

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 305.

The following Rules are published.

By Command,

A. M. THOMSON,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th May, 1902.

R U L E S

FOR THE

MANAGEMENT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE BUNGALOWS, VICTORIA PEAK.

1. In these Rules the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereinafter set against them :—

Permanent Officer.—A public servant holding an office in the service of the Colony and drawing a salary of one thousand eight hundred dollars a year and upwards.—Officers not being in the regular employ of Government who may be appointed to act for public servants or in temporary posts or Officers engaged for limited periods shall not be included under the term "Permanent Officer," but any Officer engaged by the Government shall, after three years' service, if at the expiration of that term he elect to re-engage for a further period, be considered a "Permanent Officer." Under this definition, no Officer who formerly possessed the right to reside in the Bungalows shall be debarred from the continued exercise of that right.

Summer.—The first day of May to the thirty-first day of October inclusive in each year.

Married Officer.—Widowers whose families are in the Colony shall be included under this designation, which, however, shall not include married Officers whose families are not in the Colony.

Residence.—An Officer shall be deemed to be in residence who shall personally or by his family occupy the Bungalows by night for at least two-thirds of the nights during which the Bungalows may be at his disposal.

Family.—Includes the wife or children.

2. The Bungalows are for the use of such Permanent Officers only of the Hongkong Civil Service as are usually appointed from England.

3. As a rule, no Officer who is either an owner or a lessee of a place of residence at the Peak shall be eligible for a turn at the Bungalows unless he has let the same for three of the summer months at least. The Committee, however, shall investigate all claims to residence in the Bungalows on the part of such Officers, but no decision of the Committee in such cases shall be deemed binding as a precedent.

4. The management of the Bungalows shall be vested in a General Committee of six, to be elected at an annual meeting to be held in April by the Civil Servants entitled to use the Buildings. Three members of the Committee shall be Heads or Assistant Heads of Departments. The Committee shall elect two of their members to be Chairman and Secretary respectively. In the event of any member of the Committee resigning his post or leaving the Colony during his year of office, it shall be lawful for the General Committee to elect a substitute. The names of the General Committee elected at such annual meeting shall be reported to the Colonial Secretary forthwith after the date of election.

5. Sub-Committees shall control details connected with either block of houses. Both Sub-Committees must be represented at meetings of the General Committee, at which three shall be a *quorum*. Each Sub-Committee shall elect one of their members to be Secretary and Treasurer.

6. Officers drawing a salary of three thousand dollars a year and upwards will be accommodated at the Pavilions, but the Committee may make any other arrangement that may appear desirable.

7. The claim of any Officer to residence in either set of Buildings shall be decided by a vote of the General Committee.

8. Each term of residence is for fourteen days, from Tuesday evening to the Tuesday morning next but one. If there are no applications for the houses occupied, residence may be continued, subject to Rule 11.

9. In April of each year the Secretary of each Sub-Committee shall ascertain what Officers propose to make use of the Bungalows during the summer, and a list shall be made out by each Sub-Committee accordingly. Any Officer who shall not be in the Colony during two months or more of the summer shall lose his right to residence for that summer. Applications for residence received after the 30th April will be submitted to the General Committee, whose decision shall be final.

10. The choice of date of residence shall be arranged by ballot by two or more members of the Sub-Committee. Each Officer will be entitled to the choice of a turn of residence, or to the refusal of any vacancy which may occur, in the order in which his name stands on the ballot list for the time being. If after the first ballot, there are any turns available, a second ballot shall be taken of the names of married Officers only. After every married Officer has had an opportunity of taking a second turn, a ballot will be held of the names of unmarried Officers. Officers declining to take up any second turn that may be offered to them will be excluded from any subsequent ballot until every Officer shall have had the offer of a second turn. On the occurrence of any further ballot, the names of married and unmarried Officers will be balloted without distinction and without regard to the number of turns any Officer may have already acquired.

11. Turns may be exchanged, but all exchanges must be notified to the Secretary of the Sub-Committee.

12. No Officer is allowed to keep the quarters allotted to him standing unoccupied, except in very bad weather, or under other exceptional circumstances; nor to give away his turn; nor, by a merely nominal residence, to place the house at the disposal of others. Any infraction of this Rule will be regarded as a disqualification for future allotment.

13. Officers occupying the Pavilions shall subscribe a sum not exceeding \$10 and those occupying the Villas shall subscribe a sum not exceeding \$8 a fortnight to a furniture fund, the actual amounts to be subscribed being decided at the Annual General Meeting.

14. When the General Committee is informed by the certificate of the Principal Civil Medical Officer that the ill-health of any Officer, or serious illness in his family makes it imperative that he or his family should at once reside at the Peak, they may grant him or his family immediate occupation of whichever Bungalow may be thought most desirable, the inmates vacating it if necessary. The Committee shall then make such arrangements for the rest of the year as may appear most equitable.

15. The coolies in charge of the premises are not entitled to gratuities, which Officers are requested not to give.

16. Furniture is not to be transferred from one house to another, nor is any article (especially bedding) to be placed in the servants' quarters or back premises. Each occupant is responsible for breakages during his term of residence, which must be paid for in money, not by replacing the articles.

17. Oil, coal, blankets, bed-linen and table-linen are not supplied. With these exceptions the Committee will endeavour to keep the houses furnished with everything essential. Suggestions, and more especially reports of any defect in the buildings, should be sent to the Secretary of the proper Sub-Committee.

18. Accounts of receipts and expenditure will be circulated at the end of each year.

19. The interpretation of the above regulations shall lie with the General Committee.

Approved by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government in Council, this 3rd day of May, 1902.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
HONGKONG.