

25TH OCTOBER, 1906.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

Hon. COLONEL DARLING, R.E. (Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Captain-superintendent of Police).

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK.

Hon. Dr. Ho KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table the following paper: Report by the Examiners of Queen's College.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that Financial minutes Nos. 78 to 83 be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Financial minute No. 78 for \$1,942 is on account of four harbour department boats lost at the out stajos during the typhoon of 18th September, and of 22 magazines which had been borrowed from the Ordinance Department and 792 blank cartridges which were lost at Gap Rock in the storms of 28th and 29th September. Financial minute No. 79 for \$110, is for renting accommodation to take the place of a matshed that had to be temporarily used as a mortuary on Praya East. Financial minute No. 80 for \$113 speaks for itself. Financial minute No. 81 is for \$450 on account of the hire of a launch for the Health Officer of the Port while his own launch *Sybil* was under repair. Financial Minute No. 82, for \$14,000, is for taking down evidence given before the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance Commission and for providing copies of that evidence for the consideration of the members of the Commission. The amount is a very large one but it is in accordance with the lowest tender which was submitted to the Government for this work. I only trust that the cost to the Government in money and to the members of the Commission in labour will be repaid by the value of the Commission's report when it is produced. Financial minute No. 83, for \$6,000, is on account of various works which have had to be undertaken for the Sanitary Board in connection with the typhoon. It includes \$1,448 for repairs to matsheds, \$700 repairs to dust carts, \$2,300 repairs to plague boats, \$989 repairs to cemeteries, and \$350 incidental expenses.

Agreed to.

CHINESE CEMETERIES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, in accordance with Section 78 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, laid on the table the additional bye-law and moved that it be approved by the Council.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

His EXCELLENCY—The bye-law with reference to cemeteries made by the Sanitary Board is as follows:

19 The areas of the grave spaces in the various sections shall not exceed the following dimensions:

Section A, 7 feet long by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide with 18 inches interspaces.

Section B, 7 feet 6 inches long by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  feet wide with 18 inches interspaces.

Section C, 8 feet long by 3 feet wide with 18 inches interspaces.

Section D, 10 feet long by 8 feet wide with 18 inches interspaces.

Section E, 10 feet long by 8 feet wide with 18 inches interspaces.

The bye-law was approved.

WORKMENS TRAMS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—By your Excellency's direction the further consideration of the resolution which stands in the name of the Attorney-general will be postponed until the next meeting of the Council.

The resolution was as follows: Resolved that the Resolutions regarding the running of Workmen's Cars by the Hongkong Tramway Electric Company, Limited, passed by the Legislative Council on the 21st day of June, 1906, be rescinded as from to-day.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

The Colonial TREASURER moved the first reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Ordinance, 1900."

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

BILL WITHDRAWN.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to withdraw the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to trade marks."

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

His Excellency—The Bill which was read a first time at the last meeting was approved by the merchants of the Colony represented by the Chamber of Commerce, but it has not met with the approval of the legal profession. I have thought it well to withdraw it for further consideration.

Agreed to.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—We are now in the committee stage on this Bill. As there are one or two alterations which appear to be desirable I beg to move

that the Bill be re-committed to committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

The Council went into committee and considered the Bill anew.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—I would like to ask, Sir, what steps have been taken to inform junk owners of the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance Amendment of 1905 with reference to carrying lights?

His EXCELLENCY — The amendment was communicated to the Harbour Master. I am not aware what action has been taken, but will enquire.

On the Council resuming,

His EXCELLENCY reported that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance further to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899, and for other purposes" had passed through Committee with minor amendments.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—If there is no objection I move the third reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance further to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1899."

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the Bill was read a third time and became law.

His EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till 2.30 on Thursday, Nov. 1st.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held—the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding. The following votes were passed:—

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT CHARGES.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand nine hundred and forty-two dollars (\$1,942) in aid of the vote Harbour Master's Department, for the following items:—

A.—Harbour Office.

OTHER CHARGES.

New Boats ----- \$720

G.—Lighthouses.

Gap Rock Lighthouse.

OTHER CHARGES.

Gunpowder Charges and Tubes for Fog Signalling Guns ----- 1,222

Total ----- \$1,942

TYPHOON DAMAGES.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and ten dollars (\$110) in aid of the vote Sanitary Department —other charges, Typhoon Expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and thirteen dollars (\$113) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Lega, Departments, B. — Magistracy—other chargesl for the following items:—

Advertising Meetings of Justices of the Peace-----\$ 50

NEW TERRITORY.

Incidental Expenses ----- 63

Total-----\$113

TYPHOON EXPENSES.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and fifty Dollars (\$450) in aid of the vote Medical Departments, Typhoon Expenses.— Hire of Launch for Health Officer of Port.

COMMISSION EXPENSES.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000) in aid of the vote Miscellaneous Services, Public Health and Buildings Ordinance Commission.

TYPHOON EXPENSES.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of six thousand dollars (6,000) in aid of the vote Sanitary Department, Typhoon Expenses.