

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 314.

DOWNING STREET,
10th May, 1921.

SIR,—With reference to my predecessor's Circular despatch of the 19th of February, 1906, and connected correspondence, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Roumania has given notice under date 18th April last of its decision to denounce the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Roumania which was signed at Bucharest on the 31st of October, 1905.

I have, &c.,

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

The Officer Administering the Government of
HONGKONG.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 315.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 10.

THURSDAY, 30TH JUNE, 1921.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
(SIR REGINALD EDWARD STUBBS, K.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, (CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G.).

„ the Attorney General, (JOSEPH HORSFORD KEMP, C.B.E., K.C.).

„ 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,
O.B.E.).

„ the Director of Public Works, (THOMAS LUFF PERKINS).

„ Mr. HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.

„ Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK.

„ Mr. PERCY HOBSON HOLYOAK.

„ Mr. HO FOOK.

„ Mr. HERBERT WILLIAM BIRD.

„ Mr. ALEXANDER GORDON STEPHEN.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 23rd June, 1921, were confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 50 to 52, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 50.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Special Expenditure, New Building for block working at Hunghom, \$	2,700.00
No. 51.—Director of Education, Other Charges, Laboratory (Queen's College),	400.00
No. 52.—Harbour Master's Department, Other Charges, Examination Fees,	1,000.00

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 7), dated the 23rd June, 1921, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

QUESTIONS.—MR. POLLOCK, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions:—

1. *Has the Committee for fixing the prices of food and other necessaries been dissolved and if so when was it dissolved and why? If not dissolved, how long is it since it last met?*
2. *Is the Government aware that the prices of fish and firewood have been recently considerably increased by compradores? Will the Government cause enquiries to be made into the same, with a view to having same reduced?*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

RENTS BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the recovery of possession in certain cases and to restrict the rents of certain domestic tenements.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.—The Attorney General moved that the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend further the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, be postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

This was agreed to.

CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION BILL.—The Attorney General moved that the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance, 1900, be also postponed to the next meeting of Council.

This was agreed to.

MAINTENANCE ORDERS (FACILITIES FOR ENFORCEMENT) BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to facilitate the enforcement in the Colony of Maintenance Orders made in England or Ireland and *vice versa*, and to declare the application of the Married Women (Desertion) Ordinance, 1905, and to amend the said Ordinance.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

On the motion of the Attorney General, clause 13 was amended by the insertion of the word "The" immediately before the word "Married" in the first line thereof.

On Council resuming, the Attorney General reported that the Bill had passed through Committee with one amendment 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.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to criminal procedure in the Supreme Court.

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 amendment 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.

NON-FERROUS METAL INDUSTRY BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to repeal the Non-Ferrous Metal Industry Ordinance, 1919, and the Non-Ferrous Metal Industry Amendment Ordinance, 1920.

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 amendment 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.

COMPANIES BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend further the law relating to companies.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

On the motion of the Attorney General it was agreed to substitute "by the repeal of the words "unless executed within the Colony" in sub-section (8) (a) thereof." for "by the insertion of the words "by the transferor" after the word "executed" in sub-section (8) (a) thereof." in section 7 sub-section (c), and to add the following sub-section to section 13:

- (3) Every Order in Council made under this section shall be laid on the table of the Legislative Council at the first meeting thereof held after the publication of such Order in Council in the *Gazette*, and if a resolution be passed at the first meeting of the Legislative Council held after such Order in Council shall have been laid on the table of the said Council resolving that any such Order in Council shall be rescinded or amended

in any manner whatsoever, the said Order in Council shall, without prejudice to anything done thereunder, be deemed to be rescinded, or amended as the case may be, as from the date of publication in the *Gazette* of the passing of such resolution.

The amendment was approved.

Section 19 was amended to read as follows:—

Section 224 of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, is amended by the repeal of the word “smaller” and by the substitution therefor of the words “in Council” immediately after the word “Governor” in the third line thereof.

The Attorney General moved a new section 24, as follows:—

24, section 7, of the Companies Ordinance, 1915, is amended by the repeal of the words “unless executed by the transferor within the Colony” in sub-section (2) thereof.

The new section was approved.

On Council resuming, the Attorney General reported that the Bill had passed through Committee with 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.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Monday, the 18th day of July, 1921.

R. E. STUBBS,
Governor.

Confirmed this 18th day of July, 1921.

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

APPOINTMENTS, &c.

No. 316.—His Majesty the KING has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Honourable Mr. EDWARD VICTOR DAVID PARR to be an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council for a period of 4 years, with effect from the 2nd December, 1920.

21st July, 1921.

NOTICES.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

No. 317.—Notice is hereby given that a limited number of maps of the Kowloon Peninsula scale 200' = 1 inch can be obtained on application to the Public Works Department at a cost of \$25 a set.

N.B.—The money should *not* be sent with the application.