

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 282.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 6.

THURSDAY, 12TH JUNE, 1919.

PRESENT:

- 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.).
- „ Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK.
- „ Mr. Ho FOOK.
- „ Mr. STANLEY HUDSON DODWELL.
- „ Mr. CHALONER GRENVILLE ALABASTER, O.B.E.
- „ Mr. EDWARD VICTOR DAVID PARR.

ABSENT:

- HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT
(Mr. CLAUD SEVERN, C.M.G.).
- The Honourable the Captain Superintendent of Police, (EDWARD DUDLEY CORSCADEN WOLFE).
- „ Mr. JOHN JOHNSTONE.

The Council met pursuant to summons.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 5th June, 1919, were confirmed.

MR. SEVERN ILL.—His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops informed the Council that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government was indisposed and had asked him to preside at the meeting.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 41 to 45, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 41.—Miscellaneous Services, Language Bonuses,	\$ 600.00
No. 42.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, (41) Roads, (d) General Works,	15,000.00
No. 43.—Royal Observatory, Transport,.....	100.00
No. 44.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Mis- cellaneous Works,	3,000.00
No. 45.—Public Works, Extraordinary, (15) Miscellaneous Drainage Works, (a) Main Sewer to intercept drainage from houses on east side of Mount Kellett,	2,200.00

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. 5), dated the 5th June, 1919, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

Report on the Assessment for the year 1919-1920.

“CHINA COMPANIES” CUSTODIAN BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance for the appointment of a Special Custodian of Enemy Interests in China Companies.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

MARINE STORES PROTECTION BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance for the more effectual protection of marine stores.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

On the motion of Mr. ALABASTER, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, it was agreed that the Second reading should not be taken and that the Bill be referred to the Standing Law Committee.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the 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 second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

On the motion of the Attorney General it was agreed that the hyphen between the figures “1896” and “1916” in the last line of section 1 be deleted and the word “to” substituted therefor.

On the motion of Mr. ALABASTER the following amendments were agreed to :—

That the words “before such death” in the sixth line of section 2 be deleted and the words “during the said illness” substituted therefor, and that the word “such” in the last line of the same section be deleted.

Section 3 was re-numbered as sub-section 1 and the following sub-section, numbered 2, was inserted at the end thereof :—

- (2.) The notice on the back of the certificate in Form No. 16 in the said Schedule is hereby amended by inserting after the words “cause of death” the words “and including a statement as to whether any, and if so what, anaesthetic was administered during the said illness”.

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.

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

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.

TERMINATION OF THE PRESENT WAR (DEFINITION) BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the Second reading of the 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 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.

PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION BILL.—The Attorney General moved that the Bill intituled An Ordinance for the better Prevention of Corruption be withdrawn.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

MISSIONS TO SEAMEN IN HONGKONG INCORPORATION BILL.—Mr. DODWELL moved the Second reading of the 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 second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

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

Mr. PARR seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

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

CLAUD SEVERN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Confirmed this 21st day of June, 1919.

A. D. BALL,
Clerk of Councils.