



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981.

| <u>CONTENTS</u>   | <u>PAGE NO.</u> |
|---|-----------------|
| OVER 52 500 PUPILS GET AIDED FROM FOUR PLACES .....   | 1               |
| JUNE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX UP ONE POINT .....  | 3               |
| ANALYSIS OF MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS RECLASSIFIED<br>BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981 ..... | 5               |
| MANPOWER NEEDS FOR INSTRUCTORS TO BE SURVEYED .....   | 6               |
| REMINDER ON FLOATING HOLIDAY .....  | 7               |
| HE SOLD \$4 600 MILLION WORTH OF CROWN LAND .....   | 8               |
| SPOKEN CANTONESE EASIER THAN WRITTEN, FOREIGN<br>STUDENTS FIND .....  | 9               |
| SAI KUNG SEMINAR FOR ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY .....   | 11              |
| WATER FIGURES .....   | 11              |
| BUILDING MANAGEMENT COURSE OFFERED .....  | 12              |

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 1 -

OVER 52 500 PUPILS GET AIDED FORM FOUR PLACES  
\* \* \* \* \*

A TOTAL OF 52 521 PUPILS PARTICIPATING IN THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT (JSEA) SYSTEM THIS YEAR HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED SUBSIDISED FORM FOUR PLACES IN THE AIDED SECTOR, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SINCE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE SYSTEM IS 89 602, THIS MEANS THAT 58.6 PER CENT OF THE PARTICIPANTS HAD BEEN ALLOCATED SUBSIDISED FORM FOUR PLACES, HE SAID.

+IN ADDITION, UP TO ABOUT 2 500 PUPILS MAY BE OFFERED DISCRETIONARY PLACES BY INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE RESULTS OF ALLOCATION WILL BE RELEASED TO ALL PARTICIPATING SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR COLLECTION BY PUPILS TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

PUPILS NOT ALLOCATED A SUBSIDISED FORM FOUR PLACE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH AN INFORMATION SHEET OUTLINING THE ALTERNATIVE OPPORTUNITIES OPEN TO THEM. THE SHEET CONTAINS ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS FROM WHICH PUPILS MAY OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSIDISED FORM FOUR PLACES PROVIDED IN CHINESE MIDDLE AND ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS THIS YEAR IS ABOUT 55 000, AND THIS REPRESENTS A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN PROVISION OVER THE PREVIOUS YEARS.

IN SEPTEMBER, 1980 THERE WERE ONLY 31 725 SUBSIDISED FORM FOUR PLACES.

+WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF PARENTS HAVE CHOSEN THEIR CHILDREN'S OWN SCHOOLS AS THE FIRST CHOICE. THIS HAS REDUCED THE NUMBER OF INTER-SCHOOL TRANSFERS TO A MINIMUM,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

REGISTRATION OF FEEDER PUPILS (I.E. PUPILS ALLOCATED PLACES IN THEIR OWN SCHOOLS) WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE SAME DAY THE ALLOCATION RESULTS ARE RELEASED. FOR THIS PURPOSE PUPILS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY SHOULD BRING THEIR REGISTRATION FORMS ALONG.

PUPILS WHO HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO OTHER SCHOOLS SHOULD REPORT FOR REGISTRATION ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1981.

WHEN REPORTING FOR REGISTRATION, SUCH PUPILS SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- (A) PUPIL IDENTIFICATION FORM, OR IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE SCHOOL AND ENDORSED BY THE JSEA SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT-
- (B) REGISTRATION FORM-
- (C) INDIVIDUAL RESULT SLIP-

/(D) PUPIL'S HONG .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 2 -

(D) PUPIL'S HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD-

(E) A NOTE SHOWING HIS CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS, AND THE NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF HIS PARENTS/GUARDIANS-

(F) TWO RECENT PASSPORT-SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE SCHOOL.

PUPILS WHO HAVE ACCEPTED PLACES OFFERED BY A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE SHOULD REPORT FOR REGISTRATION ON THE DATES SPECIFIED.

PUPILS UNABLE TO COLLECT THEIR ALLOCATION RESULTS OR TO GO FOR REGISTRATION ON AUGUST 4 SHOULD AUTHORISE, IN WRITING, THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO COLLECT THE RESULT OR REPORT TO THE SCHOOL FOR REGISTRATION ON THEIR BEHALF.

THE LETTER OF AUTHORISATION MUST BE ENDORSED BY THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL, AND PRODUCED AT THE TIME OF COLLECTION OR REGISTRATION BY THE APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES.

IN REGISTERING WITH A SCHOOL, PUPILS MUST SURRENDER THEIR REGISTRATION FORMS TO THE SCHOOL. IN THE EVENT OF A SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER, THE PUPILS MUST RETRIEVE THEIR REGISTRATION FORMS FROM THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL WHICH WILL THEN CANCEL THEIR REGISTRATION IN THAT SCHOOL.

'SCHOOLS MAY NOT ADMIT ANY PUPIL WITHOUT HIS REGISTRATION FORM,' THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PUPILS WHO HAVE MOVED TO ANOTHER DISTRICT AND WISH TO TRANSFER TO A SCHOOL NEARER THEIR NEW RESIDENCE AFTER ALLOCATION MUST REPORT IN PERSON TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S JSEA SECTION, AT BLOCK 'AA' 2ND FLOOR, VICTORIA BARRACKS, QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG ON JULY 30 AND 31.

THEY SHOULD BRING WITH THEM EVIDENCE THAT THEY HAVE MOVED.

DOCUMENTS SUCH AS TENANCY AGREEMENT OF RENT RECEIPTS ARE ACCEPTABLE PROVIDED THAT THE PUPILS' PARENTS CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS THE NEW TENANTS AT THE PREMISES.

'REQUESTS FOR TRANSFER MADE AFTER JULY 31 OR NOT SUBSTANTIATED BY SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED,' THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SHOULD TYPHOON SIGNAL NO. 8 OR ABOVE BE HOISTED ON AUGUST 4, PUPILS SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MAKE ENQUIRIES WITH THE SCHOOL TO WHICH THEY ARE ALLOCATED FOR ANOTHER DATE OF REGISTRATION.

ALL ENQUIRIES CONCERNING ALLOCATION RESULTS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSESSMENT SECTION AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-276359.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/3 .....

JUNE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX UP ONE POINT  
\* \* \* \*

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR JUNE 1981.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) FOR JUNE 1981 WERE BOTH 117.

COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, THE NEW C.P.I. (A) INCREASED BY ONE POINT OR 0.9 PER CENT AND THE NEW C.P.I. (B) BY TWO POINTS OR 1.7 PER CENT.

THE NEW C.P.I. (A) AND NEW C.P.I. (B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1979/80 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY. AT THAT TIME, THE NEW C.P.I. (A) REFERRED TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$1 000 AND \$3 499 A MONTH AND THE NEW C.P.I. (B) TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$3 500 AND \$6 499 A MONTH.

THE INDEXES FOR JUNE 1981 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMPONENTS OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE DISTINGUISHED IN THE TWO NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES ARE GIVEN BELOW, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FOR MAY 1981.

(OCTOBER 1979 - SEPTEMBER 1980 = 100)

| <u>COMPONENT</u>                                    | <u>NEW C.P.I. (A)</u> |               | <u>NEW C.P.I. (B)</u> |               |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|   | <u>JUNE 81</u>        | <u>MAY 81</u> | <u>JUNE 81</u>        | <u>MAY 81</u> |
| FOODSTUFFS  | 119                   | 116           | 119                   | 116           |
| HOUSING   | 112                   | 112           | 113                   | 112           |
| FUEL AND LIGHT                                      | 136                   | 135           | 137                   | 136           |
| ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) | 111                   | 111           | 111                   | 110           |
| CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR                               | 115                   | 115           | 115                   | 115           |
| DURABLE GOODS                                       | 108                   | 108           | 109                   | 108           |
| MISCELLANEOUS GOODS                                 | 109                   | 108           | 109                   | 108           |
| TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES                              | 129                   | 129           | 126                   | 126           |
| SERVICES  | 116                   | 115           | 116                   | 115           |
| ALL ITEMS   | 117                   | 116           | 117                   | 115           |

/THE INDEX .....

THE INDEX FOR THE FOODSTUFFS COMPONENT IN BOTH NEW C.P.I. (A) AND NEW C.P.I. (B) INCREASED BY THREE POINTS. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, SALT-WATER FISH, FRESH FRUITS, PORK AND MEALS BOUGHT IN RESTAURANTS. THE EFFECTS OF MOVEMENTS IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER FOOD ITEMS ON THE INDEX FOR THE FOODSTUFFS COMPONENT WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE INDEX FOR THE HOUSING COMPONENT IN NEW C.P.I. (B) INCREASED BY ONE POINT BECAUSE OF HIGHER CHARGES FOR MULTI-STOREY BUILDING MANAGEMENT FEES, WHILE THAT IN NEW C.P.I. (A) REMAINED UNCHANGED DUE TO ROUNDING.

HIGHER CHARGES FOR ELECTRICITY CAUSED THE INDEX FOR THE FUEL AND LIGHT COMPONENT IN BOTH NEW C.P.I. (A) AND NEW C.P.I. (B) TO INCREASE BY ONE POINT.

THE ONE-POINT INCREASE IN THE INDEX FOR THE ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) COMPONENT IN NEW C.P.I. (B) WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HIGHER PRICES FOR CHINESE WINES, FOREIGN STYLE WINES AND BEER. THE SAME INDEX IN NEW C.P.I. (A) HOWEVER REMAINED STABLE BECAUSE OF ROUNDING.

THE INDEX FOR THE DURABLE GOODS COMPONENT IN NEW C.P.I. (B) INCREASED BY ONE POINT AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES FOR WATCHES, MUSICAL INSTRUMENT, TRAVEL AND OPTICAL GOODS.

THE INDEX FOR THE MISCELLANEOUS GOODS COMPONENT IN BOTH NEW C.P.I. (A) AND NEW C.P.I. (B) INCREASED BY ONE POINT DUE TO HIGHER PRICES FOR PROPRIETARY MEDICINES AND SUPPLIES, TOILET REQUISITES AND COSMETICS.

FOLLOWING THE RISE IN TENNIS COURT RENTALS AND IN ADMISSION FEES TO DANCE HALLS, NIGHT CLUBS AND DISCOTHEQUES, AS WELL AS HIGHER CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AND REPAIRS TO ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, THE INDEX FOR THE SERVICES COMPONENT IN BOTH NEW C.P.I. (A) AND NEW C.P.I. (B) INCREASED BY ONE POINT.

PRICE MOVEMENTS IN OTHER COMMODITY SECTIONS WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (B) (JULY 73/JUNE 74 = 100) FOR JUNE 1981 WERE 184 AND 183 RESPECTIVELY, EACH BEING THREE POINTS OR 1.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING MONTH IN 1980, C.P.I. (A) INCREASED BY 26 POINTS OR 16.5 PER CENT AND C.P.I. (B) BY 26 POINTS OR 16.6 PER CENT.

IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, C.P.I. (A) WAS ON AVERAGE 14.1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1980 AND THE CORRESPONDING RATE OF INCREASE FOR C.P.I. (B) WAS 13.9 PER CENT.

DETAILS OF THESE PRICE MOVEMENTS ARE GIVEN IN THE +CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT+ FOR JUNE 1981, WHICH IS NOW AVAILABLE ON SALE AT \$2 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE.

ANALYSIS OF MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS RECLASSIFIED BY  
INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981

\* \* \* \* \*

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981.

THIS SERIES IS DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT COMMODITY ITEMS UNDER THE PRESENT EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM, ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE COMMODITY ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED.

SINCE ITS SCOPE IS CONFINED TO MERCHANDISE TRADE, TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE NOT INCLUDED.

FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY GROUPS WERE WEARING APPAREL, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, TEXTILES, PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, AND METAL PRODUCTS. THEY TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 87 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981.

THE LARGEST INCREASES IN VALUE TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981 OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1980 OCCURRED IN WEARING APPAREL (\$682 MILLION), ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (\$496 MILLION), TEXTILES (\$492 MILLION), AND PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (\$374 MILLION).

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, THE HIGHEST INCREASES WERE: TOBACCO (57 PER CENT), ELECTRICITY (52 PER CENT), RUBBER PRODUCTS (49 PER CENT), AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY (42 PER CENT), AND BEVERAGES (41 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$13 MILLION) WHEN EXPRESSED IN VALUE TERMS, AND IN MINING AND QUARRYING (-67 PER CENT), AND PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS (-40 PER CENT) WHEN EXPRESSED IN PERCENTAGE TERMS.

FOR IMPORTS, PRODUCTS OF THE TEXTILES, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, CHEMICALS, PETROLEUM AND COAL, PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT, METALS, AND FOOD INDUSTRIES TOGETHER TOOK UP 68 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981.

INCREASES IN VALUE TERMS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1981 OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1980 WERE LARGEST IN TEXTILES (\$1 298 MILLION), ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (\$1 088 MILLION), AND PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (\$746 MILLION).

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, THE HIGHEST INCREASES WERE: TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (70 PER CENT), PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (47 PER CENT), WEARING APPAREL (46 PER CENT), MINING AND QUARRYING (44 PER CENT), FOOTWEAR (41 PER CENT), AND PETROLEUM AND COAL PRODUCTS (41 PER CENT). DECREASE WAS HOWEVER OBSERVED IN THE IMPORTS OF FORESTRY AND LOGGING PRODUCTS (-15 PER CENT).

FURTHER DETAILS OF MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS RECLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (AT 3-7213578).

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 6 -

MANPOWER NEEDS FOR INSTRUCTORS TO BE SURVEYED  
\* \* \* \*

A FOURTH SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE MANPOWER NEEDS FOR INSTRUCTORS IN INDUSTRIES, EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND TO UP-DATE THE INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THE PREVIOUS SURVEY CONDUCTED TWO YEARS AGO, WILL BE HELD NEXT MONTH BY THE COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTOR TRAINING OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE SURVEY - TO BE HELD FROM AUGUST 10 TO 29 - WILL COVER ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED FROM THE MAJOR INDUSTRIES, EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

ITS AIM IS TO ASCERTAIN THE EXISTING NUMBER OF INSTRUCTORS AND TRAINING OFFICERS EMPLOYED, THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES, AND A FORECAST OF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTORS AND TRAINING OFFICERS IN THE TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE SURVEY.

EXPLANATORY LETTERS TOGETHER WITH QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING SENT TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS.

DURING THE FIELD WORK SURVEY, INTERVIEWING OFFICERS WILL VISIT THE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS TO ANSWER QUERIES, ASSIST IN COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE IF NECESSARY AND TO COLLECT THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES.

THE EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE REQUESTED TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE BY A PRE-PAID ENVELOPE BEFORE AUGUST 20, 1981.

THE INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT.

THE COMMITTEE URGES EMPLOYERS SELECTED FOR THE SURVEY TO CO-OPERATE BY PROVIDING THE REQUIRED INFORMATION WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRAINING OF INSTRUCTORS TO INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7 .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 7 -

REMINDER ON FLOATING HOLIDAY

\* \* \* \*

EMPLOYERS ARE REMINDED TODAY THAT IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DESIGNATED A DATE FOR THE FLOATING HOLIDAY AND HAVE NOT GIVEN THEIR EMPLOYEES A DAY OFF ON JULY 1 (THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JULY), THEY SHOULD GIVE THE STAFF THE DAY OFF ON AUGUST 3 (THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST).

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, THE FLOATING HOLIDAY - ONE OF THE 10 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS IN A YEAR - MUST BE DESIGNATED BY EMPLOYERS AND MADE KNOWN TO EMPLOYEES BY NOTICE PLACED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE BY THE END OF THE PRECEDING YEAR, A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC SERVANTS, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS, AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$6 000 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY, HE SAID.

THEY MUST ALSO BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO THE EMPLOYEES' EARNINGS, OTHER THAN OVERTIME PAY, ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY. WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE OF THE DAILY EARNINGS DURING A PERIOD OF 28 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY. PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE ON THE NORMAL PAY DAY.

IF AN EMPLOYEE WAS REQUIRED TO WORK ON THE HOLIDAY, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

IF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WAS TO BE GRANTED BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYER MUST NOTIFY THE EMPLOYEE 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY. IN THE CASE WHERE AN ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY WAS TO BE GIVEN AFTER THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY, THE EMPLOYEE MUST BE NOTIFIED OF THE ARRANGEMENT AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

IF BOTH EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY OR ALTERNATIVE HOLIDAY COULD BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY, HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE: FOR KOWLOON EAST 3-205638= KOWLOON WEST 3-201652= KWUN TONG 3-898520= TSUEN WAN 0-422096= TUEN MUN 0-818443 AND HONG KONG ISLAND 5-282523 EXT. 60.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8 .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 8 -

HE SOLD \$4 600 MILLION WORTH OF CROWN LAND  
\* \* \* \* \*

MR KEN ROLFE, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SALE OF 86 LOTS OF CROWN LAND WITH A TOTAL AREA OF OVER 17 HECTARES AND A REALISED PREMIUM OF \$4 600 MILLION, IS RETIRING AFTER 23 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

AT A CEREMONY TODAY MARKING HIS RETIREMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR DAVID MCDONALD, PRESENTED HIM WITH A SOUVENIR ON BEHALF OF HIS FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES IN THE DEPARTMENT, AND A LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH.

MR MCDONALD RECALLED THAT MR ROLFE JOINED THE DEPARTMENT IN 1957 AS AN ESTATE SURVEYOR.

+DURING HIS 23 YEARS IN GOVERNMENT, HE HAS WORKED IN ALMOST EVERY SECTION OF THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE,+ MR MCDONALD SAID.

+FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, HE WAS SECONDED TO THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WHERE HE WAS CHIEF ESTATE SURVEYOR DURING THE VERY BUSY PERIOD WHEN DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWNS WAS BEGINNING TO GET INTO ITS STRIDE.+

MR ROLFE WAS PROMOTED TO GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT IN AUGUST 1974, AND FOR THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS HAS HEADED THE VALUATION BRANCH OF THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE.

+DESPITE VERY DIFFICULT STAFFING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BRANCH OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE BRANCH HAS CONTINUED TO OPERATE EFFICIENTLY AND PRODUCED WORK OF A VERY HIGH STANDARD, THANKS TO HIS DRIVE AND EXPERTISE,+ SAID MR MCDONALD.

BEFORE RETIRING TO HIS HOME IN NORFOLK, MR ROLFE AND HIS FAMILY WILL VISIT AUSTRALIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/9 .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 9 -

SPOKEN CANTONESE EASIER THAN WRITTEN,  
FOREIGN STUDENTS FIND  
\* \* \* \* \*

PEOPLE WHO SPEAK CANTONESE, WHICH IS THE DIALECT IN USE IN HONG KONG AND PARTS OF SOUTHERN CHINA, KNOW THAT ITS TONES CAN POSE PROBLEMS FOR THE UNFAMILIAR.

WORDS LIKE BUY AND SELL, WHICH CAN BE DISASTROUS WHEN USED INCORRECTLY OVER THE PHONE BY THE BUSINESSMAN, OR IN THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF ACTIVITY INVOLVED IN THE STOCK MARKET, VARY IN CANTONESE ONLY BY ENUNCIATION OF THE TONE.

AT OTHER TIMES, THE WRONG USE OF TONE CAN EVEN BE QUITE EMBARRASSING!

NEVERTHELESS, SPOKEN CANTONESE IS STILL EASIER TO LEARN THAN THE WRITTEN CHARACTER, IN THE OPINION OF MOST FOREIGN STUDENTS TAKING THE COURSE OFFERED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S CIVIL SERVICE TRAINING DIVISION.

IT TAKES ONLY EIGHT WEEKS OF INTENSIVE LANGUAGE TRAINING TO GET A STUDENT TO BECOME FAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH THE ESSENTIALS OF SPOKEN CANTONESE TO GET BY FOR A START, EXPLAINED MISS VIVIAN WONG, CHIEF TRAINING OFFICER OF THE LANGUAGE TRAINING UNIT.

FOR THIS COURSE, A SPECIAL ROMANISED SYSTEM, REPRESENTING THE SOUNDS AND TONES OF CANTONESE WORDS, IS USED, AS ARE ALSO SUCH OTHER AIDS AS OVER-HEAD PROJECTORS, VIDEO RECORDERS, LANGUAGE LABORATORIES, AND EVEN A CINEMA.

ALL OF THESE THINGS NOT ONLY SPEED UP THE PROCESS OF LEARNING, BUT ALSO MAKE LEARNING OF CANTONESE MORE INTERESTING, EXPLAINED MR M.K. LEE, SENIOR TRAINING OFFICER OF THE CHINESE SECTION.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE MAIN DIFFICULTY FOREIGN STUDENTS FIND WITH WRITTEN CHINESE IS IN REMEMBERING BOTH THE SHAPE AND STROKES OF THE CHARACTERS, AS WELL AS THE SENTENCE STRUCTURE, WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM SPOKEN CANTONESE.

AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, KNOWLEDGE OF CANTONESE IS ESSENTIAL IN MANY AREAS OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, AND AT THE LEAST, HELPFUL IN OTHER AREAS OF WORK. AND FOR THIS REASON, THE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS VARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH JOBS.

FOR INSTANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, POLICE INSPECTORS AND PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE A MORE-INTENSIVE COURSE.

THE OBVIOUS NEED FOR CANTONESE IS TO ENABLE THE OFFICERS CONCERNED TO COMMUNICATE BETTER WITH THE LOCAL PEOPLE, AND ALSO HELP THEM SETTLE DOWN IN THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT MORE EASILY AND QUICKLY, SAID MISS WONG.

/TWO TYPES .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 10 -

TWO TYPES OF COURSES ARE RUN, A COLLOQUIAL CANTONESE COURSE, AND A WRITTEN COURSE.

THE COLLOQUIAL COURSE IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR LEVELS, NAMELY ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED I AND ADVANCED II. THE WRITTEN COURSE IS DIVIDED INTO ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED LEVELS.

THERE ARE FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME COURSES.

THE FULL-TIME COURSES PROVIDE LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR OFFICERS WHO HAVE TO PASS THE CANTONESE EXAMINATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION OF THEIR POSTS, OR FOR PROMOTION.

THE PART-TIME COURSES ARE VOLUNTARY, DAY-RELEASE COURSES, RUN FOR OFFICERS WHO, IN THEIR OWN INTEREST, WANT TO STUDY CANTONESE.

THE FULL-TIME COURSES AT EACH LEVEL RUN FROM EIGHT TO 11 WEEKS, OF 30 TO 38 SESSIONS OF 45-MINUTE DURATION A WEEK.

PART-TIME COURSES ARE CONDUCTED TWICE A WEEK FOR 34 WEEKS AT EACH LEVEL, EACH SESSION LASTING 90 MINUTES.

ON COMPLETION OF THE COURSES, THE STUDENTS ARE EXAMINED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS UNIT.

THE PART-TIME COURSE ATTRACTS PEOPLE SUCH AS LAWYERS, ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS, AS WELL AS OFFICERS' WIVES, AND EVEN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

ABOUT THREE TIMES MORE PEOPLE TAKE THE PART-TIME COURSE THAN THE FULL-TIME COURSE. IN THE 18 YEARS SINCE 1963, WHEN THE SECTION WAS FIRST SET UP, ABOUT 3 500 PERSONS HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THEIR COURSES, MR LEE POINTED OUT.

OF THE AVERAGE OF 400 OR SO STUDENTS TAKING THE COURSE EACH YEAR FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, SOME 300 SAT FOR THE EXAMINATIONS, AND ABOUT 85 PER CENT PASSED.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, IN WHICH MORE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WORK DIRECTLY IN CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC, HE SAW A GREATER NEED IN FUTURE FOR SUCH LANGUAGE COURSES, MR LEE SAID.

AND SPECIAL SESSIONS, SUCH AS ON HOW TO CONDUCT MEETINGS, WOULD BE INCLUDED, SO AS TO HELP MAKE THE WORK FOR THE OFFICERS EASIER, HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/11 .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981

- 11 -

SAI KUNG SEMINAR FOR ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY  
\* \* \* \*

A SEMINAR ON DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION IS TO BE HELD IN SAI KUNG ON AUGUST 6 FOR THE LOCAL ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY.

THE SEMINAR, WHICH HAS BEEN ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WILL START AT 8 PM IN THE CHENG CHEK CHEE SECONDARY SCHOOL.

IT WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR CHAN SUI-JEUNG, WHO WILL OUTLINE DETAILS OF THE NEW SYSTEM AND GIVE INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES AND ELECTORS. THERE WILL ALSO BE A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.

ALL ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE LIVING IN THE DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE SEMINAR AND BRING ALONG FRIENDS AND RELATIVES.

CHARTS AND MAPS WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY.

THERE WILL BE FIVE CONSTITUENCIES IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE ELECTION WHICH IS TO BE HELD NEXT MARCH. THEY ARE SAI KUNG ISLANDS, SAI KUNG CENTRAL, PAK SHA WAN, HANG HAU AND RENNIE'S MILL.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ORGANISED SIX DISTRICT BOARD SEMINARS TO DATE, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST FOR THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER FIGURES  
\* \* \*

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 40.9 PER CENT OR 236.366 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR, THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 357.625 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 61.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/12 .....

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1981 .

- 12 -

BUILDING MANAGEMENT COURSE OFFERED  
\* \* \* \* \*

A TRAINING COURSE ON GENERAL BUILDING MANAGEMENT WILL BE ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK CITY DISTRICT OFFICE FOR BUILDING MANAGEMENT STAFF AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OFFICE-BEARERS OF THE AREA ON AUGUST 4, 6, 11 AND 13 BETWEEN 8 AND 10.15 PM.

ALL THE LECTURES WILL BE HELD AT HONG KONG VERNACULAR NORMAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOOL AT 22, SAI YEE STREET, MONG KOK.

PROGRAMME OF THE COURSE WILL INCLUDE TALKS ON: +THE FUNCTION OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT BODIES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOVERNMENT, BUILDING CLEANLINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE, CRIME AND FIRE PREVENTION MEASURES, ELEMENTARY BOOK-KEEPING, GENERAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE AND THE LANDLORD AND TENANT ORDINANCE+.

MONG KOK CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS STELLA HUNG, WILL BE OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4 AT 8 PM BEFORE THE START OF THE FIRST LECTURE.

RESIDENTS OR BUILDING MANAGEMENT STAFF INTERESTED IN THE COURSE MAY APPLY FOR ADMISSION AT THE MONG KOK CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, OR CONTACT MISS SHIRLEY WONG AT 3-802251.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY.

- - - - 0 - - - -