

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

1. Will the Government appoint a committee of experts to inquire into and report upon :—
 - (a.) The condition of the channel by which vessels enter the Harbour in order to proceed to their buoys or to the existing wharves.
 - (b.) The efficiency, or otherwise, of the present Government dredger the "St. Enoch".
 - (c.) The necessity, or otherwise, of at once ordering a modern dredging plant for constant use in this Harbour.
2. Has the report and finding of the "Civil Service Salaries Commission" been sent in to the Government yet and, if so, will the Government lay it upon the table for the consideration of the Council?

The Colonial Secretary replied.

THE BRITISH TRADERS INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (CAPITAL CONVERSION) BILL.—Mr. HOLYOAK moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to authorise the British Traders Insurance Company Limited to convert its silver capital into gold.

Mr. DODWELL seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

Mr. HOLYOAK moved the suspension of the Standing Orders so that the Bill might be read a second and third time.

Mr. DODWELL seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Mr. HOLYOAK then addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill.

Mr. DODWELL seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

On Council resuming, Mr. HOLYOAK reported that the Bill had passed through Committee without amendment and moved that it be read a third time.

Mr. DODWELL seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council and proposed that the course of answering certain questions in writing and publishing the replies be adopted.

The Council agreed.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

CLAUD SEVERN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Confirmed this 5th day of June, 1919.

A. D. BALL,
Clerk of Councils.

No. 253.—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinance passed by the Legislative Council :—

Ordinance No. 6 of 1919.—An Ordinance to authorise the Bank of Canton Limited to convert its silver capital into gold.

HONGKONG.

No. 6 OF 1919.

I assent to this Ordinance.

LS

CLAUD SEVERN,
Officer Administering the Government.

6th June, 1919.

An Ordinance to authorise the Bank of Canton Limited to convert its silver capital into gold.

[6th June, 1919.]

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Bank of Canton Limited (Capital Conversion) Ordinance, 1919". Short title.
2. In this Ordinance "The Company" means The Bank of Canton Limited. Interpretation.
3. The Company may at any time by special resolution convert into gold its silver capital as existing at the date of the confirmation of such special resolution and such conversion shall take effect upon such special resolution being confirmed. Any such conversion may be in such form of gold currency and at such rate of exchange and upon such terms and conditions as may be sanctioned by the special resolution effecting the conversion. Power to convert silver capital into gold.
4. Upon the filing of any such special resolution as is referred to in section 3 of this Ordinance the Registrar of Companies shall issue a fresh certificate of incorporation of the Company showing the capital of the Company as affected by such conversion. Such fresh certificate shall take the place of the original certificate of incorporation of the Company and shall be the certificate of incorporation of the Company. Issue of fresh Certificate of Incorporation.
5. Nothing in this Ordinance shall affect or be deemed to affect the rights of His Majesty the King, His Heirs and Successors or the rights of any body politic or corporate or of any other person except such as are mentioned in this Ordinance and those claiming by from and under them. Saving of the rights of the Crown and of certain other rights.
6. This Ordinance shall not come into operation until His Majesty's pleasure shall have been signified by a Government notification of non-disallowance published in the *Gazette*. Commencement.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hongkong, this 5th day of June, 1919.

A. D. BALL,
Clerk of Councils.

Assented to by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, the 6th day of June, 1919.

A. G. M. FLETCHER,
Colonial Secretary.