OFFICIAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, 6 August 1980

The Council met at half past two o'clock

PRESENT

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR (*PRESIDENT*) THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY SIR JACK CATER, K.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (Acting) SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES MR. DAVID GREGORY JEAFFRESON, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Acting) MR. FREDERICK THOMAS MCHARDY JONES

THE HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS MR. LI FOOK-KOW, C.M.G., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE DAVID AKERS-JONES, C.M.G., J.P. SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES

THE HONOURABLE LEWIS MERVYN DAVIES, C.M.G., O.B.E., J.P. SECRETARY FOR SECURITY

THE HONOURABLE DAVID WYLIE McDONALD, C.M.G., J.P. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

THE HONOURABLE ALAN JAMES SCOTT, J.P. SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION

THE HONOURABLE THOMAS LEE CHUN-YON, C.B.E., J.P. DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

THE HONOURABLE DEREK JOHN CLAREMONT JONES, C.M.G., J.P. SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

DR. THE HONOURABLE THONG KAH-LEONG, C.B.E., J.P. DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

THE HONOURABLE ERIC PETER HO, J.P. SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

THE HONOURABLE JOHN MARTIN ROWLANDS, C.B.E., J.P. SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE

THE HONOURABLE JAMES NEIL HENDERSON, J.P. COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR

THE HONOURABLE JOHN MORRISON RIDDELL-SWAN, J.P. DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

THE HONOURABLE JEREMY FELL MATHEWS LAW DRAFTSMAN (Acting)

THE HONOURABLE PETER TSAO KWANG-YUNG, C.P.M., J.P. DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS (*Acting*)

THE HONOURABLE COLVYN HUGH HAYE, J.P. DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Acting)

THE HONOURABLE ROGERIO HYNDMAN LOBO, C.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE JOHN HENRY BREMRIDGE, O.B.E., J.P.

DR. THE HONOURABLE HARRY FANG SIN-YANG, C.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE FRANCIS YUAN-HAO TIEN, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ALEX WU SHU-CHIH, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LYDIA DUNN, O.B.E., J.P.

DR. THE HONOURABLE HENRY HU HUNG-LICK, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LEUNG TAT-SHING, O.B.E., J.P.

THE REVD. THE HONOURABLE PATRICK TERENCE MCGOVERN, O.B.E., S.J., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE PETER C. WONG, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE WONG LAM, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ANDREW SO KWOK-WING, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE HU FA-KUANG, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE WONG PO-YAN, O.B.E., J.P.

ABSENT

THE HONOURABLE JOHN CHARLES CREASEY WALDEN, J.P. DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS

THE HONOURABLE DONALD LIAO POON-HUAI, O.B.E., J.P. SECRETARY FOR HOUSING

THE HONOURABLE OSWALD VICTOR CHEUNG, C.B.E., Q.C., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LI FOOK-WO, C.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE LO TAK-SHING, O.B.E., J.P.

THE REVD. THE HONOURABLE JOYCE MARY BENNETT, O.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHEN SHOU-LUM, O.B.E., J.P.

DR. THE HONOURABLE RAYSON LISUNG HUANG, C.B.E., J.P.

THE HONOURABLE CHARLES YEUNG SIU-CHO, J.P.

DR. THE HONOURABLE HO KAM-FAI, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE ALLEN LEE PENG-FEI, J.P.

THE HONOURABLE DAVID KENNEDY NEWBIGGING, J.P.

IN ATTENDANCE

THE CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MRS. LORNA LEUNG TSUI LAI-MAN

Papers

The following papers were laid pursuant to Standing Order No. 14(2):—

ubject	L.N. No.
ubsidiary Legislation:	
Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) Order 1977. Hong Kong Air Navigation (Fees) Regulations 1980	190
Pilotage Ordinance. Pilotage (Amendment) Order 1980	191
Pilotage Ordinance. Pilotage (Dues) (Amendment) Order 1980	192
Public Health and Urban Services Ordinance. Public Health and Urban Services (Public Pleasure Grounds)(Amendmen Fourth Schedule) (No. 4) Order 1980	
Apprenticeship (Amendment) Ordinance 1980. Apprenticeship (Amendment) Ordinance 1980 (Commencement) Notice 1980) 194
Apprenticeship Ordinance. Apprenticeship (Amendment) Regulations 1980 (Commencement) Notice 198	30 195
Pyramid Selling Prohibition Ordinance 1980.	
Pyramid Selling Prohibition Ordinance 1980 (Commencement) Notice 1980	196
Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance. Antiquities and Monuments (Designation of Monuments) Declaration 1980	197
Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance 1965. Annual Revision 1979	198
Inland Revenue Ordinance. Inland Revenue (Interest Tax) (Exemption) (Amendment) (No. 5) Notice 1980	0 199
Tax Reserve Certificates (Fourth Series) Rules. Tax Reserve Certificates (Rate of Interest) (No. 4) Notice 1980	200

on 6.8.80)

Subject L.	N. No.
Public Health (Animals and Birds) Ordinance. Dairies (Amendment) Regulations 1980	201
Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulations 1980	202
Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1980	203
Legal Aid Ordinance. Legal Aid (Assessment of Contributions) (Amendment) (No. 2)Regulations 1980	204
Summary Offences Ordinance. Summary Offences Ordinance (Exemption from Section 13)(No. 5) Order 1980	205
Public Health and Urban Services Ordinance. Public Health and Urban Services (Public Markets) (Designation and Amendment of Tenth Schedule) (No. 6) Order 1980	206
Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Confined Spaces) Regulations. Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Confined Spaces) (Approval of Breathing Apparatus) Notice 1980.	207
Library (New Territories) Regulations. Library (New Territories) (Listening Areas) Fees Notice 1980	208
Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance 1980. Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance 1980 (Commencement) Notice 1980.	209
Public Health and Urban Services Ordinance. Declaration of Markets in the New Territories (No. 4)	210
Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance. Specification of Public Office	211
Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance 1965. Annual Revision 1979. Corrigendum	212
Sessional Papers 1979-80:	
No. 61—Balance Sheet of the Hawker Control Force (Welfare Fund) with Certificate Director of Audit as at 29 November 1979 (published on 6.8.80)	of the
No. 62—Kadoorie Agricultural Aid Loan Fund Report for the year 1979-80 (published on 6.8	.80)
No. 63—J. E. Joseph Trust Fund Report for the period 1 April 1979 to 31 March 1980 (pub	olished

- No. 64—Sir Robert Black Trust Fund—Annual Report for the year 1 April 1979 to 31 March 1980 (published on 6.8.80)
- No. 65—Annual Report of the School Medical Service Board for the year ended 31 March 1980 (published on 6.8.80)
- No. 66—Report of the Administration of the Immigration Service Welfare Fund for the year ended 31 March 1980 (published on 6.8.80)
- No. 67—Sir David Trench Fund for Recreation—Trustee's Report 1979-80 (published on 6.8.80)

Oral answers to questions

Metrication

1. Mr. So asked in Cantonese:—

政府可否說明現時如何鼓勵市民採用十進制?

(The following is the interpretation of what Mr. So asked.)

Will Government state what encouragement is being given to the public to adopt metric units?

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY:—Sir, the Metrication Committee consisting of officials and unofficials are responsible for encouraging the public to adopt metric units or, to be more precise, Le Systeme Internationale, S.I. for short.

Under the excellent chairmanship of Professor S. Y. KING, the Committee have embarked on a programme with the twin objectives of generally encouraging the adoption of S.I. and of disseminating specific information on the system. Their programme includes the use of posters, leaflets and television.

In addition to the use of mass media directed towards the public generally, the Committee is also involving particular sectors of the community in their efforts to promote S.I. At present, twenty-four sectors are involved ranging from construction workers and clothing manufacturers to hawkers and housewives.

New Territories small house policy

- 2. Mr. F. K. Hu asked:—Will Government state:—
- (a) the number of applications received and the number of sites granted under the small house policy over the last two years; and
- (b) whether it is satisfied with the implementation of the existing policy?

SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES:—Sir, during the years 1978 and 1979 ten thousand applications to build small houses in the New Territories were received and two thousand were approved.

Clearly I am not satisfied with the implementation of a policy which leaves such a wide discrepancy between the numbers of those applying and the numbers approved. The reasons for the gap are complex and various. The policy was approved to assist the villagers of the New Territories in solving their housing needs and it has done this satisfactorily in many areas. Unfortunately there are other areas where houses or sites have been sold or rented to non-villagers sometimes at a considerable profit. These houses or sites have taken up much of the available Crown land and it is now extremely difficult in some villages to find Crown land near the village; in other places Crown land near the village may be steep and involve extensive site formation, so that, following several examples of most unsatisfactory and possibly dangerous construction, the Government now has to insist in such cases on the submission of site formation plans by an authorized person; with limited land available there are problems of sorting out genuine from purely speculative applications and, when dealing with overseas applicants, the villager who really intends to return and retire to his native place and the former villager who has no intention to come back to live in Hong Kong as a permanent resident.

A number of administrative measures have been introduced during the last seven years as a result of consultation with the Heung Yee Kuk to resolve or reduce these problems. There is a continuing dialogue with the Kuk. This will resume shortly following the election of office bearers for the current term. Certainly fresh thinking is required to deal with the shortage of Crown land and scattered and wasteful development. We will, I believe, have to examine the possibility of acquiring deserted private land near to villages and of installing paths and drains so as to permit more orderly expansion and development.

Sir, I am conscious of the shortcomings but, as I said at the beginning, the problem is complex and various and receives my personal attention.

MR. F. K. Hu:—Sir, can the Secretary for the New Territories state whether there are any clearly defined rules on allocation of sites?

SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES:—There are rules, Sir. One of them for example is that so far as possible sites should be allocated within 300 feet of the village, and various other measures of that kind.

Use of fire-arms by security guards

3. Mr. Peter C. Wong asked:—Having regard to the shooting incident by a bank guard at Yuen Long on 20 June 1980, will Government state:—

- (a) whether the existing policy of issuing shotgun licences for security guards will be reviewed; and
- (b) whether consideration will be given to the use of alternative arms or weapons?

SECRETARY FOR SECURITY:—Yes, Sir. The policy regarding the issue of arms licences to security guards is reviewed regularly.

Existing weapons in use by security guards are shotguns and revolvers. Bearing in mind the standard of proficiency required to use more accurate high velocity arms I do not envisage much change in weapons. Alternatives to fire-arms are also kept under review, but such devices have serious limitations when used to resist armed assailants because of their very short effective range and also the danger if they fall into wrong hands. On balance the shotgun, despite the disadvantage that its use may result in injury to bystanders, seems to be the most satisfactory weapon.

Obviously however the use of fire-arms must be kept to the absolute minimum, especially in crowded urban areas. Much more can and should be done by the owners of premises to improve physical security by installing such relatively simple items as unbreakable glass, cameras and good alarm systems. Those trading in valuable items should take reasonable precautions by adopting modern crime prevention methods. To do so is in their own and the community's interest. It would go a long way to removing the need for guards to possess fire-arms.

MR. Peter C. Wong:—Sir, is it correct that since 1976 Government has ceased to issue shotgun licences to jewellery shops and goldsmith shops?

SECRETARY FOR SECURITY:—No. Sir, there has been no actual cessation of the issue of arms. Each application is dealt with on its merits and to show Council the extent of issues; arms licences are in existence for 82 banks and shops and arms issued under these licences apply to 816 shotguns in the main, and revolvers. In addition watchmen have to be licensed to carry these fire-arms and there are 1,440 watchmen licensed for this purpose.

MR. PETER C. Wong:—Sir, it appears that shotguns are not very effective and there is also a danger, when one fires one, of injuring bystanders. Would it not be wise for Government to withdraw the issue of shotguns altogether?

SECRETARY FOR SECURITY:—The particular incident which gave rise to this question, Sir, shows the advantage of having in fact a shotgun. Both the two persons engaged in this alleged robbery were apprehended as a result. The number of occasions on which guns of this sort are used is relatively small and I would not at this stage recommend that we reduce the number of licences for the number of shotguns actually issued. I think it has a deterrent value but we shall keep the general policy under review.

Pollution control of gazetted beaches

4. MR. WONG LAM asked in Cantonese:—

請問政府有何措施管制本港憲報公佈之海灘海水染污程度,以確保泳客之安全?

(The following is the interpretation of what Mr. Wong Lam asked.)

Will Government state what measures are being taken to control the pollution level in the water at Hong Kong gazetted beaches to ensure the safety of swimmers?

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:—Sir, the most important action being taken by the Government to control pollution levels in all Hong Kong waters, including the beaches, is to improve the methods of sewage disposal. A major on-going programme is in force to install new or improved sewage treatment facilities or to extend outfall pipes to a greater distance offshore. This programme is expected to cost as much as \$2,000 million over the next five years.

As regards the beaches themselves, toilet facilities are provided and these discharge either into sewage treatment plants or into septic tanks or cess pools which are emptied regularly by staff of the Urban Services Department. This prevents untreated human waste from either residents in the area or beach-goers using the beach toilets from being discharged into the water at the beaches.

The levels of pollution in the waters at gazetted beaches are measured several times a month by the Urban Services Department and Public Works Department. If the numbers of faecal coliform bacteria in samples indicate the presence of substantial quantities of sewage then further tests are carried out to ascertain whether disease causing organisms are present. If a health hazard is confirmed and the source of the pollution cannot be eliminated, then the beach can be de-gazetted and the public is warned of the danger. The only time that this has happened was at Lai Chi Kok Bay in 1972 and, since then, the measures I have described have improved the quality of water at most bathing beaches. The Government intends to maintain this improvement as, for example, at Repulse Bay where a chlorination plant to sterilize the treated sewage has recently been brought into operation.

In general, therefore, there is no evidence that anyone has ever contracted a serious disease from bathing at any of Hong Kong's gazetted beaches, nor is there any likelihood of this happening in the future.

Nevertheless, Sir, this does not mean that the Government is in any way complacent about the situation. Although, as I have indicated, the most serious potential source of pollution of our coastal waters and beaches, namely sewage disposal, is being dealt with energetically, there are other contributory factors. An important problem in the New Territories and parts

of Hong Kong Island is pig and poultry manure which are washed down in streams. And, in some cases, stormwater drains and nullahs can carry polluted matter into the sea.

The Government and the Urban Council are tackling, and are seeking further ways to tackle, these sources and our ability to do so should increase as the staff and other resources needed for environmental protection build up. But, perhaps not unexpectedly, counts of faecal coliform bacteria in the waters at beaches are noticeably higher at summer weekends, when large numbers of people are bathing, than on weekdays or in the winter. This underlines the point that beach-goers themselves can contribute significantly to an improvement in the situation by maintaining a high standard of personal cleanliness when bathing at the beaches.

Mr. So asked in Cantonese:—

閣下,往海灘游泳人士,注意個人衛生及清潔的正確方法之一是下水之前,先要沖身。請問香港各海灘有沒有足夠的沖身設備呢?

(The following is the interpretation of what Mr. So asked.)

Sir, one of the methods of obtaining cleanliness when people go to bathe is to shower themselves before going into the water. Do the beaches in Hong Kong have enough showering facilities?

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:—There are showering facilities at some beaches, but I can't say that they are present at all 36 gazetted beaches. Certainly at the main beaches there are showering facilities.

MR. WONG LAM asked in Cantonese:—

閣下,根據第一段答覆,改善海灘污水處理計劃在未來五年內要動用二十億, 請問這個改善海灘污水處理計劃是否已經開始呢?

(The following is the interpretation of what Mr. Wong Lam asked.)

Sir, according to paragraph 1, in the next five years \$2,000 million would be expended over the programme. Is the programme an on-going programme or has it started at all?

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:—Yes, Sir, the programme is a continuous one. I suppose it has been going on ever since the end of the war and before. The P.W.D.—my friend the Director of Public Works will know more about this than me—the P.W.D. maintains a very large division dealing with sewage work and there are a considerable number of items in the Public Works Programme dealing with sewage. The large figure of \$2,000 million arises because of the very expensive sewage treatment works which are being installed in all the new towns and in some other locations.

MR. WONG LAM asked in Cantonese:—

對於這個龐大計劃,政府有沒有將這計劃公佈使市民知道,使他們游泳時覺得有安全感?

(The following is the interpretation of what Mr. Wong Lam asked.)

Sir, has this major plan been announced to the public so that the beach-goers would realize that it is safe to go bathing?

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:—This is a programme dealing with sewage which really affects all the waters around Hong Kong. If Mr. Wong wishes I will prepare a statement and issue it on the present state of the sewage treatment programme which, as I said, is an on-going one.

Prevention of rabies

5. Dr. Henry Hu asked:—What measures are being taken by Government to prevent the spread of rabies from other countries, particularly from South East Asian region, to Hong Kong?

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, all dogs and cats imported into Hong Kong from all countries, including the South East Asian region, must have a valid permit to import and an acceptable health certificate and are subject to six months' quarantine in gazetted quarantine kennels. Dogs and cats from the United Kingdom, Eire, Australia and New Zealand which have acceptable health documents may be exempted from quarantine requirements.

Particular attention has always been paid to the land border and, since April this year when there were rumours of outbreaks of rabies in China, the Agriculture and Fisheries Department has mounted a special campaign to inoculate all dogs in the border area and eliminate strays.

A campaign to inoculate dogs on junks has also been mounted.

These campaigns are being continued.

DR. Henry Hu:—Would the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries consider the measures taken at the moment adequate?

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Yes, Sir, Hong Kong has been free of rabies since 1955. The campaign in the border area resulted in the inoculation of 707 dogs in April and May. Inoculation coverage in this area is now almost complete. A further 227 dogs were inoculated in areas adjacent to the border area. During the spring of 1980. 598 dogs were inoculated on junks. As an added measure, a contingency plan to deal with emergency situations has been drawn up and dog inoculation and control capacity is being increased by the addition of two new mobile teams. Additional powers

can be used and additional resources quickly deployed to deal with any problems which may suddenly arise.

Government Business

Motions

PENSIONS (INCREASE) ORDINANCE

THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE moved the following motion:—That the Second Schedule to the Pensions (Increase) Ordinance be amended with effect from 1 October 1980

- (a) in Part I by adding the following—
 - '13. The adjusted pension under paragraph 12 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (b) in Part II by adding the following—
 - '12. The adjusted pension under paragraph 11 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (c) in Part III by adding the following—
 - '12. The adjusted pension under paragraph 11 may be further increased by 15 *per cent*.':
- (d) in Part IV by adding the following—
 - '11. The adjusted pension under paragraph 10 may be further increased by 15 *per cent*.';
- (e) in Part V by adding the following—
 - '10. The adjusted pension under paragraph 9 may be further increased by 15 *per cent*.';
- (f) in Part VI by adding the following—
 - '9. The adjusted pension under paragraph 8 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (g) in Part VII by adding the following—
 - '8. he adjusted pension under paragraph 7 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (h) in Part VIII by adding the following—
 - '7. The adjusted pension under paragraph 6 may be further increased by 15 *per cent*.':
- (i) in Part IX by adding the following—
 - '5. The adjusted pension under paragraph 4 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (j) in Part X by adding the following—
 - '4. The adjusted pension under paragraph 3 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';
- (k) in Part XI by adding the following—
 - '3. The adjusted pension under paragraph 2 may be further increased by 15 per cent.';

- (I) in Part XII by adding the following—
 - '2. The adjusted pension under paragraph 1 may be further increased by 15 *per cent*.';
- (m) by adding the following—

'PART XIII

Applicable to a basic pension based on a salary in force from 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980 inclusive.

1. The basic pension may be increased by 15 per cent.'.

He said:—Sir, I move the first motion standing in my name on the order paper.

It is the Government's policy to maintain the original purchasing power of civil service pensions, including pensions payable under the Widows and Orphans Pension Scheme and the Widow's and Children's Pensions Scheme, by making periodic adjustments to reflect changes in the cost of living.

During the review period from 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980, the Moving Annual Average of the Consumer Price Index (A) rose by 20 points or 15.34%. In the light of this movement, it is proposed that pensions in payment on 1 July 1980, including previous increases already approved, should be increased by 15% with effect from 1 October 1980.

The cost of the increase is estimated to be \$14.91 million for the remainder of the current financial year and \$29.82 million in a full year.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put and agreed to.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (INCREASE) ORDINANCE

THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE moved the following motion:—That the Schedule to the Widows and Orphans Pension (Increase) Ordinance be amended by adding the following—

- '28. The pension calculated on the total contributions up to 30 June 1979 inclusive plus the total increases in pension up to 30 September 1980 may be increased by 15 *per cent* with effect from 1 October 1980.
- 29. The pension calculated on contributions from 1 July 1979 to 30 June 1980 inclusive may be increased by 15 *per cent* with effect from 1 October 1980.'.

He said:—Sir, my speech on the first motion standing in my name on the order paper covers also the subject of the second motion standing in my name. I therefore beg to move.

Question put and agreed to.

First reading of bill

IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Bill read first time and ordered to be set down for second reading pursuant to Standing Order 41(3).

Second reading of bills

IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS moved the second reading of:—'A bill to amend the Import and Export Ordinance'.

He said:—Sir, I move that the Import and Export (Amendment) Bill 1980 be read the second time.

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the principal Ordinance by increasing the maximum penalty to \$500,000 and two years' imprisonment in order to provide a more effective deterrent against potential offenders. The proposal is that the Bill should be taken through all its stages at one sitting.

The law as it now stands prescribed a maximum penalty of \$50,000 and one year's imprisonment. This has remained unchanged for at least 25 years, and, as a result, is no longer considered adequate when the value of the commercial transactions and the profits involved are taken into consideration. This is particularly true in connection with attempts to circumvent the textile quota system.

In 1979, eight companies were prosecuted for offences relating to shipping goods to a market subject to quota restrictions by falsely declaring the goods to be destined for a non-restricted market. These companies were fined a total of \$350,000. However, this represents just over 1% of the value of the goods involved. Put another way, had the attempts to circumvent the quota arrangement succeeded, the eight companies would have gained financially by not having to surrender quotas. Roughly calculated, the amount of quotas that should have been surrendered would have a market value then in excess of \$10 million. Set against this background, it would be difficult to accept that the fines imposed served as an effective deterrent.

Sir, I feel duty bound to offer an explanation to this Council why it has become expedient to take this Bill through all its stages at this sitting. My concern that the deterrent effect has been eroded has recently been heightened by what I would regard as a rather unusual pattern of trade. While our general quota utilization rate this year has slowed down, not surprisingly having regard to generally softer market conditions abroad, we

have found that in particularly popular categories of products, this year's quota utilization rate so far is significantly higher than last year's. This gives rise to a suspicion that improper use of Hong Kong's quota may have been made for shipments falsely declared to be of Hong Kong origin. While we are stepping up the policing of the quota control system, the Textiles Advisory Board advised, and I concurred, that in parallel with the increased vigilance, a more effective deterrent, in the form of a heavier penalty, is urgently called for. The type of malpractice that we believe is being perpetrated now not only deprives Hong Kong the full use of its limited access rights into its markets, but would also cast into doubt the effectiveness and the integrity of the entire quota control system.

Sir, I am thus satisfied that the provisions in this Bill are essential, both as a deterrent and as a clear demonstration of the determination of this Government to uphold the effectiveness and integrity of the quota control system.

Sir, I beg to move.

MR. TIEN:—Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Import and Export (Amendment) Bill 1980.

I recall that on 11 June 1980 in this Council, in reply to my question, my honourable Friend, the Director of Trade, Industry and Customs stated that a system of import licensing for all textiles into Hong Kong would soon be introduced which would enable Government to institute a surveillance system and to monitor the movement of such textiles and to spot check them when they were to be re-exported from Hong Kong. He further said that he would make proposals to amend the legislation which would increase the penalties to probably \$500,000 with perhaps an increase in the imprisonment penalty as well. He also said that by September the Department would have available manpower to do the job having raised the establishment of investigation staff from 200 to almost 300.

I am pleased to note that, as a first step, the import licensing for all textiles into Hong Kong has already been enforced on 1 August 1980, just less than a week ago. Today's amendments will, among other things, provide higher penalties not only to deter quota abusers, but help to preserve the integrity of the quota control system which has just been modified.

While the Government will no doubt impress upon the trade that the increased penalties are in earnest pursuance of its intentions to deter unscrupulous traders, I personally feel that ultimate effectiveness can only be achieved by vigilant policing aimed at the complete elimination of such traders. This, I believe, is the only way to protect the international trading reputation of Hong Kong.

I fully endorse the Government's quick action this time in having the Bill taken through all its stages at one sitting. This clearly demonstrates the

determination and effectiveness of the Government to have things done expeditiously where the urgency of the situation so demands.

Sir, I support the motion.

DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS:—Sir, I am very grateful to my honourable Friend, Mr. TIEN for his support and his compliments. I would like to assure my honourable Friend that the policing arm of my department is being strengthened to ensure that the textile licensing system and the certification system are adequately policed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (23 July 1980)

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

STOCK EXCHANGES UNIFICATION BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (23 July 1980)

Question proposed.

MR. PETER C. Wong:—Sir, the move towards unifying the four stock exchanges must be considered as a positive step in the right direction. It may be argued that the Bill now before Council is one of remedial action rather than an initiatory measure. With hindsight, one is inclined to take the view that in the late sixties and early seventies, Government could have taken steps to prevent the undesirable state of affairs which culminated in the 1973 financial disaster. The pertinent question then is: has Government learned the lesson and is it now better poised and prepared to deal with events?

The *ad hoc* group of the Unofficial Members of this Council have considered representations from interested parties and also met with Government officials including the Commissioner for Securities. Although the principle of the Bill was never in doubt, several issues were discussed. Subclauses 13(1)(a) and (b) were considered too restrictive, and Government has now agreed to allow directors and employees of companies associated with banks and deposit-taking companies to be eligible for membership of the proposed exchange. A most welcome concession that will certainly please the investment community. One would like to see more changes in the Bill, but it is appreciated that in a delicate situation some compromise is essential.

Nevertheless, it is a matter for regret that at this stage Government is unable to entertain the idea of full corporate membership as distinct from associate corporate membership. In other parts of the world, such as U.S.A. and Japan for example, corporate members play a leading role in the stock markets. And the trend in England is towards corporate membership. The advantages are obvious. It is hoped that, when the local climate in this area is more amenable to reform, Government would introduce such changes as might be beneficial to the investing public. Sophistication cannot be achieved overnight. For the time being the proposals contained in the Bill would probably best serve the overall interests of the community.

Sir, I support the motion.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY:—Sir, I would like to thank my honourable Friend Mr. Wong, the Unofficial Members of his *ad hoc* group and others outside this Council for their careful consideration of this Bill, and for their critical and helpful comments on it. In the moving of the second reading on the 23 of July, I outlined three instances where restrictions on membership of the exchange company have been extended. One of these renders ineligible directors and employees of corporations related to licensed banks and deposit-taking companies. This provision has now been criticized for being too wide. I think that in an ideal world we ought to persevere with it; but I do accept if we were to do so now, the financial services group of companies, which will be deprived of direct representation on the trading floor would include companies which have provided some useful services in the present exchange. Accordingly I shall be moving an amendment to clauses 13(1)(a) and (b) at the committee stage to reinstate the eligibility of directors and employees of corporations related to licensed banks and to deposit-taking companies.

On my honourable Friend's other points, I can assure him that the Commissioner for Securities will keep under review the nature and membership of the unified exchange to ensure the best interests of the broking and investing community are served.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time.

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

LAND REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (23 July 1980)

Question proposed.

MR. PETER C. Wong:—Sir, in answer to a question which I asked in this Council on 28 June 1979 regarding delays in land registration procedures and the possibility of computerizing Land Office records the Secretary for the Environment stated that the Registrar General had visited the Land Charges Registry in London and had asked for a feasibility study to be done to see if these records could be computerized also in Hong Kong. He also stated that other improvements, including microfilming, would be introduced during 1980.

I therefore welcome this Bill which is a sensible and progressive measure designed to facilitate the microfilming of land deeds delivered for registration. This Bill also clarifies the obligations and liabilities of the Land Officer, establishes the evidentiary value of Land Office records and provides for the making of land registration regulations by the Governor in Council. All of this is very useful. It will facilitate the introduction of new and improved land registration procedures thereby improving the service at present provided for the public by the Land Office of the Registrar General's Department. However, I am uneasy about the staffing situation at the Land Office. Unless additional staff are recruited quickly, the transitional period from the present method of registration to complete microfilming will probably have to take up to five years.

Microfilming of land deeds on its own, however, is only half the battle. It will be impossible to bring our land registration procedures up to the standards required of a modern commercial centre like ours in Hong Kong unless the register cards, on which particulars of the title to land are recorded, are computerized. I realize that this would be a major operation and would take some time to complete. However, I have been given to understand by the Registrar General that the feasibility study is now scheduled to commence in his Department in December of this year. This is welcome news, and I hope that the study will be completed without delay and that computerization of these records will commence as soon as possible.

There is one other matter which I feel must be mentioned in the context of this Bill and that is: neither microfilming nor the proposed new land registration regulations, much less computerization, are to apply to the eight District Land Registries in the New Territories. This is a great pity. For one reason or another the land registration service provided to the public by

the District Offices has been consistently very poor for a very long time. Although this has been the subject of complaints in this Council and elsewhere, the service continues to deteriorate. The New Territories is developing rapidly and land is at the core of that development. It is therefore surprising that Government's forward thinking policies for the New Territories in other matters have not been applied to the District Land Registries. Bad as this situation is now, with the continued development and urbanization of the New Territories it can only get worse unless something is done, and quickly. There seems to be no real reason why the land registration procedures and standards of the Urban Land Office cannot be introduced throughout the New Territories and a reasonably efficient service provided there. It is imperative that Government should give this matter serious and urgent attention.

Since the commencement of the deeds registration in 1844, that is some 136 years ago, 1.9 million memorials have been registered. It is not surprising that the greater portion of these has been lodged during the past decade. Currently, some 15,000 documents per month are being lodged for registration. With the apparently insatiable demand for housing, office space and factory accommodation, the pressure on the Land Office will continue to increase. It is therefore in the public interest and indeed in Government's own interest that the process of modernization and rationalization of land registration be accorded high priority.

Sir, I support the motion.

SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:—Sir, I am grateful to Mr. Peter WONG for his strong support of this Bill. I fully take the points he has made about the staffing situation in the Land Office and the need to push forward with computerization of the records and I can promise him that what he has said is generally accepted by those concerned and will be kept in mind.

As regards the situation in the New Territories, I would remind Mr. Wong that I did say, when introducing this Bill, that the intention is for the Registrar General to assume direct responsibility for the New Territories Land Registries and for the procedures of these Registries to be brought into conformity with the land registration procedures in the Land Office at Victoria. I am informed by the Registrar General that he plans to take over the District Land Registries at Sha Tin, Yuen Long and Tsuen Wan before the end of this year. This will naturally require more staff in order to reorganize their systems and procedures and the Registrar General aims to digest these three Registries before tackling the other five. But the intention is for him to take over all eight District Land Registries in the New Territories as soon as this can practically be done.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time.

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (23 July 1980)

Question proposed.

MR. TIEN:—Sir, I rise in support of the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 1980.

On 10 October last year, His Excellency the Governor, in his opening speech in this Chamber, referred to industrial safety as something of which we cannot be proud. He further said that the Government's responsibility is to enact and enforce safety legislation and to undertake safety education; the employer's responsibility is to provide a safe working environment and to instruct his employees in safe practices; the worker's responsibility is to abide by safety rules and to use safety equipment provided for him. The Government is playing its part by progressively enacting the necessary legislation and improving the effectiveness of its enforcement machinery, but it is essential for employers and workers too to play their respective roles in order to reduce the unacceptably high number of industrial accidents. Industrial safety is indeed a tri-partite business as well as responsibility.

Sometimes, when the employer has properly provided all the requisite safety equipment, a worker chooses to ignore the safety rules, or circumvents the safety features or even goes so far as to refuse to wear or use the protective equipment provided. Such workers, by their irresponsible acts, not only endanger themselves, but fellow workers and others as well, and also expose their own dependants to the risk of losing their principal breadwinners. I therefore welcome the intention of my honourable Friend, the Commissioner for Labour, to group offences into categories when considering the level of the revised penalties, and including offences committed by the workers themselves. Continuing offences will no doubt also incur heavier penalties.

Penalties by themselves, however, are not enough to ensure industrial safety. There must, in parallel, be an educational process, including a widespread publicity campaign, so as to enable both employers and their employees to recognize industrial hazards and unsafe acts and become more aware of the need for industrial safety.

As the Chairman of the Clothing Industry Training Authority, I am pleased to be able to inform honourable Members that safety training is part of the syllabus at the Clothing Industry Training Centre and the instructors

there have all attended courses in industrial safety at the Labour Department's Industrial Safety Training Centre. Apart from this, personnel from the Training Centre have cooperated with officers of the Labour Department in modifying the design of the needle guards for sewing machines to make them more practicable and acceptable to workers in the industry. At the Training Centre, with these needle guards being used, no injuries have occurred.

I understand also that the trainees at the Construction Industry Training Centre, and the apprentices and trainees at the Government's technical institutes and vocational training centres run by other agencies all receive training in industrial safety as part of their respective courses. This of course applies only to those who have received proper and formal training, but there is a considerable number in our industrial work force who have never had the benefit of being properly taught the do's and don't's of industrial safety. They should be exposed to a widespread publicity campaign and selected personnel from every industrial undertaking should be sent on a safety course so that there will be a ripple effect on their return to their respective organizations. What is basically needed is to inculcate in everyone in industry a deep and abiding safety consciousness and a sense of responsibility towards the safety of others. This I am afraid, will be a long and arduous task, but given time and the necessary resources, I am sure the Labour Department will ultimately achieve its goal.

Sir, with these remarks, I support the motion.

COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR:—Sir, I rise only to thank Mr. TIEN and honourable Members for their support for this Bill and to confirm of course that this Bill is only one of a number of approaches required to improve our safety record.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time.

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

WILD ANIMALS PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (9 July 1980)

Question proposed.

MR. PETER C. WONG:—Sir, the physical constraints of our territory simply leave no room for hunting. With urbanization of the New Territories and the unprecedented growth of population, there are very few areas left, if

any, where a gun may be fired without the risk of endangering life and limb. It is therefore in the public interest that hunting should be banned.

The *ad hoc* group of the Unofficial Members of this Council considered the Bill and the principal Ordinance in detail, and also met with the Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, a senior officer of that department and a representative from the Legal Department. Although Members of the group supported the Bill in principle, there were a number of points which required clarification. As a result of the discussions, there will be several amendments to the Bill, which the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries will move at the committee stage.

Briefly, the main amendments proposed are:

- 1. In examining the definition of 'animal' in the principal Ordinance, it was noted that 'animal' could also mean fish so that the principal Ordinance in fact also applied to fishing (*laughter*). Obviously this was not the intention. It was therefore agreed that 'animal' should be re-defined to exclude fish and marine invertebrates.
- 2. Since the category of wild animals known as game would be abolished, it was agreed that 'game warden' should be renamed as 'nature warden' (*laughter*).
- 3. Section 10 of the principal Ordinance relates to the prohibition of hunting and carrying of fire-arms in certain areas specified in the Fourth Schedule. Since hunting would be prohibited, it was agreed that both section 10 and the Fourth Schedule should be deleted.
- 4. As a result of a last-minute appeal by the Hong Kong Hunters' Association, the resumed debate of the Bill was postponed one sitting to allow Unofficial Members to consider its representation. I am happy to report that Government has now agreed to defer the implementation date of the Bill to 1 January 1981. This would give the Hunters' Association and its members time to arrange their affairs.

Finally, it should be noted that specific hunting operations can still be permitted under section 15 of the principal Ordinance. Furthermore, the Commissioner of Police has indicated that he is prepared to assist members of the Hunters' Association in the transfer or temporary custody of their shotguns.

Sir, I support the motion.

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I rise only to confirm that I will introduce the necessary amendments at the committee stage and to thank Mr. Peter Wong and his colleagues for their assistance in supporting this legislation.

Sir, I support the motion.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time.

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Resumption of debate on second reading (23 July 1980)

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read the second time.

Bill committed to a committee of the whole Council pursuant to Standing Order 43(1).

Committee stage of bills

Council went into Committee.

COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Clauses 1 to 5 were agreed to.

The Schedule was agreed to.

STOCK EXCHANGES UNIFICATION BILL 1980

Clauses 1 to 12 were agreed to.

Clause 13

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY:—I move that clause 13 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 13

That clause 13(1) be amended by deleting ', or of any related corporation within the meaning of section 4 of the Securities Ordinance' where it occurs in paragraphs (a) and (b).

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 13, as amended, was agreed to.

Clauses 14 to 43 were agreed to.

The First and Second Schedules were agreed to.

LAND REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Clauses 1 to 12 were agreed to.

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1980

Clauses 1 to 3 were agreed to.

WILD ANIMALS PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Clause 1

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that clause 1 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 1

That clause 1 be amended by inserting after '1980' the following—'and shall come into operation on 1 January 1981'.

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 1, as amended, was agreed to.

Clause 2

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that clause 2 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 2

That clause 2 be deleted and there be substituted the following—

'Amendment of section 2. (Cap. 170.)

- 2. Section 2 of the principal Ordinance is amended—
- (a) in the definition of "animal" by inserting after "life" the following—

"other than fish and marine invertebrates";

(b) in paragraph (c) of the definition of "authorized officer" by deleting "game" wherever it occurs and substituting in each place the following—

"nature";

(c) in the definition of "hunt" by deleting "eggs" and substituting the following—

"egg"; and

(d) by deleting the definitions of "close season", "game", "game licence", "licensing authority" and "vermin".'.

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 2, as amended, was agreed to.

Clauses 3 to 8 were agreed to.

Clause 9

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that clause 9 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 9

That clause 9 be amended by deleting ', 10' where it occurs the second time.

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 9, as amended, was agreed to.

Clauses 10 and 11 were agreed to.

Clause 12

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that clause 12 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 12

That clause 12 be deleted and there be substituted the following—

'Amendment

12. Section 22(2) of the principal Ordinance is amended—

of section 22.

- (a) by deleting "Fourth, Fifth or"; and
- (b) by deleting "any such" and substituting the following—"that".'.

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 12, as amended, was agreed to.

Clauses 13 and 14 were agreed to.

Clause 15

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that clause 15 be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Clause 15

That clause 15 be amended—

- (a) in subclause (1) by inserting after 'cancelled' the following—
 - 'with effect from 1 January 1981';
- (b) in subclause (2) by deleting 'the commencement of this Ordinance' and substituting the following—
 - '1 January 1981'; and
- (c) by inserting after subclause (2) the following—
 - '(3) Any refund of licence fee which has not been applied for within 12 months after 1 January 1981 shall be irrecoverable.'.

The amendment was agreed to.

Clause 15, as amended, was agreed to.

New clause 7A 'Amendment of section 16'.

Clause read the first time and ordered to be set down for second reading pursuant to Standing Order 46(6).

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, in accordance with Standing Order 46(6) I move that new clause 7A as set out in the paper circulated to Members be read a second time.

Question put and agreed to.

Clause read the second time.

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, I move that new clause 7A be added to the Bill.

Proposed addition

New clause

That there be added after clause 7 the following—

'Amendment 7A. Section 16 of the principal Ordinance is amended by deleting "game" wherever it occurs and substituting in each place the following—
"nature".'.

The addition of the new clause 7A was agreed to.

New clause 16 'Consequential amendment'.

Clause read the first time and ordered to be set down for second reading pursuant to Standing Order 46(6).

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—Sir, in accordance with Standing Order 46(6) I move that new clause 16 as set out in the paper circulated to Members be read a second time.

Question put and agreed to.

Clause read the second time.

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—I move that new clause 16 be added to the Bill.

Proposed addition

New clause

That there be added after clause 15 the following—

'Consequential amendment. (Cap. 102, sub. leg.)

16. Regulation 40 of the Waterworks Regulations is amended in paragraph (d) by deleting "game" wherever it occurs and substituting in each place the following—
"nature".'.

The addition of the new clause 16 was agreed to.

The First schedule was agreed to.

Second Schedule

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:—I move that the Second Schedule be amended as set out in the paper circulated to Members.

Proposed amendment

Second Schedule

That the Second Schedule be amended—

- (a) by inserting after "Sections 3, 6,' the following—'10,'; and
- (b) by inserting after 'The First, Third', the following— 'Fourth,'

The amendment was agreed to.

The Second Schedule, as amended, was agreed to.

MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to.

IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1980

Clauses 1 to 6 were agreed to.

Council then resumed.

Third reading of bills

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL reported that the

COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL

LAND REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL

MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) BILL and the

IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL

had passed through Committee without amendment and that the

STOCK EXCHANGES UNIFICATION BILL and the

WILD ANIMALS PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

had passed through Committee with amendment and moved the third reading of each of the Bills.

Question put on each Bill and agreed to.

Bills read the third time and passed.

Unofficial Member's Motion

HONG KONG ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS 1917 TO 1977

MR. R. H. LOBO moved the following motion:—That the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, made by the said Council on 9 October 1968, be amended in Standing Order No. 28 by—

- (a) deleting the full stop at the end of paragraph (1)(c) and substituting the following—
 '; or';
- (b) inserting in paragraph (1), after sub-paragraph (c), the following new sub-paragraph—
 - '(d) upon a motion "That this Council thanks the Governor for his address" as provided in paragraph (6) of this order.';
- (c) inserting the following new paragraph—
 - '(6) An *ex officio* or Official Member who has spoken on a motion "That this Council thanks the Governor for his address" may speak a second time upon that motion in reply to any matter raised during the debate on the motion.'.

He said:—Sir, I rise to move the motion standing in my name in the Order Paper.

The purpose of this motion is to enable Official Members to speak twice on 'the motion of thanks to the Governor'.

This, we believe, will prove useful because as it has been agreed that Official Members would be speaking before the Unofficials and as they may raise important policy matters in addition to those included in Your Excellency's speech, the Unofficial Members who will be commenting on those and other subjects would like to give their Official Colleagues the right of reply.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put and agreed to.

Valedictories

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT:—Honourable Members, when the new session of the Council opens in October, two Members who have been with us for several years—Mr. F. K. LI and Mr. John WALDEN—will have retired. Both have made distinctive and considerable contributions to this Council, and indeed to the Government and the people of Hong Kong.

Mr. LI joined the Civil Service in 1954; he was first appointed to the Council eight years ago. His career has embraced posts in Education, Housing, Labour, Civil Service, Finance, Social Welfare, Social Services and Home Affairs (and that of course is using today's titles for these departments and Secretariat branches). In all these, his wise counsel and penetrating judgment have been of the greatest benefit. I am glad to say, however, that he will not be, so to speak, deserting us. We shall continue to have the benefit of the breadth of his knowledge and advice in his new appointment as Chairman of the Public Service Commission, where I am sure he will again make his mark. We are not yet ready, I may say, to wish him a happy retirement (*laughter*)!

Mr. John Walden will leave Hong Kong on his retirement a month from now, after 29 years with the civil service, and three years membership of this Council. During his long service he has gained the respect of those who have come into contact with him in several fields: he will be remembered for the concern he has displayed for people and his efforts towards strengthening the bridge between the people and their Government, and in helping to ensure that by means of the Home Affairs Department the views of the people are made known to the Government. We shall miss him, and I am sure that Members will join me in thanking him for his contribution to our community. We hope that he and his wife will enjoy a long and happy retirement.

MR. LOBO:—Sir, my Unofficial Colleagues wish to be associated with the tribute which Your Excellency paid to Mr. LI Fook-kow and Mr. John WALDEN.

During the period of these past eight years at which Mr. LI has served on this Council, he has been a source of sound advice to all his Unofficial Colleagues on this Council and at UMELCO meetings. He was also closely associated with the Unofficials during his other public service which carried him from the rank of Assistant Education Officer to all the ranks of the Administrative Class, Resettlement and the Labour Departments, as well as all other branches of the Government Secretariat.

He has been a man who has moved the machinery of Government forward with skill and understanding of Government policy and local conditions, with little publicity and he has never been one to steal the limelight.

We are however pleased that Mr. Li's public service is not ending and we wish him every success in the future.

Mr. John WALDEN has been a Member of this Council for three years, but his service to Hong Kong started, as Your Excellency said, in 1951.

He occupied many important and often difficult posts and more recently he has been strengthening the City District Office Scheme.

We know Mr. WALDEN has the interest of Hong Kong and the people of Hong Kong at heart and we hope that he will continue to foster 'the good image of Hong Kong' after his retirement.

We wish Mr. WALDEN, his wife and family every success in their future endeavours.

Adjournment and next sitting

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT:—In accordance with Standing Orders I adjourn the Council until 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 1 October 1980 when the new session of the Council will begin, and I like to take this opportunity to wish Members a pleasant vacation.

Adjourned accordingly at thirty-five minutes past three o'clock.