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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 18.

MONDAY, 21ST OCTOBER, 1901.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

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

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (JAMES HALDANE STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.).

„ 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.

„ Hó KAI, M.B., C.M.

„ THOMAS HENDERSON WHITEHEAD.

„ WEI YUK.

„ JAMES JARDINE BELL-IRVING.

„ JOHN THURBURN.

ABSENT:

His Excellency Major-General Sir WILLIAM JULIUS GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G., General Officer Commanding.

The Honourable the Acting Attorney General, (HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.).

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 17th October, 1901, were read and confirmed.

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

Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Registration of Chinese Partnerships, and Memorandum by the Colonial Secretary on the subject.

FINANCIAL MINUTE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minute, (No. 63), and moved that it be referred to the Finance Committee :—

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
3094 of 1901.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three thousand and three hundred Dollars (\$3,300) in aid of the following votes :—

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Incidental Expenses,	\$1,500.00
Watering Streets,	1,800.00
Total,	<u>\$3,300.00</u>

Government House, Hongkong, 15th 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 17th October, 1901, (No. 12), and moved its adoption.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the third 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 Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Buildings.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1899, (No. 36 of 1899).

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed.

SUPPLY FOR 1902 BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the third reading of the Bill entitled 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.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer 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 *sine die*.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

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

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 725.

The following Bills, which were read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held this day, are published.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 25th November, 1901.

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to amend The Births and Deaths
Registration Ordinance, 1896.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as The Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, 1901, and shall be read and construed as one Ordinance with Ordinances 16 of 1896 and 20 of 1898. Short title.

2. Section 12 of Ordinance 16 of 1896 is hereby amended by adding the following sub-section at the end thereof, namely:— Amendment of section 12 of Ordinance 16 of 1896.

“(f.) In any case where the Medical Officer of Health is not satisfied that the cause of the death of any person has been satisfactorily determined, it shall be lawful for the Medical Officer of Health to order the removal of any dead body to some suitable place set apart for the reception of dead bodies for the purpose of *post mortem* examination, and a *post mortem* examination may thereupon be held upon such body by such officer as may be appointed by the Governor for that purpose.” Power to hold *post mortem* examination.

Objects and Reasons.

This Bill is introduced with a view to more satisfactorily ascertain the cause of death in doubtful cases.

At present the power of ordering a *post mortem* examination appears to be confined to cases in which a Magistrate, sitting as Coroner, considers such an examination to be necessary (see the Coroners Abolition Ordinance, 17 of 1888).

H. E. POLLOCK,
Acting Attorney General.