

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

SINGAPORE, 17TH JULY, 1957

No. 29

10.00 a.m.

91

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS

Mr. ERNEST PATTISON SHANKS, Attorney-General (*Acting*).

Mr. LEE KUAN YEW (Member for Tanjong Pagar).

Mr. SOH GHEE SOON (Member for Cairnhill).

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr. G. A. P. SUTHERLAND: To ask the Chief Minister why the report of Dr. F. C. Benham, the Economic Adviser to the Chief Minister, of a survey conducted by him of the economic position of Singapore during 1956 which was reviewed in the local press on 28th June, 1957, was not in the first instance presented to the Legislative Assembly.
- *2. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Chief Minister which of the Ministers and Assistant Ministers are provided with bodyguards; why are bodyguards necessary for them; the dates from which bodyguards were supplied to each Minister or Assistant Minister concerned; and the cost of these bodyguards to the public funds of the Colony.
- *3. Mr. LEE KUAN YEW: To ask the Chief Minister when the Government intends to Malayanise the post of Attorney-General.
- *4. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare—
 - (a) whether he has taken steps to investigate the activities of private employment exchanges;
 - (b) whether he is aware of any complaints made to the Police against private employment exchanges; and
 - (c) whether he has taken or will take steps to protect the public from exploitation.
- *5. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare what benefit will Singapore derive from his participation in the recent I.L.O. conference.
- *6. Mr. WONG FOO NAM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware of the feeling of dissatisfaction among members of the Special Constabulary with their terms and conditions of service; and whether the Government is taking or will take steps to improve them.
- *7. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Chief Secretary—
 - (a) whether Government Land Bailiffs have been classified as clerks; and
 - (b) what are the duties of a Land Bailiff.

- *8. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he has taken or will take steps to implement the recommendations in paragraph 6 of the Second Report from the Public Accounts Committee (Sessional Paper No. L.A. 8 of 1957) in respect of the state of imbalance in the Land Office control accounts; and whether, in particular, the investigation team recommended in paragraph 6 (a) of the Report has been set up and is now at work.
- *9. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he will make a statement on the details of the system for the allocation of Singapore Improvement Trust accommodation.
- *10. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he is aware that the register of applications for Singapore Improvement Trust accommodation is not open for inspection by the public, and whether he will explain why.
- *11. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing, with reference to the Telok Ayer Electoral Division—
- (a) whether any tenements or flats have been built by the Singapore Improvement Trust from April, 1955, to date;
 - (b) whether there is any scheme for slum clearance;
 - (c) whether any slum areas have been cleared from April, 1955, to date;
 - (d) what are the areas so cleared, giving the names of the streets or roads;
 - (e) how many dwellers in these slum areas were de-housed; and
 - (f) where have they been rehoused.
- *12. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether Government will set up an all-party committee for delineation of the City Council electoral divisions.
- *13. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that the people in rural areas have been and are suffering hardships from lack of water; and whether he will take steps to alleviate their hardships.
- *14. Mr. R. C. H. LIM: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing who are the members of the Nature Reserve Board.
- *15. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works with reference to paragraph 10 of the White Paper (Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 48 of 1956), what progress has been made in the implementation of the various stages of the Government's policy of unifying the passenger transport system; what stages remain to be carried out; and on what dates will they be completed.
- *16. Mr. LEE KUAN YEW: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works how many men in the Airport P.W.D. Plant Section are being retrenched; and whether alternative employment could be made available.
- *17. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he has taken or will take steps to protect the growing pig and poultry production in Singapore by taking health measures to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and flies in farming areas; and whether research is being undertaken to find suitable insecticides non-injurious to such farming.
- *18. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether permits will be issued to fishermen to do night fishing in the Straits of Johore.

- *19. Mr. R. C. H. LIM: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry—
- (a) whether he has made any progress in his effort to obtain 1,300 acres of the Ulu Pandan Nature Reserve for prawn cultivation; and
- (b) what is the view of the Nature Reserve Board on the release of the 1,300 acres of the Ulu Pandan Nature Reserve for prawn cultivation.

ORDER OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)

- 1. Architects (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.†
2. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$302,992 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. 24 of 1957.

3. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the balances as at 1st January, 1957, of the following loans which have been hitherto shown as assets in the Colony Statement of Assets and Liabilities:—

	\$	c.
City Council, Singapore	2,250,000	00
Singapore Harbour Board	13,101,764	05
Penang Harbour Board	273,211	88
Singapore Chinese Girls' School	6,161	14
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 1	4,160,000	00
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 2	4,320,000	00
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 3	11,433,000	00
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 4	15,718,739	54
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 5	20,822,729	23
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 6	7,000,000	00
Singapore Improvement Trust Loan Programme		
No. 7	5,000,000	00
Government of the Federation of Malaya ...	30,000,000	00
Singapore Government Officers' Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.—Loan No. 1	176,000	00
Singapore Government Officers' Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.—Loan No. 2	499,200	00
Singapore Government Officers' Co-operative Housing Society Ltd.—Loan No. 3	898,172	00
City Council, Singapore—Kallang Area Traffic Scheme	3,000,000	00
Total ...	118,658,977	84

be charged against the General Revenue Balance.

****4. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing to move—**

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Local Government Elections Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper No. L.A. 1 of 1957, be adopted, subject to the recommittal of the Bill in respect of clauses 1, 2, 11, 22, 27 and 34 to a Committee of the whole Assembly.

****5. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing to move—**

That the Report from the Select Committee on the Local Government Bill, as contained in Sessional Paper No. L.A. 10 of 1957, be adopted, subject to the recommittal of the Bill in respect of clauses 21, 68, 81, 102, 108, 152, 256 and 285 to a Committee of the whole Assembly.

6. 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 (Procedure—Reciprocal Provisions) Regulations, 1957, published as Notification No. S 166 in the *Gazette* Supplement No. 48 of 28th June, 1957, as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 13 of 1957, be approved.

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

That this House is of the opinion that a Court of Inquiry be set up to investigate the dispute in the Singapore Harbour Board between the Singapore Harbour Board Staff Association and the Board, and to make recommendations for a settlement of the Singapore Harbour Board Staff Association's claim for recognition that they represent all classes of monthly- and daily-rated employees of the Board, and of all other matters in dispute between the Association and the Board which has resulted in a "go-slow" in the work of the Singapore Harbour Board.

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

That this House is of the opinion that the terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry on corrupt practices be extended so that inquiry can also be made into corrupt and improper practices by candidates for elections and their confederates, with a view to making recommendations as to how such malpractices can be effectively detected, punished and suppressed.

†NOTICE RELATING TO ORDER OF THE DAY

†1. *Architects (Amendment) Bill:*

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

The Minister for Communications and Works will move the following amendment to the Bill in Committee:—

Clause 3:

In page 2, line 11: to leave out "June, 1956" and insert "July, 1957".

****MEMORANDA**

****4. *Local Government Elections Bill:***

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

(i) *Clause 1:*

In page 13, line 5: to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".

Consequential amendment:

Consequential on the amendment to clause 1, wherever the term "Local Government Elections Ordinance, 1956" occurs, to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".

(ii) *Clause 2:*(a) *In page 14, line 10:* to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".*Note:—Marginal note—to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".*(b) *In page 14, line 17:* to leave out "Proclamation" and insert "Notification".(iii) *Clause 11:**In page 18, line 41:* to leave out "(6)" and insert "(3)".(iv) *Clause 22:**In page 26, after line 18:* to insert a new subclause (3) as follows:—

Ord. of 1957. "(3) On a casual vacancy occurring in the office of a Councillor an election shall subject to the provisions of subsection (2) of section 26 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1957, be held within two months of the date of the casual vacancy upon a date to be fixed by the Governor."

(v) *Clause 27:**In page 27, line 33:* to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".*Note:—Marginal note—to leave out "1956" and insert "1957".*(vi) *Clause 34:**In page 31, line 20:* after "taken", to insert ", such date being not less than sixteen days after the date of publication of the notice in the *Gazette*".****5. Local Government Bill:**

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

(i) *Clause 21:*(a) *In page 82, line 41:* to leave out from "languages" to the end of line 2 in page 83.(b) *In page 83, line 7:* after "those", to insert "dialects or".(c) *In page 83, line 7:* to leave out from "languages" to "; and" in line 9.(ii) *Clause 68:**In page 102, line 22:* to leave out "Fund" and insert "accounts".(iii) *Clause 81:**In page 107, line 19:* to leave out "78" and insert "79".(iv) *Clause 102:**In page 115, line 34:* to leave out from "thereto" to the end of line 35 and insert—

":

Provided that no such modification, rejection or addition is inconsistent with this Ordinance and further provided that any proposal to increase expenditure or reduce income which has not already been considered by the District Council Finance Committee shall stand referred to that Committee for report to a subsequent meeting of the Council."

(v) *Clause 108:*

In page 117, line 23: after "Ordinance", to insert "and an Education rate under the provisions of section 5 of the Education Ordinance".

(vi) *Clause 152:*

In page 151, line 41: to leave out "299" and insert "302".

(vii) *Clause 256:*

In page 221, line 29: to leave out from "thereunder" to "do" in line 31.

(viii) *Clause 285:*

In page 231, line 22: after "this", to insert "Ordinance".

QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he will supply a list of the names of successful applicants for S.I.T. houses during the period January to June, 1957, showing, by names of streets and house numbers, the accommodation allotted, and the number of points awarded to each of the successful applicants.
 2. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he will give complete figures pertaining to the Singapore Improvement Trust flats in Albert/Prinsep/Short Streets showing how the amount of Government subsidy in respect thereof is calculated.
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SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1957	<i>Date ordered to be printed</i>
L.A. 9. Eighth Report from the Committee of Selection (Second Session)	19th June, 1957.
L.A. 10. Report from the Select Committee on the Local Government Bill	19th June, 1957.
L.A. 11. Minutes of Proceedings of the Second Meeting of the House Committee (Second Session) ...	27th June, 1957.
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	<i>Date presented</i>
Cmd. 25. Annual Report of the Board of Film Censors, 1956	3rd July, 1957.
Cmd. 24. Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision for which the Approval of the Legislative Assembly is sought	9th July, 1957.
Cmd. 27. Annual Report of the Singapore Police Force, 1956	12th July, 1957.
Cmd. 21. Annual Report of the Botanic Gardens Department for 1956	15th July, 1957.
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S.L. 13. The Labour (Procedure—Reciprocal Provisions) Regulations, 1957	3rd July, 1957.
S.L. 14. The Motor Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) Rules, 1957	12th July, 1957.
S.L. 15. The Food and Drugs Regulations, 1957 ...	12th July, 1957.
