

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
SECOND SESSION

SINGAPORE, 21ST AUGUST, 1957

No. 35

10.00 a.m.

122

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

Mr. WILLIAM ALLMOND CODRINGTON GOODE, Chief Secretary.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Chief Minister whether he has taken action with regard to the deletion of paragraph 30 regarding subversive elements as contained in the Report of the Singapore Constitutional Conference held in London in March and April 1957 (Sessional Paper No. Misc. 2 of 1957).
- *2. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Chief Minister—
- (a) whether he has had discussions with the Government of the Federation of Malaya concerning—
 - (i) immigration and extradition arrangements;
 - (ii) financial and economic matters including income tax; and
 - (iii) any other matter of vital interest to Singapore after 31st August, 1957;
 - (b) whether he will make a statement regarding the discussions; and
 - (c) whether he has taken steps to protect the interests of the citizens of Singapore.
- *3. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Minister if he will make a statement regarding his recent discussions with the Chief Minister of the Federation of Malaya.
- *4. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Minister whether he is aware of the concern among the public of Singapore over the restrictions proposed to be imposed on travellers between Singapore and the Federation of Malaya after 31st August, 1957; and whether he will make a statement on this matter.
- *5. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Chief Secretary if he is aware that only Federal citizens are eligible to apply for Government or quasi-Government appointments in the Federation of Malaya; and whether he will take steps to ensure that only persons born in Singapore are eligible for appointment to the Singapore Government service, and that this privilege is not extended to persons born in the Federation of Malaya, North Borneo or Brunei.
- *6. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Chief Secretary why the post of Special Grade midwife which has appeared in the Estimates yearly since 1949 has not as yet been substantively filled.
- *7. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware that complaints have been made by some suspects, when taken to the Police Stations, that they have been assaulted by members of the Police Force and that the conduct and behaviour of some members of the Force,

particularly the recruits, are very domineering; and what action does he propose to take in the matter.

- *8. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Financial Secretary—
- (a) how many business visitors staying a maximum of seven days in Singapore were served with income tax assessment notices during the first half of 1957; and
 - (b) how many of such persons paid income tax.
- *9. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Financial Secretary the reasons why business visitors to Singapore are served with income tax assessment notices under section 12 (4) of the Income Tax Ordinance (Cap. 166), instead of being exempted under section 13 (3); whether such notices are served on members of official trade missions to this country; and whether he will state the Government policy on this whole matter.
- *10. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Financial Secretary when the Bill will be introduced to enable Federation of Malaya customs officers to board trains at the Singapore Railway Station and make customs examinations *en route* to Johore Bahru.
- *11. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—
- (a) whether any houses or housing units and if so, how many, were completed by the Singapore Improvement Trust during the period from January to June 1957; and
 - (b) how many of these houses or housing units have been allotted up to 31st July, 1957.
- *12. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether the Government has taken any action in regard to the acquisition of land proposed under the Master Plan; and when will the Report of the Inspector from the United Kingdom who heard objections to this Plan be presented to this House.
- *13. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he will state the number of housing units of all categories completed by the Singapore Improvement Trust in the six-month periods ending June and December 1955, June and December 1956, and June 1957, and the number of applicants for accommodation on the waiting list at the end of each period.
- *14. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that some landlords and chief tenants sublet rooms at exorbitant rents, and whether he will take steps to protect sub-tenants from being victimized.
- *15. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware of the anxiety being caused by allegations of corruption in Singapore hospitals, and whether he will make a statement on this matter.
- *16. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware that complaints have been made by parents bringing their children to the General Hospital for treatment and admission, and by patients visiting the Maternity Hospital, that they are rudely treated by the staff of the Admission Room, the Dispensary and the Wards; and whether he will make a statement on the matter.
- *17. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works if he will recommend to the Omnibus Services Licensing Authority that the route of the bus service (Route 3A), between Park Road and Telok Blangah Road, be diverted into the Queenstown Housing Estate, through Dawson Road, Strathmore Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue; and that the terminus be extended to South Canal Road.

- *18. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry—
- (a) if he is aware of the alleged seizure of the Singapore-registered fishing craft *Hock Huat* by an Indonesian gunboat on 30th July, 1957;
 - (b) whether he will make a statement on the seizure of this fishing craft; and
 - (c) whether he has taken or will take any action in the matter.
- *19. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he has taken any steps to ensure reductions in the prices of rice and sugar since the re-opening of the Suez Canal to shipping.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Presentation of Government Bills

1. The Chief Minister—
Singapore Citizenship Bill.
2. The Attorney-General—
Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
3. The Minister for Education—
Raffles Museum Bill.
4. The Minister for Education—
Raffles National Library Bill.
5. The Assistant Minister to the Chief Secretary—
Botanical Gardens Bill.

Motion for the Introduction of Bill

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

That leave be given to introduce a Bill to amend the Labour Ordinance, 1955 (No. 40 of 1955).

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

1. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$513,525 shall be supplied to the Government under the heads of expenditure and for the services specified in the Schedule contained in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 30 of 1957.

2. The Chief Minister to move—

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

That Mr. Speaker do convey to Mr. Speaker of the Federal Legislative Council the following message of greetings and good wishes to Members of the Federal Legislative Council:—

“On the occasion of the attainment of Independence by the Federation of Malaya within the Commonwealth of Nations on Saturday, 31st August, 1957, the Singapore Legislative Assembly, on behalf of the people of Singapore, sends to the Federal Legislative Council and the people of the Federation of Malaya greetings and congratulations at this historic time—the emergence of a new nation, taking its rightful place among the freedom-loving nations of the world; and good

wishes for the future in which the peoples and Governments of both our territories are inextricably bound, a future which therefore holds a challenge to good sense and tolerance which can only be successfully met by constant and unstinted goodwill, and by the closest of co-operation in realising the ardent desire of the peoples of both our territories; for it is the prime interest of both peoples to merge into a single political unit within which as one people with one outlook and purpose, all may share the joy and fruits of that happy state of Merdeka.

We of Singapore look forward to that day when our strength will be added to your strength and our separation will be ended; and we can proudly go forward together to make our joint contribution in human welfare, economic prosperity and political strength to the great and distinctive service of Asia to the modern world.

MERDEKA.”

QUESTION NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he will, in the interest of safety to children and pedestrians,—

- (i) impose a 20 m.p.h. speed limit for vehicles using roads in Housing Estates such as Serangoon Garden Estate, and residential areas such as Lim Ah Pin Road and Hillside Drive;
- (ii) enlarge the traffic “island” at Serangoon Garden Way; and
- (iii) install a zebra-crossing at the 6th milestone, Yio Chu Kang Road.

SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1957

Date ordered to be printed

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|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| L.A. 13. | Report of the Standing Orders Committee (Second Session) | 2nd August, 1957. |
| L.A. 14. | Final Report from the Public Accounts Committee (Second Session) | 6th August, 1957. |

Date presented

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| Cmd. 29. | Schedule of Transfers between Subheads approved by the Financial Secretary under G.O. 662 (b) during the period 1st April, 1957, to 31st July, 1957, for the information of the Legislative Assembly | 13th August, 1957. |
| Cmd. 30. | Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision for which the approval of the Legislative Assembly is sought | 13th August, 1957. |
| Cmd. 28. | Annual Report of the Survey Department 1956 | 14th August, 1957. |
| Cmd. 31. | Report of the Director General of the Overseas Audit Service on the Accounts of the Colony of Singapore, for the year ended 31st December, 1955 | 17th August, 1957. |
| Cmd. 32. | Report of the Commissioners of Currency, Malaya and British Borneo 1956 | 19th August, 1957. |