

OFFICIAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS**Meeting of 12th February 1964****PRESENT:**HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (*PRESIDENT*)

SIR ROBERT BROWN BLACK, GCMG, OBE

HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR RICHARD WALTE CRADDOCK, KBE,
CB, DSO

COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES

THE HONOURABLE EDMUND BRINSLEY TEESDALE, MC

COLONIAL SECRETARY

THE HONOURABLE MAURICE HEENAN, QC

ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE HONOURABLE JOHN JAMES COWPERTHWAITTE, CMG, OBE

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

THE HONOURABLE KENNETH STRATHMORE KINGHORN

DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES

THE HONOURABLE PETER DONOEUE

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

THE HONOURABLE ALEC MICHAEL JOHN WRIGHT

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

THE HONOURABLE FUNG PING-FAN, OBE

THE HONOURABLE RICHARD CHARLES LEE, CBE

THE HONOURABLE KWAN CHO-YIU, OBE

THE HONOURABLE KAN YUET-KEUNG, OBE

THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM CHARLES GODDARD KNOWLES

THE HONOURABLE SIDNEY SAMUEL GORDON

THE HONOURABLE LI FOOK-SHU, OBE

MR GORDON ERIC MATHER (*Deputy Clerk of Councils*)**ABSENT:**

THE HONOURABLE JOHN CRICHTON McDOUALL

SECRETARY FOR CHINESE AFFAIRS

DR THE HONOURABLE TENG PIN-HUI, OBE

DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

THE HONOURABLE DHUN JEHANGIR RUTTONJEE, OBE

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22nd January 1964, were confirmed.

PAPERS

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

<i>Subject</i>	<i>LN No</i>
Sessional Papers, 1964: —	
No 8—Annual Report by the Commissioner of Labour for the year 1962-63	
No 9—Annual Report by the Commissioner of Police for the year 1962-63	
No 10—Annual Report by the Commissioner of Registration of Persons for the year 1962-63.	
No 11—Annual Reports by the Director of Immigration for the years 1961-62 and 1962-63.	
No 12—Annual Report by the Director of Public Works for the year 1962-63.	
No 13—Annual Report by the Manager and Chief Engineer, Railway for the year 1962-63.	
Development of Medical Services in Hong Kong.	
Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance.	
Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment of First Schedule) Regulations, 1964	10
Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960.	
Registration of Persons (Re-registration) (No 4) Order, 1964	12
Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960.	
Registration of Persons (Cancellation of Registration and Identity Cards) (No 4) Order, 1964	13
Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1956.	
Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations, 1964	14
Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1956.	
Dangerous Goods (Classification) Regulations, 1964	15
Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1956.	
Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulations, 1964	16

<i>Subject</i>	<i>LN No</i>
Road Traffic Ordinance, 1957.	
Road Traffic (Parking and-Waiting) (Amendment) Regulations, 1964	17
Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960.	
Registration of Persons (Re-registration) (No 5) Order, 1964	18
Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960.	
Registration of Persons (Cancellation of Registration and Identity Cards) (No 5) Order, 1964	19
Dogs and Cats Ordinance, 1950.	
Approved Observation Kennels and Quarantine Stations	21
Hoseinee Society of Hong Kong Incorporation Ordinance, 1954.	
Amendment of First Schedule	22
Registration of Persons Ordinance, 1960.	
Registration of Persons (Re-registration) (No 6) Order, 1964	23

He said: Sir, among these the Report on the Development of Medical Services deserves particular attention. This Report was prepared last year by a Working Party under the chairmanship of the Director of Medical and Health Services. It has since been endorsed by the Medical Advisory Board and has received the Executive Council's approval in principle, subject of course to the provision of the necessary funds from year to year. The Report represents a comprehensive review of problems in the medical field during the coming decade. It contains proposals not only for a substantial increase in the total number of hospital beds, but also for an appreciable improvement in the bed ratio per head of population, as well as for a steady expansion of clinic and outpatient facilities. In framing their proposals the authors of the Report have taken special care to relate them to the Colony's likely financial resources, the rate of building construction and the availability of qualified staff. Even so, the financial implications of the Report are very considerable, and Honourable Members will doubtless agree that finance, as well as the other limiting factors to which I have just referred, must largely determine the speed at which we can implement the programme. It would be wise, therefore, to regard the Report as a general guide for future development rather than as a detailed and inflexible blue-print.

It follows, then, that the plan may require amendment from time to time or that its aims may possibly have to be achieved over a longer period of time. We propose, therefore, to keep the programme under continuous review, and for this purpose the Working Party which was

responsible for its preparation will become a Standing Committee whose conclusions will be reported to Government through the Medical Advisory Board.

QUESTIONS

MR Y. K. KAN, pursuant to notice, asked the following question: —

Sir, in view of the present water shortage and the need to reduce consumption, has Government reconsidered the question of installation of separate water meters in multi-storey buildings since I raised the question in this Council in December 1961?

MR A.M. J. WRIGHT replied as follows: —

Further consideration has been given to the installation of separate water meters in multi-storey buildings.

There are several problems to be overcome, but in my opinion, the advantages to be gained are such that our aim should be to make the installation of individual meters standard practice in the future.

There is no difficulty in providing separate meters to new buildings where the flats have cold water supply only. Complications arise if the flats have a hot water system with associated storage tanks; in such cases the cost of the plumbing installation will be considerably increased.

The provision of individual meters in existing buildings is possible, but in nearly all cases it would be expensive, because new pipe runs would be necessary to enable the meters to be fixed outside the flats.

The problem of responsibility for common internal supply pipes was referred to in some detail in the reply to the honourable Member's question on the same subject in December 1961. One solution is for Government to assume responsibility for the common supply pipes in buildings under multi-ownership, but other possible solutions are being considered.

The cost of separate meters cannot be ignored. A meter costs about \$60, and they require regular servicing; this involves workshop space and workshop staff. A large increase in the Meter Reader establishment would also be necessary.

The sum up, I favour the provision of separate meters in multi-storey buildings. The associated problems, including capital and recurrent costs, are being investigated. I hope to submit my recommendations to Government in the near future.

SUMMARY OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1964

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Summary Offences Ordinance and to revoke the Fireworks (Special Permits) Regulations."

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 3 were agreed to.

Council then resumed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL reported that the Summary Offences (Amendment) Bill, 1964, 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 into law.

DANGEROUS GOODS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1964

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the Second reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1956."

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 9 were agreed to.

Council then resumed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL reported that the Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Bill, 1964, 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 into law.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR: —Gentlemen, this is the last occasion on which Mr DONOHUE will be attending Legislative Council. Before our next meeting he will have proceeded on leave prior to retirement after serving as Director of Education in Hong Kong for a period of close on three years. Mr DONOHUE'S record of loyal and able service to the Crown in the Department of Education in Hong Kong is well-known. For an important period before he became Director, he was the officer in charge of development planning in the Department and it is in his period as Head of Department that we have seen the fruits of his planning. Mr DONOHUE has rendered notable service to the cause of education in Hong Kong, and I am sure you will all wish to join with me in placing on record in this Council our appreciation of his service to the Colony and, at the same time, to extend to him and to his wife our very best wishes for a happy retirement. (*Applause*).

MR DONOHUE: —Thank you, Sir.

ADJOURNMENT

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

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL: —May I suggest, Sir, this day two weeks.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR: —Council stands adjourned until this day two weeks.