

4TH DECEMBER, 1925.

PRESENT:—

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (HON. MR. A. G. M. FLETCHER, C.M.G., C.B.E.).

THE COLONIAL TREASURER (HON. MR. C. MCI. MESSER, O.B.E.).

HON. MR. H. T. CREASY (Director of Public Works).

HON. SIR H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

HON. MR. P. H. HOLYOAK.

HON. MR. CHOW SHOU-SON.

HON. MR. A. O. LANG.

HON. MR. H. W. BIRD.

HON. MR. R. H. KOTEWALL.

—
FINANCE COMMITTEE
—

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on December 4th, the COLONIAL SECRETARY presiding.

The Committee met pursuant to summons.

Read the following Minutes under the hand of His Excellency the GOVERNOR:—

95. — Public Works,
Extraordinary, New
Territories,
Miscellaneous, 124,
Compensation and
Resumptions \$4,468.00

96. — Attorney General's
Department, Personal
Emoluments 14,168.00

97. — Public Works,
Extraordinary, New
Territories, Miscellaneous,
124, Compensation and
Resumptions 4,465.00

98.—Miscellaneous Services:—

Crown Agents' Commission..... \$6,100.00

Grants in aid of other Institutions:—

Imperial Institute..... 660.00

Yunnan Scholarships at
University..... 300.00

Language Study Allowances..... 9,100.00

Motor Cars Running Expenses . 7,000.00

Newspapers and Periodicals..... 800.00

Printing and Binding:—

Blue Book..... 335.00

Civil Service List 90.00

Government Gazette 800.00

Purchase and Upkeep of
Typewriters..... 610.00

Rent Allowances:—

European Subordinate
Officers..... 7,500.00

Asiatic Subordinate Officers. 8,000.00

Rent of Offices 500.00

Rent of Public Telephones 4,350.00

Stationery..... 27,000.00

Telegrams sent and received by
Government..... 1,500.00

Transport of Government
Servants 2,000.00

Charitable Services:—

Charitable Allowances to:—

Mrs. M. A. Cole 240.00

Mrs. F. M. Foster 34.00

Wong Yui-sham's children .. 19.00

Other Charitable Allowances 4,000.00

\$80,938.00

<p>99. — Public Works, Recurrent, Kowloon:—</p> <p>Buildings, 27, Maintenance of Buildings \$2,000.00</p> <p>Waterworks, 40, Maintenance of Waterworks 13,000.00</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$15,000.00</p>	<p>Upkeep of Motor Lorries .. \$2,000.00</p> <p>Public Works, Recurrent, Hongkong:—</p> <p>Miscellaneous:—</p> <p>17, Dredging Foreshores 3,000.00</p> <p>18, Typhoon and Rainstorm Damages 20,000.00</p> <p>21, Survey of Colony 1,000.00</p> <p>Water Works:—</p> <p>22, Maintenance of City and Hill District 30,000.00</p> <p>26, Water Account (Meters) 6,000.00</p> <p>Public Works, Recurrent, New Territories:—</p> <p>Buildings, 42, Maintenance of Buildings 12,500.00</p> <p>Water Works, 51, Maintenance at Lai Chi Kok 2,000.00</p> <p>Public Works, Extraordinary, Hongkong:—</p> <p>Water works, 50, New Principal Water Mains in the City of Victoria 10,000.00</p> <p>Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon:—</p> <p>Water Works, 96, Miscellaneous Water Works 2,000.00</p> <p>Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories:—</p> <p>Communication, 114, Roads, (d), Widening eleven bridges 4,500.00</p> <p>Miscellaneous:—</p> <p>118, Refuse Dump — Cheung Sha Wan 2,000.00</p> <p>124, Compensation and Resumptions 3,407.00</p> <p>Water Works:—</p> <p>125, Extension of Kowloon Catchwater 20,000.00</p> <p>127, Shing Mun Valley Scheme:—</p> <p>(d) North Conduit 15,000.00</p> <p>(e) Tunnels and South Conduit 50,000.00</p> <p>(h) Pipe Line 180,000.00</p> <p>(i) Pipers Hill Reservoir... 25,000.00</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$388,407.00</p>
<p>100. — Kowloon-Canton Railway, Special Expenditure Water Tank and Tower at Kowloon ... \$2,500.00</p>	
<p>104. — Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Miscellaneous, Expenditure for Sunday work to the unfinished house on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1734 re- entered 68.00</p>	
<p>105. — Medical Department, B. — Hospitals and Asylums, New Territories, Personal Emoluments 26.00</p>	
<p>106. — Imports and Exports Department other Charges:—</p> <p>Launch, Fuel \$2,500.00</p> <p>Launch, Stores 150.00</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$2,650.00</p>	
<p>107. — Public Works, Extraordinary, New Territories, Miscellaneous, General Repairs on the bungalow, Taipo, formerly occupied by Mr. H. B. Mould \$2,000.00</p>	
<p>114. — Public Works, Extraordinary, Kowloon, Miscellaneous Temporary Store for Earthen Pipes, Kowloon. 850.00</p>	
<p>121. — Public Works, Department other Charges:—</p>	

The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that the above votes be passed.

At the request of the HON. MR. BIRD, the COLONIAL SECRETARY stated that a report regarding the use of the Bell filters would be circulated to Members.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY gave an explanation with regard to the expenses incurred in connection with the strike. It was agreed that a statement should be circulated for consideration. The expenditure of \$5,932.67 for the Labour Maintenance Association for November was approved.

Arising out of the subject of payment of volunteers during the strike, the COLONIAL SECRETARY undertook to raise the question of the Amendment of the Volunteer Ordinance, 1920, with regard to payment.

The question of charging expenditure in

respect of the purchase of the Berlin Foundling Home and of Rennie's Mills against the Departments, on whose behalf they were acquired, was considered.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER advised that such expenditure properly came under Public Works Extraordinary and his advice was accepted.

HON. MR. LANG raised the question of the responsibility of private firms of architects and contractors for damage incurred owing to the effect of rainstorms where proper precautions had not been taken by them.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS replied that action had been taken on previous occasions and that the matter was under consideration.

The Committee then adjourned *sine die*.
