

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

No. 404.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 10.

THURSDAY, 28TH AUGUST, 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, C.B.).

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 Meetings, held on the 17th and 19th July, 1919, were confirmed.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 59 to 81, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee:—

No. 59.—Charitable Services:—

Charitable Pension,	\$ 84.66	
Charitable Allowance,	28.06	
		\$ 112.72

No. 60.—Prison Department:—

Photography,	\$ 250.00	
Executioner's Fee,	75.00	
		325.00

No. 61.—Miscellaneous Services, Rice Allowance, 48,000.00

No. 62.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Water Works, (39) Miscellaneous Works, 6,500.00

No. 63.—Imports and Exports Department, Furniture, ...	\$	300.00
No. 64.—Public Works, Recurrent, Hongkong, (2) Improvements to Buildings,		14,000.00
No. 65.—Public Works, Recurrent, Hongkong, Communications, (7) Improvements to Roads and Bridges outside City,		450.00
No. 66.—Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories, (47) Water Account, Meter, &c.,		200.00
No. 67.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Communications, (13) Roads: (d) Repulse Bay to Taitam Tuk, Second Section, Improving and Widening existing Road,		20,000.00
No. 68.—Judicial and Legal Departments, District Officer, Northern District, Motor Car Allowance,		300.00
No. 69.—Police Department, Passages, and Bonuses in lieu of passages,		9,000.00
No. 70.—Kowloon-Canton Railway, Locomotive, Carriage and Wagon Expenses:—		
Materials for Repairs and Renewals, Carriages,	\$	750.00
Materials for Repairs and Renewals, Wagons,		1,250.00
Running Stores, Engines, Oil,		1,000.00
Running Stores, Carriages and Wagons, Oil,		420.00
		<u>3,420.00</u>
No. 71.—Harbour Master's Department, Acquisition and re-arrangement of moorings in Victoria Harbour,		3,000.00
No. 72.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Miscellaneous, Repairs, Alterations, and Improvements to Central Police Station,		3,900.00
No. 73.—Public Works, Extraordinary, (37) Miscellaneous Works,		5,000.00
No. 74.—Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories, (45) Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages,		3,500.00
No. 75.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon Drainage:—		
(33) Training Nullah, General Works,	\$	9,500.00
(34) Miscellaneous Drainage Works, New Territories, Buildings, (40) Market at Tai O, including reclaiming site,		3,600.00
		710.00
		<u>13,810.00</u>
No. 76.—Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong, Additions and Alterations to Shaukiwan Police Station,		2,000.00
No. 77.—Crown Solicitor, Extra Legal Expenses,		625.00
No. 78.—Botanical and Forestry Department, Brushwood Clearing,		1,000.00
No. 79.—Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, (41) Roads: (a) Shamshuipo to Castle Peak, Section Tsun Wan to Castle Peak,—20 feet wide,		105,000.00

No. 80.—Judicial and Legal Departments, <i>E.</i> —Office of Land Registry, Typewriter,	\$ 152.86
No. 81.—Miscellaneous Services, Peace Celebrations	4,700.00

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. 7), dated the 17th July, 1919, and moved its adoption.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

Report on the General Post Office, Hongkong, for the year 1918.

Medical and Sanitary Reports for the year 1918.

Report of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs for the year 1918.

PUBLIC LATRINE AND URINALS.—The Colonial Secretary moved the following Resolution:—

Whereas application has been duly made by the Sanitary Board to the Governor under section 167 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, for the erection of a Public Latrine and Urinals under the steps in Duddell Street:

And whereas such application having been duly approved by the Governor and a notification of the intention to erect a Public Latrine and Urinals at such site having been duly published in three successive numbers of the Gazette, certain owners and occupiers of property in the vicinity have objected to such erection:

And whereas such objections have been duly considered:

It is hereby resolved by this Council that the above mentioned site and the erection thereof of a Public Latrine and Urinals be and the same are hereby approved.

The Attorney General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

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

1. *In order to lessen the loss of life in typhoons and to obviate as far as possible the exploitation of poor sampan people by excessive launch towage charges, will the Government arrange with the owners of powerful tugs and launches to render gratuitous towage service to sampans and other craft in difficulties whenever the black signals are hoisted during a flood tide?*
2. *Does the Observatory take into consideration the state of the tide in calculating the period of warning they give in the case of approaching typhoons? If not, will they give longer warning on a flood tide than on an ebb tide?*
3. *When will telephonic communication with Cheung Chau be restored?*
4. *Can the Government give any information with reference to the suggested establishment of a Chinese Government aerodrome in Hongkong, mentioned in the North China Daily News of the 19th August and the Hongkong Daily Press of the 25th August?*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

INDICTMENTS BILL.—The Attorney General moved the First reading of a Bill intitled An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Indictments in Criminal Cases, and matters incidental or similar thereto.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

RICE BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance for the acquisition and disposal of Rice by the Hongkong Government, and for validating acts previously done.

The Attorney General seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

ENEMY ALIENS RESTRICTION BILL.—The Attorney General addressed the Council and moved the First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to prohibit former Enemy Aliens from being within the Colony without a permit.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council and certified that an emergency existed for passing the Bill through all its stages at that meeting.

The Attorney General moved the suspension of the Standing Orders so that the Bill might be passed through all its stages at that meeting of the Council.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

The Attorney General then moved the Second reading of the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Mr. PARR and His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council.

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL.—The Colonial Secretary moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to authorize the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Five million four hundred and sixty-six thousand three hundred and twenty-seven Dollars and sixty-three Cents to defray the Charges of the year 1918.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council in Committee on the Bill.

The Colonial Secretary then moved that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded, and this was agreed to.

CHEUNG CHAU (RESIDENCE) BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to provide that no person shall reside within the southern portion of the Island of Cheung Chau (長洲) otherwise known as Dumb-bell Island without the consent of the Governor in Council.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK, His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Mr. HO FOOK and Mr. ALABASTER addressed the Council.

Question—put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Council went into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

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, Mr. LAU CHÜ-PAK and Mr. Ho Fook voting against it.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT REGULATION BILL.—The Bill intituled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to Places of Public Entertainment, was not proceeded with.

RATING (SPECIAL WAR RATE) AMENDMENT BILL.—The Attorney General moved the Second reading of the Bill intituled An Ordinance to amend the Rating (Special War Rate) Ordinance, 1917.

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.—The Council then adjourned until Thursday, the 4th September, 1919.

CLAUD SEVERN,
Officer Administering the Government.

Confirmed this 4th day of September, 1919.

A. D. BALL,
Clerk of Councils.

No. 405.—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 Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—

Ordinance No. 17 of 1919.—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Indictments in Criminal Cases, and matters incidental or similar thereto.

Ordinance No. 18 of 1919.—An Ordinance to authorize the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Five million four hundred and sixty-six thousand three hundred and twenty-seven Dollars and sixty-three Cents to defray the Charges of the year 1918.