

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 165.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 2.

Thursday, 16th February, 1933, at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR  
(Sir WILLIAM PEEL, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.).

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major-General OSWALD CUTHBERT BORRETT, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.).

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (Mr. WILFRID THOMAS SOUTHOORN, C.M.G.).

„ the Attorney General, (Mr. CHALONER GRENVILLE ALABASTER, K.C., O.B.E.).

„ the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, (Mr. EDWIN RICHARD HALLIFAX, C.M.G., C.B.E.).

„ the Colonial Treasurer, (Mr. EDWIN TAYLOR).

„ Mr. EDWARD DUDLEY CORSCADEN WOLFE, C.M.G., (Inspector General of Police).

„ Commander GEORGE FRANCIS HOLE, R.N. (Retired), (Harbour Master).

„ Dr. ARTHUR ROBARTES WELLINGTON, (Director of Medical and Sanitary Services).

„ Mr. RICHARD McNEIL HENDERSON, (Director of Public Works).

„ Sir HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, Kt., K.C.

„ Sir WILLIAM EDWARD LEONARD SHENTON, Kt.

„ Mr. JOSÉ PEDRO BRAGA.

„ Mr. Ts'ò SEEN-WAN, O.B.E., LL.D.

„ Mr. CHARLES GORDON STEWART MACKIE.

„ Mr. JOHN JOHNSTONE PATERSON.

„ Mr. CHAU TSUN-NIN.

Mr. ROLAND ARTHUR CHARLES NORTH, (Deputy Clerk of Councils).

ABSENT :

The Honourable Mr. ROBERT HORMUS KOTEWALL, C.M.G., LL.D.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor occupied the Chair.

MINUTES.

2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 2nd February, 1933, were confirmed.

PAPERS.

3. The following papers were laid on the table :—

Amendments of and Additions to the Dairies By-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, Ordinance No. 1 of 1903, dated 2nd February, 1933.

Rule made by the Governor in Council under section 16 of the Gunpowder and Fireworks Ordinance, 1901, Ordinance No. 14 of 1901, dated 8th February, 1933.

QUESTIONS.

4. The Hon. Mr. JOSÉ PEDRO BRAGA, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions :—

Is the Honourable the Inspector General of Police aware that cabarets and “dancing academies” so-called are being regarded as a growing social evil in the Colony and are a cause of very real anxiety and dissatisfaction among parents because of the dangers to which they expose young and inexperienced people?

2. Will the same Honourable Member kindly compile, for the information of this Council, a return showing, respectively, for Hong Kong and Kowloon :—

(a) the number of cabarets, or “dancing academies” so-called, now carrying on business with the knowledge and permission of the Police authorities;

(b) the premises within which the cabaret business is conducted;

(c) between what hours they are permitted to remain open to the public; and

(d) the periods for which these places of entertainment are allowed to continue their business?

3. Are any regulations extant permitting of the licensing of cabarets in the Colony? If not, is it contemplated to regulate the business of cabarets by law?

4. If the reply to the preceding question is in the negative, will the Government consider the expediency of the early framing of regulations for licensing cabarets and similar establishments in Hong Kong?

5. Are cabarets in the Colony restricted as to number; if so, what is the maximum number for Hong Kong and Kowloon, respectively?

6. Does the Inspector General of Police consider that such numbers have been attained, and if not will he limit the number and so discourage the opening of any more establishments devoted to commercialised dancing?

The Hon. Mr. EDWARD DUDLEY CORSCADEN WOLFE, C.M.G., (Inspector General of Police) replied as follows :—

1. The Inspector General of Police is aware that such institutions exist in the Colony and that the number is increasing. The Inspector General of Police has reason to believe that certain sections of the community do not regard cabarets and dancing academies with approval, though he has received no representations on the subject.

2.—(a) The number of cabarets or dancing academies carrying on business with the knowledge of the Police is

Hong Kong	...	...	...	7
Kowloon	...	...	...	2.

(b) A list has been prepared and will be circulated to Honourable Members.

(c) There is no restriction on the hours they are permitted to remain open to the public.

- (d) There is no limit to the periods for which dancing academies are allowed to continue business.
3. There are no regulations extant. A proposal to require dancing academies to be licensed, and to frame suitable regulations is under consideration at the present time.
  4. Does not arise.
  5. No.
  6. The Inspector General of Police has at present no power to limit the number of cabarets or similar establishments.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

5. The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 1), dated the 2nd February, 1933, and moved its adoption.  
The Colonial Treasurer seconded.  
Question—put and agreed to.

MOTIONS.

6. The Attorney General moved :—  
That the order dated the 6th day of February, 1931, made by the Chief Justice under section 115 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1931, be approved.  
The Colonial Secretary seconded.  
Question—put and agreed to.
7. *Code of Civil Procedure Amendment Bill.*—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend further the Code of Civil Procedure.”  
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.
8. *Arms and Ammunition Bill.*—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled “An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to Arms and Ammunition.”  
The Colonial Secretary seconded.  
Question—put and agreed to.  
Bill read a second time.  
Council in Committee on the Bill.  
In marginal note on page 3 the word “Prohibition” was altered to “Prohibition.”  
On Council resuming, the Attorney General reported that the Bill had passed through Committee with an immaterial 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.

9. *Printers and Publishers Amendment Bill.*—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend further the Printers and Publishers Ordinance, 1927.”

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.

10. *Supreme Court (Vacations) Amendment Bill.*—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend the Supreme Court (Vacations) Ordinance, 1898.”

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.

ADJOURNMENT.

11. The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

W. PEEL,  
*Governor*

Confirmed this 16th day of March, 1933.

R. A. C. NORTH,  
*Deputy Clerk of Councils.*