



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

CONTENTS -----	PAGE NO. -----
GOVERNMENT IS OPTIMISTIC OVER HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUTURE	1
PRIVATE DEVELOPERS BEING GIVEN NEW INCENTIVE IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT SCHEME	3
MARINE DEPARTMENT STUDYING NEW MOVES TO IMPROVE MARINE TRAFFIC	4
IMPORTANCE OF PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS STRESSED	5
APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE EVENING COURSES	6
WINNERS OF CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTING COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES ON FRIDAY	6
MASSIVE LANTERN PARADE PLANNED IN TAI HANG TUNG ESTATE DURING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	7
WATER SITUATION REPORT	7
GOVERNOR SEES TEXTILE FINISHING INDUSTRY AT WORK	8
TEMPORARY WATER INTERRUPTION IN MONG KOK	8

DAILY GUIDE TO WHOLESALE PRICES AND SUPPLY OF BASIC FOOD
COMMODITIES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 1 -

**GOVERNMENT OPTIMISTIC OVER HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUTURE
MAJOR WORLD SLUMP UNLIKELY, SAYS ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY
* * * * ***

HONG KONG MAY HAVE TO MAKE SOME DIFFICULT ADJUSTMENTS FOR A WHILE IN VIEW OF CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY, BUT THE SITUATION IS FAR FROM DISASTROUS, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR. DEREK JONES, SAID TODAY.

+IT IS MY BELIEF THAT, AS LONG AS THE WORLD ECONOMY AVOIDS A MAJOR SLUMP, EVEN IF THERE HAS TO BE SOME ADJUSTMENTS, HONG KONG WILL WEATHER THE SITUATION AS WELL AS ANY -- AND BETTER THAN MOST,+ HE TOLD A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE LIONS CLUB OF BAYVIEW.

MR. JONES DID NOT BELIEVE THAT A MAJOR WORLD SLUMP WAS GOING TO HAPPEN. +NEVERTHELESS, EVEN IN THIS CATASTROPHY, I BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG WOULD STILL FARE BETTER THAN MOST,+ HE SAID.

HE FELT THAT DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES AND UNCERTAINTIES, COMMONSENSE WOULD PREVAIL AND THAT INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY, WHICH WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO STAVE OFF THE WORLD DEPRESSION OF THE 1930S, WOULD BE EFFECTIVELY BROUGHT INTO PLAY. THE NETWORK OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WAS MUCH MORE DEVELOPED THAN IN THE PRE-WAR DAYS AND REMAINS IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.

MR. JONES POINTED OUT THAT, IF THE WORST HAPPENED, HONG KONG WOULD START FROM A POSITION OF RELATIVE STRENGTH. LAST YEAR, HE NOTED, WAS THE BEST YEAR FOR HONG KONG'S ECONOMY WITH EXPORTS RISING IN VOLUME TERMS BY OVER SEVEN PER CENT AND THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY EIGHT PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE WAS INCREASING AND THERE WAS NO WAGE BOOM. +SO OUR UNDERLYING COMPETITIVE POSITION IMPROVED DURING THE YEAR AND IS STILL IMPROVING.+

HOWEVER, MR. JONES RECOGNISED THAT HONG KONG WAS UNLIKELY TO FIND THE GOING AS EASY AS IN RECENT YEARS, PARTICULARLY IF DEMAND IN OUR CHIEF EXPORT MARKETS IS REDUCED.

+THIS WILL DEMAND SKILL ON THE PART OF OUR MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS -- WITH THE HELP OF SUCH BODIES AS THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION -- TO SEEK OUT BUSINESS WHERE IT CAN BE FOUND, AS WELL AS PATIENCE ON THE PART OF THE PEOPLE TO LIVE THROUGH A PERIOD WHEN LIVING STANDARDS MAY NOT BE GROWING AS FAST AS IN RECENT YEARS,+ HE SAID.

HE EMPHASISED THAT, IN THE SHORT TERM, HONG KONG WOULD HAVE TO OVERCOME ITS DIFFICULTIES THE HARD WAY -- BY SELLING MORE AND BY EARNING ITS WAY OUT OF TROUBLE.

/GIVEN HONG KONG'S

GIVEN HONG KONG'S OPEN ECONOMY AND LACK OF NATURAL RESOURCES, +WE WOULD BE DELUDING OURSELVES TO THINK THAT WE COULD SPEND OUR WAY OUT OF TROUBLE BY TRYING TO REFLATE THE ECONOMY FROM OUR OWN RESOURCES,+ MR. JONES SAID. TO DO SO, WOULD BRING ONLY THE MOST SHORT TERM ADVANTAGE BEFORE A LARGE PART OF THE MONEY FLOWED OUT IN INCREASED SPENDING ON IMPORTS AND THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS. +THAT WAY COULD ONLY LEAD TO BANKRUPTCY.+

GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

FOR ITS PART, THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO STIMULATE INVESTMENTS ON WHICH HONG KONG'S LONG TERM GROWTH DEPENDS.

MR. JONES CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THE GROWING PROGRAMME OF PUBLIC WORKS WHICH, APART FROM PROVIDING A STABLE ELEMENT OF EXPENDITURE WITHIN THE ECONOMY, ALSO HELPS TO DEVELOP THE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY, SUCH AS ROADS, WATER SUPPLIES AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT, AS WELL AS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS LIKE PUBLIC HOUSING, EDUCATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

BEYOND THIS, THE GOVERNMENT IS ALSO WORKING ACTIVELY ON MEANS TO ATTRACT INTO HONG KONG FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN NEW, HIGHER TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES.

+PLANS ARE BEING CONSIDERED TO DEVELOP INDUSTRIAL ESTATES TO ATTRACT BOTH LOCAL AND FOREIGN INVESTMENTS INTO THESE NEW INDUSTRIES,+ MR. JONES SAID. +DISCUSSIONS ARE ALSO PROCEEDING ON THE POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING IN HONG KONG A MAJOR NEW OIL REFINERY AND PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX.+

INVESTMENTS LIKE THESE, HE SAID, WOULD OPEN UP FURTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER INDUSTRIES HERE, AND INTRODUCE A MUCH WIDER RANGE OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW AND EXPERIENCE.

SOME OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, HE SAID, WOULD BE COMING ON STREAM VERY SOON, AND ALL OF THEM WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE.

+THEY WILL, IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL, PROVIDE A MAJOR IMPETUS TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHICH, COUPLED WITH THE GENERAL FLEXIBILITY OF OUR INDUSTRY AND OUR COMPETITIVE STRENGTH, SHOULD ENSURE THAT, WHATEVER SHORT TERM DIFFICULTIES THERE MAY BE, THE FUTURE EXPANSION OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMY AND OF THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE ASSURED.+

NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF THE FULL TEXT OF MR. JONES' SPEECH
----- ARE BOXED FOR COLLECTION.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 3 -

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT IN SHA TIN NEW TOWN ENCOURAGED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING POSITIVE STEPS IN ENCOURAGING PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT IN THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

TENDER DOCUMENTS ARE BEING PREPARED TO INVITE DEVELOPERS TO RECLAIM ABOUT 130 ACRES OF SEABED IN THE SOUTH EASTERN PART OF SHA TIN, 58 ACRES OF WHICH WILL BE RETAINED FOR PRIVATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. THE REMAINDER WILL BE HANDED BACK TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR OTHER USES.

ALSO UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IS THE POSSIBILITY OF OTHER PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SORT IN SHA TIN.

MR. JOHN DON, PROJECT MANAGER OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, WHO DISCLOSED THIS AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB HONG KONG TODAY, SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE NEW TOWN WOULD NOT DEPEND ON GOVERNMENT ALONE.

+IT WILL EQUALLY DEPEND ON A WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF PRIVATE DEVELOPERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS TO TAKE UP THEIR SHARE IN BUILDING PRIVATE HOUSING, SHOPS, OFFICES AND FACTORIES,+ HE SAID.

IN THE MEANTIME, MR. DON POINTED OUT THAT THE PROJECT WAS STILL FACING TWO BASIC ENGINEERING OBSTACLES WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME BEFORE ANY MAJOR DEVELOPMENT COULD PROCEED.

FIRSTLY, TOLO HARBOUR AND SHA TIN HOI WHERE THE NEW TOWN IS TO BE SITED ARE KNOWN TO BE SUBJECT TO TIDAL SURGES DURING TROPICAL CYCLONES. THIS MEANS THAT IF SUCH A SURGE WERE COINCIDENT WITH A HIGH TIDE THEN DISASTROUS FLOODING COULD OCCUR UNLESS LAND IS FORMED AND BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED ABOVE THE MAXIMUM FLOOD WATER LEVEL.

+IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO DECIDE ON THE MINIMUM LEVEL TO WHICH LAND CAN BE FORMED WITHOUT INCURRING AN UNREASONABLE RISK OF FLOODING,+ HE SAID.

AS INSUFFICIENT COMPREHENSIVE RECORDS OF PAST TYPHOON SURGES ARE AVAILABLE TO UNDERTAKE A PRECISE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THIS IMPORTANT MATTER,+ THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOW COMMISSIONED A MODEL STUDY TO EXAMINE THE EFFECT OF TYPHOONS AND FURTHER RECLAMATION ON TOLO HARBOUR AND SHA TIN HOI.+

THE OTHER MAJOR OBSTACLE TO DEVELOPMENT AT SHA TIN, MR. DON SAID, WAS THE PROBLEM OF SEWAGE DISPOSAL ARISING FROM A LARGE POPULATION AND FROM LOCAL INDUSTRY.

+THE PROBLEM IS SOLUBLE BUT AT A HIGH COST IN CAPITAL AND TIME. THE TOTAL CAPITAL COST OF PROVIDING A SATISFACTORY SEWAGE DISPOSAL ARRANGEMENT FOR A TOWN OF HALF A MILLION POPULATION AT SHA TIN WILL EXCEED \$300 MILLION AND REQUIRE FOUR YEARS FOR THE PROVISION OF AN EVEN FIRST STAGE PLANT,+ HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, MR. DON WAS CONFIDENT THAT SHA TIN COULD WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE PROVIDE A VERY SATISFYING ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY, IF THE GOVERNMENT WERE GIVEN THE NECESSARY SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 4 -
MORE DEEP-DRAFTED SHIPS VISITING HONG KONG
METHODS OF IMPROVING MARINE TRAFFIC UNDER STUDY

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND THE PORT ADVISORY COMMITTEES ARE STUDYING METHODS OF IMPROVING THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC IN HONG KONG WATERS AND THE POSSIBLE PROVISION OF RADAR AND TELEVISION SURVEILLANCE.

DISCLOSING THIS TODAY, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR. MALCOLM ALEXANDER, SAID: +THIS HAS NOW BECOME NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING NUMBER OF DEEP-DRAFTED AND SPECIALISED SHIPS CALLING AT THE PORT.+

MR. ALEXANDER WAS SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SHIPBROKERS.

REFERRING TO THE PORT OF VICTORIA, HE SAID IT WAS ONE OF THE BUSIEST MAJOR PORTS IN THE WORLD.

IN TERMS OF LOCAL MARINE TRAFFIC DENSITY, HE ADDED, IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY WIN THE CUP. +THIS IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT DURING 1973 NO LESS THAN 216 MILLION PEOPLE WERE TRANSPORTED BY LOCAL FERRIES IN HONG KONG WATERS AND AT ANY ONE TIME THERE WERE A HUNDRED OCEAN-GOING SHIPS AND ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND LOCAL CRAFT UNDERWAY OR WORKING WITHIN HARBOUR LIMITS.+

IN TERMS OF TONNAGE OF SHIPPING HANDLED, CARGO THROUGHPUT AND PASSENGERS TRANSPORTED, MR. ALEXANDER SAID, IT WAS PROBABLY THE EIGHTH LARGEST PORT IN THE WORLD.

APART FROM THESE, IT HAS THE ENVIABLE REPUTATION OF HAVING THE FASTEST TURN-ROUND TIME FOR SHIPS IN THE FAR EAST.

ON THE MOVEMENTS OF CONVENTIONAL AND CONTAINERISED CARGO, MR. ALEXANDER SAID A SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IN JANUARY THIS YEAR SHOWED THAT DURING 1973 JUST OVER 4-1/4 MILLION LONG TONS OF CARGO WAS MOVED IN NEARLY HALF A MILLION CONTAINERS, REPRESENTING JUST OVER 40 PER CENT OF ALL DRY CARGO MOVEMENTS.

THE SURVEY ALSO REVEALED THAT ALTHOUGH 469 FEWER SHIPS CALLED AT THE PORT DURING THE YEAR, COMPARED WITH 1972, TOTAL CARGO THROUGHPUT INCREASED BY 8.2 PER CENT AND HARBOUR BUOYAGE OCCUPANCY DECREASED BY A MERE 3.6 PER CENT.

THIS INDICATED THAT DURING LAST YEAR FEWER BUT LARGER CONVENTIONAL SHIPS CALLED AT THE PORT AND BUOY BERTHS WERE OCCUPIED FOR LONGER PERIODS THAN PREVIOUSLY.

MR. ALEXANDER SAID THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY MERELY INDICATED A POSSIBLE TREND AS THE PERIOD OF REVIEW WAS VERY SHORT.

HOWEVER, HE SAID A FURTHER REVIEW AT THE END OF THIS YEAR WOULD PROVIDE A MORE MEANINGFUL INDICATION OF THE FUTURE OF THE PORT OF HONG KONG AS A LIGHTERAGE AND BUOYAGE PORT.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 5 -

MORE TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS NEEDED

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PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED WORKERS ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR ANY PROJECT OR SERVICE TO BE OF THE UTMOST BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID TODAY.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON WEST, HE SAID LITTLE ATTENTION WAS PAID TO THE FACT THAT APART FROM BUILDINGS AND MONEY FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS WERE ALSO NEEDED TO CARRY OUT THE WELFARE WORK.

SOCIAL WORK, HE EXPLAINED, NOT ONLY INCLUDED RELIEF WORK AFTER DISASTERS AND FINANCIAL AID TO THE POOR AND AGED, BUT ALSO DEALING WITH MANY OTHER FACETS OF HUMAN PROBLEMS RELATING TO FAMILIES, CHILD WELFARE, REHABILITATION, PROBATION, YOUTH WORK AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

SOCIAL WORKERS HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE EMOTIONS OF THEIR CLIENTS - THEY HAVE TO HELP PEOPLE ON EVERY LEVEL TO TRUST AND CO-OPERATE WITH ONE ANOTHER AND THEY MUST KNOW THE ECONOMY, CUSTOM AND CULTURE OF THEIR COMMUNITY THOROUGHLY, HE SAID.

IF GOOD SERVICES WERE TO BE PROVIDED THERE HAD TO BE PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS, HE STRESSED.

THERE WERE FOUR SOURCES IN HONG KONG WHERE SUCH TRAINING WAS AVAILABLE - THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING, AND THE BAPTIST COLLEGE.

MR. LEE SAID VACANCIES STILL EXISTED WITHIN THE SOCIAL WELFARE FIELD. ACCORDING TO THE INITIAL ESTIMATES IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FROM 1973-1978, HIS DEPARTMENT MIGHT NEED SOME 600 STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, ASSISTANT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, AND WELFARE ASSISTANT GRADES. CORRESPONDINGLY, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES MAY NEED SOME 800 STAFF OF EQUIVALENT GRADES.

TURNING TO ANOTHER TYPE OF SOCIAL WORKER, THE VOLUNTARY WORKER, MR. LEE SAID THEY ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS FIELD TAKING PART IN THE PLANNING OF WORK OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND ALSO PROVIDING DIRECT SERVICES ON MANY OCCASIONS.

HE NOTED THAT APART FROM FORMAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING, HONG KONG SOCIAL WORKERS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN SOCIAL WORK SEMINARS, BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS, ENABLING THE STANDARD OF WORK HERE TO COMPARE FAVOURABLY WITH THAT OF ADVANCED COUNTRIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF MR. LEE'S SPEECH ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE GIS PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 6 -

EVENING COURSES AT MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
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THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR A NUMBER OF EVENING SHORT COURSES FOR THE 1974/75 SESSION.

THE COURSES ARE : PERSPECTIVE DRAWING I, R.C. DETAILING, CONCRETE PRODUCTION, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, COMPUTER FOR BEGINNERS, COMPUTER SYSTEM ANALYSIS AND PROGRAMMING, APPLIED PNEUMATIC CONTROL TO ENGINEERING, AND VIDEO TAPE RECORDER.

THE COURSES WILL LAST FROM A MINIMUM OF 14 HOURS TO 40 HOURS. THEY WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CHINESE EXCEPT FOR THE COMPUTER AND PNEUMATIC CONTROL COURSES, WHICH ARE CONDUCTED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE. TUITION FEES RANGE FROM \$20 TO \$40.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED IN PERSON FROM THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AT 6 OI KWAN ROAD, WANCHAI, FROM TODAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FIRMS INTENDING TO SPONSOR THEIR EMPLOYEES FOR SUCH COURSES MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS BY TELEPHONING THE INSTITUTE ON TEL. NO. 5-745321 EXT. 30.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE STARTING DATES OF THE RESPECTIVE COURSES.

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ART COMPETITION PRIZE-GIVING
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WINNERS OF A CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTING COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE WILL RECEIVE THEIR PRIZES AT A CEREMONY LATER THIS WEEK.

AMONG THE SIX SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE'S CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL COMMITTEE, THIS WAS THE MOST POPULAR AS IT ENABLED YOUNG PEOPLE TO SHOW THEIR TALENTS.

THE COMPETITION ATTRACTED 603 ENTRIES FROM WHICH 71 WERE CHOSEN. OF THESE, PRIZES WERE AWARDED TO THE TOP 16.

THE ENTRIES SELECTED ARE ON DISPLAY AT THE CENTRE WHERE THE CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (SEPT. 20) STARTING AT 3 P.M.

SOME 250 GUESTS, INCLUDING HEADMASTERS AND STUDENTS OF SCHOOLS WHICH PARTICIPATED IN THE COMPETITION WILL ATTEND.

NOTE TO EDITORS: MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE OCCASION.

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17

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 7 -

MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL TREAT
FOR TAI HANG TUNG RESIDENTS

RESIDENTS OF THE TAI HANG TUNG HOUSING ESTATE IN KOWLOON ARE IN FOR A TREAT LATER THIS MONTH WHEN THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL IS CELEBRATED.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY CENTRE IN THE AREA IS ORGANISING A LANTERN PARADE TO BE HELD WITHIN THE ESTATE ON THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 28 TO MARK THE FESTIVAL.

IT IS PLANNED TO HAVE 1,000 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PARADE. THOSE WISHING TO TAKE PART SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CENTRE LOCATED IN TONG YAM STREET, TAI HANG TUNG, BEFORE SEPTEMBER 27.

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS. THEY WILL HAVE TO BRING THEIR OWN LANTERNS BUT WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH TWO CANDLES EACH.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PARADE, THE CENTRE IS ALSO HOLDING A LANTERN-MAKING COMPETITION. THE CHOICE OF MATERIALS WILL BE LEFT TO THE ENTRANTS WHO SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR LANTERNS TO THE COMMUNITY CENTRE BY SEPTEMBER 25. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE THREE BEST ONES AND ALL LANTERNS WILL BE RETURNED BEFORE THE PARADE STARTS.

IN THE PARADE THE CHILDREN WILL START OFF FROM THE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN GROUPS, EACH ACCOMPANIED BY 10 VOLUNTEERS, AND WILL PASS THROUGH AND AROUND THE 14 BLOCKS OF THE ESTATE BEFORE RETURNING TO THE CENTRE. THE PARADE WILL BEGIN AT 8.30 P.M. AND WILL LAST AN HOUR.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (WEDNESDAY) STOOD AT 36,616 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 54.4 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 65,984 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 27,976 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 50,273 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 55.4 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

4.4 MM (0.17 IN) OF RAINFALL WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS ENDING AT 9 A.M. TODAY. TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,362.1 MM (53.63 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 1,881.0 MM (74.06 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 27.6 PER CENT.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

- 8 -

GOVERNOR SEES TEXTILE FINISHING INDUSTRY AT WORK

THE PRODUCTION OF FINISHED FABRICS FOR USE IN HONG KONG'S GARMENT INDUSTRY WAS VIEWED AT CLOSE QUARTERS BY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, TODAY WHEN HE VISITED A BIG TEXTILE FACTORY AT TSUEN WAN.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. DAVID JORDAN, HE MADE A SHOP-FLOOR TOUR OF THE MANUFACTURING FACILITIES AT THE CHINA DYEING WORKS, CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

DURING THE PAST 25 YEARS THE COMPANY HAS DEVELOPED FROM A SMALL CONCERN EMPLOYING ABOUT 60 WORKERS INTO A GROUP ENTERPRISE WHICH HAS A LOCAL LABOUR FORCE OF MORE THAN 1,000 AND A PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF SEVEN TO EIGHT MILLION YARDS OF FABRICS A MONTH.

AS WELL AS TWO SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES IN HONG KONG -- WHICH ALLOW A COMPLETE VERTICAL LINE OF PRODUCTION FROM YARN TO GARMENT -- THE GROUP HAS MANUFACTURING PLANTS OVERSEAS.

PLANS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP TO ESTABLISH A NEW FACTORY IN HONG KONG TO WIDEN LOCAL PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES. THIS WOULD PROVIDE JOBS FOR ANOTHER 300 WORKERS.

SIR MURRAY WAS SHOWN ROUND THE TSUEN WAN FACTORY BY MR. CHA CHI-MING, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF CHINA DYEING WORKS LTD. THE PARTY ALSO INCLUDE OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE COMPANY AND MR. K.H. YEUNG, FROM THE COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

STATISTICS COMPILED EARLIER THIS YEAR SHOWED THAT A TOTAL OF 436 LOCAL CONCERNS WERE ENGAGED IN THE TEXTILE FINISHING INDUSTRY. THE LABOUR FORCE TOTALLED 13,429, ACCOUNTING FOR OVER 14 PER CENT OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE FIELD.

THE FINISHING SECTOR PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN HONG KONG'S EXPORT DRIVE, SUPPLYING FABRICS FOR USE IN LOCAL GARMENT-MAKING FACTORIES. EXPORT EARNINGS FROM CLOTHING LAST YEAR TOTALLED \$7,454 MILLION, ACCOUNTING FOR 38 PER CENT OF OVERALL DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

SOME FINISHED FABRICS ARE ALSO EXPORTED . OVERSEAS SALES LAST YEAR WERE VALUED AT MORE THAN \$800 MILLION, AND THE MAIN MARKETS WERE AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, BRITAIN, TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE.

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WATER CUT

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONG KOK WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR FIVE HOURS ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 20) STARTING FROM 1 A.M.

THE TEMPORARY STOPPAGE IS TO FACILITATE A TEST FOR LEAKAGE IN THE AREA.

AFFECTED WILL BE PREMISES BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, DUNDAS STREET, SHANGHAI STREET AND SHAN TUNG STREET.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

GRADE OF RICE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE
CHINA RICE		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	GOOD	-
CHU CHO	GOOD	-
THAI RICE		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.82
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.74
A1 : SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 : SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.75
U.S. RICE		
	GOOD	1.97
AUSTRALIAN RICE		
	GOOD	1.74
PAKISTAN RICE		
	GOOD	-
TAIWAN RICE		
	GOOD	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE (ALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORKER (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)
GOOD	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(CFMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	GOOD	3.00	1.20	2.20
BIG-EYES	GOOD	2.70	0.30	1.60
SQUID	NORMAL	3.00	0.50	1.80
HAIR-TAILS	GOOD	1.20	0.35	0.80
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	2.60	0.30	1.10
CROAKERS	NORMAL	1.20	0.25	0.70
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	NORMAL	2.20	0.80	1.40
MELON COAT	LIMITED	1.50	0.90	1.10
BREAMS	NORMAL	4.80	2.50	3.50
YELLOW BELLY	GOOD	1.20	0.55	0.80
MACKERELS	NORMAL	4.50	1.20	3.20
RED GOAT FISH	NORMAL	1.20	0.40	0.70
FORK-TAIL	---	---	---	---
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	5.30	2.00	3.80
MELON SEED	LIMITED	1.50	0.55	1.00
POMFRETS	NORMAL	8.00	5.00	6.50
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	7.20	4.70	6.00
YELLOW CROAKER	SCARCE	5.80	2.50	4.00

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICES (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	2.00	0.80	1.40
WHITE CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.20	0.40	0.80
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.50	0.50	1.20
WATER SPINACH	NORMAL	0.70	0.15	0.40
CHINESE KALE	SCARCE	2.00	0.80	1.40
STRING BEANS	LIMITED	2.00	0.50	1.40
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.60	0.40	1.00
SPINACH	---	---	---	---
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	4.20	2.50	3.50
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.20	0.40	0.80
CHINESE SPINACH	NORMAL	0.90	0.30	0.60
TOMATO	SCARCE	5.00	2.00	3.50