



# THE HONGKONG Government Gazette.

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Published by Authority.

No. 16.

VICTORIA, SATURDAY, 2ND MARCH, 1901.

VOL. XLVII.

號六十第

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 4.

THURSDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 1901.

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 Attorney General, (WILLIAM MEIGH GOODMAN, K.C.).

the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).

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

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

BASIL TAYLOR, (Acting Harbour Master).

CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, C.M.G.

HO KAI, M.B., C.M.

JAMES JOHNSTONE KESWICK.

WEI YUK.

JOHN THURBURN.

RODERICK MACKENZIE GRAY.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 7th February, 1901, were read and confirmed.

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

1. Report on the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, for the year 1900.
2. Report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, for the year 1900.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minute, (No. 8), and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee:—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to cover the cost of the construction of a water-boiler for the use of the New Territory Police Stations.

Government House, Hongkong, 8th February, 1901.

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 7th February, 1901, (No. 2), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

C.S.O.  
24 of 1901.  
(Extension.)

**TRUSTEE BILL.**—The Attorney General laid on the table the report of the Standing Law Committee as to the Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Trustees, and gave notice that, at the next meeting of the Council, he would move that the Bill be read a third time.

**SALARIES OF SUBORDINATE OFFICERS.**—Mr. GRAY, pursuant to notice, asked the following question:—

*I should like to know what, if any, reply has been received from the Secretary of State with regard to the recommendations of the Committee appointed to enquire into and report on the salaries of subordinate officers in the Civil Service of the Colony?*

The Colonial Secretary in reply, laid on the table the reply of the Secretary of State, and informed the Council that the instructions contained therein were being carried out.

**NATURALIZED PERSONS BILL.**—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to repeal all Ordinances for the Naturalization of Persons as British Subjects within this Colony and to make provision for the Preservation of the Rights of such Persons.

The Colonial Secretary addressed the Council, and seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

**LAW OF LIBEL AMENDMENT BILL.**—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Law of Libel and Slander.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

**LAW AMENDMENT BILL.**—The Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend and declare in certain respects the Law to be administered in the Supreme Court. He added that he had submitted to the Clerk of Councils the Report of the Standing Law Committee on the Bill, who had made no alterations in it.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

**CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE BILL.**—The Attorney General informed the Council that the Standing Law Committee have been through the Bill entitled An Ordinance to establish a Code of Procedure for the Regulation of the Process, Practice, and Mode of Pleading in the Civil Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the Colony, and moved its third reading.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

**CIVIL PROCEDURE (STATUTES REPEAL) BILL.**—The Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to repeal various Statutes relating to Civil Procedure or Matters connected therewith.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

**ADJOURNMENT.**—The Council then adjourned till Monday, the 25th February, 1901, at 3 p.m.

HENRY A. BLAKE,  
Governor.

Read and confirmed, this 25th day of February, 1901.

R. F. JOHNSTON,  
Acting Clerk of Councils.