

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

SINGAPORE, 22ND MAY, 1957

No. 27

10.00 a.m.

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Chief Minister whether he will make a statement on the results of his recent visit to Kuala Lumpur; and, in particular, whether at that visit he made approaches with the view to the improvement of trade relations between Singapore and the Federation.
- *2. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare what is the estimated increase in the number of unemployed persons in Singapore since April 1955, and what steps are being taken to reduce unemployment.
- *3. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Chief Secretary—
 - (a) whether the Government recognises the fundamental right of a Trade Union to go on strike;
 - (b) to state the reasons why action was taken against those temporary clerks who went on strike;
 - (c) to state the reasons for the disparity in the treatment of temporary clerks, who were under notice of termination of service, as between those who went on strike and those who did not go on strike.
- *4. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Chief Secretary if the Government will reconsider the case of the dismissed temporary clerks along with those whose services have been extended for one month, after a review and report on the case of temporary clerks by the Public Service Commission.
- *5. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will make a statement on the recruitment and training of the new Singapore Infantry Battalion, and when he expects the Battalion to be fully operational.
- *6. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Chief Secretary to state the total number of expatriate officers who have left the service of the Singapore Government to date as a result of Malayanisation, and the number from each Department; and the total amount of compensation that has been paid, to date, to these officers.
- *7. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Financial Secretary whether in view of the indication given by the Chief Minister, Federation of Malaya, that pan-Malayan departments such as income tax would be split when the Federation attains independence, and the statement made by the Chief Minister, Federation of Malaya, that a sub-committee is drafting a separate income tax law for the Federation, he will state the policy of the Government in this matter.

- *8. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing on what date it is proposed to hold fresh elections to the City Council; and whether elections to the new District Councils will be held on the same date.
- *9. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Education what steps have been taken to reduce the cost of new school buildings in the rural areas; and whether he proposes to erect such buildings with materials similar to those used for the Singapore Infantry Battalion buildings at Ulu Pandan.
- *10. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health whether he will make a statement on the causes of the recent influenza epidemic.
- *11. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health what progress has been made in the construction of the first District Hospital.
- *12. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Health what benefits have accrued to Singapore from his recent visit to medical institutions in Japan.
- *13. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works how many applications for new bus routes have been received by the Omnibus Licensing Authority since the setting up of that body, and how many of such applications have been approved.
- *14. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works how soon it is proposed to introduce a unified public transport system for Singapore island, and what are the reasons for the delay in implementing the policy laid down in the Government White Paper (Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 48 of 1956).
- *15. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will make a statement on the steps being taken to develop the prawn-fishing industry.
- *16. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will make a statement on the policy the Government proposes to adopt in respect of the tourist industry.
- *17. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry how many new industries and/or enterprises have been established since January 1956, and how many have ceased operation since then.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Presentation of Government Bills

1. The Chief Secretary—
Licences (Amendment) Bill.
 2. The Chief Secretary—
Second-hand Dealers (Amendment) Bill.
 3. The Chief Secretary—
Singapore Legislative Assembly Elections (Temporary Provisions) Bill.
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ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICE OF MOTION

(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)

- 1. Diplomatic Privileges (Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland) Bill—Second Reading.†
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)

- 2. Divorce (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 3. Pineapple Industry Bill—Second Reading.†
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)
- 4. Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 5. Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 6. Singapore Military Forces (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)
- 7. Malayan Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)
- 8. Malayan Auxiliary Air Force (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)
- 9. Mr. Lee Choon Eng (Member for Queenstown) to move—
That this Assembly urges upon the Government to set up a committee without delay to review the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance (Cap. 166) with a view to recommending such amendments to the Ordinance as to suit local conditions, with particular reference to personal reliefs to aged parents and other close relatives solely dependent on the taxpayer.
- 10. Little Sisters of the Poor Bill—Second Reading.

†NOTICES RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

†3. *Pineapple Industry Bill:*

The Minister for Commerce and Industry will move the following amendment to the Bill in Committee:—

Clause 24:

In page 13, line 33: to leave out "holding or who has held high judicial office" and insert "qualified to be appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony or of the Federation of Malaya under the law for the time being in force in the Colony or in the Federation of Malaya, as the case may be,".

†4. *Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill:*

The Minister for Labour and Welfare will move the following amendments to the Bill in Committee:—

Clause 5:

Note: In page 4, line 29: to leave out the fullstop and insert a semi-colon.

(i) *In page 4, line 42:* to leave out "(2)" and insert "(3)".

(ii) *In page 4, line 44:* to leave out "(3)" and insert "(4)".

(iii) *In page 5, line 4:* to leave out "(2) and (3)" and insert "(3) and (4)".

Clause 8:

- (i) *In page 6, line 25:* to leave out "(2)" and insert "(3)".
- (ii) *In page 6, line 40:* after "Fund", to insert "and".
- (iii) *In page 6, lines 42 to 43:* to leave out "and provided further that any" and insert "but no".
- (iv) *In page 7, line 3:* to leave out "not".

Clause 12:

- (i) *In page 9, lines 29 to 30:* to leave out "appointed in accordance with" and insert "nominated under".
- (ii) *In page 9, line 45:* to leave out "appointed in accordance with" and insert "nominated under".
- (iii) *In page 10, line 4:* to leave out "appointed" and insert "nominated".

SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1957

Date ordered to be printed

L.A. 7. Seventh Report from the Committee of Selection (Second Session)

8th May, 1957.

Date presented

Cmd. 18. Report of the Public Services Commission for the year 1956

18th May, 1957.