

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THIRD SESSION

SINGAPORE, WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1958

No. 11

10.00 a.m.

46

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Secretary to state the latest approximate estimated number of persons in Singapore who are Hokkien, Cantonese, Teochew, Hakka, Hainanese and Foochow.
- *2. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware of the strong opposition of the various Chinese community associations and guilds of Singapore to the Government's decision to discontinue using the Teochew, Hakka, Hainanese and Foochow dialects in the local broadcast of the Chinese programme from January 1959, and whether the Government will reconsider this decision.
- *3. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Secretary what progress has been made in the examination and exemption of the publications affected by the general ban on the publications of 53 publishers in Hongkong and China.
- *4. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health whether he will state—
 - (a) the total number of persons who have been X-rayed under the Government Tuberculosis Survey;
 - (b) what percentage of these persons showed evidence of tuberculosis, both healed and active;
 - (c) what percentage of these persons have been found to require active treatment; and
 - (d) whether there is a waiting list for the admission of infecting tuberculosis cases to hospital, including cases not discovered by the Survey.
- *5. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health whether he will make a statement on what further measures the Government proposes to take in the campaign against tuberculosis in the light of the findings of the Government Tuberculosis Survey.
- *6. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry to give the following particulars relating to cottons for the period from January to October 1958:—
 - (a) quantity imported into Singapore from each country and the countries from which they were imported; and
 - (b) quantity re-exported to each country and the countries to which they were re-exported.
- *7. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will make a statement on the effects of the suspension by China, as reported in the local press, of the import of certain goods into Singapore, and what steps does he propose to take to ensure that the entrepôt trade of Singapore will not be jeopardised and that the cost of living in Singapore will not rise as a result of this suspension.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS**Presentation of Government Bills**

1. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—
Registration of United Kingdom Patents (Amendment) Bill.
2. The Minister for Health—
Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Bill.
3. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—
Singapore Improvement (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Attorney-General—
Law Reform (Frustrated Contracts) Bill.
5. The Financial Secretary—
War Damage (Amendment) Bill.
6. The Chief Secretary—
Services Lands Board Bill.
7. The Financial Secretary—
Appropriation Bill.

[The Financial Secretary proposes, under Standing Order 69(1), to move the motion for the Second Reading of the Bill, at the conclusion of the proceeding on the First Reading.]

(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified immediately before proceeding upon the Second Reading.)

Business Motion

8. The Financial Secretary to move—
That at its rising today, the Assembly do stand adjourned to Friday, 12th December, 1958.

ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)

- 1. Nanyang University Bill—Second Reading.
[Commitment to a Select Committee will be moved immediately after Second Reading.]
- 2. Pioneer Industries (Relief from Income Tax) Bill—Second Reading.
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified).
- 3. Industrial Expansion (Relief from Income Tax) Bill—Second Reading.
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified).
- 4. Employment Agency Bill—Second Reading.† *(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified).*

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- 5. Notaries Public Bill—Second Reading.† (*Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified*).

[For Amendments to the Bill, see Supplement No. 7.]

† The Committee Stage and Third Reading will be moved immediately after the Second Reading.

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6. Mr. LEE KUAN YEW (Member for Tanjong Pagar) to move—

That this Assembly resolves that it is of the opinion that election writs be issued for General Elections to the Legislative Assembly under the new Constitution on or before April 2, 1959, and that an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor to fix the date for the introduction of the new Constitution in accordance with paragraph 54 of the Report of the Singapore Constitutional Conference 1957 contained in Sessional Paper No. Misc. 2 of 1957.

MEMORANDUM

Matter proposed to be raised on the Motion for Adjournment (Standing Order 7 (9)):—

Mr. Lim Cher Kheng (Member
for Changi) ...

... Importance of unrestricted Trade between
Singapore and China.

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare to state—

- (a) the total number of registered Trade Unions in the Colony as at 31st March, 1957; the number and names of those Unions which failed to submit to the Registrar of Trade Unions their annual returns for the year ending 31st March, 1957, by 31st March, 1958; and the actions (with dates) taken against them;
- (b) the names of those registered Trade Unions which failed to submit their annual returns for the year ending 31st March, 1958, by 30th June, 1958; and the names of those Unions served with notices during the months of July and October, 1958, because of such failure, stating the duration of the notices; and
- (c) the names of those registered Trade Unions which failed to submit their annual returns for the year ending 31st March, 1958, by 30th September, 1958.

2. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare to state—

- (a) how many applications for registration as Trade Unions were refused between January 1948 and October 1958, and the grounds of refusal; and
- (b) how many Trade Unions have had their certificates of registration cancelled by the Registrar of Trade Unions for not submitting their annual returns for the year ending 31st March, 1958, by 8th September, 1958.

3. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware of allegations that suspects rounded up by the Police are assaulted inside police vehicles en route to police stations, and if he will cause an investigation to be made into the matter.
4. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Financial Secretary, in view of the distress reported to have been experienced by an accused in a Traffic Court, when his payment of a fine exceeding two dollars in one cent coins was at first not accepted, if he will consider issuing instructions to revenue-collecting Government Departments to accommodate members of the public as far as possible.
5. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Health to state the names of the two persons referred to in paragraph 38 of the First Report from the Public Accounts Committee (Sessional Paper No. L.A. 17 of 1958), and what steps have been taken to date to recover the overpayments.
6. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry if he is aware of any opposition by shipowners' organisations and seamen's unions to the compulsory medical examination required under the provisions of section 44 of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance (Cap. 207), and what action he has taken or proposes to take in the matter.
7. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether—
 - (a) the Seamen's Registry Board, in supplying registered seamen to employers, discriminates against seamen who are members of unions;
 - (b) he will arrange for permission to be given for an official of the union to which a seaman belongs to be present when the seaman signs an "agreement with the crew"; and
 - (c) he will arrange for a copy of such agreement to be provided to the seaman concerned.
8. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will consider lifting the ban on the import of cottons into Singapore from China.
9. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will permit a Trade Mission from Singapore to go to China to improve the trade relations between the two countries.

SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1958		<i>Date ordered to be printed</i>
L.A. 19	Minutes of Proceedings of the House Committee (Third Session)	5th November, 1958.
L.A. 20	Report of the Select Committee on the Housing and Development Bill	7th November, 1958.
L.A. 21	Report of the Select Committee on the Planning Bill	28th November, 1958.
L.A. 22	Report of the Select Committee on the Local Government Elections (Amendment) Bill	29th November, 1958.

Date presented

Cmd. 42	1957 Census of Population, Singapore (Preliminary Release No. 1)	...	...	25th November, 1958.
Cmd. 35	Annual Report of the Botanic Gardens Department for 1957	...	...	27th November, 1958.
Cmd. 40	Annual Report of the Librarian Raffles Library 1957	...	...	27th November, 1958.
Cmd. 43	Memorandum on the Estimates for 1957 and 1958 and on the Draft Estimates for 1959	...	...	29th November, 1958.
Cmd. 44	The Malayan Rubber Export Registration Board—Report on the Operations of the Board for the year ended 31st December, 1957	29th November, 1958.

S.L. 40	The Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment), 1958	28th November, 1958.
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