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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 17.

THURSDAY, 17th OCTOBER, 1901.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

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

His Excellency Major-General Sir WILLIAM JULIUS GASCOIGNE, K.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, K.C.).

„ the Acting Colonial Treasurer, (CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER).

„ the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).

„ the Acting Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM).

„ ARTHUR WINBOLT BREWIN.

„ CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, C.M.G.

„ HO KAI, M.B., C.M.

„ THOMAS HENDERSON WHITEHEAD.

„ WEI YUK.

„ JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING.

„ JOHN THURBURN.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 10th October, 1901, were read and confirmed.

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

Telegram of Condolence on the death of Her Imperial Majesty the Empress Frederick of Germany, and acknowledgment by His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minute, (No. 62), and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee :—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

^{C.S.O.}
^{3024 of 1901.} The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of One thousand and five hundred Dollars (\$1,500) to cover the cost of repairing and effecting certain alterations to the Government Pavilions at the Peak.

Government House, Hongkong, 11th October, 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 10th October, 1901, (No. 11), and moved its adoption.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

SALARIES OF SUBORDINATE OFFICERS.—The Colonial Secretary, in connection with the Report on the Supply Bill, addressed the Council on the subject of the salaries of subordinate officers.

Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council.

His Excellency the Governor agreed to recommend once more to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the increase in the salaries of the subordinate staff of the civil service should take effect from the 1st January, 1901.

STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance for promoting the Revision of the Statute Law by repealing enactments which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary and by making amendments in various Ordinances.

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 with amendments.

BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Buildings.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

Mr. WHITEHEAD referred to a recent Imperial Act dealing with the erection of buildings.

The Colonial Secretary stated that steps were being taken to obtain a copy of the Act.

Council resumed, and Bill reported with amendments.

MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved that the Council go into Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1899, (No. 36 of 1899).

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

Mr. WHITEHEAD proposed an amendment having for its effect that the owners of steamers should not be made responsible for expenses incurred through the removal and treatment ashore of passengers who may be taken ill on board.

The Committee divided on the amendment, when Members voted as follows:—

<i>For the amendment.</i>	<i>Against the amendment.</i>
Mr. THURBURN.	Dr. HO KAI.
Mr. BELL-IRVING.	Mr. CHATER.
Mr. WEI YUK.	Mr. BREWIN.
Mr. WHITEHEAD.	The Acting Director of Public Works.
	The Harbour Master.
	The Acting Colonial Treasurer.
	The Acting Attorney General.
	The Colonial Secretary.
	The Officer Commanding the Troops.

The amendment was passed in the negative.

The amendments proposed by the Acting Attorney General were then agreed to. Council resumed, and Bill reported with amendments.

SUPPLY FOR 1902 BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved that the Council resolve itself into Committee on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Three million Seven hundred and Thirty-nine thousand Three hundred and Twelve Dollars and Twenty-six Cents to the Public Service of the Year 1902.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Governor and Legislature.—Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council, and moved that the vote be reduced by \$100.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

His Excellency the Governor addressed the Council.

Mr. WHITEHEAD withdrew his amendment, and the vote was agreed to.

Colonial Secretary's Department.—Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council, and moved that the vote be reduced by \$100.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

His Excellency the Governor addressed the Council.

The amendment was withdrawn, and the vote was agreed to.

Audit Department.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be increased from \$10,540.00 to \$10,670.00. Agreed to.

Public Works Department.—Mr. WHITEHEAD enquired of the Director of Public Works as to the unsatisfactory state of the roads, and moved that the vote be reduced by \$100.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

The amendment was withdrawn, and the vote was agreed to.

Post Office.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be increased from \$285,294.00 to \$290,116.00. Agreed to.

Harbour Master's Department.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be increased from \$115,353.00 to \$115,521.00. Agreed to.

Botanical and Afforestation Department.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be increased from \$40,526.24 to \$40,726.24. Agreed to.

Legal Departments.—Mr. WHITEHEAD addressed the Council with reference to the second magisterial enquiry into the collapse of houses in Cochrane Street, and asked the Acting Attorney General to inform the Council whether any further proceedings were to be taken in connection with the disaster.

The Acting Attorney General replied.

Police.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be increased from \$539,021.00 to \$539,261.00. Agreed to.

Sanitary Department.—The Colonial Secretary moved that this vote be reduced from \$190,083.00 to \$187,973 00. Agreed to.

Public Works Extraordinary.—The Colonial Secretary moved that the words “at Lai-chi-kok” be deleted after the words “Quarantine and Segregation Camps”. Agreed to.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the words “Resumption of Property to provide Indian Married Quarters for the Police” be amended to read “Resumption of Property to provide Married Quarters for the Indian Police.” Agreed to.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the vote of \$10,000 for Park in Western District of the City be reduced to \$5,000. Agreed to.

Title.—The Colonial Secretary moved that, wherever the words “Three million Seven hundred and Thirty-nine thousand Three hundred and Twelve Dollars” occur in the Bill, these words be amended to read “Three million Seven hundred and Thirty-seven thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-two Dollars.” Agreed to.

The other items of the Supply were agreed to.

The Council then re-uneled.

PEACE AND QUIET OF THE INHABITANTS BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend An Ordinance for the better securing the Peace and Quiet of the Inhabitants of the Town of Victoria and its vicinity during the night time, (No. 17 of 1844).

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 21st day of October, 1901.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

Read and confirmed, this 21st day of October, 1901.

C. CLEMENTI,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 626.

His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the KING, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—

Ordinance No. 26 of 1901.—An Ordinance to amend An Ordinance entitled The Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1885, (No. 8 of 1885).

Ordinance No. 27 of 1901.—An Ordinance to amend The New Territories Land Court Ordinance 1900, (No. 18 of 1900).

Ordinance No. 32 of 1901.—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Three million Seven hundred and Thirty-seven thousand Seven hundred and Sixty-two Dollars and Twenty-six Cents to the Public Service of the Year 1902.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 25th October, 1901.