PRH 7 4000091

HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tuesday, September 19, 1972

COST OF LIVING INCREASES BY FOUR POINTS

****

The General Consumer Price Index rose to 142 points during August up four points on the July figure.

The increase was due mainly to a rise of six points in the index for food and an increase of four points in the index for miscellaneous goods.

Rises of two points each were recorded in the index for fuel and light and the index for clothing and footwear.

There were also increases of one point each in the index for durable goods and the index for transport and vehicles. Movements in the indexes for other sections of commodity and service were insignificant.

The prices of fresh vegetables went up as a result of a significant drop in local supplies and supplies from China.

Increases were also recorded in the average retail prices of fresh water fish, salt water fish, rice, beef and poultry, which led to some restaurants putting up their menu prices. On the other hand, the average retail price of fresh fruits dropped.

The Modified Consumer Price Index for August was 146, four points higher than that for the previous month, and five points higher than for the corresponding month in 1971.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2 .....

GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR HONG KONG SEA SCHOOL

****

The Hong Kong Sea School is to be granted a piece of land at Shuen Wan in the New Territories and a capital subsidy of $1,176,000 for a new school.

When completed the school will be operated in conjunction with the existing subsidised Hong Kong Sea School at Stanley.

A building containing eight classrooms will be built on the Shuen Wan site. This will provide ample facilities to accommodate a total of 480 pupils in two daily sessions.

A spokesman for the Education Department said today that the proposed school will cater for boys aged 14 - 16 and the emphasis will be on preparing them for work at sea.

The school accommodation for which the grant was sought will form part of a larger complex which will provide boarding accommodation for all the pupils.

The boarding accommodation and ancillary facilities will be built with private funds, but the sponsors will apply for a social welfare subvention towards the recurrent expenses involved.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3.....

MEDICAL CONFERENCE IN GUAM

****

The chief medical adviser to the Overseas Development Administration in Britain, Dr. P.W. Dill-Russell, will arrive in Hong Kong on a brief visit on Thursday (September 21).

He will visit government hospitals and clinics on Friday and Saturday to see some of the recent developments in the fields of medical and health.

On Monday (September 25) he will leave for Guam, accompanied by Dr. Gerald Choa, Director of Medical and Health Services in Hong Kong.

Dr. Dill-Russell and Dr. Choa will comprise the United Kingdom delegation at this year's annual meeting of the World Health Organisation's conference of the Western Pacific Region.

The conference is being held in Guam this year, and will continue from September 27 to October 5.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER INTERRUPTION IN WAN CHAI

****

Water supply to certain premises in Wan Chai, Hong Kong will be turned off for five hours beginning from 1 a.m. on Thursday (September 21).

The temporary stoppage will enable the Waterworks Office to carry out a leakage test.

The area affected is bounded by Luard Road, Gloucester Road, Arsenal Street, Hennessy Road, including 55-57 Johnston Road, 1-31 Thomson Road and the Police Headquarters and Police Quarters in Arsenal Street.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/4.....

ASIA FOUNDATION PRESENTS CAR TO BEGONIA ROAD BOYS' HOME

****

Motor mechanic trainees of the Begonia Road Boys' Home today received their own vehicle for instruction purposes.

The second-hand car which is in good working condition was presented to the trainees by the Asia Foundation.

Mr. T.S. Foo, Officer-in-charge of the Asia Foundation in Hong Kong, who made the presentation, later inspected the motor mechanic class and saw a demonstration of a home-made go-kart.

Mr. Mak Wing-hong, Principal Social Welfare Officer, described the donation as a "symbol of concern and encouragement down to our field work level".

"The car will add valuable training material to the existing facilities," he added.

The motor mechanic class is one of three pre-vocational training classes at the Begonia Road Boys' Home. It is run by a qualified instructor.

More than 600 boys have been taught in the class since it was established in 1963. A number of the boys have subsequently established themselves in the trade.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5 .....

HONG KONG'S WEATHER DURING AUGUST

****

The rainfall for August was about 50 per cent above normal, bringing the accumulated total since the beginning of the year to 2407.2 mm — 240 mm above the average annual rainfall.

The month began with showery weather and there were also some isolated thunderstorms during the first two days. Conditions improved on August 3 and remained generally fine until the 8th when showers again developed due to the approach of an active trough of low pressure from the northwest.

This trough remained almost stationary along the coast of south China for about a week and caused very unsettled weather in Hong Kong.

Thunderstorm and heavy rain warnings were continually issued by the Royal Observatory during the period August 8-13.

Early on August 10, a squatter boat in Kowloon Bay near Kwun Tong was struck by lightning. A youth in the boat was killed and another seriously injured. Three aircraft were diverted on that day due to adverse weather conditions.

On August 9 Typhoon Betty developed over the Pacific near the Caroline Islands. It moved northwestwards and crossed the east China coast near Foochow on August 18. Betty then rapidly dissipated but its remnants continued to move westwards into central China and activated the southwest monsoon over south China.

Periods of heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms affected Hong Kong from August 19-21. The rain was heaviest on August 20 when 186.8 mm were recorded.

/During the .....

During the afternoon of August 25, Tropical Depression Cora developed over the South China Sea about 230 miles southeast of Hong Kong and the Stand By Signal No. 1, was hoisted at 11.00 p.m. Cora intensified to a tropical storm on August 26 and then to a severe tropical storm the next day.

Fresh winds and squally showers were experienced in Hong Kong as Cora moved on a west-northwesterly track to the south. The No. 1 signal was lowered at 1.30 p.m. on August 28 when Cora was about 270 miles west-southwest of Hong Kong and continued to move further away. Cora landed over North Vietnam on August 29 and then dissipated.

The weather in Hong Kong improved and apart from a few showers, generally fine weather persisted over the last two days of the month.

During August, Tropical Storm Winnie, Typhoon Alice, Typhoon Doris and Tropical Depression Elsie were also reported over the Pacific and the East and South China Seas.

Twenty-one thunderstorm and/or heavy rain warnings were issued.

The month's figures and departures from normal were:

Sunshine	176.2 hours	;	24.7 hours below normal
Rainfall	556.8 mm	;	186.0 mm above normal
Cloudiness	69%	;	2% above normal
Relative Humidity	87%	;	3% above normal
Mean Maximum Temperature	30.4°C	;	normal
Mean Temperature	27.5°C	;	0.2°C below normal
Mean Minimum Temperature	25.6°C	;	0.1°C above normal
Mean Dew Point	25.0°C	;	0.4°C above normal
Total Evaporation	159.3 mm	;	10.8 mm below normal

Maximum Temperature of 33.2°C was recorded on August 3 and 17.

Minimum Temperature of 23.8°C was recorded on August 20.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

ADDITIONS TO JURY LIST

****

More than 750 new jurors may join some 28,000 others on the common jury list and in so doing have the chance to take part in the administration of justice.

A list of the new jurors will be posted in the Supreme Court from next Monday (September 25) for 14 days.

During this time, any person can apply by notice in writing to the Supreme Court Registrar asking that his name or the name of some other person be either posted or removed from the list for specific reasons.

The Registrar may at his discretion post or remove the name accordingly and alter the list.

The list will be displayed on the notice board near the lift inside the south-west entrance of the Supreme Court building.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8 .....

REGIONAL MEETING ON EDUCATION OPENS IN HONG KONG

****

The Director of Education, Mr. J. Canning, today spoke about the newly approved policy on teacher education in Hong Kong.

The policy is designed to substantially increase the annual output of teachers, particularly for the lower secondary classes.

"Besides the provision of more trained teachers", he said, "there is the question of how best to update the knowledge of our existing trained teachers".

For this very purpose, courses of training have been provided by the inspectorate of the Education Department.

He added that it would probably become necessary "as time goes on" to increase the length of training of the teachers. At present non-specialist teachers undertake a two-year course and in certain subjects there is a third year course in the Colleges of Education.

Mr. Canning was speaking at the opening of the Third Annual Meeting of the Governing Board of the Regional Centre for Education in Science and Mathematics (RECSAM) at Lee Gardens Hotel.

RECSAM is a project of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) which has been established by the governments of Southeast Asian countries to promote regional co-operation in education.

Among those taking part in the five-day meeting are delegates from the eight SEAMEO member countries, RECSAM officials, consultants from Britain, the United States and representatives from universities, the Polytechnic and Colleges of Education in Hong Kong.

.....

Note to Editors: Copies of the full text of the speech are available separately in the press boxes.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9 .....

WEEKLY MEDICAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS

****

Statistics released today by the Medical and Health Department for the week ended on September 2 are as follows:-

* Notifications of infectious cases (previous week's figures in brackets) -- total 146 (222); bacillary dysentery -- 13 (7); cerebrospinal meningitis and meningococcal infections -- 1 (nil); tuberculosis -- 116 (199); enteric fever (typhoid) -- 11 (10); leprosy -- 4 (3); measles -- nil (2); ophthalmia neonatorum -- nil (1); malaria -- 1 (nil).

* Birth -- total registered 1585; 393 on Hong Kong Island; 1006 in Kowloon, and 186 in the New Territories.

* Deaths -- 341 from all causes; 104 on the Island, 223 in Kowloon and 14 in the New Territories.

- - - - 0 - - - -

Release time: 7.00 p.m.