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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 10.

MONDAY, 29TH JULY, 1901.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

(Sir HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).

The Honourable the Officer Commanding the Troops, (Colonel LOUIS FAULKNER BROWN, R.E.).
 „ the Colonial Secretary, (JAMES HALDANE STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.).
 „ the Acting Attorney General, (HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.).
 „ the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).
 „ the Acting Colonial Treasurer, (CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER).
 „ the Acting Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM).
 „ the Captain Superintendent of Police, (FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.).
 „ CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, C.M.G.
 „ THOMAS HENDERSON WHITEHEAD.
 „ HO KAI, M.B., C.M.
 „ WEI YUK.
 „ JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING.
 „ JOHN THURBURN.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 15th July, 1901, were read and confirmed.

MEMBER SWORN IN.—Colonel LOUIS FAULKNER BROWN, R.E., having been appointed an Official Member of Council, during the absence of Major-General W. J. GASCOIGNE, C.M.G., took the Oath and his seat.

THE LAW COMMITTEE.—On the proposal of His Excellency the Governor, the Honourable J. J. BELL-IRVING and the Honourable T. H. WHITEHEAD were elected Members of the Law Committee, *vice* the Honourable J. J. KESWICK and the Honourable R. M. GRAY, resigned.

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

1. A Clinical Report on Malaria by Dr. J. BELL, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer, and Mr. G. STEWART (Lieut., I.M.S.), Acting Assistant Superintendent.
2. A Blue-book containing Correspondence regarding the Sanitary Condition of Hongkong, including the Public Petition dated 25th June, 1901, and a Memorandum thereon.

The Colonial Secretary said, with regard to the Blue-book, that there were three diagrams which had not yet been completed, and which would be circulated to Members with fresh copies of the Blue-book in the course of a few days.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minutes, (Nos. 44 to 47), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
1867 of 1900. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four thousand and one hundred Dollars (\$4,100) to meet the cost of railing in the openings round the Cattle Depôts at Kennedy Town.

Government House, Hongkong, 18th July, 1901.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
40 of 1901. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Ten thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to meet the estimated cost of two self-inking embossing presses and dies, &c., for a new series of Stamps, &c., for the use of the Stamp and Post Offices.

Government House, Hongkong, 19th July, 1901.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
1919 of 1901. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Five thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to meet the cost to be incurred on account of the erection of a Market at Kowloon Point during the current year.

Government House, Hongkong, 19th July, 1901.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
2750 of 1900. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of One thousand seven hundred and twenty Dollars (\$1,720) in aid of the vote "Watering Streets" to cover the cost of four water carts and pumps for the use of the Sanitary Department.

Government House, Hongkong, 20th July, 1901.

The Acting 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 15th July, 1901, (No. 7), and moved its adoption.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.—The Acting Director of Public Works, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the Report of Proceedings of the Public Works Committee at a meeting held on the 15th July, 1901, (No. 3), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

NOTICE OF QUESTIONS.—Mr. WHITEHEAD gave notice that, at the next meeting of Council, he would ask the following Questions:—

LAND REGISTRATION IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

- (1.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay upon the Council table a return showing (1) the number of claims to land in the New Territory sent in up to 30th June, 1901, and (2) the number of claims which had been finally disposed of by the Land Court up to that date? Also will the Honourable member inform the Council what progress has been made with the survey of the New Territory?

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE IN THE COLONY'S NEW TERRITORY.

- (2.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Treasurer lay upon the Council table a statement showing the total expenditure incurred in connection with the New Territory from the date of the lease thereof, viz., 9th June, 1898, to 30th June, 1901, and the total revenue collected from the said New Territory during the same period, the principal items under both heads to be shown separately?

DISCONTENT AMONG THE EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE

AND THE GAOL STAFF.

- (3.) Has the attention of the Honourable the Captain Superintendent of Police been directed to paragraphs and leaderettes which appeared in the "China Mail" of 23rd, 25th and 26th instant, in the "Telegraph" of 27th, and in the "Daily Press" of 24th and 27th idem in respect of discontent among the European members of the police force and the gaol staff, and will the Honourable member inform the Council as to the correctness or otherwise of the allegations and statements therein made?

JERRY-BUILDINGS.

- (4.) Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works lay upon the Council table a statement showing the number of buildings in the Colony which have fallen down from 1st January, 1900, to 30th June, 1901, the names of the owners of said buildings, and the number of deaths caused by the tumbling down of said premises, and will the Honourable member state the causes, so far as known, which have contributed to each accident, and, if they have resulted from defective construction, what precautions, if any, have been taken to prevent the erection of such buildings in the future?

NATURALIZATION OF SIU YÜN-FAI BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of SIU YÜN-FAI, alias SIU YÜN-HUNG, alias SIU KWOK-YEUNG, alias SIU KÜ-MING, alias SIU YING-P'ING.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

TRAMWAYS AMENDMENT BILL.—Mr. CHATER moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Scope of The Tramways Ordinance, 1883, (No. 6 of 1883), and the Tramways Ordinance Amendment Ordinance, 1883, (No. 18 of 1883).

Mr. BELL-IRVING seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

FORESHORES AND SEA BED BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and asked leave to discharge from the Orders of the Day the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to validate Crown leases heretofore made of Foreshore, and submerged Lands within the territorial waters of the Colony for reclamation and other purposes and to legalize and facilitate the making of such leases hereafter.

Leave was granted, and the item discharged.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Law relating to Reformatory Schools.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

Council resumed, and Bill reported without amendment.

The Acting Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put--that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

NATURALIZATION OF LAU YAT TS'ÜN BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of LAU YAT TS'ÜN, alias LAU NG, alias LAU MAN KWONG, alias LAU NG WO, alias LAU HOK WAI.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

Council resumed, and Bill reported without amendment.

The Acting Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

STAMP BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to Stamps and Stamp Duty in the Colony of Hongkong.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

The Acting Attorney General moved that the Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

TRAMWAY BILL.—MR. CHATER addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance for authorizing the Construction of a Tramway within the Colony of Hongkong.

MR. BELL-IRVING seconded.

His Excellency the Governor, Dr. HO KAI and Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

MR. CHATER moved that the Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee.

MR. BELL-IRVING seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

It was suggested that Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., the representatives of the promoters, should be consulted as to a reduction of fares for the labouring classes if the Government were willing to surrender its royalties in whole or in part. It was also suggested that the Senior Unofficial Member should attend the meetings of the Law Committee to discuss the Bill.

The suggestions were agreed to.

SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL.—The Acting Colonial Treasurer moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Five hundred and Fifty-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-one Dollars and Seventy-eight Cents, to defray the Charges of the Year 1900.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

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

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

Read and confirmed, this 13th day of August, 1901.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.