



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
TWO NEW COINS WILL BE PUT INTO CIRCULATION IN AUGUST.	1
SAME ALLOWANCES WILL BE APPLIED TO PEOPLE WHOSE WATER CONSUMPTION IS MEASURED BY COMMUNAL METERS	2
ACAN REPORT FOR 1973-74 PUBLISHED	3
GOVERNOR TO OPEN SYMPOSIUM ON PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE ON MONDAY	4
ANOTHER ANTI-POLIO CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT	5
COMMANDER OF BRITISH FORCES TAKES SALUTE AT FIREMEN'S PASSING OUT PARADE	6
SITE FORMATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR COMPLETED	7
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE EXPECTED TO VISIT GOVERNMENT HOUSE GARDENS ON SUNDAY	7
HONG KONG DELEGATION TO ESCAP PLENARY SESSION RETURNING TOMORROW	8
KAU U FONG PLAYSTREET SCHEME TO BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS	8
TWO RECREATION CENTRES IN SHAUKIWAN REOPENING	9
PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SECONDARY SCHOOLS PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN EDUCATION	10
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION ATTENDS CENTENARY OPEN DAY OF ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE	11

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 1 -

NEW COINS TO BE INTRODUCED IN AUGUST

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THE FIRST COINS IN THE PHASED PROGRAMME OF A NEW COINAGE RANGE -- THE \$2 AND THE 20-CENT COINS -- WILL BE PUT INTO CIRCULATION IN AUGUST ON SCHEDULE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE FIRST BATCH OF NEW COINS WAS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO WITH SUBSEQUENT SHIPMENTS TO FOLLOW, BUILDING UP TO A SUFFICIENT SUPPLY IN AUGUST.

THE NEW \$2 AND 20-CENT COINS ARE SLIGHTLY SMALLER THAN THE EXISTING \$1 AND 10-CENT COINS, AND THEY HAVE A DISTINCTIVE SHAPE INCORPORATING SCALLOPED EDGES TO MAKE THEM EASILY RECOGNISABLE.

COMMENTING ON THE SHAPE OF THE NEW COINS, THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED A POINT RECOMMENDED BY THE COINAGE REVIEW COMMITTEE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ADD NEW ROUND COINS TO THE EXISTING RANGE WITHOUT CAUSING CONFUSION.

ON THE OBERSE SIDE OF THE COIN IS A PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN BY MR. ARNOLD MACHIN, OBE, RA. THE CREST OF THE ARMORIAL BEARING ON THE REVERSE SIDE REMAINS UNCHANGED. THE CREST CONSISTS OF A ROYAL LION OF THE IMPERIAL CROWN HOLDING A PEARL, INDICATING THE SMALL BUT PRECIOUS NATURE OF HONG KONG.

ANOTHER DISTINCTIVE FEATURE OF THE NEW COINS IS THE WAY IN WHICH THE WORDS +QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND+ IS PLACED ON THE SIDE BEARING THE PORTRAIT. ON THE PRESENT \$1 AND 10-CENT COINS THE WORDS START ON A LEVEL WITH THE CROWN AND RUN FROM RIGHT TO LEFT UNDER THE PORTRAIT. ON THE TWO NEW COINS, THE SAME WORDING APPEARS BUT RUNS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PRICES OF COPPER AND NICKEL ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN THE TOTAL COST OF PRODUCING COINS, AND THE ACTUAL COST WILL NOT THEREFORE BE KNOWN UNTIL DELIVERY COMMENCES. BUT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT WHEN THE NEW RANGE OF COINS HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IT WILL RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ANNUAL SAVINGS.

OTHER NEW COINS SCHEDULED IN THE PHASED PROGRAMME ARE NEW \$1 COINS IN 1976 AND 50-CENT AND \$5 COINS IN 1977.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE TWO NEW COINS WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION TODAY.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 2 -

COMMUNAL WATER METERS : SAME ALLOWANCES APPLIED
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THE GOVERNMENT POINTED OUT TODAY THAT THE BUDGET PROPOSALS ON WATER CHARGES CONTAIN NO ELEMENT OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE WHOSE WATER CONSUMPTION IS MEASURED BY COMMUNAL METERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATERWORKS OFFICE SAID THAT SOME PEOPLE APPEARED TO BE UNAWARE THAT IN CALCULATING CHARGES FOR CONSUMPTION UNDER A COMMUNAL METER THE BILLING AUTHORITY DOES AND WILL DO THE FOLLOWING THINGS :-

- * IT TAKES COUNT OF THE NUMBER OF FLATS WHOSE SUPPLIES COME UNDER THE METER.
- * IT APPLIES THE FREE ALLOWANCE OF 2,666 GALLONS IN A FOUR-MONTH BILLING BY MULTIPLYING THIS FIGURE BY THE NUMBER OF FLATS INVOLVED.
- * IT WILL SIMILARLY APPLY THE PRINCIPLE OF UNCHANGED CHARGES FOR CONSUMPTION OF UP TO 14,000 GALLONS IN A FOUR-MONTH PERIOD BY MULTIPLYING THAT FIGURE BY THE NUMBER OF FLATS INVOLVED.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN A BUILDING WITH 10 FLATS THE FREE SUPPLY IN A FOUR-MONTH PERIOD WOULD BE : $2,666 \times 10 = 26,660$ GALLONS. THE CONSUMPTION CHARGED AT THE UNCHANGED RATE OF \$3 PER UNIT OF 1,000 GALLONS WOULD BE : $14,000 \times 10 = 140,000$ GALLONS. ONLY CONSUMPTION ABOVE THIS FIGURE WOULD BE CHARGED AT THE HIGHER RATE OF \$6 PER 1,000 GALLONS.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE NUMBER OF COMMUNAL METERS STILL IN EXISTENCE WAS A SMALL PROPORTION OF ALL DOMESTIC METERS - ABOUT 30,000 OUT OF 580,000 - AND THAT IT WAS STEADILY DECREASING AS COMMUNAL METERS ARE REPLACED BY INDIVIDUAL ONES.

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/3

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 3 -

ACAN REPORT FOR 1973-74 PUBLISHED

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THERE ARE MORE DRUG ADDICTS IN THE 25-29 AND 40-64 AGE GROUPS AND LEAST IN THE 15-19 AGE BRACKET IN HONG KONG.

THIS FINDING WAS COMPILED FROM RETURNS COVERING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1, 1972 TO MARCH 31, 1973 RECEIVED BY THE CENTRAL REGISTER OF DRUG ADDICTS OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN).

OTHER FINDINGS, REVEALED IN THE ACAN 1973-74 REPORT PUBLISHED TODAY ARE:

- * THERE WERE ABOUT 50 MALE ADDICTS TO 1 FEMALE ADDICT, ALTHOUGH THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SEXES IN THE GENERAL POPULATION IS ABOUT EQUAL=
- * ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF ALL DIVORCED OR SEPARATED PERSONS APPEAR TO BE DRUG ADDICTS=
- * SIXTY PERCENT OF ADDICTS LIVED IN TEMPORARY STRUCTURES OF SHARED LIVING QUARTERS=
- * THERE WAS NO STRONG EVIDENCE THAT ADDICTION WAS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY PARTICULAR OCCUPATION=
- * TWO-THIRDS OF ALL ADDICTS CLAIMED THEY HAD NEVER COMMITTED ANY NON-DRUG OFFENCES=
- * OF THOSE WHO HAD COMMITTED NON-DRUG OFFENCES, TWO-THIRDS WERE INVOLVED IN OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY= AND
- * HEROIN ADDICTS, ESPECIALLY YOUNGER ONES, WERE MORE WILLING TO ATTEND TREATMENT.

WHILE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES IN HONG KONG ARE OF A HIGH STANDARD, THE REPORT NOTED, THEY ARE NOT YET LARGE ENOUGH TO CATER FOR THE NUMBER OF ADDICTS IN HONG KONG, ESTIMATED TO BE AS MUCH AS 100,000.

DURING THE YEAR REPORTED, 6,387 PATIENTS, INCLUDING 262 WOMEN, WERE TREATED BY THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT, THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ADDICTS AND THE DISCHARGED PRISONERS' AID SOCIETY.

/A THREE-YEAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 4 -

A THREE-YEAR METHADONE MAINTENANCE PILOT PROJECT, AIMED AT ASCERTAINING THE VALUE OF THE THERAPY BEFORE PLANNING FOR MASS TREATMENT, WAS STARTED IN DECEMBER 1972. THE LESSONS LEARNT SO FAR HAD BEEN ENCOURAGING, THE REPORT SAID. BESIDES OTHER PUBLICITY MEASURES TO SPREAD THE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE, THE ACTION COMMITTEE LAUNCHED A THREE-MONTH PILOT PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN IN TSUEN WAN IN OCTOBER 1973.

A RESEARCH COMPANY LATER HELPED TO PINPOINT THE TYPE OF PUBLICITY WHICH HAD THE GREATEST IMPACT, AND EXPERIENCE THUS OBTAINED WOULD BE USED IN THE PLANNING OF FUTURE CAMPAIGNS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF THE ACAN REPORT WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION TODAY.

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GOVERNOR TO OPEN SYMPOSIUM ON PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE
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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, WILL DECLARE OPEN A SYMPOSIUM ON PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE AT THE CITY HALL ON MONDAY (MARCH 3) AT 9.30 AM.

AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, DR. H.P. ROME, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION, WILL ALSO ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

THE SYMPOSIUM, SPONSORED JOINTLY BY THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION, IS THE FIRST ON PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE EVER HELD IN HONG KONG.

OVER 200 DELEGATES FROM MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES WILL ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM, WHICH WILL LAST FOR THREE DAYS.

THERE WILL BE SIX SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS, DURING WHICH BOTH FOREIGN AND LOCAL EXPERTS IN THE RESPECTIVE FIELDS WILL PRESENT OVER 30 PAPERS ON PSYCHOSOMATIC SUBJECTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE SYMPOSIUM THAT THE PRESS IS WELCOME TO THE OPENING CEREMONY ON MONDAY AT 9.30 AM BUT THEY MAY NOT BE PRESENT AT THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME OF THE SYMPOSIUM.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 5 -

ANTI-POLIO CAMPAIGN

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THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY LAUNCHED ANOTHER MONTH-LONG ANTI-POLIO CAMPAIGN TO +MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF IMMUNITY AGAINST THE DISEASE+.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH POLIOMYELITIS HAD NOW BEEN VIRTUALLY ELIMINATED SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VACCINE IN 1963, THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY.

HE FELT THAT DESPITE THIS GREATLY IMPROVED SITUATION, POLIOMYELITIS STILL POSED A THREAT TO THE COMMUNITY.

THE CURRENT DRIVE IS THE SECOND IN THE DEPARTMENT'S 1975 ANTI-POLIO CAMPAIGN PROGRAMME, THE FIRST BEING IN JANUARY WHEN 26,390 DOSES OF THE VACCINE WERE ADMINISTERED. OF THE TOTAL, 6,927 WERE FIRST-DOSE, 9,228 SECOND-DOSE, 10,775 BOOSTER-DOSE.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT FOR A CHILD TO BE IMMUNISED THREE DOSES OF VACCINE WERE REQUIRED WITH AN EIGHT-WEEK INTERVAL BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND DOSES. A THIRD DOSE SHOULD BE TAKEN A YEAR LATER.

THROUGHOUT THIS MONTH, POLIO VACCINE IS AVAILABLE AT ALL GOVERNMENT MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES, INOCULATION POSTS AND GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINICS.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED PARENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE FACILITIES AND TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN IMMUNISED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT POLIO VACCINE WAS, IN FACT, AVAILABLE FREE AT ALL MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES AND INOCULATION POSTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, AND THE CAMPAIGNS CARRIED OUT EACH YEAR WERE INTENDED TO REMIND PARENTS OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE VACCINE SO THAT THEY COULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SERVICE.

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/6

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 6 -

C.B.F. TAKES SALUTE AT
FIREMEN'S PASSING OUT PARADE
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THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR EDWIN BRAMALL, TOLD FIREMEN TAKING PART IN A PASSING-OUT PARADE TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THEY HAD CHOSEN A FINE JOB AND A FINE WAY OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY.

THE C.B.F. WAS ADDRESSING 100 FIREMEN WHO HAVE JUST COMPLETED A 26-WEEK INITIAL TRAINING COURSE AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE SAID: +YOU HAVE CHOSEN A FINE JOB AND A FINE WAY OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY - NOT AN EASY OR SAFE AND QUIET JOB, AND ALL CREDIT TO YOU FOR CHOOSING SOMETHING ADVENTUROUS- BUT A JOB THAT WILL REQUIRE ALL YOUR STRENGTH, INITIATIVE, COURAGE AND COOL-HEADEDNESS.+

SIR EDWIN TOLD THE FIREMEN THEY WOULD FIND THEMSELVES IN MANY EMERGENCIES - TURNED OUT AT SHORT NOTICE FROM THEIR MEAL TABLES AND BEDS - AND THEY COULD EXPECT TO HAVE TO FACE DANGER AND BE TIRED, HOT AND WET IN THE SUMMER, COLD AND WET IN THE WINTER.

+BUT YOU WILL HAVE THE SATISFACTION OF KNOWING THAT YOU ARE SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND HELPING TO SAVE LIVES AND PROPERTY,+ HE SAID.

HE RECALLED THAT, LAST YEAR, THE FIRE SERVICE WAS CALLED UPON NO LESS THAN 12,052 TIMES AND SAID: +THE FIRE SERVICE NEEDS YOU BADLY, AND I CONGRATULATE YOU ON BEING SELECTED FOR THIS FINE SERVICE AND FOR YOUR SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE OF BASIC TRAINING.+

GENERAL BRAMALL ALSO SENT HIS +GOOD WISHES+ TO THE SENIOR COURSE OF OFFICERS AND AMBULANCE MEN AT PRESENT ATTENDING ADVANCED COURSES AT THE TRAINING SCHOOL. +AND I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT, TOO, TO THE RECRUIT OFFICERS ON PARADE,+ HE SAID. +YOUR COURSE IS A TOUGH ONE AND YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO WITH IT, BUT IF YOU WORK HARD AT YOUR STUDY AND YOUR DRILLS, ALL 19 OF YOU WILL BE PASSING OUT IN A FEW MONTHS' TIME AND I WILL LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING ABOUT THAT.+

GENERAL BRAMALL INSPECTED THE PARADE AND TOOK THE SALUTE DURING THE MARCH PAST. HE LATER WATCHED THE NEWLY QUALIFIED FIREMEN GIVE A FIREFIGHTING DEMONSTRATION.

THE PARADE WAS THE 20TH TO BE HELD SINCE THE TRAINING SCHOOL FIRST OPENED IN 1968. IT WAS COMMANDED BY MR. P.N. BUCKINGHAM, ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICER. MUSIC FOR THE PARADE WAS PROVIDED BY THE BAND OF BRIGADE OF GURKHAS.

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/7

CONSTRUCTION OF KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR

THE KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR -- PROBABLY THE LARGEST AND MOST MODERN IN ASIA AND SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR LOCAL CONDITIONS OF EXTREME HIGH MOISTURE CONTENT IN THE REFUSE -- WILL SOON TAKE SHAPE ON THE RECLAMATION AT GIN DRINKER'S BAY.

SITE FORMATION HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND FIRMS OF INTERNATIONAL STANDING ARE BEING INVITED TO BE INCLUDED IN A SELECTED TENDER LIST FOR THE SUPPLY AND FABRICATION OF THE SUPERSTRUCTURE.

MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA, CONSULTING ENGINEERS COMMISSIONED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, HAVE DESIGNED AND WILL SUPERVISE THE PROJECT, WHICH WILL REQUIRE SOME 3,000 TONS OF FABRICATED STEELWORK.

ANOTHER MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT WAS SIGNED IN NOVEMBER, 1973.

WHEN FULLY OPERATIONAL BY LATE 1978, THE KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE 900 TONS OF REFUSE A DAY AND, IF REQUIRED, UP TO 1,200 TONS A DAY.

IT IS DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE HEAT PRODUCED BY THE BURNING REFUSE CAN BE USED TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY WHICH IN TURN WILL OPERATE THE INCINERATION PLANT.

GASES PRODUCED WILL BE DISPERSED AT A HIGH LEVEL, WHILE DUST EMISSION WILL BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM BY HIGH-EFFICIENCY DUST EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT.

THE INCINERATOR WILL NORMALLY OPERATE 24 HOURS A DAY AND WILL GREATLY HELP TOWARDS DISPOSING THE GROWING VOLUME OF DAILY REFUSE.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE GROUNDS OPENING TO PUBLIC TOMORROW

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE VISITING THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE GARDENS TOMORROW (SUNDAY) ARE REMINDED TO ENTER THE GROUNDS BY THE MAIN GATE AND LEAVE BY THE EAST GATE TO AVOID INCONVENIENCE TO OTHERS.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO VISIT THE GARDENS WHICH WILL BE OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM.

THEY WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPRECIATE THE BEAUTIFUL AZALEAS IN FULL BLOOM AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR.

SCOUTS AND POLICEMEN WILL BE PRESENT, AND VISITORS ARE REQUESTED TO COOPERATE WITH THEM TO AVOID OVERCROWDING.

VISITORS ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE HOUSE ITSELF.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 8 -

H.K. DELEGATION TO ESCAP PLENARY SESSION RETURNING

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MR. T.K. ANN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, WHO IS LEADING A HONG KONG DELEGATION TO THE 31ST ESCAP PLENARY SESSION, WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON SUNDAY (MARCH 2) BY PA FLIGHT 002, ETA 1800 HOURS.

ON ARRIVAL HE WILL MEET THE PRESS AT THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM.

RETURNING WITH MR. ANN WILL BE ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION, MR. JIMMY MCGREGOR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR. D.J.C. JONES, WILL TAKE THEIR PLACE FOR THE REMAINING PART OF THE SESSION.

THE 31ST ANNUAL PLENARY SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) OPENED LAST WEDNESDAY IN NEW DELHI AND WILL LAST UNTIL FRIDAY, MARCH 7.

THE REGION'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ITS PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED AT THE ANNUAL SESSION.

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EXTENSION OF PLAYSTREET SCHEME

THE EXPERIMENTAL PLAYSTREET SCHEME IN WHICH KAU U FONG IN CENTRAL IS TURNED INTO A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS HAS PROVED SO POPULAR THAT IT IS BEING EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS, MR. BERNARD MUI, THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR THE DISTRICT SAID TODAY.

MR. MUI SAID THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION WHICH HAD BEEN PROVIDING EQUIPMENT AND ORGANISING ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN IN THE AREA DURING THE INITIAL THREE-MONTH TRIAL PERIOD, HAS AGREED TO CONTINUE DOING SO WHEN THE SCHEME STARTS AGAIN ON SUNDAY, MARCH 2 AT 2 P.M.

THE ASSOCIATION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHEME, HE SAID, HAD BEEN ONE OF THE MAIN FACTORS FOR MAKING THE PLAYSTREET SO POPULAR WITH THE CHILDREN.

THE KAU U FONG PLAYSTREET SCHEME WAS BEGUN ON OCTOBER 13, 1974 WHEN THE STREET, WHICH IS LITTLE USED BY TRAFFIC AT WEEKENDS, WAS TURNED INTO A CHILDREN'S PRECINCT IN AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE MORE RECREATION SPACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING IN THE VICINITY.

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/9

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 9 -

RECREATION CENTRES IN SHAUKIWAN REOPENED

YOUTHS AND VILLAGERS OF THE HOLY CROSS PATH VILLAGE AND SHING ON VILLAGE IN SHAUKIWAN MAY ONCE MORE SPEND THEIR LEISURE TIMES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE RECREATION CENTRES.

SOME MONTHS AGO STAFF OF CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN) CAME TO KNOW THAT THE RECREATION CENTRE IN HOLY CROSS PATH VILLAGE WAS BADLY DAMAGED BY RUTHLESS YOUNGSTERS, AND THAT THE RECREATION CENTRE IN SHING ON VILLAGE NEEDED BRUSHING-UP AND ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT.

THE ROTARY CLUB (EAST) HONG KONG HAD GENEROUSLY DONATED A SUM OF OVER \$40,000 FOR THE REPAIRING AND RE-EQUIPPING OF THE TWO RECREATION CENTRES.

THE RECONSTRUCTION WORK STARTED ON THE JANUARY 2 THIS YEAR AND WAS COMPLETED RECENTLY.

TO COPE WITH FUTURE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OF THE TWO CENTRES, THE SHAUKIWAN SUB-OFFICE OF THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE (EASTERN) HAS INITIATED THE ORGANISATION OF A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, COMPRISING OF EXECUTIVES OF THE WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS OF THE TWO VILLAGES INVOLVED, LOCAL VOLUNTEERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

ABOUT 40 LOCAL VOLUNTEERS ARE NOW ATTENDING TRAINING COURSES GIVEN BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SO AS TO PROMOTE BETTER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES UPON THE RE-OPENING OF THE TWO CENTRES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE RE-OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TWO CENTRES WILL TAKE PLACE TOMORROW (SUNDAY) AT 3.00 PM. MR. STEPHEN Y.S. HO, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (EASTERN) WILL OFFICIATE THE CEREMONY.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT.

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PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SECONDARY SCHOOLS
PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN EDUCATION

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PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG HAVE AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY IN PROVIDING SCHOOL PLACES - NOT ONLY THROUGH THE BOUGHT PLACES SCHEME FOR THOSE PUPILS WHO HAVE BEEN AWARDED A GOVERNMENT ASSISTED PLACE, BUT ALSO AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SCHOOL PLACES PROVIDED WITH GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY AT THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION THIS EVENING.

MR. TOPLEY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THEIR PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG AND URGED THEM TO KEEP ABREAST OF NEW IDEAS ON CURRICULUM CONTENT AND TEACHING METHODS - +IN OTHER WORDS A WILLINGNESS TO EXPERIMENT AND TO MOVE WITH THE TIMES.+

+THESE TWO COMPLEMENTARY ROLES OF QUANTITY AND QUALITY WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH A STIMULATING CHALLENGE WHICH I AM SURE YOU WILL ACCEPT,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

IN ORDER TO IMPROVE AND TO KEEP COMPETITIVE, PRIVATE SCHOOLS WOULD OFFER A HIGHER STANDARD OF EDUCATION TO THEIR PUPILS, HE SAID.

THIS WAS ALL TO THE GOOD BECAUSE THE ULTIMATE AIM OF ANY EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON THE WELFARE, DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF ITS PUPILS.

+IN DOING THIS,+ HE SAID, +YOU WILL ALSO HELP TO SWEEP AWAY MANY OF THE MISCONCEPTIONS THAT ARE HELD BY THE PUBLIC ABOUT PRIVATE SCHOOLS.+

THE DIRECTOR HOPED THAT HIS MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION WOULD RESULT IN A VALUABLE EXCHANGE OF FACTS AND IDEAS WHICH WOULD HELP TO IMPROVE EDUCATION IN HONG KONG IN GENERAL, AND THE PRIVATE ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS IN PARTICULAR.

+WITH A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN US WE STAND A GOOD CHANCE OF RECOGNISING, ANALYSING AND SOLVING OUR MUTUAL PROBLEMS,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN DIRECTING A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ITS EFFORTS TOWARDS THE EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS.

THIS FOLLOWED THE PROVISION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR ALL CHILDREN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE, MR. TOPLEY SAID.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1975

- 11 -

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE PLAYS LEADING ROLE IN EDUCATION
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY TODAY PAID TRIBUTE TO ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE FOR PLAYING A LEADING PART IN EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE CENTENARY OPEN DAY OF THE COLLEGE, MR. TOPLEY SAID THAT EVER SINCE ITS FOUNDATION BY THE LA SALLE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS IN 1875, ST. JOSEPH'S HAS ESTABLISHED AN ENVIABLE REPUTATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

+THIS REPUTATION HAS BEEN BASED NOT ONLY ON THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PUPILS BUT ON THE ALL-ROUND EDUCATION WHICH THE SCHOOL HAS PROVIDED.+

+THE SCHOOL HAS ALWAYS RECOGNISED THAT INTELLECTUAL ATTAINMENT ALONE IS NOT THE BE-ALL AND END-ALL OF EDUCATION. IT HAS ENCOURAGED PARTICIPATION BY ITS PUPILS IN THOSE ACTIVITIES AND PURSUITS WHICH PROVIDE FOR PHYSICAL, AND ABOVE ALL, SPIRITUAL AND MORAL GROWTH,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS ONLY IN THIS WAY THAT A SCHOOL COULD FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER.

THE SCHOOL'S SUCCESSES IN PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS HAD BEEN WELL MATCHED BY ACHIEVEMENTS IN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND IN SPORTS AND GAMES.

ST. JOSEPH'S ALSO ENCOURAGED ITS PUPILS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE.

+IT IS NOT SURPRISING, THEREFORE, TO FIND AMONG THE OLD BOYS OF ST. JOSEPH'S AN IMPRESSIVE NUMBER OF MEN WHO HAVE COME TO BE LEADERS IN ALMOST EVERY WALK OF LIFE WITHIN OUR SOCIETY - IN THE PROFESSIONS, IN BUSINESS AND IN MANY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES INVOLVING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

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