

No. 194.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 6.

MONDAY, 25TH APRIL, 1921.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT
(Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G.).

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major-General Sir GEORGE
MACAULAY KIRKPATRICK, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.).

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (EDWARD DUDLEY CORSCADEN WOLFE).
 „ the Attorney General, (JOSEPH HORSFORD KEMP, K.C., C.B.E.).
 „ the Colonial Treasurer, (CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER, O.B.E.).
 „ the Director of Education, (EDWARD ALEXANDER IRVING).
 „ the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, (STEWART BUCKLE CARNE ROSS).
 „ the Director of Public Works, (THOMAS LUFF PERKINS).
 „ Mr. HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.
 „ Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK.
 „ Mr. HO FOOK.
 „ Mr. HERBERT WILLIAM BIRD.
 „ Mr. ALEXANDER GORDON STEPHEN.
 „ Mr. ARCHIBALD ORR LANG.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. ARCHIBALD ORR LANG took the Oath and assumed his seat as a Member of the Council.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th April, 1921, were confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 25 and 26, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 25.—Miscellaneous Services, Payment to Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews for professional services in connection with report on the China and Japan Telephone and Electric Company, Limited,	8	5,000.00
No. 26. Kowloon-Canton Railway, Special Expenditure, Ramapo Switch Stands,.....		3,337.00

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Mr. POLLOCK addressed the Council with reference to Minute No. 25.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government replied.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 4), dated the 14th April, 1921, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

THE DAIRY FARM PROPERTY.—Mr. BIRD, pursuant to notice, asked the following question :—

“In view of the fact that the housing problem is still acute and that the Dairy Farm Co. hold some 210 acres of highly suitable and accessible building land on the cool side of the Island, will the Government take preliminary steps to develop some spot on the mainland, such as the slopes of the Shatin Valley, with a view to the ultimate removal of that Company's sheds and cattle to such spot and the resumption of the land at present in its possession?”

The Colonial Secretary replied.

CUSTODIAN BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to provide for the transference of property, rights and powers to successive holders of the office of Custodian of Enemy Property.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

The Attorney General moved that the Council go into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

On Council resuming, the Attorney General reported that the Bill had passed through Committee without amendments and moved that it be read a third time.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

TREATY OF PEACE (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) ORDER, 1920, BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to modify certain provisions of the Treaty of Peace Order, 1919, as amended by the Treaty of Peace (Amendment) Order, 1920, and by the Treaty of Peace (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1920, for the purpose of adapting the provisions of the Order to the circumstances of the Colony of Hongkong.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

On Council resuming, the Attorney General reported that the Bill had passed through Committee without amendments and moved that it be read a third time.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

STAMP DUTIES BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to stamp duty.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Mr. POLLOCK and His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

The following amendments were agreed to:—

- Clause 3 (9). Insert “, and every decree or order of any Court,” after “instrument” in the 2nd line.
- Clause 3 (29). Delete.
- Clause 9. Insert “with intent to defraud the Government” after “who” in the 5th line.
- Clause 14. Substitute “rules” for “regulations” in the 1st line.
- Clause 21. Delete.
- Clause 22. Re-number 21.
- Clause 23. do. 22.
- Clause 24. do. 23.
- Clause 25. do. 24.
- Clause 26. do. 25.
- Clause 27. do. 26.
- Clause 28. do. 27.
- Clause 29. Delete.
- Clause 30. Re-number 28.
- Clause 31. do. 29.
- Clause 33. do. 31.
- Clause 34. do. 32.
- Clause 35. do. 33.
- Clause 36. do. 34.
- Clause 37. do. 35.
- Clause 38. do. 36.
- Clause 39. do. 37.
- Clause 40. do. 38.
- Clause 41. do. 39.
- Clause 42. Delete.
- Clause 43. Re-number 40.
- Clause 44. do. 41.
- Clause 45. Re-number 42. Add “(1)” after “42” and add a new sub-clause “(2). No prosecution shall be instituted under this Ordinance except with the consent of the Collector.” In the margin add “and consent of Collector.”
- Clause 46. Re-number 43. Add “or attempts to commit” after “commits” in the 1st line.
- Clause 47. Re-number 44.

The following clauses and sub-clauses, as re-numbered were left over for further consideration:—

3 (19), 5, 6, 16, 17, 22, 39, 40.

The Bill was left in Committee.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until Thursday, the 28th day of April, 1921.

CLAUD SEVERN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Confirmed this 28th day of April, 1921.

S. B. B. McELDERRY,
Clerk of Councils.