

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 454.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 14.

THURSDAY, 27TH OCTOBER, 1921.

PRESENT :

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

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Lieut.-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 HORSEFORD 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 summons.

THE OATH ADMINISTERED.—Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK having resigned and been re-appointed, took the customary oath and assumed his seat as Member of the Council.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 8th September, 1921, were confirmed.

PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers :—

Report of the Director of Public Works for the year 1920.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 4 of the Stamp Ordinance, 1921, on 8th September, 1921.

Regulation made by the Governor in Council under section 6 of the Dogs Ordinance, 1893, on 22nd September.

Amendment of the Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the Public Places Regulation Ordinance, 1870, on 29th September.

Amendment of the Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the Queen's Recreation Ground Ordinance, 1893, on 29th September.

Amendment of the Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the Public Places Regulation Ordinance, 1870, on 29th September.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the Public Places Regulation Ordinance, 1870, on 29th September.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 17 of the Piracy Prevention Ordinance, 1914, on 29th September.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 3 of the Vehicles and Traffic Regulation Ordinance, 1912, on 6th October.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 29 (4) of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, on 20th October.

Abstract showing the differences between the approved Estimates of Expenditure for 1921 and the Estimates of Expenditure for 1922.

Financial Statements in connection with the Estimates for 1922.

Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the conditions of the industrial employment of children in Hongkong, and the desirability and feasibility of legislation for the regulation of such employment.

Return showing the number of boys under the age of 18 who have been admitted to prison for each quarter since the 1st January, 1920.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 84 to 113, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

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| No. 84.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Wagons, | \$ 21,213.00 |
| No. 85.—Governor, Incidental Expenses, | 1,000.00 |
| No. 86.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Communications, Roads, Path 10 feet wide to the North of Hunghom Inland Lot No. 257,..... | 2,500.00 |
| No. 87.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Water Works, Reconstruction of unfiltered water main from Albany to Elliot Filter Beds, | 10,000.00 |
| No. 88.—Miscellaneous Services, Gratuity to Mr. S. G. GOARD in respect of the use by the Colonial Government of his invention of improvements relating to Ships' Moorings, | £250 0s. 0d. |
| No. 89.—Prison Department, Incidental Expenses, | \$ 2,000.00 |
| No. 90.—Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories, Buildings, (37) Maintenance of Buildings, | 3,000.00 |
| No. 91.—Sanitary Department:— Launches, Steam Barges, and Lighters:— Repairs, | 4,200.00 |
| Stores, | 2,300.00 |
| | 6,500.00 |
| No. 92.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Switch Board, Lighting, etc., | 475.00 |
| No. 93.—Public Works, Establishment, Transport and Travelling Expenses,..... | 3,500.00 |
| No. 94.—Public Works, Establishment, Typewriter, | 270.00 |
| No. 95.—Public Works, Establishment, Drawing Materials and Mounting Plans, | 3,500.00 |
| No. 96.—Harbour Department, A.—Harbour Office, Purchase of Buoys and Moorings, | 1,430.00 |
| No. 97.—Medical Department:— Lunatic Asylum:— Provisions, &c., | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Victoria Hospital:— Fuel and Light, | 600.00 |
| Provisions, &c., | 1,000.00 |
| Government Laboratory:— Apparatus, &c.,..... | 2,000.00 |
| Books and Journals, | 20.00 |
| | 5,120.00 |
| No. 98.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Bridge No. 37,..... | 900.00 |
| No. 99.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, (36) Compensation and Resumptions, | 160,000.00 |

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| No. 100.—Botanical and Forestry Department, Maintenance of Gardens and Grounds, | \$ 500.00 |
| No. 101.—Colonial Secretary's Department and Legislature, Electric Fans and Light,..... | 120.00 |
| No. 102.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, (86) Miscellaneous Works, | 9,000.00 |
| No. 103.—Public Works, Recurrent :— Kowloon, Miscellaneous :— (34) Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages,..... | \$ 8,500.00 |
| New Territories, Miscellaneous :— (45) Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages,..... | 3,000.00 |
| | 11,500.00 |
| No. 104.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, Communications, Roads, 77 (f) General Works, | 50,000.00 |
| No. 105.—Imports and Exports Department, One Motor Truck,..... | 2,145.00 |
| No. 106.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Artificial Legs, | 760.00 |
| No. 107.—Police and Fire Brigade, A.—Police, One Hulk, | 10,000.00 |
| No. 108.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, Communications, Patrol path—Sheung Shui to Ta Ku Ling, | 3,000.00 |
| No. 109.—Public Works, Extraordinary, (35) Miscellaneous Works,..... | 10,000.00 |
| No. 110.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Harbour Improvements, | 2,500.00 |
| No. 111.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, (16) Roads: (g) General Works, | 13,700.00 |
| No. 112.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Miscellaneous, Additional paving sheds, and extension of concrete pile moulding platform at Quarry Workshop,..... | 6,000.00 |
| No. 113.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Buildings, Re-building of certain prison sheds at Lai Chi Kok, | 6,000.00 |

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. 11), dated the 8th September, 1921, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

In view of the fact that the new motor road has destroyed the principal Children's play ground at the Peak, will the Government lay out a new Garden for their use in the hollow leading off the Chamberlain Road below Plunkett's Gap?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

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

1. *When will the Report of the Committee on Child Labour be published?*

2. Will the Government lay upon the table of the Legislative Council a return, showing the number of boys, under the age of 18, who have been sent to Prison, for each Quarter since the 1st January, 1920?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

LIGHT DUES.—The Colonial Secretary moved the following Resolution :—

It is hereby resolved by this Council that light dues shall continue to be collected at the rates laid down in Table P of the Schedule to the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, No. 10 of 1899.

The Colonial Secretary addressed the Council.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

LIQUOR DUTIES.—The Colonial Secretary moved the following Resolution :—

It is hereby resolved that the resolution made by this Council under the provisions of section 41 (1) of the Liquors Consolidation Ordinance, 1911, on the 7th day of April, 1921, published in the Gazette on the 7th day of April, 1921, as Government Notification No. 139 as amended by the resolution made by this Council on the 23rd day of June, 1921, published in the Gazette on the 24th day of June, 1921, as Government Notification No. 279 be further amended as follows namely :—

1. *By cancelling the words "brandy and" in line 4 thereof and by adding the word "brandy" between the words "all" and "whisky" in line 5 thereof.*
2. *By cancelling the clause thereof marked (3) and substituting therefor the following clause :—*
 - (3) *On all intoxicating liquors other than spirits of wine, arrack, and native wines and spirits, heretofore or hereafter imported into, distilled, made, or prepared in the Colony above the strength of 18° under proof there shall be paid an additional duty of 7 cents per gallon for every degree above such strength.*

The Colonial Secretary addressed the Council.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

APPROPRIATION BILL FOR 1922.—The Colonial Secretary moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding Sixteen million four hundred and fifty thousand one hundred and thirty-one Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1922.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

His Excellency the Governor addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION SECOND AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Ordinances, 1908 and 1921.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend further the Legal Practitioners Ordinance, 1871.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

RENTS AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Rents Ordinance, 1921.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

The Attorney General moved that the Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

MERCANTILE BANK NOTE ISSUE BILL.—Mr. POLLOCK addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to extend for a further period the powers granted by the Mercantile Bank Note Issue Ordinance, 1911, to the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, to make, issue, re-issue and circulate notes in the Colony.

Mr. Ho Fook seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE INCORPORATION BILL.—Mr. POLLOCK addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance for the incorporation of the Christian Brothers School known in French as "L'Institut des Frères des Écoles Chrétiennes" and known in Hongkong as "St. Joseph's College."

Mr. BIRD seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

INDEMNITY BILL.—With the consent of the Council, the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to restrict the taking of legal proceedings in respect of certain acts and matters done during the war and to provide in certain cases remedies in substitution therefor was postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.—The Attorney General moved that the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend further the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, be withdrawn.

The Colonial Secretary seconded and the Bill was withdrawn.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 3rd day of November, 1921.

R. E. STUBBS,
Governor.

Confirmed this 3rd day of November, 1921.

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