



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SINGAPORE, 8TH FEBRUARY, 1956

No. 24

10.00 a.m.

95

## ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

Mr. WILLIAM ALLMOND CODRINGTON GOODE, C.M.G., Chief Secretary.

### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- \*1. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Chief Minister what information he has on the subject of the creation of a naval base at Labuan.
- \*2. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister whether he will make a statement giving details of his discussion in London with the Secretary of State for the Colonies and of his visit to Commonwealth countries en route.
- \*3. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister whether he is satisfied that it is in the interests of the country for 3 Assistant Ministers to be members of the City Council in addition to their ministerial duties; and whether he will state the policy of the Government in this matter.
- \*4. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister if he will state whether the views expressed by the Assistant Ministers in the City Council are also the views of the Government.
- \*5. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Chief Minister whether he will give details of any rules which have been framed by which Assistant Ministers are required to relinquish their interests in business and professional activities during their term of office.
- \*6. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister if he will make a statement on his discussions with the Chief Minister of the Federation of Malaya on the subject of Union with the Federation; and whether he will further state what are the Government's intentions regarding such a union.
- \*7. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister if he will state how far the Government has progressed towards the definition of a Singapore citizen; and whether he will make a statement.
- \*8. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Chief Minister if he will state what is the Government's definition of (a) a Malayan and (b) an expatriate.
- \*9. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry in view of the shortage of veterinary officers to cope with the needs of the farmers, whether he will take immediate steps to increase appreciably the staff of the Veterinary Department.
- \*10. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether the visit of the Assistant Minister for Commerce and Industry to India in December last was an official visit sponsored by the Government; and what were the results of the visit.

- \*11. Mr. LIM KOON TECK: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry how many new industries were started and how many persons have been given employment in these new industries in the period April to December, 1954.
- \*12. Mr. LIM KOON TECK: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry how many new industries were started and how many persons have been given employment in these new industries in the period April to December, 1955.
- \*13. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Chief Secretary what food, in detail, is provided at present for European and Asian prisoners in the Prisons of Singapore.
- \*14. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Chief Secretary if he will state the earliest date when the whole of Assembly House will be placed under the jurisdiction of the Speaker.
- \*15. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will make a statement on the Government's policy regarding the compulsory retirement age of officers of the Public Service.
- \*16. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether the Government intends to make public the report of the Commission on Public Transport.
- \*17. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether the Working Party set up to consider the building costs of schools has made its report; and whether he will give details of the conclusions arrived at.
- \*18. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Education whether teachers for Government Schools are being recruited from Hong Kong; and whether he will give full particulars regarding the methods of recruitment.
- \*19. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Education whether a Malay secondary school is scheduled to be built in 1956.
- \*20. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Education if he will make a statement on the special courses to be arranged for students who were unable to gain admission to Government secondary schools this year.
- \*21. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare if he will state the number of unemployed registered during each of the months of July to December, 1954, and 1955.
- \*22. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare what step the Government is taking to cope with the unemployment situation.
- \*23. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare if he will state the number of man-days lost because of strikes in the period April to December, 1955, and the corresponding figure for 1954.
- \*24. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing what steps the Government have taken or intend to take, in view of the protest by S.I.T. tenants, regarding the increase of water rates charged by the Singapore Improvement Trust.
- \*25. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing the names of the S.I.T. Estates serviced by block water-meters, and the number of flats or units in each of the Estates.
- \*26. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing the average monthly figures for 1955 of water consumption in each of the Estates serviced by block water-meters.

- \*27. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing what steps the Government have taken to reduce the rentals of S.I.T. houses.
- \*28. Mr. LIM KOON TECK: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing to state the reasons for the delay in moving families from the Beach Road area to Tanjong Rhu and to give details of the terms of resettlement.
- \*29. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he will make a statement on the claims of the Attap Dwellers' Association that it negotiated terms with the previous Government for the resettlement of Queenstown tenants and that more recently it agreed to fresh compromise terms with the present Government.
- \*30. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that there are no proper arrangements in resettlement areas to assist the new settlers in their various difficulties; and what steps will be taken to remedy the situation.
- \*31. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he will state what the policy of the Government is with regard to the provision of standpipes in rural areas.

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### AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

#### Presentation of Government Bills

1. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—  
Apportionment of Rents (Amendment) Bill.
2. The Financial Secretary—  
Final Supply (1954) Bill.
3. The Minister for Health—  
Poisons (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Financial Secretary—  
Income Tax (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Financial Secretary—  
War Damage (Winding Up) Bill.
6. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—  
Nature Reserves (Amendment) Bill.
7. The Chief Secretary—  
Cinematograph Films (Amendment) Bill.
8. The Minister for Labour and Welfare—  
Silver Jubilee Fund (Singapore) (Amendment) Bill.
9. The Attorney-General—  
Revised Edition of the Laws (Annual Supplements) Bill.
10. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—  
Singapore Improvement (Amendment) Bill.
11. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Rubber Shipping and Packing Control (Amendment) Bill.

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### ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

1. Sale of Food and Drugs (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
2. Post Office (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
3. Muslims Bill—Second Reading.  
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)

## 4. The Chief Minister to move—

That this Assembly is of the opinion that for the purposes of oral debate the languages of the Assembly should be English, Malay, Mandarin and Tamil; and that a Select Committee be appointed to examine, report upon and make recommendations in respect of matters necessary to enable effect to be given to the proposal.

## 5. The Minister for Education to move—

That this House approves in principle the introduction of commercial television in Singapore by the issue of an exclusive licence to a commercial undertaking without charge on public funds but subject to control by the Government.

## 6. The Chief Secretary to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (2) of section 4 of the Transfer of Powers and Interpretation Ordinance, 1949 (No. 9 of 1949), resolves that the additions to the First Schedule to the Transfer of Powers and Interpretation Ordinance, 1946 (No. 2 of 1946) made under section 16 of the said Ordinance of 1949 and published as Notification No. S 10 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 3 of the 13th day of January, 1956, as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 2 of 1956, be and are hereby approved.

## 7. The Assistant Minister for Commerce and Industry to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (2) of section 477 of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance (Chapter 150), resolves that the Merchant Shipping (Passenger Certificate Partial Survey Fees) Rules, 1955, published as Notification No. S 418 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 109 of 23rd December, 1955, and as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 57 of 1955, be approved.

## 8. The Financial Secretary to move—

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2) of section 11 of the Customs Ordinance (Ordinance No. 11 of 1955), resolves that the rates of duty leviable in respect of the importation into or manufacture in the Colony of intoxicating liquors, tobacco and petroleum shall be those as specified in the Customs (Duties) Order, 1956 published as Notification No. S 19 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 5 of 26th January, 1956 and contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 3 of 1956.

## 9. The Financial Secretary to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (1) of section 102 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1947 (No. 39 of 1947), as amended by the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948 (No. 20 of 1948), the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 44 of 1950), the Income Tax (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 46 of 1950), the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1952 (No. 29 of 1952), the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1953 (No. 40 of 1953) and the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1954 (No. 34 of 1954), resolves that the Light Dues Board be added to the First Schedule to the Income Tax Ordinance, 1947.

## 10. The Financial Secretary to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (1) of section 102 of the Income Tax Ordinance, 1947 (No. 39 of 1947), as amended by the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948 (No. 20 of 1948), the Income Tax

(Amendment) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 44 of 1950), the Income Tax (Amendment No. 2) Ordinance, 1950 (No. 46 of 1950), the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1952 (No. 29 of 1952), the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1953 (No. 40 of 1953) and the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1954 (No. 34 of 1954), resolves that the Board of Architects, Singapore be added to the First Schedule to the Income Tax Ordinance, 1947.

11. The Financial Secretary to move—

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly approves the allocation of advances to the Singapore Improvement Trust up to but not exceeding the sum of one million dollars for the purpose of erecting low-cost houses for sale to members of the public subject to such conditions as the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing may from time to time impose; and that this Assembly further takes note that the Government proposes to guarantee repayment of one half of that part of any loan made by the Federal and Colonial Building Society, Ltd., in respect of any such houses which exceeds 80 per cent but does not exceed 90 per cent of the agreed valuation of the property which forms the security for such loan.

12. The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That the Honourable Mr. W. A. C. Goode be appointed to be a member of the Select Committee on the Assembly Staff.

13. The Financial Secretary to move—

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$40,356 should be supplied to the Government under the Heads of Expenditure and for the services specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 5 of 1956.

14. The Financial Secretary to move—

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$156,555 should be supplied to the Government under the Heads of Expenditure and for the services specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 6 of 1956.

15. The Financial Secretary to move—

That the First Report of the Select Committee on Standing Orders, as contained in Sessional Paper No. L. A. 13 of 1955, be adopted; and that the following amendments be made to the Standing Orders—

(i) Standing Order 61, new paragraph (6):

Add new paragraph (6) as follows—

“(6) There shall be a Committee to be known as the Estimates Committee to consist of a Chairman to be appointed by the Speaker and not more than five Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, as soon as may be after the beginning of each Session, in such manner as shall ensure that so far as is possible the balance between the Government and the Opposition in the Assembly is reflected in the Committee. It shall be the duty of the Committee to examine any of the Estimates contained in the Schedules of Appropriation Bills and financial motions, to suggest the form in which Estimates might be presented, and to report what economies consistent with the policy implied in the Estimates might be effected.”

- (ii) Standing Order 69 (1), lines 3 and 4:  
Leave out "on all the services of the Government" and insert "out of the revenues and other funds of the Colony".
- (iii) Standing Order 69 (2), line 3:  
After "seven" insert "clear".
- (iv) Standing Order 69 (2), line 6:  
After "Speaker" insert "or Member presiding".
- (v) Standing Order 69 (11), line 1:  
Leave out "the" and insert "any".
- (vi) Standing Order 69 (11), lines 1 and 2:  
Leave out from "question" to "debate" and insert "in the Committee of Supply".
- (vii) New Standing Order 69A:  
Add new Standing Order as follows—
- "69A.—(1) Whenever supplementary financial requirements for expenditure out of the revenues and other funds of the Colony become necessary, there shall be introduced into the Assembly a motion: "That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$..... shall be supplied to the Government under the heads of expenditure and for the services specified in the Schedule contained in Sessional Paper No. ....". At least five clear days' notice shall be given of the introduction of such motion.
- (2) Upon the motion being proposed and seconded, the same shall stand committed to the Committee of Supply to which the Schedule shall then also stand referred.
- (3) The Assembly shall thereupon, without any question being proposed, resolve itself into Committee and paragraphs (6) to (11) inclusive of Standing Order 69 shall apply to the consideration of the Schedule.
- (4) The Schedule to the Motion shall be dealt with before the Motion.
- (5) At the conclusion of the consideration of the motion and the Schedule in Committee, the Assembly shall resume and the Member in charge shall forthwith report that the motion and the Schedule have been considered in Committee and agreed to (with amendments). Thereupon the question on the motion (with amendments) shall be put and decided without amendment or debate."

(viii) Standing Order 70:

Leave out Standing Order 70 and insert new Standing Order as follows—

"70.—(1) As soon as possible after the end of each financial year there shall be introduced into the Assembly a final Appropriation (No. 2) Bill which shall include such supplementary financial requirements as may have been agreed for the previous year in accordance with Standing Order 69A.

(2) The debate on the motion for the second reading of the Bill shall be confined to the general principles of Government policy and administration as indicated in the Bill and Schedules.

(3) When the Bill has been read a second time, a motion for the third reading shall thereupon be made by a Minister. Such motion shall not be required to be seconded and shall be decided without amendment or debate."

16. The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (3) of section 27 of the Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance (Chapter 33), resolves that the Women and Girls' Protection (Places of Safety—Amendment) Rules, 1956, made on the 20th day of January, 1956, and published as Notification No. S 27 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 5 of the 26th January, 1956, and as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 6 of 1956, be approved.

17. The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to section 174 of the Labour Ordinance, 1955 (No. 40 of 1955), resolves that the Labour (Prescribed Forms) Regulations, 1956, published as Notification No. S 22 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 5 of 26th January, 1956, and as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 5 of 1956, be approved.

18. The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to section 174 of the Labour Ordinance, 1955 (No. 40 of 1955), resolves that the Labour (Notes of Evidence—Fees) Regulations, 1956, published as Notification No. S 21 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 5 of 26th January, 1956, and as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 4 of 1956, be approved.

19. The Assistant Minister for Commerce and Industry to move—

That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (2) of section 477 of the Merchant Shipping Ordinance (Chapter 150), resolves that the Singapore Port (Amendment) Rules, 1956, published as Notification No. S 32 in the *Gazette Supplement* No. 7 of 3rd February, 1956, and as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 8 of 1956, be approved.

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

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly is of the opinion that an All-Party Committee should be appointed by the Government to discuss the question of unification of Singapore and the Federation of Malaya with representatives of the Federation Legislative Council and to work out definite proposals for a merger of the two territories.

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

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this House deplores the action of the Naval Authorities (1) in forcibly evicting two workers' families residing in quarters in the Naval Base and (2) in using the Protected Areas and Places Ordinance to prohibit and prevent picketing by the workers outside the gates to the Dockyard of the Naval Base.

22. Shop and Office Employees Bill—Second Reading.

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

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### QUESTION NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether there is in operation or under consideration any scheme to provide farmlands and the necessary facilities for the resettlement of farmers who will be affected by the Master Plan or by any other future Government development project; and whether he will give details.

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**SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED**

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1955

- Cmd. 26. Annual Report of the Statistics Department, 1954 (10th December, 1955).
- Cmd. 39. Annual Report of the Singapore Police Force, 1954 (28th December, 1955).
- Cmd. 36. Annual Report of the Board of Governors of Malaya Hall for the year 1954 (30th December, 1955).
- Cmd. 33. Report of the Raffles Museum and Library, 1953 (30th December, 1955).
- Cmd. 34. Report of the Raffles Museum and Library, 1954 (30th December, 1955).
- Cmd. 37. Annual Report of the Singapore Prisons, 1954 (6th January, 1956).
- Cmd. 40. Annual Report of the Board of Film Censors, 1954 (12th January, 1956).
- Cmd. 38. Annual Report of the Department of Broadcasting for the year 1954 (24th January, 1956).
- Cmd. 35. Report on the Registration of Births and Deaths, 1954 (28th January, 1956).
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- L.A. 17. Minutes of Proceedings of the House Committee on 18th November, 1955 (3rd December, 1955).
- L.A. 18. Second Report of the Select Committee on the Assembly Staff (12th December, 1955).
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- S.L. 51. Arms and Explosives (Movement Control) Rules, 1955 (28th November, 1955).
- S.L. 53. Bicycles Rules, 1955 (6th December, 1955).
- S.L. 54. Road Traffic (Passengers in Goods Vehicles) (Permits and Fees) (Amendment) Rules, 1955 (6th December, 1955).
- S.L. 55. Fees (Reproduction of Maps) Order, 1955 (15th December, 1955).
- S.L. 58. Petroleum (Transport by Water and Storage Fees) (Amendment) Rules, 1955 (17th December, 1955).
- S.L. 56. Registration of Aliens (Amendment) Rules, 1955 (20th December, 1955).
- S.L. 60. Pensions (Amendment No. 2) Regulations, 1955 (21st December, 1955).
- S.L. 57. Merchant Shipping (Passenger Certificate Partial Survey Fees) Rules, 1955 (31st December, 1955).
- S.L. 59. Telegraphs (Amendment) Rules, 1955 (4th January, 1956).
- S.L. 61. Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 1955 (4th January, 1956).
- S.L. 62. Motor Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 1955 (4th January, 1956).

1956

- Cmd. 1. Urban Incomes and Housing—A Report on the Social Survey of Singapore, 1953–54 (30th January, 1956).
- Cmd. 3. Financial Statements for the year 1954 (30th January, 1956).
- Cmd. 8. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the Public Passenger Transport System of Singapore (1st February, 1956).
- Cmd. 5. Schedule of Application for Supplementary Provision Approved under Authority delegated by the Legislative Assembly (2nd February, 1956).
- Cmd. 6. Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision for which the Approval of the Legislative Assembly is sought (2nd February, 1956).
- Cmd. 9. Report of the All-Party Committee of the Singapore Legislative Assembly on Chinese Education (2nd February, 1956).
- Cmd. 10. Report of the Committee on Local Government (3rd February, 1956).
- Cmd. 7. Report of the Director of Audit, Malaya, on the Accounts of the Colony of Singapore for the year ended 31st December, 1954 (4th February, 1956).
- Cmd. 11. Labour Policy (4th February, 1956).
- Cmd. 4. A Report on Control of Land Prices, Valuation and Compulsory Acquisition of Land (4th February, 1956).
- Cmd. 2. Medical Department Annual Report for 1954 (6th February, 1956).
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- S.L. 1. Prohibition of Imports (Amusement Machines) Order, 1956 (7th January, 1956).
- S.L. 2. Amendment to the First Schedule to the Transfer of Powers and Interpretation Ordinance, 1946 (No. 2 of 1946) (19th January, 1956).
- S.L. 6. Women and Girls' Protection (Places of Safety—Amendment) Rules, 1956 (31st January, 1956).
- S.L. 3. Customs (Duties) Order, 1956 (1st February, 1956).
- S.L. 4. Labour (Notes of Evidence—Fees) Regulations, 1956 (1st February, 1956).
- S.L. 5. Labour (Prescribed Forms) Regulations, 1956 (1st February, 1956).
- S.L. 7. Fisheries (Amendment) Rules, 1956 (1st February, 1956).
- S.L. 8. Singapore Port (Amendment) Rules, 1956 (2nd February, 1956).
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