

In accordance with section 8 of the aforesaid Ordinance, any claimant to the moneys may present a petition on that behalf to the Supreme Court against the Attorney General as respondent thereto.

Any claimant who has a moral claim may present a petition in writing to the Governor in Council praying for payment of any such sums and any order made by the Governor in Council thereon shall be a bar to the extent of any payment made under such order to any subsequent claim against the Crown to the same sum.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of September, 1920.

R. E. STUBBS,
Governor.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

No. 456.—It is hereby notified that the ratification of the Treaty of Peace with Bulgaria was signed on Monday, the 9th August, 1920, and that an Order of His Majesty the King in Council was issued on the 13th August, 1920, ordering that the 9th August, 1920, shall be treated as the date of the termination of war between His Majesty and Bulgaria.

No. 457.—As the 1920-1921 Session of the University of Hongkong will shortly be opened, the Government considers it advisable to publish a preliminary statement concerning the first report dated the 30th June, 1920, of the Commission which was recently appointed to enquire into the position and working of the University.

With regard to the University's present financial situation, the Commission found that at the close of the financial year ending on the 31st August, 1920, there would be a deficit for the year on Working Account of about \$145,000, and an accrued overdraft at the bank of about \$500,000 on Working and Capital Accounts combined, and an accrued deficit of about \$70,000 on an endowment Sinking Fund.

The Commission, among its various recommendations, strongly advises that the University should be carried on in all three present faculties of Medicine, Engineering, and Arts; that it should be carried on under conditions which make for efficiency and success; that if it is to reach and keep a position worthy of the Colony and the British Empire, and if it is to take its proper part in the developments now in progress in China, it must maintain a standard fully as high as, or higher than, in the past, and must expand soon and widely; that, in particular, there is urgent need of increased hospital facilities in the Medical department, and better workshops in the Engineering department, and certain improvements recommended in the Educational and Commercial courses; that a Vice-Chancellor ought to be appointed as soon as possible; and that the institution should at once be placed on a business footing.

With these views His Excellency the Governor in Council and the Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council are in accord, and the Government is in communication with the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the necessary financial measures.

In the meantime His Excellency the Governor has requested Dr. Jordan, the present Pro-Vice-Chancellor, to continue to conduct the affairs of the University as Acting Vice-Chancellor.

A. G. M. FLETCHER,
Colonial Secretary.

3rd September, 1920.