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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 1.

THURSDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, 1902.

PRESENT :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT
(Major-General Sir WILLIAM JULIUS GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G.).

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (JAMES HALDANE STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G.).
 " the Attorney General, (WILLIAM MEIGH GOODMAN, K.C.).
 " the Acting Colonial Treasurer, (CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER).
 " the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).
 " the 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 summons.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 27th December, 1901, were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, laid on the table the following Financial Minutes, (Nos. 1 to 6), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
868 of 1901.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Five hundred and sixty Dollars (\$560) to cover the cost of four months' rent of the house occupied by the Europeans of the Victoria Gaol, together with the house allowance for one married Principal Warder.

Government House, Hongkong, 4th January, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
112 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to re-vote the following sums, being unexpended balances of the votes for 1901 under the heading "Public Works Extraordinary":—

1. Governor's Peak Residence,	\$17,432.20
2. No. 7 Police Station,	1,197.80
3. New Sheep and Swine Depôts,	11,000.00
4. Four Public Latrines,	5,787.51
5. Public Urinals,	5,000.00
6. Completion of Gaol Officers' Quarters,	24,938.11
7. Police Station at Tsun Wan (altered to Tai O),	7,922.00
8. Taipó Road,	10,351.14
9. Storm Water Nullah, Mongkoktsui,	8,450.00
10. District Watchmen's Quarters, (Government share),	1,000.00
11. Police Station at Fu Ti Au (altered to Sheung Shui),	1,261.56
12. Home for Quarantined Dogs,	1,432.23
13. Perch on Rock near Lyemun,	175.55
14. Coal Store, Starling Inlet Police Station,	170.00
15. Public Bath-house,	4,000.00
16. Training and Diverting Nullah near Tram Station,	2,099.85
17. Improvements in lighting approaches to Harbour,	6,000.00
18. Erection of Derrick on new site, Gap Rock,	7,120.00
19. Two Temporary Markets,	12,000.00
20. Extension of Wanchai Market,	3,000.00
21. Railing in openings round Animal Depôts, Kennedy Town,	4,100.00
22. Cattle Crematorium,	2,020.00
23. Repairs and Alterations to Government Pavilions,	1,500.00
Total,	<u>\$137,957.95</u>

Government House, Hongkong, 15th January, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
141 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four thousand nine hundred and eighty Dollars (\$4,980) to meet the cost to be incurred on account of the construction of a Cattle Crematorium and a Refuse Destructor—

Cattle Crematorium—estimated cost,	\$5,000.00
Deduct sum already voted,	<u>2,020.00</u>
Additional sum required,	\$2,980.00
Refuse Destructor—estimated cost,	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total additional sum required,	<u>\$4,980.00</u>

Government House, Hongkong, 22nd January, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

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

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four thousand two hundred and fifteen Dollars and Fifty-eight Cents (\$4,215.58) to cover the cost of repairs carried out at the building formerly known as Kapshuimun Customs Station.

Government House, Hongkong, 31st January, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
514 of 1901.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to re-vote the sum of One thousand two hundred and forty-four Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$1,244.60) in aid of the vote of \$1,000 for "Repairs to Epidemic Hulk *Hygeia*."

Government House, Hongkong, 17th February, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four hundred and fifty Dollars (\$450), being a special honorarium to Inspector J. REIDIE of the Sanitary Department for his plague services.

Government House, Hongkong, 24th February, 1902.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee dated the 27th December, 1901, (No. 15), and moved its adoption.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

* PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, laid on the table the following papers :—

1. Correspondence regarding School for European Children, and English School for Chinese of the Upper Classes.
2. Report on the Victoria Gaol, for 1901.
3. Report on the Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund, for 1901.
4. Returns of the Supreme Court, for 1901.
5. Report of Committee of Inquiry into the Adequacy of the Staff of the Medical Department.
6. Correspondence relating to the Immunity of Chinese in Cape Town from Plague Infection.

QUESTIONS.—Mr. WHITEHEAD, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions :—

- (1.) *Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Government will consider the expediency of amending the Bye-laws annexed to the Public Health Ordinance, No. 13 of 1901, so as to empower the Sanitary Board to take such steps as may be requisite in connection with the periodical outbreak of Plague without the necessity of formally declaring any district in the Colony as an area infected with Plague?*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

- (2.) *Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works lay upon the table a statement shewing what works, if any, have actually been completed during the years 1899, 1900 and 1901 for increasing the water storing capacity in the City of Victoria and Kowloon, and how the present water storage capacity can be augmented and rendered adequate to meet the growing requirements of the Colony in all seasons?*

The Director of Public Works in reply laid on the table the Statement asked for.

SANITARY BYE-LAWS.—The Director of Public Works addressed the Council, and made the following motion, under section 14 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 :—

That this Council approves of the Bye-laws for the Prevention or Mitigation of Epidemic, Endemic, or Contagious Disease, made by the Sanitary Board on the 18th February, 1902.

The Attorney General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

DRAINAGE BYE-LAWS.—The Director of Public Works addressed the Council, and made the following motion, under section 14 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 :—

That this Council approves of the Bye-laws for the repeal of Nos. 29 and 30 of the Drainage Bye-laws contained in Schedule B of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, and the substitution of amended Bye-law No. 30 under Section 13 thereof.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

RATING OF QUARRIES.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and asked permission, on the ground of urgency, to move the following resolution, under section 31 of The Rating Ordinance, 1901 :—

Whereas certain quarries are now held under Crown Leases at fixed rents and it is expedient that the said tenements should be rated on a uniform basis, it is hereby resolved by this Council that the percentage in the valuation of such quarries respectively, payable as rates, should be fixed at seven per cent. irrespective of the locality of such quarries.

There being no objection, the Attorney General explained the matter.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded the motion.

Question—put and agreed to.

NEW TERRITORIES REGULATION.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and made the following motion as to Ordinance No. 12 of 1899 :—

Whereas, by section 6 of the New Territories Regulation Ordinance (No. 12 of 1899), it was enacted that the said Ordinance should remain in force for the period of one year from the date of its coming into operation, and for such further period or periods as might, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council :

And whereas, by previous resolutions of the said Legislative Council it was resolved that the said Ordinance should be continued in force until the 18th day of April, 1902 :

It is hereby resolved by this Council that The New Territories Regulation Ordinance, 1899, shall be again continued in force for the further period of two years from the 18th day of April, 1902 (inclusive).

Mr. BREWIN seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

PUBLIC LATRINE AT HUNGHOM.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the following resolution under section 64 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901 :—

Whereas application has been duly made by the Sanitary Board to the Governor under section 61 of The Public Health Ordinance, 1902, for the erection of a public latrine at the North-West end of the Crown Lot to the South of Hunghom Inland Lot No. 233: And whereas, such application having been approved by the Governor, and a notification of the intention to erect a public latrine upon such site having been duly published in three successive numbers of the Gazette, certain owners of property in the immediate vicinity of such site have objected to such erection :

And whereas the objections so made have been considered by this Council :

It is hereby resolved by this Council that the above mentioned site and the erection thereon of a public latrine be approved.

The Director of Public Works seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

RATS BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorize the making of Regulations with regard to Rats.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

The Attorney General moved the suspension of the Standing Orders.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

The Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill.

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 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.

PRIVATE COOLIE BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to provide for the more effectual control of Chair and Jinricksha Coolies in private employ.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

DEFINITION OF "WRITERS" BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to define the meaning of the word "writers", as used in Ordinance No. 3 of 1871.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1900, (No. 18 of 1900), and The New Territories Land Court Amendment Ordinance, 1901, (No. 27 of 1901).

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

LAND REGISTRY OFFICE (FEES) AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Deeds, Wills, Judgments, and Conveyances affecting real or immoveable property in Hongkong (No. 3 of 1844).

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

BANKRUPTCY AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend The Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1891.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

SUPREME COURT SUMMARY JURISDICTION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend The Supreme Court Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance, 1873.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

JURY LIST.—The Council proceeded to consider the List of Jurors for 1902.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned till Monday, the 10th March, 1902. *

W. J. GASCOIGNE,
Officer Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 11th day of March, 1902.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

* Subsequently postponed to Tuesday, the 11th.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 148.

The following Bill, which was read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held this day, is published.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 11th March, 1902.