

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 260.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 5.

THURSDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1919.

## PRESENT :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT  
(Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G.).

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, (Major-General FRANCIS VENTRIS).

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary, (ARTHUR GEORGE MURCHISON FLETCHER, C.B.E.).

„ the Attorney General, (HENRY EDWARD POLLOCK, K.C.).

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

„ the Director of Public Works, (WILLIAM CHATHAM, C.M.G.).

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

„ the Captain Superintendent of Police, (EDWARD DUDLEY CORSCADEN WOLFE).

„ Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK.

„ Mr. Ho Fook.

„ Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL.

„ Mr. CHALONER GRENVILLE ALABASTER, O.B.E.

„ Mr. EDWARD VICTOR DAVID PARR.

## ABSENT :

„ Mr. JOHN JOHNSTONE.

The Council met pursuant to summons.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 10th April, 1919, were confirmed.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. PARR took the Oath and assumed his seat as a Member of the Council.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 21 to 40, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 21.—Miscellaneous Services, Language Bonuses, .....	\$ 780.00
No. 22.—Fire Brigade, Incidental Expenses,.....	50.10
No. 23.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, (32) Roads, (c) General Works, .....	50,000.00
No. 24.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, (41) Roads, (d) General Works, .....	40,000.00
No. 25.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Com- munications, Roads: Deep Water Bay to Tytam Tuk Road, Improvement to section from Deep Water Bay to Repulse Bay, .....	20,000.00
No. 26.—Harbour Office, Special Expenditure, Furniture,..	200.00
No. 27.—Harbour Office, Special Expenditure, Furniture,..	176.00
No. 28.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, (35) Extensions of Lighting,.....	400.00
No. 29.—Public Works, Recurrent, Kowloon, (30) Electric Lighting,.....	700.00
No. 30.—Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories, (43) Electric Lighting, Shamshuipo, .....	350.00

No. 31.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, (20) Contribution towards cost of structure for Chairs and Rickshas, Barker Road Station,...	\$ 2,188.99
No. 32.—Public Works, Recurrent, Hongkong, (7) Improve- ments to Roads and Bridges outside City, ...	30,000.00
No. 33.—Prison Department, Other Charges,.....	2,900.00
No. 34.—Fire Brigade, 2 Motor Fire Engines and Pumps,..	8,507.35
No. 35.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Protection of D'Aguilar Wireless Station, .....	3,500.00
No. 36.—Miscellaneous Services, Purchase of "Lyeemun", No. 153, The Peak, .....	31,002.10
No. 37.—Civil Hospital, Other Charges,.....	6,200.00
No. 38.—Harbour Master's Department, Anchor for Bokhara Rock Buoy, .....	375.00
No. 39.—Charitable Services, Local Chinese Charities, ...	25,000.00
No. 40.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Miscellaneous Drainage Works, Kowloon and New Terri- tories, .....	26,500.00

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council with reference to Minute No. 39.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 4), dated the 10th April, 1919, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Public Works Committee (No. 2), dated the 10th April, 1919, and moved its adoption.

The Director of Public Works seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

Report on the Blue Book for 1918.

Financial Returns for the year 1918.

Report on the Finances for the year 1918.

Report of the Harbour Master for the year 1918.

Report of the Superintendent of Imports and Exports for the year 1918.

The Colonial Secretary addressed the Council with reference to the Financial Returns for 1918.

QUESTIONS.—Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK, pursuant to notice, asked the following questions:—

1. *There being numerous complaints regarding the refusal of the Police Department to issue hawkers' licences in many cases, will the Government state:—*

(a) *What was the largest number of hawkers' licences that had ever been issued, and what is the total number of current licences that have been issued to date?*

(b) *In view of the fact that the refusal to issue such licences may operate hardly on many deserving poor people, and of the consideration that those who are unable to obtain such licences may go to swell the number of bad characters in this Colony, whether instructions will be given to the Captain Superintendent of Police not to withhold licences from applicants therefor, unless they are known to be bad characters?*

2. *In the case of boys arrested for hawking without a licence, will the Government have the law so amended as to empower the Magistrates to punish the parents or guardians instead of the boys themselves?*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

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

1. *When will the section of Coronation Road to the North of Fife Street be completed so as to develop building sites and to provide through traffic with a direct route to the Taipo and Castle Peak Roads?*
2. *Will the Government construct a temporary ricksha road from a point on the Yaumati-Kowloon City Road to the main gate of the Old Kowloon Walled City, so as to render the walled city and numerous houses to the West of it accessible by wheeled vehicles from Yaumati?*
3. *Is it a fact that the new market at Samsuipo has no supply of fresh water?*
4. *Is it a fact that there are about 200 modern buildings (including a Public Dispensary, a temple and several factories) at New Samsuipo accommodating about 6,000 people, who have no fresh water supply except 3 street stand-pipes?*
5. *Is it a fact that there are about 2,400 boat-builders at Cheung Sha-wan to the North West of Samsuipo, who have no fresh water supply except 4 shallow wells surrounded by rubbish heaps and manure pits?*
6. *Is it a fact that there is no fresh water fire service at Cheung Sha-wan or Samsuipo and that most of the buildings are inaccessible from the Fire Float?*
7. *Is it a fact that the Kowloon Reservoir has considerably more water in it this year than at the same period last year, and that the mains from the Reservoir run within easy distance and at a convenient level for supplying Samsuipo and Cheung Sha-wan?*
8. *When will an adequate supply of water (1) for domestic use, (2) for fire service be provided for (a) New Samsuipo and (b) Cheung Sha-wan?*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

RESOLUTION.—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council and moved the following Resolution:—

*The Members of the Legislative Council desire to record their great appreciation of the honour which has been conferred by His Majesty the King on Sir Francis Henry May by conferring upon him the rank of Knight Grand Cross of the Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George for the eminent services rendered by him during his long career in the Public Service.*

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Sir REGINALD STUBBS, K.C.M.G.—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council and proposed that the following telegram be sent to Sir REGINALD STUBBS:—

“Members of the Legislative Council, on behalf of the Colony, desire to convey to you and Lady Stubbs their hearty congratulations on the honour which His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer.”

Question—put and agreed to.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES.—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government appointed Mr. PARR to serve on the Public Works Committee in place of Mr. HOLYOAK, and Mr. JOHNSTONE to serve on the Standing Law Committee in place of Mr. LANDALE, retired.

MARINE STORES PROTECTION BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance for the more effectual protection of marine stores.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the registration of births and deaths.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, 1900.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

TERMINATION OF THE PRESENT WAR (DEFINITION) BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to make provision for determining the date of the termination of the present war, and for purposes connected therewith.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance for the better Prevention of Corruption.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

BANK OF CANTON LIMITED (CAPITAL CONVERSION) BILL.—Mr. ALABASTER addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to authorise the Bank of Canton Limited to convert its silver capital into gold.

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

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

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Mr. ALABASTER then moved the Second reading of the Bill.

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

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

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

MISSIONS TO SEAMEN IN HONGKONG INCORPORATION BILL.—Mr. DODWELL addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to provide for the Incorporation of the Missions to Seamen in Hongkong.

Mr. PARR seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned until Thursday, the 12th day of June, 1919.

F. VENTRIS,  
for *Officer Administering the Government.*

Confirmed this 12th day of June, 1919.

A. D. BALL,  
*Clerk of Councils.*