

工部局董事会会议录

第二十七册

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THE MINUTES OF SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Volume XXVII

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES

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At the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, January 8, 1936, at 4.30 p.m.

there are:-

Present:

Messrs. H. E. Arnhold (Chairman)
 W. P. Lambe (Vice-Chairman)
 J. W. Carney
 S. L. Hsu
 E. Y. B. Kiang
 V. St. J. Killary
 J. H. Liddell
 H. Porter, C.M.G.
 T. Urabe
 T. Yamamoto
 Yu Ya Ching
 The Treasurer & Controller
 The Secretary General, and
 The Secretary.

Absent:

Messrs. C. S. Franklin
 W. Gockson.

The Minutes of the meeting held on December 23, 1935, are confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

FS/11 Council - Chinese Members and Committee Men. - A letter from Mr. Chen Chieh dated January 4 is submitted, in which he tenders his resignation from the Council owing to his recent appointment as Administrative Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs to the National Government. At the Council meeting held on December 23, 1935, when a resolution was passed congratulating Mr. Chen Chieh on the appointment, the Chairman observed that he feared this would involve his resignation from the Council. He suggested, in anticipation of this, that Chinese Members should confer together to decide whether they wished to suggest anyone else, and if so whom, to fill the probable vacancy.

A letter dated December 27, 1935 is now submitted from the Chinese Ratepayers' Association, saying that they have elected Mr. Yulin Hsi (Hsi Yu-shu) to take Mr. Chen Chieh's place on the Council, and Mr. F. S. Hsu (Hsu Hsiao-ts'n) to replace Mr. Yulin Hsi as a member of Committees. Mr. Hsi is Manager of the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank, 50 Ningpo Road, and Mr. Hsu the Manager of the Great Eastern Dispensary in Peking Road. The Chinese Members of Council have also submitted a separate letter, advising the Council of this action and their concurrence in it.

The Chairman observes that he thinks there has been some misunderstanding as to the correct procedure in this matter. In the

case of a vacancy occurring during the Council's term of office, the power to fill up the vacancy rests with the Council in accordance with Land Regulation XX. It is therefore only possible for Chinese members to submit a recommendation, which must be considered by the Council as a whole, and no power is vested in them directly or in any other body to elect a member of Council to fill the vacancy without a majority vote of the Council.

As regards the appointment of a Committee member, he explains that the Standing Orders provide that all vacancies shall be filled by the Council on the nomination of the Chairman. He personally thinks no useful purpose would be served by appointing a new member so near the end of the Council's year, when a large proportion of the work will concern yearly estimates based on considerations of which he cannot possibly have any knowledge.

Mr. Singloh Hsu says that he believes there is a precedent for the action taken by Chinese Members, in that an election to fill a vacancy was carried out some years ago through the Chinese Ratepayers' Association, and their nominee Mr. T. D. Woo duly became a member of Council. The Chairman replies that if this is the case it was against the rules of procedure and should not be repeated; he also doubts whether the Consular Body would permit such an infringement of the Land Regulations. The Secretary General points out that in the case cited by Mr. Singloh Hsu a bare acknowledgement only was sent to the Chinese Ratepayers' Association. The suggested nominee was approved, but only after the matter had been considered by the Council as a whole. The Chairman also recalls a letter written to the Senior Consul in January 1927, wherein it is laid down that the rights and duties of Chinese members as regards election are the same as those of foreign members, who can only be co-opted by the will of the Council as a whole. In answer to a question by Mr. Porter, he says that there is nothing to prevent foreign members nominating a Chinese candidate for membership if they wish; but that this is usually left to Chinese members as a matter of courtesy, in view of their greater opportunities of judging who would be acceptable to the Chinese community at large.

Mr. Singloh Hsu says that the Chinese members have no desire to create a difficult position for the Council. After the explanation which has been given, they are glad to adhere to the procedure laid down in the Land Regulations. He therefore proposes that Mr. Yulin Hsi's name be submitted to the Council for consideration, in connection with the vacancy arising in membership through the resignation of Mr. Chen Chieh. The Chairman seconds the proposal, which is carried unanimously.

As regards the election of a Committee member, the Chairman says that although he considers it unnecessary, for the reasons already given, he does not wish to press the point, and after Mr. Singloh Hsu's assurance that Chinese Members would appreciate the appointment and a remark in support by Mr. Lambe, he nominates Mr. F. S. Hsu to take Mr. Yulin Hsi's place on certain Committees of the Council. The proposal is carried unanimously.

The Secretary observes, in reply to questions, that it will be convenient if Mr. F. S. Hsu takes over membership of the Traffic and Health Committees, leaving the Finance, Staff and Watch Committees and the Education Board to Mr. Yulin Hsi.

It is accordingly

RESOLVED

- (1) that Mr. Yulin Hsi, of the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank, be co-opted for the remainder of the Council year to Membership of the Council and of the Finance Committee and Education Board, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Chen Chieh's resignation.
- (2) that Mr. F. S. Hsu, Manager of the Great Eastern Dispensary, be co-opted to serve on the Health and Traffic Committees of the Council.

Municipal Compradore - Mr. Pon Ming Fan. - The Chairman states that the ^{3/4 34} Treasurer & Controller has drawn the Council's attention to the fact that Mr. Pon Ming Fan, the Municipal Compradore, will complete fifty years' service on January 10, next, and recommended that in view of his long and faithful service an expression of the Council's appreciation be conveyed to him in the form of some suitable memento. Members unanimously concur with this recommendation, and it is

RESOLVED that a suitable piece of plate be presented by the Chairman of the Council to Mr. Pon Ming Fan, the Municipal Compradore, as an expression of the Council's appreciation of his fifty years of long and faithful service.

The meeting terminates at 5 p.m.



Chairman.



Secretary.

At the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, January 22, 1936, at 4.30 p.m.

there are:-

Present:

Messrs. H. E. Arnhold (Chairman)
W. P. Lambe (Vice-Chairman)
J. W. Carney
W. Gocksen
Yulin Hsi
S. L. Hsu
V. St. J. Killery
E. Y. B. Kiang
J. H. Liddell
H. Porter, C.M.G.
T. Urabe
T. Yamamoto
Yu Ya Ching

The Treasurer & Controller
The Chairman of the Ricscha Board
The Secretary General
The Secretary, and
Dr. J. C. H. Wu.

Absent:

Mr. C. S. Franklin.

Council Membership. - The Chairman, on behalf of all members, welcomes Mr. F5/11 Yulin Hsi to the vacant position on the Council caused by the resignation of Mr. Chen Chieh.

The Minutes of the meeting held on January 8 are confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

H3/434 Municipal Comptroller - Mr. Pen Ming Fan. - Arising out of these Minutes, the Chairman informs members that he proposes to make the presentation to Mr. Pen Ming Fan at the next meeting of the Council.

The Minutes of the Orchestra & Band Committee held on January 17 are submitted and confirmed.

M1/3 Death of Mr. A. S. P. White-Cooper. - The Chairman informs members that he has addressed a letter of condolence to Mr. R. F. C. Master, of Messrs. Platt, White-Cooper & Co., on the death of Mr. White-Cooper, requesting that an expression of the Council's sympathy be transmitted to Mr. White-Cooper's family.

F5/126/1 Election of Council and Annual Meeting of Ratepayers. - It is necessary under the Land Regulations that dates be suggested to the Consular Body for the election of Council and the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers. Considerations governing the selection of such dates are (1) the formerly expressed desire of the Council to shorten the interval between the two events, and (2) the practicability of the Treasurer & Controller

being able to produce his accounts at least ten days before the Annual Meeting, as laid down in the Land Regulations, allowing for the interruption to work due to the Easter Holidays. The Election dates now suggested are Monday and Tuesday, March 23 and 24, and Wednesday, April 15 is proposed for the Annual Meeting. It is also recommended that the Grand Theatre be used for the Annual Meeting, if available, as was done in 1935, decision as to the hour of commencement being deferred until a later meeting of the Council.

Members unanimously agree with these proposals, and it is

RESOLVED

- (a) that Monday and Tuesday, March 23 and 24 be suggested to the Consular Body as suitable dates for the Election of Council.
- (b) that it be proposed to the Consular Body that the Annual Meeting of Ratepayers be held on Wednesday April 15 in the Grand Theatre, if available, the hour/commencement to be decided at a later meeting of the Council.

Co-optation of Member of Health Committee. - A letter has been received from Dr. E. L. Marsh, notifying his departure for England on January 21 and his expected return to Shanghai in October next. This departure has necessitated his resignation from the Health Committee, which he has submitted.

Dr. Marsh has suggested that Dr. J. E. Murray, of his firm, succeeds to his seat during his absence, if this meets with the Council's approval.

Members agree, and it is unanimously

RESOLVED that Dr. J. E. Murray be co-opted to serve as a member of the Health Committee during the absence of Dr. E. L. Marsh.

Printing of Annual Report. - The Secretary reports that the Chinese Ratepayers' Association have supplied for 8,200 copies of the Annual Report for 1935, to be distributed by the Association. The cost of production is estimated at over \$12,000, and of distribution at \$500, payable by the Council. Last year 5,000 copies of the Annual Report in Chinese were produced.

For many years it has been the practice to print only 1,500 copies of the Annual Report in English; this number has been ample to supply all ratepayers who have asked for a copy, besides allowing an adequate number to be sent to other authorities and to libraries in China and abroad, and having a small reserve in hand.

The bulk of the Annual Report, with the exception of the full financial statement, is given to the press, both Chinese and foreign, and published before the Annual Meeting; the full financial statement is also sent to the press, but while not published in extenso it is summarised and forms the subject of comment and discussion.

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A notice is issued each year that copies of the Annual Report in English are available on application to the Secretary or to the Revenue Office.

From experience in the past the Secretary considers it obvious that undue waste is entailed by the distribution of free copies of an expensive report and that it would be no injustice to ask those who were interested to apply for a free copy. He suggests that, in order to save money on printing and distribution, 1,500 copies of the Annual Report be produced in English and 2,000 in Chinese, and that they be available free on application.

Mr. Kiang asks whether the power of distributing Chinese copies of the Report cannot be delegated to the Chinese Ratepayers' Association. The Secretary replies that in his view it is immaterial who actually carries out the distribution, so long as copies are only sent to people who are really interested. A certain proportion could be handed to the Association for distribution, but a margin must be held by the Council to fulfil the needs of ratepayers who may apply direct for their copies. If only 2,000 Chinese copies are printed, the type could be held, if desired, for a few weeks, in order to deal with any unexpected demand which might arise. The Chairman suggests that the Association might circularise its members that copies of the report can be supplied free on demand. Mr. Hsu, however, asks that the Report be sent to all Chinese Ratepayers, whether they ask for it or not.

Discussion ensues, and finally a compromise is suggested by Mr. Killery between the Secretary's recommendation and the Chinese Ratepayers' Association's request. He suggests that 4,000 copies of the Report be printed in Chinese, 3,000 being for distribution and 1,000 to be kept in hand; and that the suggested quantity of 1,500 copies in English be approved.

It is thereupon

RESOLVED that 1,500 copies of the Annual Report be printed in English and 4,000 in Chinese, and that the Chinese Ratepayers' Association be requested to inform Chinese ratepayers that copies of the Report may be obtained by individual application.

Rental Charge for Rickshas. - The recommendation of the Ricksha Special Committee held on January 20 that the authorised rental charge for public rickshas be reduced to 67 cents per day on and after April 1, 1936, is submitted for members' consideration, in view of its being desired to give as long notice as possible of any reduction.

The Chairman of the Ricksha Board stated at the meeting of the Committee that the cost of a ricksha is between \$80 and \$85, and that prior to any action by the Board owners were receiving an average of over \$14 profit per month on each vehicle. Their present profit he estimated at about \$10 (at 12½% per month). Under the present recommendation the profit per month would be reduced to about \$4. He pointed out further

that a monthly profit of even \$4 on an \$80 article is still allowing a return of 60% per annum, which he contended was at least adequate.

The Chairman says that he personally advocates further investigation of the above figures before a decision is taken in the matter. It is realized that rent reduction will undoubtedly involve fierce opposition from the owners, and it is therefore very necessary that all relevant data should be adequately checked beforehand. The Treasurer & Controller observes that though he has now been informed by the Chairman of the Ricscha Board that the average profits mentioned by him are net figures it was not at first altogether clear whether they were gross or net. He thinks that it is desirable to go into the question further. Mr. Lambe, as Chairman of the Ricscha Special Committee, also favours deferment of a final resolution until the next meeting. Mr. Carney asks whether the number of original licensees among the owners, i.e., those who have not bought transferred licenses at a premium, is available. Mr. Lambe says that the question of highly-priced licences has not been overlooked, but in view of owners' previous exorbitant profits and the fact that they have now had two years' notice of the Ricscha Board's policy of rent reduction, it is proposed to make no distinctions in this respect.

It is thereupon

RESOLVED that consideration of a reduction in the authorised rental charge for public ricschas be deferred until the next meeting, to enable more detailed figures to be available for members' inspection.

Memorial Service for His late Majesty King George - Closing of Foreign Schools. -

M/S The Secretary informs members that at a meeting of the Education Board the previous night (January 21) it was recommended "that if this action does not conflict with that in other Departments of the Council, all schools for foreign children shall be closed on the date of the King's Memorial Service, in view of a large proportion of the staff, and 60% of the pupils, being of British nationality." He says that the Minutes of the Education Board are not being considered as a whole at this meeting, but this recommendation requires an immediate decision. As regards other Departments of the Council, he suggests that the Municipal Offices be closed for public business during the actual hours of the Memorial Service, in order that British employees may be able to attend. Members agree, and it is unanimously

RESOLVED

- (a) that in view of the large number of British pupils and teachers, the Municipal Schools for foreign children be closed on Tuesday, January 28 at the date of the funeral service for His late Majesty, King George V.
- (b) that during the hours of the Memorial Service on this date the Municipal Offices be closed for public business, but that they shall be open as usual throughout the remainder of the day.

Telephone Tariff Revision.- Members are informed that a communication has now
1/21/36 been received from the French Municipal Administration, notifying the
Council of their agreement with the revised tariffs proposed by the special
Committee of Telephone Experts, and expressing their willingness that the
new tariffs shall take effect as from March 1 next.

The meeting terminates at 5.25 p.m.



Chairman.



Secretary.

At the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, February 5, 1936, at 4.30 p.m.

there are:-

Present:

Messrs. H. E. Arnhold (Chairman)
 W. P. Lambe (Vice-Chairman)
 J. W. Carney
 C. S. Franklin
 Yulin Hsi
 S. L. Hsu
 E. Y. B. Kiang
 V. St. J. Killery
 J. H. Liddell
 H. Porter, C.M.G.
 T. Urabe
 T. Yamamoto

The Treasurer & Controller
 The Secretary General, and
 The Secretary.

Absent:

Messrs. W. Gockson
 Yu Ya Ching.

Municipal Compradore - Mr. Pon Ming Fan. - Mr. Pong Ming Fan is asked to attend the meeting, and the Chairman presents him with an inscribed clock as an expression of the Council's appreciation of his long and faithful service during the last fifty years.

The Chairman observes that this presentation marks not only Mr. Pon Ming Fan's fiftieth year of service, but a family association of over 75 years with the Council. He says that in 1886, in its annual report for that year, the Council recorded with regret the death of Mr. Pon Yu Ming "who had been in the Municipal employment for over 25 years, during which period he always performed his duties in a most satisfactory manner". In consideration of the long service of Mr. Pon Yu Ming, his eldest son, Mr. Pon Kuck Hien was given the appointment of Municipal Compradore. At the age of 71, Mr. Pon Kuck Hien retired from the service in 1930, after faithful service over a period of 48 years; and at the Council meeting of June 11 in that year he was presented with an engraved gold salver by the Chairman of Council, who referred in appreciative terms to the services rendered by Mr. Pon Kuck Hien in the interests of the foreign and Chinese communities.

The Chairman explains that Mr. Pon Ming Fan, the present recipient of the Council's congratulations on his jubilee anniversary, is not retiring from the service, and that there is every indication that the connection of the family with the Municipal Compradore's work will remain unbroken for many more years to come. In addition to

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Mr. Pon Ming Fan there are in the Compradore's office Mr. Pon C. Kui, son of Mr. Pon Kuck Hien, and Messrs. Pon S. Keey and Pon S. Sum, sons of Mr. Pon Ming Fan.

Though not so definitely traceable, it is understood that prior to 1861 the position of Municipal Compradore was held by Mr. Pon Zen Seng, also of the same family, so that it is highly probable the position has been held by the same family ever since the establishment of a Municipal Council on the banks of the Whangpoo - a long, most honourable and most pleasant association between one Chinese family and long lists of different Councillors and Council Staffs, especially in the Finance and Revenue and Secretariat Offices.

After the congratulation of members Mr. Pon Ming Fan withdraws. The Minutes of the meeting held on January 22 are confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

K25/1 Rental Charge for Ricshas. - Arising out of these Minutes, the Secretary states that, as instructed, the Ricsha Board has gone more fully into the question, and is still awaiting certain additional data from the Police. It has, however, already been ascertained that the figures originally submitted did not take into account certain material facts, and that a thorough investigation of the whole situation is desirable before a definite resolution is made.

The Treasurer & Controller observes that he has submitted a further report on the matter, advocating deferment for the present of any reduction in rental charges.

On the suggestion of the Chairman, members agree that the question be referred back to the Special Ricsha Committee for necessary action before the next meeting of the Council.

H10/7 The Minutes of the meetings of the Education Board held on January 21 and 28 are submitted and confirmed.

The Secretary mentions that a point of principle in relation to Long Leave may require reference to the Staff Committee.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Library Committee held on January 29 are submitted and confirmed.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Health Committee held on January 30 are submitted and confirmed.

C19/10 Country and General Hospitals - Casualty Service. - Arising out of these Minutes, Mr. Carney says that he would like to avoid possible misunderstandings on this subject by explaining that the Hospital Governors merely notified the Council of the Coroner's remarks, and did not voice any opinion or make any specific requests thereon. He would also like to point out that the original offer made by two firms of Doctors to hold themselves available for casualty work when required was a gratuitous one.

Telephone Tariff. - Two letters received from the Telephone Company dated 4/2/16 January 29, 1936, and also a Schedule of Tariffs are submitted for members' information. In the first letter the Company conveys its formal acceptance of the decision of the two Councils. In the second, the Company points out that a few items of the Tariff were not covered in the Experts' report. A statement attached to these two letters shows the proposed changes in relation to each of such items, and should be read in conjunction with the printed Schedule of Tariffs. The Company requests the Council's earliest possible approval to the complete Schedule of Tariffs now submitted. The Treasurer & Controller's observations on the position are also submitted. He notes that, subject to a negligible increase in revenue arising out of the amended charges for extra mileage, the estimated net effect of the Company's proposals will be to reduce its revenue by some \$7,950 annually. He has examined the schedule referred to by the Company, and recommends that the Council's approval be given thereto.

Mr. Kiang asks for information as to the provisions covering calls lasting more than five minutes, and is informed by the Secretary that the clause referred to has been inserted only in order to discourage abuses. No time recording equipment is in use, or proposed to be installed for the present. The Company would need to approach the Council if and when they ever wished to put it into force. It is in his opinion reasonable that the Company should discourage persons who immobilise other subscribers' telephones by keeping them continuously engaged for an undue length of time in order to avoid paying message charges.

Mr. Kiang observes that he is opposed to the system of timing telephone calls, and Mr. Hsu remarks that an operator's intervention is particularly undesirable on long distance calls. He personally has had a connection broken and wasted a considerable time in an important call to Nanking through being interrupted by an operator, who asked if he required a further five minutes' conversation. The Secretary replies that the Telephone Company's attention shall be drawn to the views expressed by Mr. Hsu and Mr. Kiang.

Mr. Carney questions the desirability of the clause in the Regulations by which the Telephone Company's decision is held to be final in cases of dispute with subscribers. He thinks that the subscribers should have a right of appeal. The Secretary agrees that the clause mentioned would be better omitted, and the Secretary General reinforces his remarks, observing, however, that in practice it might be wise to leave it out altogether and not to impose upon the Council the duty of determining disputes. If the Council were specifically mentioned as the arbiter in such matters there would be the danger

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of its becoming involved in every trivial dispute, which would cause unnecessary waste of time. Members agree that the clause referred to should be omitted. Members further point out that the term "Chinese Silver Dollars" should no longer be employed, and another member desires it to be made clear that the introduction of the Message Rate will not increase the cost of intercommunication calls.

It is thereupon

RESOLVED that, subject to the observations detailed above, the proposed Schedule of Revised Tariffs submitted by the Telephone Company be approved, to take effect from March 1, 1936.

The meeting terminates at 5.25 p.m.



Chairman.



Secretary.

At the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, February 19, 1936, at 4.30 p.m.

there are:-

Present:

Messrs. H. E. Arnhold (Chairman)
 W. P. Lambe (Vice-Chairman)
 J. W. Carney
 C. S. Franklin
 W. Gockson
 Yulin Hsi
 S. L. Hsu
 E. Y. B. Kiang
 V. St. J. Killery
 J. H. Liddell
 H. Porter, C.M.G.
 T. Urabe
 T. Yamamoto

The Commissioner of Public Works
 The Chairman of the Ricscha Board
 The Secretary General
 The Treasurer & Controller, and
 The Secretary.

Absent:

Mr. Yu Ya Ching.

The Minutes of the meeting held on February 5 are confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Works Committee held on February 11 are submitted and confirmed.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on February 12 are submitted and confirmed.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Watch Committee held on February 13 are submitted and confirmed.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Ricscha Special Committee held on February 14 are submitted and confirmed, after discussion.

Air Conditioning of Council Chamber. - In the Public Works Department Estimates ^{M/1} for 1936, which have been discussed by the Works Committee, there was included an item of \$16,000 to provide a system of air-conditioning for the Council Chamber. At the present time distracting noise from outside can only be eliminated by closing all the windows, which in the summer is obviously undesirable. The Treasurer & Controller, while stating that he did not wish to press the matter unduly, suggested that in view of the present economic difficulties it would be an appropriate gesture for the Council to deny itself this convenience. The Commissioner of Public Works mentioned the possibility of the erection of a new Council Chamber

on the roof of the Administration Building. This would, however, cost at least \$40,000. He stated that if it was decided to proceed with the air-conditioning an immediate decision must be taken if the work was to be completed before the summer season. Several members spoke in favour of the project, stating that if the windows are open much of the discussion is inaudible. It was agreed to leave the item in the Budget and to raise the matter specifically at the next meeting of the Finance Committee. At the Finance Committee meeting, after a brief discussion, it was however decided to make no recommendation on this matter, but to leave it to the decision of the full Council.

The Chairman points out that the Council Chamber has been in use under existing conditions for a number of years, and in his opinion it would therefore be reasonable for additional expenditure not to be incurred in a year when the need for general economies was so urgent as at present.

Mr. Franklin believes that the noise from cars has been increasing with every year, and states that this is not merely a matter of comfort, which might well be omitted from consideration, but of actual efficiency, in permitting members to follow discussions in the meetings.

Mr. Kiang supports the Treasurer & Controller's recommendation that the scheme be deferred.

In answer to questions, the Commissioner of Public Works states that the sum of \$16,000 would cover the cost of the air conditioning scheme only. If it were desired to take further precautions against noise by filling in the front of the balcony outside, additional expenditure would be involved. Mr. Lambe thereupon observes that this explanation has caused him to modify his former views, since air conditioning alone may not prove wholly effective, and he now favours deferment of the project.

A vote is then taken, and with one dissentient it is

RESOLVED that provision of a system of Air Conditioning for the Council Chamber, for which an appropriation of \$16,000 was tentatively included in the preliminary Estimates for 1936 for the Public Works Department, be deferred for the present.

Police Force - Organisation and Control. - Mr. Killery adverts to the recent trial of two members of the Police Force, in connection with the alleged unlawful killing of a Chinese beggar. He asks, in view of some of the evidence adduced at the trial, whether it would not be desirable to request the Commissioner of Police to furnish a report on the system of disciplinary control of staff in general, and conditions at Kashing Road Station in particular.

The Secretary says such a report has already been made, and reads the Commissioner's remarks. These are to the effect that the