime-washing and cleansing—and also an application from the tenant of 36, Elgin Street, for a similar exemption, were considered.

The Director of Public Works moved—

*That the applications be not granted.*

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Licences to keep Swine.**—Ten applications were considered.

The President moved—

*That these licences be granted.*

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Bubonic Plague.**—A further report of the progress of Bubonic Plague at Bombay City for the period 26th September to 9th October, 1899, was laid on the table.

**Mortality Returns** from Macao for the week ended 15th October, 1899, were laid on the table.

**Mortality Statistics** for this Colony for the weeks ended 21st and 28th October, and 4th November, 1899, were laid on the table.

The President addressed the Board and moved—

*That the Medical Officer of Health should be asked to report on the increase in the number of deaths from Beri-Beri shown in these returns.*

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Rinderpest at Pokfolum.**—A report from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon showing the progress of the outbreak of rinderpest at the Dairy Farm was read.

The Vice-President addressed the Board and moved—

*That the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon be asked to report as to whether he can collect serum for the purpose of curing Rinderpest, and if he can, whether he can keep it in readiness for an outbreak.*

The President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

**Adjournment.**—The Board then adjourned till Thursday, the 23rd day of November, 1899.

J. M. ATKINSON,  
*President.*

Confirmed at a regular meeting held this 24th day of November, 1899.

C. W. DUGGAN,  
*Secretary.*

### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 656.

The following Notice is published.

By Command,

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

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 22nd November, 1899.

### NOTICE.

In accordance with directions from the General Post Office, London, it is hereby notified that that Office can, at present, only secure as far as Cape Town the transmission of parcels addressed to persons in the South African Republic (Transvaal) and the Orange Free State, and other disturbed parts of South Africa.

The Postal Authorities of the Cape Colony may or may not be in a position to effect delivery to the addressees of such parcels, many of whom are no doubt now at Cape Town or in other places in communication with Cape Town.

There is no objection to forward parcels so addressed at the risk of the senders; and in the case of any such parcels arriving from places abroad, it will be assumed by the London Office that the senders wish them to be sent on at their own risk.

The issue of Money Orders on the above countries has been temporarily suspended.

WM. C. H. HASTINGS,  
*Postmaster General.*

General Post Office, Hongkong, 22nd November, 1899.