



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR PAYS TRIBUTE TO URBAN COUNCIL

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THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS SEEN MANY CHANGES IN ITS COMPOSITION FUNCTIONS AND METHOD OF SELECTION IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSITION OVER THE 100 YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD YOUDE, SAID TODAY.

AND IT HAS GROWN FROM A SANITARY BOARD WITH THREE OFFICIALS IN 1883 TO AN ENLARGED ASSEMBLY COMPRISING 30 UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS TO DATE, HE ADDED.

+THAT IS A REFLECTION OF THE NEED FOR PUBLIC BODIES TO RESPOND TO THE CHANGES IN THE SOCIETY WHICH THEY SERVE.

+THE SANITARY BOARD GREW OUT OF A REQUIREMENT TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE POPULATION OF HONG KONG THEN LIVED,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE GOVERNOR WAS SPEAKING AT THE SPECIAL URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS TODAY (MONDAY) TO MARK THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S PREDECESSOR BODY, THE SANITARY BOARD, IN 1883.

THIS YEAR IS ALSO THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL IN 1973 AND MARKS THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE NEW PROCESS UNDER WHICH MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL HAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME BEEN ELECTED ON A CONSTITUENCY BASIS.

SIR EDWARD RECALLED THAT WHEN SIR GEORGE BOWEN BECAME THE GOVERNOR IN 1883, HE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO INFORM THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT +PARTS OF HONG KONG WERE OVERCROWDED, FILTHY AND DEFICIENT IN ALL THE PRIMARY ELEMENTS OF HEALTH AND DECENCY+.

HOWEVER, HE SAID: +WHEN I ASSUMED THE GOVERNORSHIP SOME 99 YEARS LATER I FOUND NO NECESSITY TO REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN A SIMILAR VEIN.

+THAT THE NEED HAS GONE OWES MUCH OF THE DETERMINATION OF THIS COUNCIL OVER THE YEARS TO MAKE HONG KONG A CLEANER AND PLEASANTER PLACE TO LIVE IN TO THE BENEFIT BOTH OF THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE AND OUR INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION.+

BUT HE ADDED QUICKLY THAT THE COUNCIL'S AREA OF CONCERN HAD LONG GONE BEYOND CLEANSING AND HYGIENE.

WITH ITS INTEREST IN MARKETS, STREET TRADERS, LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AS WELL AS CULTURE, THE COUNCIL IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES WHICH CLOSELY AFFECT THE EVERYDAY LIFE OF LOCAL CITIZENS.

+THEIR EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT CAN CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO THE WELL-BEING OF OUR SOCIETY BY MAKING THIS CITY A PLEASANTER, EASIER AND LESS STRESSFUL PLACE TO LIVE IN, AND IN SO DOING CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE SOCIAL EVILS OF THE MODERN WORLD FIND IT MORE DIFFICULT TO GROW.+

/AS THE

AS THE POPULATION IN THE AREA FOR WHICH THE URBAN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE HAS GROWN ENORMOUSLY IN THE POST WAR YEARS, SIR EDWARD CONSIDERED IT FIT THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE COUNCIL TO REINFORCE ITS CONTACTS WITH THOSE WHOM IT REPRESENTS +NOT ONLY THROUGH ELECTIONS ON A WIDER FRANCHISE BUT THROUGH THE PROVISION OF SEATS FOR ELECTED COUNCILLORS ON THE DISTRICT BOARDS IN THEIR CONSTITUENCIES+.

+THIS WILL IMPROVE THE ACCESS OF THE COUNCIL TO THE VIEWS OF THOSE ON WHOSE BEHALF YOU ACT AND ENABLE YOU TO REFLECT THE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICTS IN THE DECISIONS WHICH YOU TAKE.

+IT WILL IN TURN PROVIDE A MEANS BY WHICH THE POLICIES ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL CAN BE EXPLAINED AND GAIN ACCEPTANCE AT DISTRICT LEVEL,+ HE SAID.

IN PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOTH PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THE COUNCIL, SIR EDWARD ADDED: +IN THE AREA OF YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES IT WILL BE YOUR TASK, AND IT IS A CHALLENGING ONE, TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR FAST DEVELOPING URBAN SOCIETY AND I WISH YOU ALL EVERY SUCCESS IN IT.+

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AIRBORNE TRADE INCREASES NINE PER CENT

HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE MERCHANDISE TRADE LAST YEAR, VALUED AT \$62 063 MILLION, INCREASED BY NINE PER CENT OVER THE 1981 FIGURE, ACCORDING TO SUMMARY STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY.

AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS, VALUED AT \$21 966 MILLION, INCREASED BY THREE PER CENT; IMPORTS, AT \$29 584 MILLION, ROSE BY 15 PER CENT, AND RE-EXPORTS AT \$10 513 MILLION, INCREASED BY FIVE PER CENT.

LAST YEAR'S AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS MADE UP 26 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, IMPORTS MADE UP 21 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE AND RE-EXPORTS 24 PER CENT OF TOTAL VALUE, THE DEPARTMENT STATED.

IN TERMS OF WEIGHT, TOTAL AIRBORNE EXPORTS AMOUNTED TO 172 609 TONNES, OR 1.8 PER CENT OF TOTAL EXPORTS TONNAGE, AND AIRBORNE IMPORTS CAME TO 133 148 TONNES, REPRESENTING 0.4 PER CENT OF TOTAL IMPORT TONNAGE.

BY COMMODITY, INCREASES IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED MAINLY IN JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY \$247 MILLION OR 28%), OFFICE AND STATIONERY SUPPLIES (BY \$233 MILLION OR 38%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$132 MILLION OR 2%), AND MISCELLANEOUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, PARTS, AND ACCESSORIES (BY \$122 MILLION OR 59%).

HOWEVER, DECLINES WERE RECORDED FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$468 MILLION OR 22%), AND PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$74 MILLION OR 30%).

/FURTHER ANALYSIS

FURTHER ANALYSIS OF COMMODITY BY COUNTRY REVEALED GROWTH IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$424 MILLION OR 25%) AND CLOTHING (BY \$79 MILLION OR 2%) TO THE U.S.A., BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS TO CANADA (BY \$74 MILLION OR 215%), AND CLOTHING TO JAPAN (BY \$56 MILLION OR 7%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES TO THE U.S.A. (BY \$502 MILLION OR 28%), WATCHES AND CLOCKS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BY \$82 MILLION OR 19%) AND TO JAPAN (BY \$14 MILLION OR 7%).

THERE WERE INCREASES IN AIRBORNE IMPORTS OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$1 526 MILLION OR 57%), THEMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS TRANSISTORS AND PARTS (BY \$791 MILLION OR 21%), CLOTHING (BY \$225 MILLION OR 29%), ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPARATUS (BY \$129 MILLION OR 25%) AND JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY \$101 MILLION OR 16%).

IN CONTRAST, DECREASES WERE NOTED IN THE SUPPLY, BY AIR, OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$1 070 MILLION OR 16%), AS WELL AS PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$211 MILLION OR 14%).

INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS FROM TAIWAN (BY \$426 MILLION OR 85%); FROM JAPAN (BY \$269 MILLION OR 24%), AND FROM THE U.S. (BY \$210 MILLION OR 18%). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS FROM JAPAN (BY \$373 MILLION OR 11%), FROM SWITZERLAND (BY \$260 MILLION OR 16%) AND FROM REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY \$231 MILLION OR 35%).

AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS EXPERIENCED SLOW GROWTH IN 1982. CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN VALUE WERE REGISTERED FOR PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$346 MILLION OR 21%), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$122 MILLION OR 25%), CRUDE VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$56 MILLION OR 18%) AND CLOTHING (BY \$53 MILLION OR 18%). ON THE OTHER HAND, AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY (BY \$248 MILLION OR 11%).

THE UNITED STATES WAS THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS, WITH A VALUE OF \$1 851 MILLION (AN INCREASE OF \$273 MILLION OR 17%). NOTABLE INCREASES WERE ALSO REGISTERED IN AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG (BY \$154 MILLION OR 126%), TO JAPAN (BY \$130 MILLION OR 13%), TO SINGAPORE (BY \$103 MILLION OR 8%) AND TO THE PHILIPPINES (BY \$80 MILLION OR 31%). ON THE OTHER HAND, AIRBORNE RE-EXPORTS TO ISRAEL AND CHINA DECREASED CONSIDERABLY (BY \$81 MILLION OR 21% AND BY \$31 MILLION OR 8% RESPECTIVELY).

/THE FOLLOWING

THE FOLLOWING TABLE ILLUSTRATES THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE TEN MAJOR MARKETS FOR HONG KONG'S AIRBORNE DOMESTIC EXPORTS:-

| | 1982 (HK\$ MN.) | 1981 (HK\$ MN.) | INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN.) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| U.S.A. | 9 886 | 9 659 | +227 | + 2 |
| FED. REP. OF GERMANY | 1 957 | 2 003 | - 46 | - 2 |
| JAPAN | 1 427 | 1 367 | + 60 | + 4 |
| U.K. | 1 278 | 1 394 | -116 | - 8 |
| CANADA | 786 | 666 | +120 | +18 |
| SWITZERLAND | 589 | 564 | + 25 | + 4 |
| NETHERLANDS | 521 | 442 | + 79 | +18 |
| SINGAPORE | 516 | 379 | +137 | +36 |
| FRANCE | 433 | 537 | -104 | -19 |
| AUSTRALIA | 409 | 392 | + 17 | + 4 |

AIRBORNE IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE GIVEN BELOW:-

| | 1982 (HK\$ MN.) | 1981 (HK\$ MN.) | INCREASE/ DECREASE (HK\$ MN.) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| JAPAN | 6 298 | 6 012 | +286 | + 5 |
| U.S.A. | 5 799 | 5 089 | +710 | + 14 |
| U.K. | 2 104 | 1 507 | +597 | + 40 |
| SWITZERLAND | 1 980 | 2 139 | -159 | - 7 |
| TAIWAN | 1 964 | 1 457 | +507 | + 35 |
| SINGAPORE | 1 388 | 1 260 | +128 | + 10 |
| REP. OF KOREA (S. KOREA) | 1 196 | 1 295 | - 99 | - 8 |
| BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG | 1 068 | 435 | +633 | +146 |
| FED. REP. OF GERMANY | 1 008 | 803 | +205 | + 26 |
| ITALY | 1 000 | 791 | +209 | + 26 |

FURTHER DETAILS ARE CONTAINED IN THE DECEMBER 1982 ISSUED OF THE +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE.

CONCESSIONARY WATER CHARGES OFFERED

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT LETTERS HAD BEEN SENT TO LARGE TRADE CONSUMERS ADVISING THEM TO APPLY FOR THE CONCESSIONARY TARIFF WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1, 1983.

THE BASIC RATE FOR TRADE SUPPLY IS \$7.60 PER UNIT OF 1 000 GALLONS AND THE CONCESSIONARY RATE IS \$6.40 PER UNIT.

THE CONCESSIONARY RATE APPLIES ONLY TO CONSUMPTION IN EXCESS OF 6 000 UNITS PER FOUR-MONTH BILLING PERIOD OR WHERE WATER COSTS AT \$7.60 PER UNIT CONSTITUTE THREE PER CENT OR MORE OF TOTAL OPERATING COSTS. THIS IS SUBJECT TO APPLICANTS MEETING OTHER CRITERIA DETAILED IN THE ADVISORY LETTER.

THE CONCESSION IS AIMED AT GIVING TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN TRADES WHICH INTRODUCE MEASURES TO ECONOMISE IN THE USE OF WATER, AND WILL BE WITHDRAWN ON MARCH 31, 1984.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE CONCESSION WOULD APPLY FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE BILLING PERIOD FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF THE VALID APPLICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT.

+IT IS IMPERATIVE, THEREFORE, THAT LARGE TRADE CONSUMERS SHOULD APPLY ON OR BEFORE JULY 30, 1983 OTHERWISE THEIR APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED,+ HE SAID.

ANY TRADE CONSUMER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED AN ADVISORY LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT, BUT WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS WATER CONSUMPTION HAD INCREASED TO A LEVEL WHICH MIGHT QUALIFY HIM FOR THE CONCESSION (OR ANY NEW CONSUMER ANTICIPATING HIGH CONSUMPTION), SHOULD MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CONCESSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

APPLICATION FORMS MAY BE COLLECTED FROM THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S ENQUIRY CENTRES ON THE 11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG, OR ARGYLE STREET DEPOT, KOWLOON.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION RELATING TO THE CONCESSIONARY TARIFF PLEASE CONTACT MR PETER CHAN, TELEPHONE NO. 5-7900348.

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MORE SCHOOLS MAY GET COMPUTER STUDIES

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CONSIDERING EXTENDING COMPUTER STUDIES TO OTHER SCHOOLS FOLLOWING FAVOURABLE RESPONSE FROM PUPILS AND SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT SCHEME INTRODUCED LAST SEPTEMBER.

THIS PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, WILL DEPEND ON THE RESULTS OF A FULL EVALUATION REPORT AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION, THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND FINAL POLICY APPROVAL.

+THE COMPUTER SYLLABUS IN FORM IV AND V IS UNTRIED AND MAY NEED TO BE ADJUSTED IN THE LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE. ALSO WE HAVE TO BE FULLY AWARE OF ANY PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE SUITABILITY OF EQUIPMENT OR CURRICULUM MATERIAL,+ AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

GIVEN THAT ALL FACTORS ARE FAVOURABLE, THE EARLIEST DATE FOR EXTENSION OF COMPUTER STUDIES IN SCHOOLS WOULD BE SEPTEMBER 1984, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE EVALUATION REPORT AT THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE DESIRABILITY OF INTRODUCING COMPUTER EDUCATION TO JUNIOR SECONDARY, PRIMARY OR SIXTH FORM LEVELS.

NEARLY \$2 MILLION HAS BEEN SPENT IN LAUNCHING THE PILOT SCHEME. THIS INVOLVED 30 SECONDARY SCHOOLS, EACH HAVING AT LEAST NINE MICRO-COMPUTERS, FIVE OR MORE DISC DRIVES, A CASSETTE TAPE-RECORDER AND TWO PRINTERS.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE HAS BEEN CLOSELY MONITORING THE SCHEME AND HAS FOUND THAT OVER 90 PER CENT OF THE PUPILS CONSIDER THE COURSE INTERESTING AND WITHIN THEIR ABILITY. TEACHERS TOO CONSIDER THE COURSE CONTENTS SUITABLE.

APART FROM THE 30 PILOT SECONDARY SCHOOLS, 45 OTHER SCHOOLS ALSO APPLIED TO INTRODUCE THIS SUBJECT. THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN PRINCIPLE GAVE THEM PERMISSION ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ADEQUATE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE PROVIDED FROM THE SCHOOLS' OWN RESOURCES.

+IT IS EXPECTED THAT ABOUT 4 000 PUPILS WILL BE SITTING COMPUTER STUDIES IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MAY 1984,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT, IN PREPARATION FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS SUBJECT, BEGAN COURSES FOR TEACHERS AS FAR BACK AS 1977 IN CONJUNCTION WITH HKU, CUHK AND THE POLYTECHNIC. IN ALL, NEARLY 2 000 TEACHERS WENT THROUGH THESE COURSES, WHICH INCLUDED SUCH TOPICS AS A GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER APPLICATION IN EDUCATION, AND PROGRAMMING IN FORTRAN AND BASIC.

THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDES A SUPPORTING SERVICE TO SCHOOLS IN THE PROVISION OF RELATED AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS AND IN SUPPLYING TEACHING MATERIAL AND ADVISING TEACHERS ON THE USE OF REFERENCE BOOKS.

THE SCHOOLS INVOLVED IN THE SUBJECT - BOTH PILOT AND NON-PILOT - ARE ALSO VISITED REGULARLY BY SUBJECT INSPECTORS WHO OFFER ADVICE AND GUIDANCE WHERE NEEDED.

+COMPUTER 'STUDIES' IN HONG KONG SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH COMPUTER 'AWARENESS' IN SCHOOLS ELSEWHERE. IT IS ONE THING TO LET SMALL CHILDREN PLAY AROUND WITH COMPUTERS, QUITE ANOTHER TO ENCOURAGE OLDER CHILDREN TO STUDY AND USE THEM,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 1983

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NEED FOR INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES FOR AGED

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THE 'CARE IN THE COMMUNITY' CONCEPT DOES NOT OBTIATE THE NEED FOR INSTITUTIONAL SERVICES FOR A PROPORTION OF OUR ELDERLY POPULATION.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, SAID THIS TODAY (MONDAY) WHEN HE OPENED THE KOWLOON WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB'S WONG CHEUNG KIN MEMORIAL HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY.

+WHEN CARE IN THE COMMUNITY IS NO LONGER VIABLE OR SATISFACTORY BECAUSE OF INCREASING FRAILTY, OR THE ABSENCE OR INABILITY OF THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS TO PROVIDE THE ELDERLY WITH THE CARE AND SUPPORT NEEDED, RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES ARE THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE,+ HE SAID.

THE NEW HOSTEL, LOCATED AT SHUN TIN ESTATE IN KWUN TONG, HAS A CAPACITY FOR 164 ELDERLY MEN AND WOMEN.

IT WAS NAMED AFTER THE LATE MOTHER OF MR WONG CHO-TONG, WHO HAD DONATED \$1 MILLION TOWARDS THE CAPITAL COST OF THE PROJECT.

MR CHAMBERS SAID HE WAS SURE THAT THE HOSTEL WOULD DO MUCH TO SERVE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN NEED OF SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION.

THE KOWLOON WOMEN'S WELFARE CLUB WAS FOUNDED IN 1956 TO PROMOTE AND PROVIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND WELFARE PROJECTS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

THE OPENING OF THIS HOSTEL MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE CLUB'S ACTIVITIES, THE DIRECTOR SAID.

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WARNING ABOUT ILLEGAL CAR PLATES

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OWNERS OF VEHICLES ARE CAUTIONED AGAINST BUYING REFLECTIVE NUMBER PLATES THAT FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE REVISED ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS.

A NUMBER OF ILLEGAL PLATES HAD BEEN SPOTTED ON THE ROADS AND THE POLICE HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST OFFENDERS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (LICENSING) OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR COLIN PRISTON, SAID TODAY.

+THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THE BRITISH SPECIFICATION FOR REFLECTIVE NUMBER PLATE BS AU 145 (A) WILL BE A FINE OF \$1 000 AND THREE MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT,+ MR PRISTON WARNED.

APPROVED MANUFACTURERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED WITH OFFICIAL LETTERS FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, AND PROSPECTIVE BUYERS ARE ADVISED TO CHECK WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON 5-259494 IF THEY ARE IN DOUBT.

THE NEW REGULATIONS WILL COME INTO FORCE ON JUNE 1, 1983 FOR ALL VEHICLES REGISTERED ON OR AFTER THAT DATE, WHILE ALL CURRENTLY REGISTERED VEHICLES MUST BE FITTED WITH REFLECTIVE NUMBER PLATES BY JUNE 1, 1985.

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JOB TRAINING MANUALS FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

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TWO MANUALS ON MODEL TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR THE PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE SPINNING AND TEXTURISING BRANCHES AND THE WEAVING BRANCH OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED.

THE MANUALS WERE COMPILED BY THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE FORMER HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, NOW REPLACED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE MODEL TRAINING PROGRAMMES LISTED IN THE TWO MANUALS INCLUDE PRINCIPAL JOBS AT THE TECHNOLOGIST, TECHNICIAN AND CRAFTSMAN LEVELS IN THE TWO BRANCHES OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRAINING BOARD, MR FEI LEE, SUGGESTED THAT EMPLOYERS IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY COULD DRAW UP THEIR OWN TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON THE GUIDELINES SET IN THE MANUALS.

+A TRAINEE OR AN APPRENTICE SHOULD RECEIVE TRAINING IN MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THE ACTIVITIES LISTED IN THE MODEL TRAINING PROGRAMMES,+ HE SAID.

THE TRAINING BOARD IS CONFIDENT THAT THE MODEL TRAINING PROGRAMMES WILL ASSIST IN RAISING THE STANDARD OF TRAINING, RESULTING IN A MORE EFFICIENT WORKFORCE.

THE BILINGUAL TRAINING MANUALS ARE ON SALE AT \$15 AND \$19 EACH, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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NEW SERVICE RESERVOIR FOR SHEUNG SHUI

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A CONTRACT TO MITSUI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 28 000-CUBIC METRE SERVICE RESERVOIR AT TABLE HILL, SHEUNG SHUI, AND THE LAYING OF ABOUT 750 METRES OF PUMPING MAINS.

THE CONTRACT, WORTH MORE THAN \$17.4 MILLION, WAS SIGNED THIS MORNING BY MR LEE GUN-CHEUNG, CHIEF ENGINEER (CONSTRUCTION) OF THE DEPARTMENT AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMPANY.

MR LEE SAID AT PRESENT WATER SUPPLY TO THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES COMES FROM THE TREATMENT WORKS AT TAI PO TAU.

HOWEVER, WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND FROM CURRENT AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA, IT IS NECESSARY TO CONSTRUCT THE NEW SCHEME AT SHEUNG SHUI, HE SAID.

THE SCHEME, WHICH WILL AUGMENT THE EXISTING SUPPLY SYSTEM, WILL COMPRISE A TREATMENT PLANT AND PUMPING STATION AT ORB HILL, A SERVICE RESERVOIR AT TABLE HILL AND ASSOCIATED PIPE LINES.

THE RESERVOIR WILL BE COVERED WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE. THE ROOF WILL BE TOPPED OFF WITH SOIL AND GRASS AND THE RESERVOIR SITE WILL BE LANDSCAPED.

WORK ON THE CONTRACT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ABOUT 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FRESH WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND WONG CHUK HANG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVERAL HOURS BETWEEN WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY (APRIL 20 AND 21) TO FACILITATE MAINS WORK.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE SUSPENSION WILL BE FOR NINE HOURS FROM 9 AM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 20) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES AND VILLAGES ALONG:

- * TAI PO ROAD BETWEEN KOWLOON HANG TSUEN AND SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD;
- * CASTLE PEAK ROAD BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD AND LOK MA CHAU;
- * FAN KAM ROAD BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI CROSS ROAD AND CHIU KENG TSUEN;
- * JOCKEY CLUB ROAD BETWEEN FANLING ROUNDABOUT AND SAN FUNG AVENUE, INCLUDING SHEK WU HUI AND SHEUNG SHUI TSUEN;
- * MAN KAM TO ROAD BETWEEN SAN FUNG AVENUE AND MAN KAM TO POLICE POST, INCLUDING THE LO WU K.C.R. STATION AND MUK WU PUMPING STATION;
- * SHA TAU KOK ROAD BETWEEN THE FANLING ROUNDABOUT AND SHA TAU KOK MARKET, INCLUDING LUEN WO HUI AND ON LOK TSUEN; AND
- * PING CHE ROAD BETWEEN SHA TAU KOK ROAD AND TA KWU LING POLICE STATION.

IN WONG CHUK HANG, THE SUSPENSION WILL BE FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM ON THURSDAY (APRIL 21).

THIS SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES ALONG SHUM WAN ROAD, INCLUDING THOSE SOUTH OF THE MARINE POLICE STATION.

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WATER FIGURES
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 78.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 451.640 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 204.571 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 35.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUPPLEMENT

SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
SIR EDWARD YOUDE, CCMG, MBE AT THE
MEETING OF URBAN COUNCIL ON 18 APRIL 1983

Mr Chairman,

It is a great pleasure for me to be present today at this Special Meeting of the Urban Council. It marks this 100th Anniversary of the establishment of the Council's predecessor body, the Sanitary Board in 1883. This year is also the 10th Anniversary of the reconstitution of the Council in 1973: and to add to the importance of the occasion we mark also the successful completion of the new process under which members of the Council have for the first time been elected on a constituency basis. It gives me the opportunity too to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on your election for a further period of office. I might add that if our predecessors in the '30s had got round to things two years earlier and acted in 1933 instead of 1935 we could have completed the pattern and celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Urban Council itself in our celebrations today.

In the process of transition over the 100 years of its existence from a three man Sanitary Board, all officials of the Government, to this enlarged assembly of 30 members, all Unofficials, the Council has seen many changes in its composition functions and method of selection. That is a reflection of the need for public bodies to respond to the changes in the society which they serve. The Sanitary Board grew out of a requirement to improve the environment in which the population of

/Hong Kong

Hong Kong then lived. In 1883 Sir George Bowen, on becoming Governor, found it necessary to inform the Secretary of State that parts of Hong Kong were overcrowded, filthy and deficient in all the primary elements of health and decency. When I assumed the Governorship some 99 years later I found no necessity to report to the Secretary of State in a similar vein. That the need has gone owes much of the determination of this Council over the years to make Hong Kong a cleaner and pleasanter place to live in to the benefit both of the people who live here and our international reputation.

The Council's area of concern has long gone beyond cleansing and hygiene. With your interest in markets, street traders, libraries and museums, and recreational facilities, as well as culture, you are now responsible for activities and facilities which closely affect the everyday life of our citizens. Their efficient management can contribute greatly to the well-being of our society by making this city a pleasanter, easier and less stressful place to live in, and in so doing create an environment in which the social evils of the modern world find it more difficult to grow.

The population in the area for which this Council is responsible has also grown enormously in the post war years. It is therefore fitting that arrangements have been made for the Council to reinforce its contacts with those whom it represents not only through elections on a wider franchise but through the provision of seats for elected councillors on the District Boards in their constituencies. This will improve the access of the Council to the views of those on whose behalf you act and enable you to reflect the needs of the districts in the decisions which you take. It will in turn provide a means by which the policies adopted by the Council can be explained and gain acceptance at District level.

/ Before concluding,

Before concluding, Mr Chairman, I should like to pay tribute to the contribution to the work of the Council which has been made by its members both past and present. There are three still serving, of whom you are one Mr Chairman, whose service stretches over more than two decades. The community is grateful to you all for the contribution you have made. And now the Council welcomes new faces. With them will come, I am sure, new ideas and new perspectives. In the area of your responsibilities it will be your task, and it is a challenging one, to meet the needs of our fast developing urban society and I wish you all every success in it.