

Chinese Australian Herald. “Aozhou Zhiguo Luelun” 澳洲治國略論 [Brief Introduction to Governance of Australia]. June 29, 1907.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/16168690?searchTerm=%E6%BE%B3%E6%B4%B2>.

Brief Introduction to Governance of Australia

We used to hear that “the people are the foundation of a nation and a solid foundation will bring the nation peace and stability” 國以民為本，本固則邦寧。¹ This indicates that it is a nation’s absolute priority to gain support from its people, and the development of suitable and practical methods for governing the people would particularly be an even weightier matter. We have seen the often diverse governance methods adopted by China and foreign countries (*yang* 洋).² Speaking of that in the New South Wales province³, studies of arts are the most prioritised followed by religious studies, as it is believed that proficiency in these two areas will be helpful in mastering skills of all the other kinds. For this reason, the Sydney Technical College will be discussed here first.⁴ The College was founded on Harris Street, with eleven branches established outside Sydney as well as 38 branches within the city, totalling nearly half of a hundred and all aiming at teaching technical⁵ skills.⁶ The majority of the students at the College are involved in a long-term apprenticeship, and anyone under the age of sixteen will be rejected for admission. The areas of teaching offered by the College will now be listed

¹ The stress on the ruler’s consideration of the *min* (民 the people) has always been one of the central themes of Chinese politics throughout its history. This is a slightly restructured phrase of the proverb “*min wei bang ben, ben gu bang ning* 民惟邦本，本固邦寧 (the people are the sole foundation of the state; when the foundation is firm the state is peaceful)” originally from the Book of Documents (*shu jing* 書經) which dates back to as early as the Zhou dynasty (Perry 2015, 6). Moreover, Chinese people’s concerns about this specific concept had been unprecedentedly intensified since the late Qing era. This was, as Wang (2011, 531) noted, their response to the pejorative cultural metaphor implied by the label “the sick man of Asia”, after China saw a rapidly increasing number of people becoming addicted to opium, with some of the intellectuals proposing the popularisation of Chinese Kung Fu to make the people “vigorous and robust”. This people-oriented approach has been manifested in a variety of political jargon in China nowadays, such as “democracy (*minzhu* 民主)” and the “Mass Line (*qunzhong luxian* 群眾路線)” (Perry, 5-6).

² The change in the mindset of the Chinese nation can be reflected in the reference terms for non-Chinese. According to Mao (2015, 2122), the frequent use of the prefix “*fan* 番” or “*yi* 夷” from the Han dynasty exposed people’s “contemptuous” attitudes towards all non-Chinese races in general in a “prosperous China”. It was not until the Ming dynasty, or the onset of attacks from Western countries, did Chinese people begin to adopt terms including “foreign evils (*yangguizi* 洋鬼子)”, “foreigners or outlanders (*yangren* 洋人)” or the sarcastic “foreign lords (*yangdaren* 洋大人) which illustrated their resentment and hatred for Westerners.

³ This is a typical demonstration of the way in which a unique Western concept was defined within the limited scope of a Chinese mind. While a province is simply a division of a country and has limited control over some administrative matters, a state or territory in Australia is an independent political entity with its own “constitutions, parliaments, governments and laws” and together they form this larger federation (Parliament of Australia n.d.).

⁴ The author’s attempt at transliterating the name of the College (英音稱迪曆古哥列始 it is called “*diligu gelieshi*” in English) was removed from the main text for the clarity of this English version.

⁵ The author in fact kept replacing the word “technical” with the Chinese rendition “手藝 (craft)”, suggesting a slight mismatch with the actual meaning of this English word which is semantically more related to the practical skills for activities in industries.

⁶ The repetitive phrase “論雪梨埠之手藝大學院 (In regard to the Sydney Technical College)” was removed from the translation for the conciseness of this English version.

below.

(1) Heat engine operators and electricians.⁷ Those wishing to enrol in a course related to these two professions are required to take the entrance examination held once a year in January in the British calendar, with their apprenticeship being granted once their writings meet the prescribed length of words.⁸ The daytime courses are offered for full-time learning, requiring students to attend classes for three consecutive years. In comparison, those part-time students are free to choose whether to receive training in the daytime or evening at the College;

(2) Agriculture is classified into the following fields which are all administered in the agricultural workshops: farming, ranching, vegetables, introduction to quality of local crops, armoring horses and treating illness of horses;

(3) Sheep and Wool Training is divided into the studies of shearing, wool sorting and sheep sorting;

(4) Mechanical Engineering⁹ trains students in the following aspects: mechanical drawing, modelling of mechanical systems, adjusting sizes of machines, mechanical skills,¹⁰ wood carving, forging iron, making marine boilers,¹¹ forging other types of metal as well as polishing thick metal chunks and mounting them onto the machine based on their sizes;

(5) Electrical Engineering focuses on the following aspects: electrical measuring, automatic electric machines, electric generators, electric lights, electric power transmission and conducting electrical wiring for power transmission on the streets;

(6) Engineering involving water or gas supply is specifically taught in another building, with

⁷ According to the discipline areas offered by the College in 1892, the full name is highly likely to be “Electrical Engineering and Technology” (Neill 1991, 16).

⁸ A quote from Neill’s (1991, 20) book explaining the students’ admission in question is provided here for the reader’s reference: “courses in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering... Students had to be at least sixteen years of age and had to pass an examination in English, Arithmetic and Algebra”. It was therefore, largely different from what the author would think a typical imperial examination system featuring an emphasis on the studies of Chinese classics and the ability to produce the eight-legged essay (*baguwen* 八股文) in the Qing dynasty, namely *keju* 科舉, would be. Chu (2023, 722) maintains that this specific system had never been fully and effectively abolished until the “very end of the Qing dynasty” (1911).

⁹ Here the author in fact selected another word “工藝 (industrial)” to distinguish the previously mentioned “火機 (heat engines)” from the “工藝機器 (industrial machinery)”, as they can be referred to by the same Chinese term.

¹⁰ The original Chinese word “手作” did not literally mean “handicrafts” in this context, but rather “skills” or “abilities”. See the definitions provided by the *Jiaoyubu Chongbian Guoyucidian Xiudingben* (2021).

¹¹ The author strangely employed the word “水鑊 (lit. a water pot)” in the original text which had no semantic relations with a component of a machine according to many Chinese dictionaries, thus making it difficult to accurately identify its reference. The meaning was eventually confirmed when another Chinese news reporter described the reason for an accident of ship explosion by stating “...this was because the excessively high pressure of steam caused the explosion of the entire steam-powered boilers (蒸汽水鑊) in the engine...” (*The Chinese Australian Herald* 1934).

learning to design a bathroom drainage system being one main discipline area and the comparative study of water and gas supply;

(7) Properties of Medicine should be studied wholeheartedly as well as Pharmacy through a wide reference to academic literature, but they are essentially two separate branches. Although both rely on medication to test methods of extracting gold or silver, their experiments are conducted in different manners;

(8) Architectural drawing is taught, along with the construction of houses.¹² The latter requires students to know how the balance between the weights of all building components and their pressure against one another generated from the process of building construction could be best struck from foundation to roofing. In addition, students will also be trained in the following aspects: bricklaying, land surveying, carpentry, making furniture, building stair rooms and staircases, building guard rails either for the staircases or housetop as well as the columns and pillars of a carriage¹³ and pattern carving techniques;

(9) For Art and Mathematics,¹⁴ students will be trained in measuring the size of small pieces of an object or a solid object, drawing with stone casting and moulding as a technique that must be learned concurrently, freehand drawing, portraying human faces and bodies, making clay statues, drawing or painting on the tiling of jars made of glass and porcelain, landscape painting, drawing on the white paper using a Bird Pencil¹⁵ as well as depicting flowers, animals and trees;

(10) Work involving manual labour covers the following areas: house painting, hand-painted signage for advertising, home renovation, lighting layout plans for homes, floor plans;

(11) Geography includes the studies of lands, rivers and seas, detecting the metal, jewel and sulphur buried underground, mineral identification, the way of issuing mining technology stocks and establishing a mining company, brief introduction to the metal in □¹⁶;

(12) The course teaching human bioluminescence will educate students on how human bodies operate, the light and warmth essential for humans, electricity in human bodies, discussion of magnets¹⁷;

¹² This was referred to as “Civil Engineering” by the College in 1892 (Neill 1991, 16).

¹³ The original text did not mention whether the students were taught to build, design, or carve the columns and pillars.

¹⁴ Despite the author’s actual reference to “visual art”, strangely, it was the same word *wenyi* literally meaning both literature and art being adopted again. This suggests very different word usage in the Chinese language in the 1900s.

¹⁵ This is most likely to refer to the pencils of a specific brand called the “Eagle pencils”. An eagle pattern could be seen at the end of each pencil of this brand.

¹⁶ The highly blurrily printed character was not recognised but is highly likely to indicate a substance, place or location in which metal can be detected.

¹⁷ A plausible definition of the original Chinese word “鑷石 (lit. tweezer stone)” was not found in any Chinese dictionary we have consulted. However, the meaning of this word was successfully identified by applying a cross-referencing approach, for the same word was found in another news article that stated “...anything that has dropped from some distance on the surface of the earth, no matter on the upward or downward side (of the

(13) Home economics includes housekeeping, cookery, tailoring and dressmaking,¹⁸ making women's hats, clothes washing and ironing.

In addition, there are teachers specialising in teaching self-protection and time-saving strategies, just as how typesetting and offset printing are taught in the study of coal mining to replace slate engraving. Studies in other areas including mine measurement, shorthand, calligraphy, book-keeping, fitness and mental health, public speaking, sewing, as well as the French or German language are all taught at the College on Harris Street. Hundreds of students attend evening classes every day. Anyone who studies a course and attends for one night per week will pay their teacher eight shillings per quarter as their tuition fees, with sixteen shillings per quarter for two nights of study per week and one pound per quarter for three nights of study per week accordingly. Moreover, anyone under the age of twenty is regarded as a minor and is eligible for half of the fees, together with other specified groups including women. Furthermore, minors under the age of eighteen who regret having no skills and attend College are only required to pay one-fourth of the fees, meaning that they can simply pay two out of eight pennies per week compared with those at the age of eighteen to twenty who should pay 6 pennies per week. Likewise, those who live in remote areas outside Sydney and come to the College by train can travel at half fare on all trains. These policies are all for motivating students.

The College also has a huge library comprising more than ten thousand volumes covering a wide range of discipline areas, allowing access for either lecturers (*zhangjiao* 掌教)¹⁹ or students of both genders and all ages at any time. The top priority in state governance is given to the education of technical skills first and arts second. Apart from the College, there is also a school of arts²⁰ located between Sydney and Newtown²¹. Aside from its specialisation in teaching laws and properties of medicine as well as training dentists and preachers, the school also covers a variety of other discipline areas where each of the students will pay a sum of tuition fees and follow a variety of conventions and regulations. However, we feel sorry to inform our readers that this will not be elaborated upon again, as further details have all been recorded in the previous volumes.

There are one hundred seventy public educational institutions located within Sydney in total, with the number of libraries in private institutions and churches for the purpose of charity or

earth), will always be drawn to (鑷) the ground, just as how a magnet (鑷石) attracts iron (鑷鐵)...” (*The Chinese Australian Herald* 1903).

¹⁸ According to Neill (1991, 16), the classes of tailoring and dressmaking were both offered in 1892, but the author did not clarify which one was referred to.

¹⁹ The position *zhangjiao* 掌教 is a term specifically used during the Ming and Qing times to refer to preceptors of Confucianist courses or the “chief lecturer” of an academy. See Ministry of Education (2021).

²⁰ This was most likely to be the University of Sydney in which law, arts and medicine were three of its founding disciplines in 1855 (University of Sydney n.d.), but no relevant documents show whether there existed a specific building for teaching arts subjects as described by the author as a “school of arts”. It was also interesting to see how the author perceived all these disciplines as areas taught in a “school of arts”.

²¹ The author was referring to the strict sense of the two place names as the City of Sydney, the local government area, and Newtown, a neighbourhood in the inner west of the greater metropolitan area of Sydney.

education exceeding three hundred as well. Clearly, education is prioritised in the Australian method of governing its people, hence explaining why the overall number of all educational institutions and churches that can make significant contributions to the management of state affairs exceeds three hundred.

The chief governor (*Zongxian* 總憲)²² of the federal government, to whom all six provinces in Australia currently report, is called Northcote. He is also a general of St Michael and St George in Britain²³, a general of India,²⁴ as well as and the supreme commander who has the power to dominate over all six provinces.²⁵ The ranks mentioned above all belong to him. Northcote is usually accompanied by a secretary and guarded by military officers. Likewise, there are currently nine people assisting Northcote in governing the six provinces, with the chief officer among them being Alfred Deakin, who is the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia as well as the Prime Minister of the six provinces. The other eight officials are Ernest²⁶, Attorney-General of all six provinces; Sir William Lyne, the incumbent Minister for Trade and Customs; Sir John Forrest, Treasurer of Australia; Austin Chapman, Postmaster-General; Thomas Playford, Minister for Defence; Ewing, Minister for home affairs; Thomas Ewing,²⁷ Member of Parliament; John Keating, chief of the miscellaneous work²⁸. The nine people all assist the Prime Minister in regulating laws in the Parliament. The federal government is currently located in Melbourne and comprises the Senate and House of Representatives. The Senate constitutes a total of thirty-six members who establish laws and regulations to be obeyed by all six provinces, with six senators elected from each of

²² *Zongxian* 總憲 originally was another name for an official title during the Ming and Qing times called *duchayuan zuoduyushi* 都察院左都禦史 which usually translates to the Vice-president of the Censorate. However, this was very likely to be an established translation for the title at that time, meaning that the author did not interpret the role of a Governor-General incorrectly. This is because Wong (2023) notes the standardisation process of the translation for many titles from the 1890s, including the change from *zongxian* 總憲 to *zongdu* 總督 for a Colonial Governor, indicating that this might actually be a previously acknowledged rendition.

²³ This referred to the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George, a British order of chivalry established on April 27th, 1818 by King George the Third. The order was named after the two military saints, Michael and George, and comprised 65 members who were divided into three classes. The First Class, or Knight Grand Cross of the said Order), consisted of 20 members who were mostly Lord High Commissioners, Governors or Commander-in-chiefs. The Second Class, or Knight Commanders of the said Order, also consisted of 20 members and was the class Northcote fell into. The Third Class, or the Companions of the said Order consisted of twenty-five members. See *The Statutes of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George* (1859).

²⁴ The title was in fact the Governor of Bombay, implying the author's potential misunderstanding of the geographical concept of Bombay which is known as Mumbai nowadays. According to Tomlins (1835, 225), governors of Bombay were considered at the same level as those of Fort Saint George or Agra as well as the Governor-General of India whose jurisdiction mostly included Bengal only.

²⁵ The Australian Government (n.d.) claims no military power that is directly exercisable by the Governor-General, despite their power in several other areas such as legislation or elections.

²⁶ Ernest was the person's middle name as in Littleton Ernest Groom, his official full name.

²⁷ The author in fact transliterated the official's last name "Ewing" into two different versions, indicating that he might have assumed that they were two people who happened to possess the same last name. Likewise, it was also interesting to see the author only presented Ewing as an MP while the members in the second Deakin ministry were clearly all MPs.

²⁸ The author was actually referring to the Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council. The reason why he described Keating's role this way was probably that there was not any established translation for this title at that time and he was incapable of coming up with a proper definition either.

the six provinces. In comparison, the House of Representatives constitutes twenty-four members from New South Wales, twenty-two members from Victoria, nine members from Queensland, seven members from South Australia, five members from Western Australia and five members from Tasmania. They are responsible for drafting and submitting federal bills to the Senate for review. Alfred Deakin is in charge of external affairs while Keating²⁹ governs home affairs. Other significant official ranks include Chief Justice, as well as Chief Judge and Deputy Judge who hear cases associated with money and debt. Likewise, there also exists a Principal Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Chief Clerk, security officers, three Judge's associates and solicitors. The officers mentioned above are all employed in the federal court on an annual basis.

The officers in New South Wales subject to the capital of the six provinces are as follows. The Deputy Postmaster-General of Sydney is in charge of postal communication in general, with the Chief Clerk dealing with money orders and arranging the wiring for the post office. The shopkeeper (*zhanggui* 掌櫃)³⁰ manages the postal parcels. The Chief Inquiry Officer is assisted by the inquiry officers at the third level.³¹ There is also the deputy manager³² for managing local parcels, correspondence, registration and transcription, handling miscellaneous affairs and selling money orders. Moreover, the chief electrical engineers and electrical engineers at lower levels also fall under the regulation of the capital, along with the bookkeepers, officers in charge of □³³ wires or civil engineers in charge of the railways.³⁴ These are all fixed positions every year and are assisted by over one thousand ordinary workers.

The officers in the Customs House in Sydney are listed as follows. The title of the officer in charge is "Chief Commissioner of Taxation" which suggests that he collects taxes on behalf of the British Emperor. There is also the Deputy Commissioner, assistants at the second and third levels, two staff members in charge of bonded warehouses, chief shopkeepers, bookkeepers, seven clerks, seventy-eight deputy clerks, three accountants, and one chief inquiry officer. The anti-smuggling team inside the Customs House is led by one chief anti-smuggling officer, who is superior to another thirteen second-level and sixteen third-level officers as well as nineteen assistants. The team is in charge of the foreign ships arriving in Sydney, searching through packages of freight and ships as well. Workers are also categorised into the first and the second classes, with each numbering fourteen and twenty

²⁹ The author, again, used a different Chinese character for the transliteration of Keating, and the reason for this remains unclear.

³⁰ According to a comprehensive list of the personnel at the Postmaster-General's Department, there did not seem to exist a role that could seamlessly match the duty of a shopkeeper (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* 1916). It is therefore inferred that this was referring to a clerk at higher levels, possibly the Senior Clerk.

³¹ It was unclear which type of inquiry officer exactly the author was referring to, as well as why he did not mention any "second-level" inquiry officers.

³² Based on the list provided by the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* (1916), this was mostly likely to be the Senior Assistant.

³³ The Chinese character in the original text was too blurred to be properly identified but was likely to indicate a verb.

³⁴ The author actually started to discuss some of the roles in the New South Wales Railways Department without explicitly mentioning its name.

five respectively. Another fifty-one general labourers work as assistants there. Additionally, there are two members in the patrol for seizing smugglers, one cleaner, one lift manager,³⁵ fourteen messengers, two operators of the offset printing machines, two oarsmen and two officers responsible for night security. The customhouses near the province include three located in Newcastle Port, □³⁶ and □³⁷, Eden Harbour and areas around the □³⁸ River, Port Stewart, Kiama Harbour, Port Kembla, the Albury wharf which is on the side of Victoria, as well as □³⁹ respectively. Likewise, there also exist tax officers in charge of wineries⁴⁰, sugar factories and tobacco plug factories.

Playford is the head of the barracks in New South Wales, with Sir John Forrest being the treasurer. The military leaders are as follows. The Department of Defence⁴¹ consists of one Chief of Army, Chief of Navy and one Chief of Defence Intelligence as well as five councillors and four deputy councillors. A variety of other duties including managing canons and commanding troops are all regulated by Melbourne. However, there is probably no need to give the details of those general affairs, for this Department never seems to reportedly have had any communications with Chinese people. The doctors and personnel responsible for expenditure and revenue also wear military uniforms and are deemed actual military officers. Any decision made by the three institutions mentioned above, namely the post offices, customhouses and barracks must be scrutinised by Melbourne before they can be implemented, even though they are all located in Sydney. There should be three reasons for this. Firstly, the affairs post offices deal with on a daily basis would always involve many other provinces, and its operation therefore has been adhering to the authority of the capital since the six provinces united. Secondly, customhouses will become a main area of focus if the six provinces are to liaise with each other and make concerted efforts to seek wealth in hopes of sustaining the entire state, therefore explaining why customhouses in the six provinces are all governed by the capital. Thirdly, barracks are important for national defence, and therefore Melbourne has full control over the military powers in all six provinces.

The officer representing the British Emperor in New South Wales is titled a Governor, currently held by Sir Harry Rawson. His office comprises one secretary, two military officers,

³⁵ Despite an uncommon concept, *diaofang* 吊房 (lit. hanging-room) was clearly defined in another piece of news published in 1905: "There is a lift in this city that can carry passengers upward and downward, so that they will not have to climb the stairs" (*Chinese Australian Herald* 1905).

³⁶ Some of the place names in this paragraph were unable to be identified either because the places were small or not famous, or due to the fact that some of the ports were abolished and stopped functioning as customhouses long ago. The Albury Wharf was one of the typical examples.

³⁷ See Footnote 36.

³⁸ See Footnote 36.

³⁹ See Footnote 36.

⁴⁰ Although *jiu* 酒 could refer to all kinds of alcoholic drinks in a broad sense, it was likely that the author was referring to wineries rather than plants producing beer or spirits, according to how the concept of *jiufang* 酒房 (lit. wine-room) was used in another piece of news in the same year. This is because the news clearly stated "The so-called 'warm alcohol' is made from grapes..." (*Chinese Australian Herald* 1907).

⁴¹ There never seemed to be any Department of Defence in New South Wales throughout Australian history. This sudden shift in geographical scope was thus possibly either due to the author's potential misperception of the level of the Department or his carelessness in reminding his readers.

one clerk, one messenger, three gatekeepers who work shifts and also servants, with the costs of hiring all these people covered by the national treasury. The Governor heads the Parliament of New South Wales⁴² which also includes the Vice-President⁴³, Premier, Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, Secretary for Lands, Secretary for Public Works,⁴⁴ Minister of Public Instruction, Secretary for Mines as well as two members of the Legislative Council. Thus, a total of ten people in power currently govern the state.

The Legislative Council consists of sixty-two members who do not receive any salaries and all voluntarily devote themselves to state affairs. In comparison, there are ninety-one members of the Legislative Assembly, and each one of them receives three hundred pounds per year. Any law will first be proposed as a bill by the House before being introduced to and reviewed by the Council. Once the Council agrees to pass the bill, it will be forwarded to the members of Parliament for their further scrutiny, and Royal Assent will always be given by the Governor to enable the bill to become an Act if it is agreed to by all three Houses. The Council includes the Chief Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Usher of the Black Rod, along with other clerks at lower levels. In addition, there exists a Table Office which also includes the Chief and Deputy Clerks who will record every utterance during the entire meeting of the Council in shorthand. Their notes will be compiled into books which will then be kept as historical records forever, and the books are available to any reader at any time. This is exactly the same as how our newspaper aims to please our readers by informing them about all the news. This is because we have never charged them even one cent for more than ten years since the newspaper was founded, although we receive tasks on a frequent basis. There are also the Chief and Deputy Clerks and Clerk-Assistants of the Assembly, together with the Serjeant-at-Arms tasked with keeping order in the chamber, registrars, Government Printers, reviewers of newspapers to spot potential libels about the political situation as well as clerks transcribing various other texts. This makes a total of twelve people in power in the Assembly. Likewise, the five officers in charge of the mint⁴⁵ on Macquarie Street are also regulated by Britain.

The agencies mentioned above constitute the main body of Australia's governance system, and the branches of civil servants are listed as follows. Responsibilities or positions in, the Colonial Secretary's Department include census and statistics; head of police administration;

⁴² Wong (2023, 162) points out that translators in Hong Kong between the 1890s and 1930s seemed to have reached a consensus on *dinglijū* 定例局 (lit. determine-law-bureau) as the official Chinese version for the Legislative Council rather than the Parliament. However, it is intriguing to see that as someone born during this period of time, the author actually recognised the entire Parliament as the "Bureau of Legislation". This might have revealed his deeper comprehension of the legislation process in the Parliament, as this would always involve a "two-way agreement" between the two Houses.

⁴³ The author simply wrote "the second highest person in charge" in the original text, thus making his reference very unclear. The most possible position he was referring to after relevant research was conducted, turned out to be the Vice-President of the Executive Council who would act on behalf of the Governor in his or her absence.

⁴⁴ According to the Parliament of New South Wales (n.d.), this was most likely to refer to the Hon. Charles Alfred LEE, Secretary for Public Works of NSW in 1899 and from 1904 to 1910. He was also called the "Minister for Public Works" by some newspapers back in 1907. See, for example, an article published by the *Sydney Morning Herald* (1907).

⁴⁵ This referred to the Sydney Mint which was known as the Royal Mint and Coining Factory, the first mint of the Royal Mint outside England.

the Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum; the Chief Medical Officer; Surgeons to the Lunatic Asylum; Registration including that of literary or artistic copyrights and trademarks; immigration regulation; management of charitable institutions; management of botanic gardens; Chief Clerk of Parliament; registration of births, deaths, and properties; regulation of officers outside the province; regulation of the guild halls (*huiguan* 會館)⁴⁶ of different political parties; office comprising compradors (*maiban* 買辦)⁴⁷ of foods and goods for the state and its military forces, as well as officers arranging construction procurement for government offices; regulation of fisheries within the province; head of the fire brigades; the Board for the Protection of Aborigines. Owners of the National and Centennial Parks⁴⁸ are also governed by the Chief Secretary. Each of these officers is assisted by a chief clerk and a dozen deputy clerks, and their offices usually contain personnel of either several or tens of general staff members. Thus, there is surely no need to list out every one of these common positions.

The New South Wales Treasury and the businesses in the province are run by the treasurer, and the civil servants working for the Treasury are listed as follows. The agency includes offices for the sales of stamp duties,⁴⁹ land and income taxes, collection of revenues and coffers⁵⁰, Government Printing Office, and property acquisition. Moreover, there are also officers responsible for the management of powder magazines, shipping,⁵¹ navigation, vehicle and railway taxes, weights and measures, public debts, superannuation, public libraries, port and harbour regulations and the management of external and internal information, with the Agent-General for New South Wales in London being affiliated with the Treasury as well. The offices and positions listed above all report to the Treasury.

The Public Works Department of New South Wales also regulates the Department of Public

⁴⁶ This is a highly Chinese concept, as “guild halls” in many cases would indicate a specific house or building as the agency principal for liaison or lodging. Likewise, the dictionary also asserts that they can simply be built by peers in the same industry or people from the same town. This is therefore clearly different from the branches of an Australian political party which aim to serve political purposes in most cases. See Ministry of Education (2021).

⁴⁷ *Maiban* (compradors) was undoubtedly a cultural-specific concept prevailing especially during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They were often defined as merchants with reputations who acted as an intermediary in the sense of both economics and culture between local Chinese businesses and foreign firms. In addition, compradors might be paid a salary but they mostly earned their considerable amount of income through commissions. See the article published in the *Foreign Trade Bulletin* (1918).

⁴⁸ Instead of paraphrasing the words “national” and “centennial”, it is interesting to see the author and many other journalists in the early 20th century stick to their transliterated versions in their reports on the *Chinese Australian Herald*. Another example would be how “National Australia Bank” used to be transliterated as the “Nachenlu” Bank of this country, resulting in an utter loss of its original semantic relation with the word “country” or “state”.

⁴⁹ It was unclear what the author meant by this phrase which was eventually literally translated. However, it was most likely to simply refer to the office dealing with stamp duties or the collector of stamps, according to the introduction provided by the NSW Treasury (n.d.).

⁵⁰ According to the official historical records provided by the Treasury, this was likely to refer to the Mint and Gold Receiving Department. However, in case the author used the word *jinyin* 金銀 (lit. gold-silver) in a figurative sense to mean revenue in general, this could also refer to its custody instead. See *Golden Heritage: A joint exhibition to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the New South Wales Treasury: 1824-1999* (1999, 9).

⁵¹ According to the same document mentioned above (Gold Heritage 1999, 9), this used to be known as “Shipping Masters”.

Instruction which is in charge of the following institutions: training schools for children, a training ship called Sobraon acting as a reformatory for children, Parramatta Gaol for Women and children's prisons where carpentry is taught. These three⁵² facilities are all managed by the Secretary because the juvenile offenders regularly receive training while being kept in custody. Other officers and institutions that fall under the regulation of the Secretary include a museum which allows those wishing to learn about the operation of the exhibits to witness this process with their own eyes, the Mechanics' Institute and the Technological Museum, astronomers and planetariums, galleries, the Sydney Law and Medicine Schools, the Sydney Grammar School, grounds for training scouts, and lastly comprehensive schools.

The administration of the Department of Mines and Agriculture covers the following institutions and responsibilities: any state-owned or privately owned agricultural lands, mining, land surveying, patrols at coal mines, regulation of the mining progress, mines rescue, fresh fruit and vegetable inspection and pest control, the control of fake wine⁵³ produced with toxic chemicals, the National Agricultural College⁵⁴ with an office for planting new native crops on a trial basis, import of livestock into Australia, registration offices for animals branded with a piece of red-hot iron pressed against their hides, registration offices for the transit of livestock through Australia, export of livestock, and treatment for diseases of native livestock.

The entities, areas and officers in relation to the government construction regulated by the Public Works Department of New South Wales are listed as follows: railway construction both within and outside Sydney, Government Architects, construction of bridges and roads, sewerage for public reservoirs and groundwater extraction, maintenance and repairs of harbours and rivers, supply of fresh drinking water available to the public as well as drainage and other works, the valuation of any Crown lands, civil and employment services, Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Hunter⁵⁵ District Water Supply and Sewerage Boards, Government Dockyards,⁵⁶ cable ferries for public use, dredging service for shallow rivers within the harbours, maintenance and repairs of channels and drainage systems both inside and outside Sydney, highland water sources in Sydney for agricultural irrigation, Chief Commissioner of Railways and Tramways of New South Wales as well as his two assistants. Those mentioned above all fall under the regulation of the Public Works

⁵² The author might have miscounted the number of the types of institutions he mentioned above, which should be four.

⁵³ The word in the original Chinese text literally meant "warm alcohol", but was actually a combination of a transliteration of wine and the character meaning "alcohol" to categorise the previous transliteration. See the article mentioned in Footnote 40 (*Chinese Australian Herald* 1907).

⁵⁴ This might refer to the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, the first agricultural college established in New South Wales.

⁵⁵ "檉打" was the transliteration of "Hunter". Here it referred to The Hunter region in Sydney, including the following Local Government Areas: Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, and Upper Hunter (RDA Sydney, 2024). In addition, the Hunter Water is a state owned corporation primarily responsible for providing a range services in relation to water. It has a long history dating back to the 1880s when it began to supply water to Newcastle from a provisional pumping station along the Hunter River (Hunter Water, 2024).

⁵⁶ There only seemed to exist one Government Dockyard in New South Wales, according to the annual report of the Department of Public Works (1907).

Department.

The Attorney General is also known as one of the Law Officers of the Crown, with his Department being titled the Department of Justice as well. The other officers, agencies or areas that fall under the Attorney General's Department of New South Wales are now listed as follows: Chief Justice of New South Wales, judges responsible for monetary or debt cases, the Commercial Court Division, the Equity Division, courts of insolvency, security officers, judges of succession and probate, judges' schedule for traveling around towns or regions in the province to handle major cases,⁵⁷ courts of criminal offenses at various jurisdictional levels and across multiple towns or regions in the province, advisors on the nuances of state regulations,⁵⁸ judges and solicitors prosecuting on behalf of the state, officers tasked with arranging government affairs, Chairman of Judges of the District Court⁵⁹, District Court, judges of the District Court, financial clerks at district levels, coroners, as well as prisons at various levels except for children's prisons which are managed by the Department of public Instruction under the Public Works Department. Likewise, the Attorney General's Department also holds authority over matters of pardons, penalties and sentences, the management of court buildings, the courts for reconciling disputes within the Labour Party, and courts dealing with cases related to lottery affairs. This Department is located on Macquarie Street in Sydney. In addition, the incumbent Vice-President of the Executive Council of New South Wales is surnamed Hughes,⁶⁰ who assists the Governor in various legal affairs and is a member of the Legislative Council at the same time.

The areas managed by the Department of Lands are as follows: land surveying and determinations of boundaries for localities, the sale of Crown lands, resolutions of land disputes, and also the management of trees and lands in various locations.

Naval forces in all six provinces are administered by the British Admiralty. However, Australia must pay a tribute of two hundred thousand pounds to Britain every year to cover the expense of the military support from Britain. The Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief, Australian Station, are neither regulated by Australia. The former has full authority over civil and military affairs on lands, while the latter governs those in relation to waters. However, both are considered representatives of the British emperor who hold the highest ranks of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN).

The Commander-in-Chief, Australian Station is styled Vice Admiral, with the current holder of this position being Sir Fawkes. This title is also referred to as a Governor as in the

⁵⁷ This was likely to be a circuit court at that time.

⁵⁸ According to the job description provided by the Federal Court of Australia (n.d.), this was very likely to be the role of the Judge's Associates who were usually tasked with conducting legal research for the judges.

⁵⁹ District courts are also known as "County Courts" in Australia.

⁶⁰ This referred to Mr John Francis HUGHES (1857 - 1912), who was the Vice President of the Executive Council and Representative of the Government of New South Wales from 29 August 1904 to 20 October 1910 (Parliament of New South Wales, 2024).

“Governor of the Waters” by Australians. The RAN currently oversees the following fields or officers: the Chief of Navy, the Royal Dock at Sydney Harbour, the Head of Navy Engineering, and the office responsible for providing food and rations. Other key roles in RAN include dockyard engineers, as well as officers in charge of depots, victualling, naval architecture, assistance in victualling, assistance in managing depots, carpentry, and guns respectively. All of the above is subject to the authority of the Commander-in-Chief. This means that addressing any inquiry, unjust accusation, or legal infraction that occurred in the RAN falls under the duties of the Commander-in-Chief, although the officers mentioned previously will otherwise focus on their own duties normally. The aforementioned officers also constitute the Naval Court, and they are also tasked with overseeing the management of ships arriving in Australia. The Commander-in-Chief often simply enjoys his high rank and salary and is essentially more nominal.

Ships that have currently been assigned to the Australian Station are listed as follows:

(1) *Powerful* displaces fourteen thousand and two hundred long tonnes of water, with twenty-five thousand horsepower. Equipped with eighteen guns inside, she is the flagship of the Commander-in-Chief. By contrast, the HMS *Royal Arthur*, the flagship four years ago, was less than half the size of *Powerful*;

(2) *Challenger* displaces one thousand and eight hundred long tonnes of water and generates one thousand and two hundred fifty horsepower. Other second-class protected cruisers weigh one thousand and four hundred twenty tonnes, with their horsepower reaching one thousand and five hundred. Additionally, there are ten other ships, with some lighter than one thousand tonnes as large as one-third of the size of the ships travelling to and from China;

(3) A deluge of shock and concerns in Australia immediately arose upon Japan’s victory in military conflicts. As a result, Australia has paid two hundred thousand pounds to Britain this year for these ships, more than double the previous eighty thousand pounds, aiming to reinforce the navy as well as expand the naval force for the purpose of national defence. Accordingly, the displacement of third-class protected cruisers has also reached four thousand and three hundred sixty long tonnes. Their horsepower is seven thousand, with eleven guns installed inside each;

(4) *Encounter* has reached five thousand eight hundred long tonnes in displacement and is fitted with twelve thousand and five hundred horsepower engines. She is equipped with eleven cannons;

(5) *Torch* displaces nine hundred sixty long tonnes of water and has one thousand and one hundred horsepower, with six cannons installed;

(6) *Psyche* has a displacement of two thousand and six hundred fifty long tonnes and a

propulsion of five thousand horsepower⁶¹, with eight cannons installed inside.

All of the ships above assist Australia in deterring the yellow race from entering the state. Likewise, there is *Penguin* which serves as a survey vessel and assists in producing nautical charts or performing oceanographic tasks. In addition, a small ship of four hundred seventy long tonnes in displacement and with two hundred horsepower, was once sold to New South Wales for training juvenile offenders in combat skills. Furthermore, there also exist several ships employed for maintaining the maritime security of commercial activities. These include *Pegasus*, reaching two thousand and one hundred long tonnes in displacement and generating five thousand horsepower; *Euryalus*, with two thousand and six hundred long tonnes of displacement and four thousand horsepower; *Pioneer*, with two thousand and one hundred long tonnes of displacement and five thousand horsepower; *Pyramus*, having two thousand and one hundred long tonnes of displacement as well as five thousand horsepower; *Katoomba*, capable of displacing two thousand and six hundred long tonnes of water and generating four thousand horsepower.

Apart from Northcote, the Governor-General, the incumbent Governors of each province are as follows: Sir Harry Rawson as the Governor of New South Wales; Talbot as the Governor of Victoria; Thesiger as the Governor of Queensland; Strickland as the Governor of Tasmania; Sir George Hunte as the Governor of South Australia; Bedford as the Governor of both Western Australia and New Zealand; lastly Sir Everard im Thurn as the Governor of Fiji. All of the officials above are currently engaging in the governance of Australia.

⁶¹ Documents provided by the Royal Australian Navy (n.d.) showed that the horsepower of *Psyche* in fact reached 7000, indicating the author's potential error here.

References

Australian Government. "The Governor-General." Accessed June 7, 2024.

<https://www.directory.gov.au/governor-general/governor-general#:~:text=The%20Governor%2DGeneral%20powers%20include.>

Chinese Australian Herald. "Gaopei Yaotang" 告賠藥湯 [Compensation for Medical Expenses]. September 30, 1905.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168945549?searchTerm=%E2%80%9D%E5%90%8A%E6%88%BF%E2%80%9C.>

Chinese Australian Herald. "Ririxin Yourixin Zuoxinmin" 日日新又日新作新民 [Constantly Evolving Society and People]. January 31, 1903.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/169055956?searchTerm=%E6%97%A5%E6%97%A5%E6%96%B0%E5%8F%88%E6%97%A5%E6%96%B0%E4%BD%9C%E6%96%B0%E6%B0%91.>

Chinese Australian Herald. "Zhongguo Wenjiu" 中國温酒 [Chinese Wine]. August 31, 1907.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/168795101?searchTerm=%E2%80%9D%E9%85%92%E6%88%BF%E2%80%9C.>

Chinese Republic News. "Shenghe Fasheng Dacanju" 省河發生大慘劇 [Great Disaster on River in Our Province]. July 14, 1934.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/225994236?searchTerm=%E7%9C%81%E6%B2%B3%E7%99%BC%E7%94%9F%E5%A4%A7%E6%85%98%E5%8A%87.>

Chu, Shiun. "The Longer Abolition of the Chinese Imperial Examination System (1900s–1910s)." *International Journal of Asian Studies* 20, no. 2 (2023): 721–37.

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette. "Postmaster-General's Department (New South Wales)," August 31, 1916. <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/232454945/24994327>.

Department of Public Works. *Report of the Department of Public Works, for the Year Ended 30 June, 1907*. Sydney: NSW Government, December 18, 1907.

<https://www.opengov.nsw.gov.au/publications/10762>.

Federal Court of Australia. "Judge's Associates." Accessed June 7, 2024.

<https://www.fedcourt.gov.au/about/employment/associates>.

Foreign Trade Bulletin. "Comprador System in the Orient." February 1918.

<https://www.chinacultureandsociety.amdigital.co.uk/documents/detail/134162?sessionId=,https://www.chinacultureandsociety.amdigital.co.uk/documents/detail/134162&sessionId=&sessionENC=SYJQpv5g%2fp6Qzyds6VusohJNAjpUWasKYS78lwLbopd%2b%2bBrMh5w05N%2fwbWy92xeKI7zMTPOv8wwwpehxPtHPFvzLRzb7tB8XtfNrIAQaY88%3d&returnURL=https%3a%2f%2fwww.chinacultureandsociety.amdigital.co.uk%2fdocuments%2fdetail%2f134162%3fsessionId%3d%2chttps%3a%2f%2fwww.chinacultureandsociety.amdigital.co.uk%2fdocuments%2fdetail%2f134162&JWTtoken=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJkaXYXRhIj7IldlYnNpdGVZLZXXkiOiJjaGluYWVN1bHR1cmVhbmRzb2NpZXR5IiwiaXNpdGVZJCi6IjU0In0sImV4cCI6MTcxNzY4NTI1MiwiOiIjV9.0B-6JBli8QHGClaih2MNKLAC4MDWNU7R9OPvQLm4fo4>.

Golden Heritage: A Joint Exhibition to Commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the New South Wales Treasury: 1824-1999. Sydney: NSW Treasury, 1999.

Hunter Water. "Our history timeline." Accessed June 2024.

<https://www.hunterwater.com.au/community/our-history/our-history-timeline#:~:text=The%20Hunter%20Water%20that%20exists,the%20Hunter%20River%20at%20Oakhampton>.

Mao, Yanfeng. "Who Is a Laowai ? Chinese Interpretations of Laowai as a Referring Expression for Non-Chinese." *International Journal of Communication* 9 (June 1, 2015): 2119–40.

Ministry of Education. *Jiaoyubu Chongbian Guoyucidian Xiudingben* 教育部《重編國語辭典修訂本》 [Revised Mandarin Chinese Dictionary of the Ministry of Education].

Taipei: Ministry of Education, 2021. <https://dict.revised.moe.edu.tw/index.jsp>.

Neill, Norm. *Technically & Further: Sydney Technical College 1891-1991*. Sydney: Hale & Iremonger, 1991.

NSW Treasury. "Types of NSW Taxes." Accessed June 7, 2024.

<https://www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/budget-financial-management/revenue-and-taxation/types-nsw-taxes>.

Parliament of Australia. "The Australian System of Government." Accessed June 7, 2024.

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/House_of_Representatives/Powers_practice_and_procedure/00_-_Infosheets/Infosheet_20_-_The_Australian_system_of_government.

Parliament of New South Wales. "Mr John Francis HUGHES (1857 - 1912)." Accessed June 2024.

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/members/Pages/member-details.aspx?pk=1027>.

Parliament of New South Wales. "The Hon. Charles Alfred LEE (1842 - 1926)." Accessed June 6, 2024.

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/members/Pages/member-details.aspx?pk=798>.

Perry, Elizabeth J. "The Populist Dream of Chinese Democracy." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74, no. 4 (November 2015): 903–15.

RDA Sydney. "Hunter." Accessed June 2024.

<https://rdasydney.org.au/regions/hunter/#:~:text=Located%20north%20of%20Sydney%20C%20Newcastle,Port%20Stephens%20Singleton%2C%20Upper%20Hunter>.

Royal Australian Navy. "HMAS Psyche." Accessed June 6, 2024.

<https://seapower.navy.gov.au/hmas-psyche>.

Sydney Morning Herald. "THE NEW PROTECTION." November 16, 1907.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/14876277?searchTerm=%22minister%20for%20public%20works%20of%20New%20South%20Wales%22>.

The Statutes of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. Basel: University Library Basel, 1859.

Tomlins, Thomas Edlyne. *The Law-Dictionary, Explaining the Rise, Progress, and Present State of the British Law: Defining and Interpreting the Terms or Words of Art, and*

Comprising Also Copious Information on the Subjects of Trade and Government,
Volume 1. London: J. and W. T. Clarke; Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, Green, and
Longman, 1835.

University of Sydney. "History." Accessed June 6, 2024.

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/law/about/history.html#:~:text=Inaugurated%20in%201855%2C%20Sydney%20Law>.

Wang, Zhenzhu. "Popular Magazines and the Making of a Nation: The Healthy Baby Contest Organized by the Young Companion in 1926–27." *Frontiers of History in China* 6, no. 4 (2011): 525–37.

Wong, Man Kong. "The Language of Power: The Politics of Translation between English and Chinese in Early Colonial Hong Kong." *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 33, no. 1 (2023): 155–77.

Yuning Wang, 1425588
Jia Jia, 1442816
Siyi Ye, 1446089