

The reply thereto is as follows :—

“The inconvenience cannot be remedied by any action of this Government as it is due to the abnormal shipping conditions at the present time. The Postal Authorities in London endeavour to send the mails by the quickest route available and the recent exceptional delays in the delivery of certain mails were due to the delay and diversion of vessels of the Ocean Steamship Company for purposes which were not known to the Postal Authorities at the time when the mails were put on board.

It has now been arranged that all mails will be despatched by the Indian mail, that is by the weekly service *via* Marseilles, Bombay and Negapatam and it is hoped that this arrangement will prove more satisfactory.”

W. J. CARRIE,
Clerk of Councils.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
26th March, 1920.

APPOINTMENTS, &c.

No. 166.—The King's Exequatur empowering Mr. OCTAVIO DIEZ CANSECO to act as Consul General for Peru in Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

22nd March, 1920.

No. 167.—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint, under section 9 of the Liquors Consolidation Ordinance, 1911, Ordinance No. 9 of 1911, Mr. ALBERT DENISON, to be a Member of the Licensing Board for a period of three years, with effect from this date.

24th March, 1920.

No. 168.—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally and subject to His Majesty's pleasure, Mr. EDWARD VICTOR DAVID PARR to be an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council during the absence from the Colony of the Honourable Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL or until further notice.

26th March, 1920.

No. 169.—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the Honourable Mr. PERCY HOBSON HOLYOAK and Mr. ALEXANDER COLBOURNE LITTLE to be Members of the Authorized Architects' Committee *vice* the Honourable Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL and Mr. HERBERT WILLIAM BIRD.

26th March, 1920.

No. 170.—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments under the provisions of the Hongkong Volunteer Regulations, 1920 :—

Major LENNOX GODFREY BIRD, D.S.O., to be Administrative Commandant and to have executive command of the battalion of infantry, with the local rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major G. F. E. RAPSON, D.S.O., 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, to be Adjutant.

26th March, 1920.

No. 171.—His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the Honourable Mr. DAVID WILLIAM TRATMAN to be a Director of the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions during the absence on leave of the Honourable Mr. CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER, O.B.E., or until further notice, with effect from the 22nd March, 1920.

Notification No. 121 published in the *Gazette* of the 5th March, 1920, is hereby cancelled.

26th March, 1920.