

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.— No. 722.

The following Minutes are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

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

No. 39.

Minutes of the proceedings of the SANITARY BOARD, at a regular meeting held on Thursday, the 7th day of December, 1899.

PRESENT :

The Principal Civil Medical Officer, (Dr. JOHN MITFORD 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. 38 of the 24th November, and of a confidential meeting held on the same date, were confirmed.

Sanitary Improvements in the City of Victoria.—The Vice-President addressed the Board and moved—

That a Sub-Committee of the Board be appointed consisting of the Medical Officer of Health, Mr. Edward Osborne and one other member to be nominated by the President, to consider and submit recommendations for the formation by Government of a Trust to be endowed with a percentage of the assessed Taxes, and of the premia on Land sales, and with suitable waste lands, or otherwise, and to be charged with the duty, and invested with the power, of carrying out sanitary improvements in the City of Victoria, especially in the matter of the abolition of insanitary areas and of overcrowding.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board and seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

The President nominated the Vice-President as the other member of the Sub-Committee.

Proposed destruction of Rats.—Correspondence, commencing with a minute by the President, proposing to destroy the rats in the city as being disseminators of plague, was considered.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board and moved—

That Government be asked to authorise the Sanitary Board to purchase and distribute rat traps free of charge to all applicants, and to offer a reward of 2 cents (with an increase if found necessary) for every rat, dead or alive, delivered at the Sanitary Board, or at the nearest Police Station.

The Vice-President seconded.

The President addressed the Board.

The Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board.

Question—put and agreed to.

Cremation of the bodies of Hindus.—A suggestion by the Honourable Director of Public Works that these cremations in future be carried out at the Hindu Cemetery, instead of on the vacant piece of ground to the N.W. of the Mahomedan Cemetery as is at present done, was considered.

There being objections to the proposed site, it was decided to refer the matter to the Honourable Director of Public Works to select another site.

Licences to keep Swine and Goats.—Five applications for licences to keep Swine, and one application for a licence to keep Goats were considered.

The President moved—

That these licences be granted.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Exemptions from Lime-washing and Cleansing.—An application from the owner of No. 25, Gage Street, was considered.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE moved—

That the application be refused.

The Vice-President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

An application from the owner of No. 46, Peel Street, was considered.

The President moved—

That the application be granted.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

An application from the owner of No. 32, Bonham Strand, was laid on the table, the case having been dealt with by the Magistrate, and a fine of ten dollars imposed.

Rinderpest.—A report by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon that the Dairy Farm Company's premises at Pokfulum, which were declared infected on the 27th September, were now free from the disease was considered, and the premises were released.

A further report from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon that another outbreak of this disease has occurred in No. 6 Shed, at Sassoon's Bungalow, the property of the Dairy Farm, Pokfulum, was considered.

The Vice-President moved—

That under Bye-law 12, Schedule A, made under Sub-section 5 of Section 2 of Ordinance No. 17 of 1887 as amended by Section 1 of Ordinance 10 of 1898, this Board declares the premises known as No. 6 Shed at the Dairy Farm's premises, Sassoon's Bungalow, Pokfulum, to be infected with Rinderpest.

The President seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Six cattle that were brought into the Colony for food supply, having been found at the Hung Hom Depôt suffering from Rinderpest, were slaughtered by the order of the President on the 29th November last.

The Vice-President moved—

That the Board endorses the action of the President.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Alteration of certain Stalls at the Central Market.—A proposal by the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon for the alteration of certain pork into vegetable stalls, was considered.

The matter was agreed to by the Board, and the papers were referred to the Honourable Registrar General.

Quarantine Station for Dogs.—Correspondence on this subject was considered.

The Vice-President moved—

That Government be asked to have a suitable quarantine station for dogs built at the Hung Hom Cattle Depôt, to accommodate not less than twelve dogs, and capable of considerable extension.

Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Mortality Returns from Macao for the week ended 12th November, 1899, were laid on the table.

Mortality Statistics for this Colony for the week ended 25th November, 1899, were laid on the table.

Lime-washing and Cleansing.—Mr. EDWARD OSBORNE addressed the Board and moved—

That advertisements be inserted in the English and Chinese newspapers warning owners of houses situated in the Western Division of the City that their premises have to be lime-washed before the end of December.

The Medical Officer of Health seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Deaths from Beri-Beri.—A report by the Medical Officer of Health on the deaths from Beri-Beri during the current year was laid on the table.

The President moved—

That strangers be requested to withdraw.

The Vice-President seconded.

A confidential meeting was then held.

Adjournment.—The Board then adjourned till Thursday, the 21st day of December, 1899.

J. M. ATKINSON,
President.

Confirmed at a regular meeting held this 21st day of December, 1899.

C. W. DUGGAN,
Secretary.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 723.

The following Notice is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

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

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HONGKONG HARBOUR.

From the 24th instant until about the 28th January, 1900, sunken obstructions will be laid to the north of Stonecutters' Island.

The obstructed area will be bounded on the west by a line drawn from the most northern point of the Island to the Watering Pier at Lycheekok, and on the east by a line drawn from the Government Pier, on the North Shore near the Magazines, in a N.N.E. direction to the Mainland.

Vessels and junks are prohibited from anchoring in the obstructed area.

For purposes of navigation the sunken obstructions may be considered as reducing the depths of water shown on the chart by eleven feet.

A fairway, about 250 yards wide, will be buoyed through the middle of the obstructed area, being marked on the north by 3 buoys carrying red flags, and on the south by 3 buoys carrying white flags. No obstructions will be laid within this fairway, but vessels and junks are prohibited from anchoring therein.

During the same period *floating* obstructions will be laid south of Stonecutters.

The southern limit of this obstructed area will be marked by buoys carrying red flags.

The easternmost buoy will be approximately 700 yards due south of the southeastern point of Stonecutters' Island, the westernmost buoy about 700 yards due west of the first mentioned buoy. Lines due north from these two buoys will give the eastern and western limits of the obstructed area.

Vessels and junks are prohibited from anchoring in or passing through the obstructed area.

R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Retd. Comdr., R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.

Harbour Department, Hongkong, 21st December, 1899.