

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 522.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 17.

THURSDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 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 HORSFORD KEMP, C.B.E., K.C.).

„ the Colonial Treasurer, (CHARLES McILVAINE MESSER, O.B.E.).

„ the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, (EDWIN RICHARD HALLIFAX, O.B.E.).

„ the Director of Education, (EDWARD ALEXANDER IRVING).

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

„ Mr. HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.

„ Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK.

„ Mr. HERBERT WILLIAM BIRD.

„ Mr. ALEXANDER GORDON STEPHEN.

„ Mr. ARCHIBALD ORR LANG.

„ Mr. CHOW SHOU-SON.

The Council met pursuant to summons.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. CHOW SHOU-SON took the oath and assumed his seat as a Member of the Council.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th November, 1921, were confirmed.

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

Regulation made by the Governor in Council under section 3 of the Vehicles and Traffic Regulation Ordinance, 1912, on 17th November.

Regulations made by the Captain Superintendent of Police with the approval of the Governor in Council under section 19 of the Police Force Ordinance, 1900, on 17th November.

Order made by the Governor in Council under section 7 of the Rating Ordinance, 1901, on 17th November.

Regulation made by the Governor in Council under section 4 of the Stamp Ordinance, 1921, on 24th November.

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under section 3 of the Electricity Supply Ordinance, 1911, on 1st December.

Return of Excesses on Sub-Heads met by Savings under Heads of Expenditure for the 3rd Quarter of 1921.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 122 to 133, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 122.—Public Works, Recurrent, Miscellaneous, (17) Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages,	\$ 7,000.00
No. 123.—Charitable Services, Grant in aid of Charitable Institutions, John G. Kerr Hospital, Canton,...	10,000.00
No. 124.—Public Works, Establishment, Electric Fans and Light,	1,000.00
No. 125.—Treasury, Stamp Office, Stamps, &c.,	8,000.00
No. 126.—Miscellaneous Services:—	
Newspapers and Periodicals, ... \$	500.00
Printing and Binding Civil Service List,	124.00
Miscellaneous Papers,	25,000.00
Ordinances, &c.,.....	1,800.00
Rent Allowance,.....	10,000.00
Rent of Public Telephone,	2,100.00
Transport of Government Servants,.....	105,000.00
	144,524.00
No. 127.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, (66) Com- pensation and Resumptions,.....	10,000.00
No. 128.—Public Works, Recurrent, Waterworks, (19) Maintenance of City and Hill Districts,	45,000.00
No. 129.—Public Works, Recurrent, Waterworks, (22) Water Account, (Meters, &c.),	3,000.00
No. 130.—Colonial Secretary's Office, Personal Emolu- ments,	6,500.00
No. 131.—Charitable Services:—	
Charitable allowance to John Dowling at Sydney,	\$ 60.00
Passages and relief of Destitutes,	500.00
	560.00
No. 132.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, (86) Miscellaneous Works,	3,000.00
No. 133.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Wagons,	391.00

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. 14), dated the 14th November, 1921, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

With reference to the letter from "Brown Sugar," headed "Government Officers' Quarters," in the South China Morning Post of Friday, 18th November, in which it is stated that Government Officers, occupying Government Quarters are, several of them, sub-letting part of their Quarters to relatives and friends, for personal profit, will the Government state—

1. How many instances of such sub-letting exist and in respect of what Government Quarters?
2. Is such sub-letting permitted by the Government or not? If so what conditions or regulations govern such permission?
3. Will the Government lay upon the table a copy of such conditions or regulations?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

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

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

STOCKS BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to regulate the imposition of the penalty of stocks.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

TREATY OF PEACE (HUNGARY) ORDER, 1921, BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to modify certain provisions of the Treaty of Peace (Hungary) Order, 1921, 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 the motion of the Attorney General it was agreed to insert in the eighth line of Clause 3 immediately after the figures 1921 the words “or by any order amending the same.” Clause 4 was omitted entirely.

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.

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.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 15th day of December, 1921.

R. E. STUBBS,
Governor.

Confirmed this 15th day of December, 1921.

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

No. 523.—His Excellency the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the KING, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—

Ordinance No. 30 of 1921.—An Ordinance to amend further the Rents Ordinance, 1921.

Ordinance No. 31 of 1921.—An Ordinance to regulate the imposition of the penalty of stocks.