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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 13.

THURSDAY, 9TH OCTOBER, 1902.

PRESENT :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

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

The Honourable the Officer Commanding the Troops, (Colonel LOUIS FAULKNER BROWN, R.E.).
 „ the Colonial Secretary, (FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.).
 „ the Attorney General, (Sir HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, Kt.).
 „ the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).
 „ the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).
 „ the Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM).
 „ the Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK).
 „ Ho KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.
 „ WEI YUK.
 „ CHARLES STEWART SHARP.
 „ CHARLES WEDDERBURN DICKSON.
 „ GEORGE WILLIAM FORBES PLAYFAIR.
 „ ROBERT GORDON SHEWAN.

The Council met pursuant to summons.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. ROBERT GORDON SHEWAN took his seat as an Un-official Member of the Council after having taken the Oath prescribed by Ordinance No. 4 of 1869.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 3rd September, 1902, were read and confirmed.

His Excellency the Governor addressed the Council.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the following Financial Minutes, (Nos. 51 to 59), and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

^{C.S.O.}
_{2121 of 1902.} The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four hundred Dollars (\$400) in aid of the vote of \$1,800, "Government Marine Surveyor, Other Charges, Coal, Oil, and Repairs to Steam-launch."

Government House, Hongkong, 1st September, 1902.

W. J. GASCOIGNE.

^{C.S.O.}
_{2143 of 1902.} The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote a sum of Six thousand one hundred and thirty Dollars (\$6,130) in aid of the following Votes under the heading "Medical Departments, Other Charges":—

HEALTH OFFICER OF PORT,—		
Coal, &c., for Launch,.....	\$ 100.00	
Repairs to Launch,	250.00	
	<u> </u>	\$ 350.00
GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,—		
Provisions for Patients,	\$4,800.00	
Medical Comforts,	270.00	
Incidental Expenses, &c.,	250.00	
	<u> </u>	5,320.00
GOVERNMENT LUNATIC ASYLUMS,—		
Provisions, &c.,	\$ 300.00	
	<u> </u>	300.00
GOVERNMENT NURSING INSTITUTE,—		
Fuel and Light,	\$ 160.00	
	<u> </u>	160.00
		<u> </u>
	Total,.....	<u><u>\$6,130.00</u></u>

Government House, Hongkong, 4th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

^{C.S.O.}
_{2015 of 1902.} The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Six hundred and thirty-five Dollars (\$635) to cover the initial cost (\$290) and upkeep for three months of the current year (\$345) of four horses for the preparation of anti-plague serum by the Government Bacteriologist.

Government House, Hongkong, 11th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

^{C.S.O.}
_{939 of 1902.} The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Five hundred and seventeen Dollars and Forty-five Cents (\$517.45) in aid of the vote of \$3,000 taken under Financial Minute No. 17 of 1902, being cost incurred for illuminating certain public buildings in connection with the Coronation celebrations in the Colony.

Government House, Hongkong, 13th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

^{C.O.D.}
_{2247 of 1902.} The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Five Hundred Pounds (£500), being the amount of a bonus for good service proposed to be granted to Dr. J. A. Lowson, on his retirement through ill-health.

Government House, Hongkong, 18th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

^{C.S.O.}
_{236 of 1902.} The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$500 as an honorarium to Dr. CHUNG KING-UE in consideration of the faithful services rendered by him to the Government and the Community as House Surgeon to the Tung Wah Hospital, which services have been terminated by serious sickness.

Government House, Hongkong, 19th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
2262 of 1902. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800), in aid of the vote of \$3,600 for "Fuel and Soap for Victoria Gaol."

Government House, Hongkong, 22nd September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
975 of 1902. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Four thousand and One hundred Dollars (\$4,100) in aid of the vote of \$3,000 "Repairs to Engines, Hose, &c., and Gratuities, Fire Brigade."

Government House, Hongkong, 27th September, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE.

C.S.O.
2356 of 1902. The Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of Three thousand Dollars (\$3,000) for the purchase of new furniture for "Mountain Lodge", Government House, for the current year.

Government House, Hongkong, 27th September, 1902.

The 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 3rd September, 1902, (No. 12), and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

1. Draft Estimates for 1903, with Explanatory Memoranda.
2. Financial Statement in connection with the Estimates for 1903.
3. Report on the Blue Book for 1901.
4. Correspondence on the subject of the introduction of Sterling Salaries into the Government Service of Hongkong.

QUESTION.—Mr. DICKSON, pursuant to notice, asked the following question:—

Is it a fact that the houses which have recently collapsed were built in accordance with the Building Ordinances in force in this Colony and were so certified by the Director of Public Works?

The Director of Public Works replied.

QUESTION.—Mr. PLAYFAIR, pursuant to notice, asked the following question:—

As, in the Colonial Secretary's reply to my question at the last meeting of Council, he admitted that there were no regulations on the subject of holding enquiries into collapses of houses, and as section 6 of Ordinance 17 of 1888 only permits the Magistrate to inquire into cause of death and does not compel him to do so, I beg now to ask if the Government will either introduce a separate Ordinance dealing with the whole question or add further sub-sections to clause 228 of the new Public Health and Building Ordinance making such enquiries compulsory, to be held immediately after the occurrence and giving authority for really heavy fines, and not nominal ones, to be inflicted on all concerned.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

QUESTION.—Mr. PLAYFAIR, pursuant to notice, asked the following question:—

To ask the Director of Public Works—

- (1.) *Why the Water Accounts for January, February and March were not sent out till 25th of September?*
- (2.) *With whom does the responsibility for the delay rest?*
- (3.) *Is want of a sufficient staff the reason?*
- (4.) *Will an assurance be given that such delays will not be permitted in future?*

The Director of Public Works replied.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.—His Excellency the Governor announced to the Council the appointment of the following Committees, under the Standing Orders :—

Finance Committee :—All the Members of the Legislative Council except the President, the Honourable the Colonial Secretary being Chairman.

Law Committee :—The Honourable the Attorney General (Chairman), the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, the Honourable Dr. HO KAI, the Honourable C. S. SHARP, and the Honourable G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Public Works Committee :—The Honourable the Director of Public Works (Chairman), the Honourable R. SHEWAN, the Honourable C. W. DICKSON, and the Honourable WEI YUK.

TRAMWAY AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Tramway Ordinance, No. 10 of 1902.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

CHINESE EMIGRATION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1889.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

DOGS AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Dogs Ordinance, 1893.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

LAND REGISTRATION (FEES) AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to repeal The Land Registry Office (Fees) Amendment Ordinance 1902 : and to amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1844 entitled “An Ordinance to provide for the Registration of Deeds Wills Judgments and Conveyances affecting real or immovable property in Hongkong.”

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

LIQUOR LICENCES AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Liquor Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1900.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

STAMP AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend The Stamp Ordinance, 1901.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1903.—The Colonial Secretary moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Four million seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand nine hundred and forty-two Dollars and Twenty-three Cents to the Public Service of the Year 1903.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

NATURALIZATION OF TSANG HON CHO BILL.—The Attorney General moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalization of TSANG HON CHO, otherwise known as TSANG MING TSOI, otherwise known as TSANG YIU WING.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

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 suspension of the Standing Orders to enable the Bill to pass through its remaining stages at this Meeting of the Council.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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 20th October, 1902.

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor.

Read and confirmed, this 20th day of October, 1902.

C. CLEMENTI,
Acting Clerk of Councils

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 14.

MONDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 1902.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

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

The Honourable the Officer Commanding the Troops, (Colonel LOUIS FAULKNER BROWN, R.E.).
„ the Colonial Secretary, (FRANCIS HENRY MAY, C.M.G.).
„ the Colonial Treasurer, (ALEXANDER MACDONALD THOMSON).
„ the Harbour Master, (ROBERT MURRAY RUMSEY, R.N.).
„ the Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM).
„ the Medical Officer of Health, (Dr. FRANCIS WILLIAM CLARK).
„ HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.
„ WEI YUK.
„ CHARLES STEWART SHARP.
„ CHARLES WEDDERBURN DICKSON.
„ GEORGE WILLIAM FORBES PLAYFAIR.
„ ROBERT GORDON SHEWAN.

ABSENT:

The Honourable the Attorney General, (SIR HENRY SPENCER BERKELEY, Kt.)

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 9th October, 1902, were read and confirmed.