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CONTENTS.

Notification No.	Subject Matter.	Pagc.	Notifi- cation No.	Subject Matter.	Page.
186 187	Legislatives Council Minutes,	401	194 195 196 197	Registration of trade mark by Bradley & Co.,	413
188 189 190 191	Appointment of the Hon'ble W. M. Goodman, K.C., as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Appointment of A. G. Wise, Ll.B., as Acting Attorney General, Opium Divan Regulations, Application of the Colonial Solicitors Act, 1500, to	401 402	185	Notification repeated. Land sale—To Kwa Wan, Kowloon,	
192 198	Hongkong, Mortality returns—February, Fees for Colonial Secretary's signature to permits,	405	=======================================	Unclaimed Letters, &c.,	415 422

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 2.

TUESDAY, 11TH MARCH, 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 Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).
- ,, 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 adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 27th February, 1902, were read and comfirmed.

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

Report on the Queen's College, for the year 1901.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, laid on the table the following Financial Minutes, (Nos. 7 and 8), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three hundred and thirty-three Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence (£333.6s. 8d.) as a contribution towards a laboratory to be established at the country branch of the Jenner Institute in England for the preparation of Yersin's Curative Serum for Bubonic Plague.

Government House, Hongkong, 8th March, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three hundred Dollars (\$300), being the amount of the contribution of the Government for 1901 towards the Royal Naval Seamen's Club, which was voted last year, but lapsed in consequence of no application having been made by the Naval Authorities for payment.

Government House, Hongkong, 8th March, 1902.

The 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 February, 1902, (No. 1), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

(1.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Government have taken into consideration the expediency of suggesting to the Colonial Office that members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps in Great Britain during the Coronation of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh be invited to participate in the Coronation ceremonies as representatives of this Colony without cost to the Colonial funds?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council.

(2.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whet'rer the recommendations contained in the Report, dated Hongkong, 6th November, 1901, of the Commission appointed by His Excellency the Governor, on 28th August, 1901, to enquire into and report on the question of the existing difficulty of procuring and retaining reliable chair and jinricksha coolies for private chairs and jinrickshas, are to be carried out, and if not to be carried out explain the reason why?

The Colonial Secretary, in reply, laid on the table a despatch to the Secretary of State and its enclosure, including a Minute by His Excellency the Governor on the subject.

(3.) Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary lay upon the table a statement showing (1) the number of persons and/or young criminals who have been accommodated in the Belilios Reformatory at Causeway Bay from the time it was opened until 28th ultimo; (2) the total expenditure incurred in respect of these persons including the emoluments of the staff in the Reformatory; (3) the amount of public money, if any, expended on the building or in additions thereto and in connection with the maintenance of the building; (4) the yearly emoluments of the Reformatory staff; and (5) the number of persons now undergoing sentence lodged in the said Reformatory?

The Colonial Secretary, in reply, laid on the table a Statement on the subject.

Sanitary Bye-laws.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Bye-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 13 sub-section (16.) of The Public Health Ordinance, 1901, with reference to Depôts for Cattle, Pigs, Sheep and Goats, and moved that they be approved.

The Attorney General seconded.

Question-put and agreed to.

BUILDINGS BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Buildings.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

NATURALIZATION BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of Chü Ship Chün, alias Chü Le, alias Chü Man T'in, alias Chü K'AU Meï.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

PRIVATE COOLIE BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the 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 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.

DEFINITION OF "WRITERS" BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the 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 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.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the 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 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.

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

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.

BANKRUPTCY AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend The Bankruptcy Oridinance, 1891.

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.

SUPREME COURT SUMMARY JURISDICTION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the 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 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.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned till Monday, the 17th March, 1902, at 2 p.m. *

W. J. GASCOIGNE,

Officer Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 26th day of March, 1902.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

Subsequently postponed to Wednesday, the 26th March, 1902.