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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 6.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1902.

PRESENT:

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

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.).

„ the Acting Attorney General, (ALFRED GASCOYNE WISE).

„ the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).

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

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

„ the Captain Superintendent of Police, (FRANCIS JOSEPH BADELEY).

„ HO KAI, M.B., C.M.

„ WEI YUK.

„ CHARLES STEWART SHARP.

„ CHARLES WEDDERBURN DICKSON.

The Council met pursuant to summons.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 30th April, 1902, were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. CHARLES WEDDERBURN DICKSON took the oaths as an Un-Official Member of the Council.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, laid on the table the following Financial Minutes, (Nos. 18 to 22), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.O.D.
43 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Six thousand one hundred and forty-nine Dollars and Twelve Cents (\$6,149.12) in aid of the vote "Expenses of Volunteers", to cover the salary and house allowance of Major C. G. PRITCHARD, Commandant, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, from 2nd April to 31st December, 1902, inclusive.

ABSTRACT.

Half salary, 2nd to 7th April, 6 days, £6.5.0 at 2/0 $\frac{7}{32}$ per dollar,	\$ 61.94
Full salary, 8th to 30th April, 23 days, £47.18.4 at 2/0 $\frac{7}{32}$ per dollar,	474.84
" " May to December, 8 months, at £62.10.0 per month, £500 at 2/0 $\frac{7}{32}$ per dollar,	4,954.84
House Allowance, 8th to 30th April, at \$75 per month,	57.50
" " 8 months, " "	600.00
Total,	<u>\$6,149.12</u>

Government House, Hongkong, 28th April, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
279 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Twenty-nine thousand six hundred and twenty-nine Dollars and Sixty-three Cents (£2,500 at 1/8 $\frac{1}{4}$ = \$29,629.63) to meet the estimated expenses to be incurred by the Coronation Contingent of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.

Government House, Hongkong, 1st May, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
1127 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Two thousand four hundred and ten Dollars (£200.16.8. at 1/8 = \$2,410) to cover the cost of 4,000 feet of 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch "Rob Roy" canvas fire hose, and 500 feet of Merrywether's 4-inch "Dub-Sub" canvas hose, for the use of the Fire Brigade.

Government House, Hongkong, 13th May, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
277 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of One hundred and thirty-one thousand and five hundred Dollars (\$131,500), in aid of the following votes:—

PUBLIC WORKS, ANNUALLY RECURRENT EXPENDITURE.

(1.) Maintenance of Water-works, City and Hill District,	\$48,000.00
(2.) Maintenance of Roads and Bridges in City,	25,000.00
(3.) Water-works, Miscellaneous,	15,500.00
(4.) Drainage Works, Miscellaneous,	23,000.00
(5.) Forming and Kerbing Streets,	20,000.00
Total,	<u>\$131,500.00</u>

Government House, Hongkong, 29th May, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

C.S.O.
1152 of 1902.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Sixty-four Dollars (\$64), being a grant for a Custodian at the Government Pavilions, for 8 months of the current year, at the rate of \$8 per mensem.

Government House, Hongkong, 30th May, 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 30th April, 1902, (No. 5), and moved its adoption.

- The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—~~put~~ and agreed to.

QUESTIONS.—In the absence of Mr. WHITEHEAD, Mr. SHARP asked the following questions, of which due notice had been given:—

1.—PROPERTY RESUMPTION AND COMPENSATION.

Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary endeavour to obtain from the Indian Government a statement or return showing (1) the conditions on which house properties, sanitary and insanitary, and land have recently been resumed in Bombay and elsewhere in India; (2) the basis on which the values of house property and land were arrived at; and (3) the basis on which the compensation paid for resumed properties and land has been arrived at; and in due course communicate the information to the Council if the Honourable Member is not now in a position to furnish the required particulars?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

2.—HOUSE ACCOMMODATION—SUBORDINATE OFFICIALS.

Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Government will take into consideration the desirability and expediency of adequately providing for the decent housing of the subordinate Officials and Employees of the Public Works, Harbour, and Sanitary Departments, and report to the Council?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

3.—MAP OF ROADS AND STREETS.

In anticipation of Government being asked to expose for sale Crown Land in Hongkong and in British Kowloon or to grant leases of Land in the New Territory, and with a view to safeguarding against a repetition of the state of affairs in respect of roads, lanes and buildings as that which now exists in Hongkong and Kowloon, will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council (1) whether a clearly and well defined Map showing Roads and Streets of adequate width has been or will be prepared; (2) whether such Map will in due course be submitted to this Council; (3) when approved whether the same will be recorded officially and shall not be departed from without the sanction of the Council; and (4) whether a copy of such Map will be deposited in the Office of the Sanitary Board for the information and guidance of the Board's Officers?

The Director of Public Works replied.

4.—STREAMS, NULLAHS AND WATER-COURSES.

Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council whether the Government will lay down a rule or regulation to come into force on an early date to be notified, to the effect that all streams, nullahs and water-courses in Hongkong and in British Kowloon, the property of the Crown, shall be retained as Crown property together with a margin of 50 feet on either side from the centre line of the stream or nullah now Crown property and that the said margin of 50 feet shall not be granted or devised without the sanction of this Council and that the same regulation where practicable shall apply in respect of streams, nullahs and water-courses in the New Territory leased by the Government of China to the British Government?

The Director of Public Works replied.

5.—WATER SUPPLY.

In consequence of the daily diminishing supply and of the fact that the water is now only turned on in the City one hour per day, will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council whether the Government will take into consideration the advisability of immediately increasing the number of water stations along the Praya so as to give an increased supply of water and in some measure alleviate the inconveniences and sufferings of those concerned?

The Director of Public Works replied.

6.—INCREASED WATER STORAGE.

Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works inform the Council whether the Government has taken the necessary measures to temporarily provide, if it be possible to do so in the time now available, for an adequate or additional water storage capacity should there be a

short rainfall this season, so as to safeguard the ratepayers and the people from again next year suffering the inconveniences and evils arising out of a water famine, and state how much additional water storage has been provided, if any, since the 1st of January this year, and how much additional storage it is estimated will be provided between now and 31st January, 1903?

The Director of Public Works replied.

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

1. Report by Mr. OSBERT CHADWICK on the Water Supply of Hongkong mainly with regard to the full Development of the Supply from the Taitam-tuk Valley.
2. Report of the Registrar General, for 1901.
3. Returns of the Subordinate Court, for 1901.
4. Report on the General Post Office, for 1901.
5. Report of the Pó Léung Kuk Society, for 1901.
6. Correspondence regarding the Kowloon Water-works Gravitation Scheme.

MARRIAGE AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Marriage Ordinance (14 of 1875).

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

RELEASE OF PREMISES (JEWISH SYNAGOGUE) BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to release certain premises situate at Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong from a Settlement dated the 31st day of March 1884 and made between MEYER ELIAS SASSOON of the one part and FREDERICK DAVID SASSOON, EDWARD ELIAS SASSOON and the said MEYER ELIAS SASSOON of the other part.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

NATURALIZATION OF KU FAI SHÁN BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of KU FAI SHÁN, alias KU TING KWONG, alias KU PAK TAI, alias KU CHONG TSUNG, alias KU YUK TSING.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

CHINESE ANGLICAN CHURCH BODY INCORPORATION BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to provide for the Incorporation of the Church Body of the Chinese Anglican Church in Hongkong.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

WATER-WORKS CONSOLIDATION BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to provide for and regulate the Supply of Water in the Colony of Hongkong and for the Maintenance and Repair of the Works in connection therewith.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

PAWNBROKERS AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend The Pawnbrokers Ordinance, No. 3 of 1860.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

EXEMPTION OF CROWN LEASES FROM OPERATION OF FORESHORES AND SEA BED ORDINANCE, 1901, BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to exempt certain Crown Leases and Agreements for Crown Leases and permits granted by the Crown, from the operation of sections 3 and 4 of the Foreshores and Sea Bed Ordinance, 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 Acting 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.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance (15 of 1900).

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 Acting 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.

NATURALIZATION OF HO NGOK LAU BILL.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of HO NGOK LAU, alias HO NGOK, alias HO SAN LAM.

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 Acting 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.

CLAIMS TO RENT OF LAND IN NEW TERRITORIES BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to facilitate the hearing and determination of claims to rent in respect of land in the New Territories.

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 Acting 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.

DANGEROUS GOODS AMENDMENT BILL.—The Acting Attorney General addressed the Council, and moved the withdrawal of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Dangerous Goods.

The motion was agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

W. J. GASCOIGNE,
Officer Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 23rd day of June, 1902.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.