

**FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**SECOND SESSION**

SINGAPORE, 24TH APRIL, 1957

No. 21

10.00 a.m.

64

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH**

Mr. STANLEY TOFT STEWART, Chief Secretary (*Acting*).

**QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER**

- \*1. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare whether he is aware that some private employment exchanges in Singapore are exploiting employment seekers, and what does he propose to do about such concerns.
- \*2. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare whether he will make a statement on the implementation of the Legal Aid and Advice Ordinance, 1956.
- \*3. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Chief Secretary whether the Singapore Government has been consulted by, and/or has made representations to, the British Government with reference to the latter Government's intention to carry out nuclear explosions based on Christmas Island.
- \*4. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will appoint an Inter-departmental Committee with a view to making available opportunities for employment in the Public Service of graduates of Chinese Middle Schools.
- \*5. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Financial Secretary what steps he has taken, or proposes to take, to amend the Income Tax Ordinance with a view to granting personal relief to an income-taxpayer who supports his parents, brothers, sisters or relatives.
- \*6. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Minister for Education what research, if any, his Ministry has made into the question of employment opportunities for graduates of Chinese Middle Schools.
- \*7. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Health what decision he has reached on the petition of Class "B" dentists about the use of patent medicine.
- \*8. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Minister for Health whether he will make a statement as regards the possible effect on the health of the people of Singapore and their food supply of the proposed nuclear tests by the British Government based on Christmas Island.
- \*9. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he will inform this House of the basis of priority in dealing with applications to the Singapore Telephone Board for the installation of telephones.
- \*10. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will present to the House a White Paper on the Milk Plant offer by Australia to Singapore under the Colombo Plan.

## AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

### Presentation of Government Bills

1. The Chief Secretary—  
Diplomatic Privileges (Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland) Bill.
2. The Attorney-General—  
Divorce (Amendment) Bill.
3. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Pineapple Industry Bill.
4. The Minister for Labour and Welfare—  
Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Minister for Communications and Works—  
Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill.
6. The Chief Secretary—  
Malayan Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (Amendment) Bill.
7. The Chief Secretary—  
Singapore Military Forces (Amendment) Bill.
8. The Chief Secretary—  
Malayan Auxiliary Air Force (Amendment) Bill.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

*(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)*

- 1. Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 2. Pawnbrokers (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 3. Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill—Committee Stage.†
- 4. Education Bill—Second Reading.†

**\*\*5.** The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Clerks Employment Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper L.A. 2 of 1957, be adopted, subject to the recommittal of the Bill in respect of clause 27, clause 28, clause 29 and clause 46 to a Committee of the whole Assembly.

**\*\*6.** The Minister for Labour and Welfare to move—

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Shop Assistants Employment Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper L.A. 3 of 1957, be adopted, subject to the recommittal of the Bill in respect of clause 2, clause 28, clause 29, clause 30, clause 34 and clause 50 to a Committee of the whole Assembly.

**7.** The Financial Secretary to move—

That this Assembly, in accordance with section 343 of the Municipal Ordinance (Chapter 133 of the 1936 Edition), sanctions the raising of a loan to be effected by increasing the issue of Singapore City Council 5 per

cent Debenture Stock 1956 from an amount not exceeding \$30,000,000 as sanctioned by a resolution of the Legislative Assembly on the 7th March, 1956, to an amount not exceeding \$50,000,000 for the purposes stated and under the conditions specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 12 of 1957.

8. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$1,279,707 shall be supplied to the Government under the heads of expenditure and for the services specified in Schedule A contained in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 14 of 1957.

9. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$5,496,603 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. 15 of 1957.

- \*\*10. The Minister for Commerce and Industry to move—

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Seamen's Registry Board Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper No. L.A. 6 of 1957, be adopted, subject to the recommittal of the Bill in respect of clauses 3 and 5 to a Committee of the whole Assembly.

11. The Minister for Commerce and Industry to move—

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Muslims Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper No. L.A. 5 of 1957, be adopted.

12. Mr. Lim Cher Kheng (Member for Changi) to move—

That this Assembly recognizes the paramount importance to Singapore of an incorruptible Public Service, and is of the opinion that a Commission of Inquiry under the provisions of the Inquiry Commissions Ordinance (Chapter 52) should be appointed (a) to inquire into and report on allegations of corrupt practices, if any, in the Public Service, the City Council, the Singapore Improvement Trust and the Singapore Harbour Board; and (b) to recommend measures for preventing, combating, and eradicating corrupt practices in the aforesaid Public Service and organizations.

### †NOTICES RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY

†1. *Singapore Polytechnic (Amendment) Bill:*

†2. *Pawnbrokers (Amendment) Bill.*

†4. *Education Bill:*

Subject to these Bills passing their Second Reading, the Members in charge will move their Committee Stage and Third Reading.

†2. *Pawnbrokers (Amendment) Bill:*

The Assistant Minister to the Chief Secretary will move the following amendment to the Bill in Committee:—

*Clause 1, page 1, line 7:* at end, add “, and shall come into force upon such date as the Governor may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint”.

†3. *Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill:*

Subject to the Bill passing its Committee Stage, the Member in charge will move its Third Reading.

**\*\*MEMORANDA****\*\*5. Clerks Employment Bill:**

Subject to the motion being agreed to, the Minister for Labour and Welfare will move the following amendments to the Bill on recommittal to a Committee of the whole Assembly:—

- (i) *Clause 27, page 21, line 27:* after “of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (ii) *Clause 28, page 22, line 3:* after “of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (iii) *Clause 29, page 22, line 14:* after “of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (iv) *Clause 46:*
  - (a) *Page 27, line 27:* after “46.”, to insert a dash and “(1)”.
  - (b) *Page 27, after line 44:* to insert the following new sub-clause (2):—

“(2) No answer which a person shall be legally bound to give under the provisions of paragraph (a) of the preceding subsection shall be proved against him in any criminal proceeding, except on a prosecution for giving false evidence by such answer.”.

**\*\*6. Shop Assistants Employment Bill:**

Subject to the motion being agreed to, the Minister for Labour and Welfare will move the following amendments to the Bill on recommittal to a Committee of the whole Assembly:—

- (i) *Clause 2, page 3, lines 16 and 18:* after “shop”, in each case to insert “or theatre”.
- (ii) *Clause 28, page 10, line 28:* after “of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (iii) *Clause 29, page 11, line 5:* after “of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (iv) *Clause 30, page 11, line 16:* after “paragraph (e) of”, to insert “subsection (1) of”.
- (v) *Clause 34, page 12, lines 2 to 4:* to leave out “which shall be the day on which the shop is required to remain closed in pursuance of the provisions of section 35 of this Ordinance”.
- (vi) *Clause 50:*
  - (a) *Page 17, line 14:* after “50.”, to insert a dash and “(1)”.
  - (b) *Page 17, after line 32:* to insert the following new sub-clause (2):—

“(2) No answer which a person shall be legally bound to give under the provisions of paragraph (a) of the preceding subsection shall be proved against him in any criminal proceeding, except on a prosecution for giving false evidence by such answer.”.

**\*\*10. Seamen's Registry Board Bill:**

Subject to the motion being agreed to, the Minister for Commerce and Industry will move the following amendments to the Bill on recommittal to a Committee of the whole Assembly:—

- (i) *Clause 3, page 17, line 8:* after “office”, to insert “or offices”.
- (ii) *Clause 5:*
  - (a) *Page 19, line 31:* to leave out “agreements for their employment”, and insert “articles”.
  - (b) *Page 19, lines 34 to 35:* to leave out “the agreement for employment”, and insert “articles”.
  - (c) *Page 19, line 41:* to leave out “seamen”, and insert “seaman”,

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**QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER**

1. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Chief Secretary if he is aware that persons residing in one area have changed their addresses, without actually removing from their existing residences, in order to enable them to vote in another electoral division; and what steps he has taken or will take to prevent such a practice.
  2. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that the construction of a 100 feet wide road from West Coast Road to Jurong Road has started at the junction of the former with Chua Keh Hai Road, and if he will state—
    - (a) what notice was given to the farmers in that area that a 100-foot strip was to be bulldozed through the land;
    - (b) the number of houses, fruit trees, pig sties, wells and other assets which are to be demolished; and
    - (c) the reasons why a 100-foot road has been planned for this agricultural area.
  3. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he will cause announcements over the public-address system at the Singapore Airport to be made also in Mandarin.
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**SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED**

	<i>Date presented</i>
1957	
Cmd. 9. Department of Education Annual Report 1955 ... ..	14th March, 1957.
Cmd. 13. Malayan Rubber Export Registration Board—Report on operations of the Board for the year ended 31st December, 1956 ... ..	3rd April, 1957.
Cmd. 11. Raffles Library Annual Report 1955 ...	8th April, 1957.
Cmd. 12. Issue of a further \$20,000,000 Singapore City Council 5% Debenture Stock, 1956	9th April, 1957.
Cmd. 14. Reorganisation of the Clerical Services ...	13th April, 1957.
Cmd. 15. Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision for which the Approval of the Legislative Assembly is sought ...	13th April, 1957.
—————	
S. 3. Report of a Court of Inquiry into a Dispute between the Singapore City Council and the Singapore City Council Labour Unions Federation ... ..	19th February, 1957.
S. 4. War Damage Commission—Report and Accounts for the period 1st January, 1956, until close of the Commission's books in August, 1956 ... ..	28th February, 1957.
—————	
S.L. 4. The Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment), 1957 ... ..	28th February, 1957.
S.L. 5. The Pineapple Industry (Amendment) Regulations, 1957 ... ..	5th March, 1957.

		<i>Date presented</i>
S.L.	6. The Motor Vehicles (Goods and Public Service Vehicles Licensing) (Amendment) Rules, 1957 ... ..	4th April, 1957.
Misc.	2. Report of the Singapore Constitutional Conference held in London in March and April, 1957 ... ..	18th April, 1957.
<i>Date ordered to be printed</i>		
L.A.	4. Sixth Report from the Committee of Selection (Second Session) ... ..	18th February, 1957.
L.A.	5. Report from the Select Committee on the Muslims Bill ... ..	5th March, 1957.
L.A.	6. Report from the Select Committee on the Seamen's Registry Board Bill ... ..	9th April, 1957.