

OFFICIAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.**Meeting of 19th November, 1958.**

PRESENT:HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (*PRESIDENT*)

SIR ROBERT BROWN BLACK, K.C.M.G., O.B.E.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR EDRIC MONTAGUE BASTYAN, K.B.E., C.B.

THE HONOURABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY

MR. CLAUDE BRAMALL BURGESS, C.M.G., O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

MR. ARTHUR RIDEHALGH, Q.C.

THE HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY FOR CHINESE AFFAIRS

MR. JOHN CRICHTON McDOUALL.

THE HONOURABLE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

MR. ARTHUR GRENFELL CLARKE, C.M.G.

THE HONOURABLE PATRICK CARDINALL MASON SEDGWICK

(Commissioner of Labour).

THE HONOURABLE ALLAN INGLIS

(Director of Public Works).

DR. THE HONOURABLE DAVID JAMES MASTERTON MACKENZIE, C.M.G., O.B.E.

(Director of Medical and Health Services).

THE HONOURABLE COLIN GEORGE MERVYN MORRISON

(Director of Urban Services).

DR. THE HONOURABLE CHAU SIK NIN, C.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE CHARLES EDWARD MICHAEL TERRY, O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE LO MAN WAI, C.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE NGAN SHING-KWAN, O.B.E.

DR. THE HONOURABLE ALBERTO MARIA RODRIGUES, M.B.E., E.D.

THE HONOURABLE JOHN DOUGLAS CLAGUE, C.B.E., M.C., T.D.

THE HONOURABLE DHUN JEHangIR RUTTONJEE, O.B.E.

MR. MAURICE DEREK SARGANT (*Deputy Clerk of Councils*).**ABSENT:**

THE HONOURABLE KWOK CHAN, O.B.E.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5th November, 1958 were confirmed.

PAPERS.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by Command of His Excellency the Governor, laid upon the table the following papers.

Subject.

Sessional Papers, 1958: —

No. 29—Annual Report by the Chairman, Urban Council and Director of Urban Services for the year 1957/58.

No. 30—Report by the Chairman, Public Services Commission for the years 1956 and 1957.

No. 31—Annual Report by the Commissioner of Police for the year 1957/58.

No- 32—Annual Report by the Director of Public Works for the year 1957/58.

No. 33—Annual Report by the Director of Commerce and Industry for the year 1957/58.

SUPREME COURT (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) BILL, 1958.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Supreme Court Ordinance, Chapter 4."

He said: Sir, as stated in the Objects and Reasons this Bill makes statutory provision for the office of Senior Puisne Judge and lays down the order of precedence of the judges of the Supreme Court. The office of Senior Puisne Judge has been in existence since 1950 and it seems desirable that it should have statutory recognition.

Sir, clause 3 of this Bill lays down the precedence of the judges of the Supreme Court. In the case of the Puisne Judges they will normally rank among themselves according to the

priority of their respective appointments, but provision is made whereby the Secretary of State can give special precedence where there are sufficient reasons for so doing. A similar provision enables the Governor to give precedence in the case of temporary appointments. But I imagine that a case will be very unlikely to occur under the latter head.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a First time.

Objects and Reasons.

The "Objects and Reasons" for the Bill were stated as follows: —

The object of this Bill is to amend the Supreme Court Ordinance (Cap. 4) to make statutory provision for the office of Senior Puisne Judge, and to lay down the order of precedence of the judges.

FULL COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Full Court Ordinance, Chapter 2."

He said: Sir, this Bill lays down the precedence of judges sitting in the Full Court and is complementary to the Bill that has just been read a First time.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a First time.

Objects and Reasons.

The "Objects and Reasons" for the Bill were stated as follows: —

This Bill makes provision whereby the Senior Puisne Judge will take precedence in the Full Court next after the Chief Justice of Singapore, and for the precedence of the other judges.

DEFENCE REGULATIONS (CONTINUATION) BILL, 1958.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for the continuation in force of certain enactments made pursuant to powers conferred by the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 to 1945, and for purposes connected therewith."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a Second time.

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

Clauses 1 to 7, the Schedule and the Preamble were agreed to.

Council then resumed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL reported that the Defence Regulations (Continuation) Bill, 1958 had passed through Committee without amendment and moved the Third reading.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a Third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR: —Gentlemen, that concludes the business for today. When is it your pleasure that we should meet again?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL: —Sir, may I suggest this day two weeks?

H. E. THE GOVERNOR: —Council stands adjourned to this day two weeks.