

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 981.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 16.

Wednesday, 2nd December, 1936, at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT:

- HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
(Sir ANDREW CALDECOTT, Kt., C.M.G., C.B.E.).
- His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major-General ARTHUR WOLLASTON BARTHOLOMEW, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.).
- The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (Mr. NORMAN LOCKHART SMITH).
- „ the Attorney General, (Mr. CHALONER GRENVILLE ALABASTER, O.B.E., K.C.).
- „ the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, (Mr. ROLAND ARTHUR CHARLES NORTH, *Acting*).
- „ the Colonial Treasurer, (Mr. EDWIN TAYLOR, C.M.G.).
- „ Commander GEORGE FRANCIS HOLE, R.N. (Retired), (Harbour Master).
- „ Dr. ARTHUR ROBERTS WELLINGTON, C.M.G., (Director of Medical and Sanitary Services).
- „ Mr. RICHARD McNEIL HENDERSON, (Director of Public Works).
- „ Mr. THOMAS HENRY KING, (Inspector General of Police).
- „ Mr. JOHN JOHNSTONE PATERSON.
- „ Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL.
- „ Mr. JOSÉ PEDRO BRAGA, O.B.E.
- „ Mr. CHAU TSUN-NIN.
- „ Mr. LO MAN-KAM.
- „ Mr. MARCUS THEODORE JOHNSON.
- „ Mr. ARTHUR WILLIAM HUGHES.
- „ Mr. DAVID MERCER MACDOUGALL, (Deputy Clerk of Councils).

ABSENT:

The Honourable Mr. Ts'ò SEEN-WAN, C.B.E., 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 24th November, 1936, were confirmed.

OATHS.

3. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (Mr. NORMAN LOCKHART SMITH) and the Honourable the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, (Mr. ROLAND ARTHUR CHARLES NORTH) took the Oath of Allegiance and assumed their seats as Members of the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. His Excellency the Governor addressed the Council on the question of introduction of Day Light Saving for Hong Kong.

PAPERS.

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

Amendments made by the Governor in Council under section 36 of the Tramway Ordinance, 1902, Ordinance No. 10 of 1902, to Appendix A and Appendix B to the rules, regarding stopping places for trams, dated 20th November, 1936.

Amendment of Regulation 2 made by the Governor in Council under section 2 of the Plants Ordinance, 1920, Ordinance No. 11 of 1920, dated 20th November, 1936.

Amendments of Pension Regulations A and B made by the Governor in Council under section 3 (1) of the Pensions Ordinance, 1932, Ordinance No. 21 of 1932, as enacted by section 4 of the Pensions Amendment Ordinance, 1934, Ordinance No. 12 of 1934, and with the sanction of the Secretary of State, dated 21st November, 1936.

Amendment made by the Governor in Council under section 25 (4) of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, Ordinance No. 10 of 1899, to Table M in the Schedule to that Ordinance, dated 24th November, 1936.

Rules made by the Chief Justice under section 32 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1873, Ordinance No. 3 of 1873, dated 4th November, 1936.

QUESTIONS.

6. The Hon. Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions :—

With reference to the answers given to questions put by Dr. R. A. DE CASTRO BASTO at the meeting of the Urban Council held on 10th November, and particularly to the answer to question 4, whereas :—

- (a) On 23rd November there were approximately 4,274 millions of gallons of water in storage in the Colony, and the present rate of consumption is approximately 158 million gallons per week,
- (b) The state of the roads in certain sections of the city might be a menace to public health and liable to detract seriously from the popularity of the Colony as a tourist centre,

will the Government :—

1. Reconsider the question of nightly flushing the streets, side-walks and surface channels, etc., with main water throughout the dry season or until such time as the supply of water is considered no longer adequate for the purpose.

If the answer to question 1 is in the negative, will the Government consider :—

2. As a temporary expedient flushing the streets, side-walks and surface channels, etc., in certain of the worst areas in rotation so that the latter are clean twice or even once a week.

The Colonial Secretary replied as follows :—

Government has reconsidered this question in view of a report by the Water Authority that a certain quantity of main water can be spared during the next few months for street cleansing. As the water available for this purpose is insufficient to meet the requirements of nightly street flushing, and in order to avoid as far as possible increases of staff, it has been decided to flush the principal streets in the urban areas on both sides of the harbour in rotation once a week.

The question will be further considered in the light of the results obtained from the foregoing decision.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

7. The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 10), dated 24th November, 1936, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

MOTIONS.

8. The Colonial Treasurer moved the following resolution :—

Resolved pursuant to section 6 of the Hong Kong Government Service (Levy on Salaries) Ordinance, 1936, that with effect from the 1st day of October, 1936, until the 31st day of December, 1936, both days included, that one sixth of the salary, if expressed in terms of sterling, of every officer of the Hong Kong Government Service, who shall have a wife or a child under the age of twenty-one years dependent on him and resident in a sterling or gold-standard country, shall be exempt (after deduction of the levy, if any, and of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Contribution, if any, or of either) from the operation of the special conversion rate provided for in section 2 (4) of the said Ordinance during the period in which such wife or child is so resident.

And Resolved further that in the case of such an officer, who has two or more such dependents so resident as aforesaid, the exemption (after the said deductions, if any) shall extend to one third of the salary.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

9. *Cremation Amendment Bill.*—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Cremation Ordinance, 1934."

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

10. *Director of Medical and Sanitary Services (Change of Name) Bill.*—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to give effect to the change in name and style of the offices heretofore known as those of Director of Medical and Sanitary Services and Deputy Director of Medical and Sanitary Services."

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.

11. *Merchant Shipping Amendment Bill*.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899.”

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.

12. *Nursing and Maternity Homes Registration Bill*.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled “An Ordinance to provide for the registration and inspection of nursing homes and maternity homes and for purposes connected therewith.”

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.

13. *Midwives (No. 2) Amendment Bill*.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend further the Midwives Ordinance, 1910.”

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.

14. *Defences (Firing Areas) Amendment Bill*.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled “An Ordinance to amend the Defences (Firing Areas) Ordinance, 1936.”

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.

15. *Ordinances and Regulations of Hong Kong (1937 edition) Bill.*—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled “An Ordinance to provide for a revised edition of the Ordinances, and for a revised edition of the Regulations, of the Colony.”

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.

16. The Council then adjourned until Wednesday, the 16th day of December, 1936, at 2.30 p.m.

A. CALDECOTT,
Governor.

Confirmed this 16th day of December, 1936.

A. G. CLARKE,
Deputy Clerk of Councils.