30th December, 1929.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Council Chamber, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. Mr. W. T. Southorn, C.M.G.) presiding.

Votes, totalling \$27,266, contained in Message No. 19 from H.E. The Governor, were considered.

Item No. 121: Prisons Department:—Other Charges, fuel, \$2,500.

HON. MR. A. C. HYNES.—In connection with the vote for increased gas consumption for cooking, I should like to ask whether fuel is supplied free?

THE CHAIRMAN.—Yes, an allowance of coal is supplied free.

Item No. 123: Public Works, Extraordinary:—General Works, Miscellaneous, Purchase of Pier at Tsun Wan, \$2,200.

Hon. Mr. J. P. BRAGA.—It is more out of curiosity than criticism that I should like to ask what is meant by "property of the Tsun Wan community?"

THE CHAIRMAN.—It was a privately owned pier, built, I believe, by the Kaifong.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.—The Government is anxious to take it over, otherwise there may be excessive charges for ferry services.