

OFFICIAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.**Meeting of 12th October, 1960.**

PRESENT:HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (*PRESIDENT*)

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

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 ROBERT MARSHALL HETHERINGTON, D.F.C.

(Commissioner of Labour).

THE HONOURABLE HECTOR WILLIAM FORSYTH

(Acting Director of Public Works).

DR. THE HONOURABLE TENG PIN-HUI

(Acting Director of Medical and Health Services).

THE HONOURABLE DAVID RICHARD WATSON ALEXANDER, M.B.E.

(Director of Urban Services).

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

THE HONOURABLE KWOK CHAN, O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE FUNG PING-FAN, O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE RICHARD CHARLES LEE, O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE KWAN CHO-YIU, O.B.E.

THE HONOURABLE GEORGE MACDONALD GOLDSACK.

THE HONOURABLE DONALD BLACK.

MR. ANDREW McDONALD CHAPMAN *(Deputy Clerk of Councils).***ABSENT:**

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR RODERICK WILLIAM McLEOD, K.C.B., C.B.E.

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

MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21st September, 1960, were confirmed.

PAPERS.

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

| <i>Subject.</i> | <i>G.N. No.</i> |
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| Sessional Papers, 1960: — | |
| No. 17—Annual Report by the Director of Marine for the year 1959/60. | |
| No. 18—Annual Report by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue for the year 1959/60. | |
| No. 19—Annual Report by the Director of Information Services for the year 1959/60. | |
| No. 20—Annual Report by the Controller of Broadcasting for the year 1959/60. | |
| No. 21—Annual Report by the Quartering Authority for the year 1959/60. | |
| Importation and Exportation Ordinance. | |
| Fees and the manner of payment | A. 98. |
| Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. | |
| Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Regulations, 1960 | A. 99. |
| Emergency Regulations Ordinance. | |
| Emergency (Importation of Milk) (Revocation) Regulations, 1960 | A. 111. |
| Pawnbrokers Ordinance. | |
| Scale of Fees (Pawnbrokers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1960 | A. 112. |
| Pensions Ordinance. | |
| Pensionable Offices Order, 1960 | A. 115. |
| Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960. | |
| Registration of Persons (Re-registration) (No. 4) Order, 1960 | A. 116. |

UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the University Ordinance, 1958."

He said: Sir, in this case there is nothing that I can usefully add to the statement of Objects and Reasons, and I therefore beg to move.

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: —

It has been decided that the Faculties of Engineering and Architecture should be amalgamated as one Faculty, to be known as the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture. The amalgamation has been effective administratively since 1st September, 1958. This Bill seeks to make the necessary statutory provisions by the amendment of section 9 of the principal Ordinance. Clause 1 provides that it shall have effect as from the date on which the Faculties were administratively amalgamated.

ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1957."

He said: Sir, as the statement of Objects and Reasons indicates, this proposed new section is complementary to an existing regulation which requires a driver of a vehicle to make way at a crossing when warning of the approach of a fire brigade vehicle, ambulance, or police vehicle is given by the sounding of a gong, bell, or siren. The new section will allow the vehicle sounding the warning to pass through a crossing against the traffic lights. Drivers will, of course, have to be given strict and clear instructions as to when such warnings may be sounded. Finally, I should like to emphasize that the driver of a vehicle taking advantage of the new section will not be absolved from his duty to drive with care and with due consideration for other road users.

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 purpose of this Bill is to add a new section, 14A, to the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1957, to enable police, fire brigade and ambulance vehicles to proceed across crossings against traffic lights in any case where the use of a vehicle for such purposes would be hindered by compliance with the light signals. It is to be observed that regulation 109 of the Road Traffic (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1956, requires that a driver shall draw into the side of the road and shall stop clear of every crossing when the approach of a fire brigade vehicle, ambulance or police vehicle is indicated by the sounding of a gong, bell or siren and shall remain there until the fire brigade vehicle, ambulance or police vehicle has passed.

2. Provision is also made to ensure that no right to a civil claim for injury or damages is affected by this amendment to the law.

FORESHORE AND SEA BED (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Foreshores and Sea Bed Ordinance, Chapter 127."

He said: Here, Sir, there is nothing that I can usefully add to the statement of Objects and Reasons, and I therefore beg to move.

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 purpose of this Bill is to extend the provisions of section 3 of the Foreshores and Sea Bed Ordinance, Chapter 127, which relate to the insertion in the *Gazette* of the terms of a proposed Crown lease of foreshore or sea bed to foreshore, sea bed or submerged land situate in or contiguous to the New Territories as it is considered that changed circumstances in the New Territories, since the enactment of the principal Ordinance in 1901, make such course desirable.

PRISONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the First reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Prisons Ordinance, 1954."

He said: Sir, this Bill is rather longer than the other Bills but here again there is nothing I can usefully add to the statement of Objects and Reasons. Sir, I beg to move.

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 purpose of this measure is to amend the Prisons Ordinance, 1954 consequential upon the acceptance by Government of certain recommendations of the Salaries Commission of 1959 regarding the staff organization of the Prisons Department, and to amend section 5 to include reference to the two new prisons namely Chi Ma Wan and Tai Lam.

2. Opportunity has been taken to insert a new section 26A to grant the Commissioner a general power of delegation which the expansion of the Prison Service and the addition of the two new prisons referred to above renders expedient.

URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, 1960.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Urban Council Ordinance, 1955."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 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 and 2 were agreed to.

Council then resumed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY reported that the Urban Council (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill, 1960, had passed through Committee without amendment and moved the Third reading.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL seconded.

The question was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a Third time and passed into law.

ADJOURNMENT.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR: —Well, 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 until this day two weeks.