



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1977

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TSUEN WAN RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE IN NEW TOWN'S DEVELOPMENT
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TSUEN WAN RESIDENTS ARE HAVING A GREATER SAY THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND AMENITIES IN THE FAST-GROWING NEW TOWN.

THEIR VOICE IS BEING HEARD THROUGH A CORE OF 15 RURAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, BUSINESSMEN, SCHOOL HEADS, AND RESIDENTS' REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE BEEN GETTING TOGETHER FOR THE LAST 16 MONTHS TO DISCUSS THE NEEDS OF THE TOWN AS A WHOLE.

TOGETHER WITH EIGHT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THEY SIT IN THE MAJORITY ON THE TSUEN WAN RECREATION AND AMENITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE, SET UP IN MARCH LAST YEAR.

THE COMMITTEE - THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES - MEETS BI-MONTHLY WITH OFFICIAL MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE PUBLIC WORKS, URBAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENTS.

IN THE CHAIR IS THE TSUEN WAN TOWN MANAGER, JAMES HAYES, ASSISTED BY TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN - MR. CHAN PO-FONG, A FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE TSUEN WAN RURAL COMMITTEE, AND MR. EDDIE SHORT, THE P.W.D.'S PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE NEW TOWN.

SINCE THE COMMITTEE WAS SET UP, ITS MEMBERS HAVE BEEN GETTING TOGETHER IN EIGHT FULL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND NUMEROUS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS ENDEAVOURING TO MAKE TSUEN WAN A MORE ATTRACTIVE PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.

THEIR WORK IN THE FIRST YEAR HAS INCLUDED :

- * ADVISING ON THE CONTENT AND LAYOUT OF URBAN AMENITIES SUCH AS PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND SITTING-OUT AREAS.
- * MASTERMINDING A DISTRICT-WIDE SURVEY ON THE PATTERN OF LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES OF TSUEN WAN PEOPLE, WHICH WILL FORM A BASIS FOR FUTURE PLANNING BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.
- * SPONSORING A SCHEME TO IMPROVE THE RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY CONDITIONS IN SOME OF THE OLDER TOWN SQUARES IN CENTRAL TSUEN WAN.
- * STAGING AN EXHIBITION WHICH ENABLED THE LOCAL PEOPLE TO COMMENT ON A NUMBER OF PROPOSED NEW-LOOK DESIGNS PREPARED BY A GROUP OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR BEAUTIFYING THE TOWN SQUARES.
- * PUTTING FORWARD SUGGESTIONS ON THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE \$19.2 MILLION MULTI-PURPOSE AUDITORIUM FOR TSUEN WAN, WORK ON WHICH IS WELL UNDERWAY AND SHOULD BE READY BY 1979.
- * MEETING THE CONSULTANTS AND COMMENTING ON PROPOSALS FOR THE TSO KUNG TAM PARK AND OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE.

- * SUPPORTING PLANS TO PRESERVE THE OLD VILLAGE OF SAM TUNG UK IN A BID TO RETAIN SOME REMINDER OF THE OLD DAYS IN TSUEN WAN WHICH HAS A LONG HISTORY OF RURAL SETTLEMENT.
- * PLANNING TO RESTORE THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF A WELL-KNOWN LOCAL BEAUTY SPOT AT SAM DIP TAM WHICH IS THREATENED BY POLLUTION AND UNSIGHTLY SQUATTER DEVELOPMENT.
- * DETAILING A SCHEME TO IMPROVE FOOTPATHS AND PROVIDE RAIN SHELTERS FOR LOCAL MORNING WALKERS IN THE HILL AREA BEHIND SHEK LEI.

LOOKING BACK OVER THE PAST 16 MONTHS OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK, THE CHAIRMAN, MR. HAYES, SAID TODAY: +THE COMMITTEE HAS SHOWN IT CAN BE OF GREAT ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING NEW PROJECTS INTENDED TO PROVIDE, IN TIME, THE FULL RANGE OF RECREATIONAL AND AMENITY FACILITIES IN THE NEW TOWN.+

+ITS UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ARE INTERESTED AND CAPABLE PERSONS WHOSE OPINIONS ARE OF GREAT VALUE TO THEIR OFFICIAL COLLEAGUES,+ HE SAID.

MR. HAYES SAID THE GOVERNMENT SEES THE NEED OF HAVING ADEQUATE FEED-BACK FROM THE LOCAL PEOPLE REGARDING FACILITIES AND AMENITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE PROVIDED AS PART OF THE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE COMMITTEE WAS THEREFORE SET UP TO ENABLE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO CONSULT INTERESTED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE LOCAL PEOPLE ON THE PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND UTILISATION OF BOTH EXISTING AND FUTURE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES.

+THIS IS A NEW VENTURE, BUT A LOGICAL STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF OUR LOCAL MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION, AND IT IS A NECESSARY AND WORTHWHILE ONE TO TAKE AT THIS STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW COMMUNITY IN TSUEN WAN,+ HE SAID.

ECHOING MR. HAYES' REMARKS, A SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR. CHOW HOW-CHEN, SAID: +IT HELPS FURTHER TO NARROW THE GAP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PUBLIC AND ENABLES THE LOCAL PEOPLE TO SAY WHAT THEY WANT.

+OFFICIAL MEMBERS HAVE SHOWN THEMSELVES MOST HELPFUL AND MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, THEY GO ALONG WITH OUR IDEAS,+ HE SAID.

LIKE OTHER MEMBERS, MR. CHOW DOES A LOT OF HOMEWORK BEFORE HE GIVES IDEAS AT MEETINGS. AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDARDS OF FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE, HE GOES ON PRIVATE INSPECTIONS OF RECREATION AND AMENITY FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT AND RECOMMENDS IMPROVEMENTS HE CONSIDERS NECESSARY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS.

EXAMPLES ARE HIS RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF MULTI-PURPOSE USAGE OF FACILITIES BUILT ORIGINALLY TO CATER FOR ONE PARTICULAR SPORT, BRINGING SPORTING PITCHES UP TO STANDARD COMPETITION SIZE, AND THE INSTALLATION OF OVERHEAD FLOOD-LIGHTING IN TENNIS COURTS OF THE SHA TSUI ROAD PLAYGROUND.

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GOVERNMENT MEDICINE FACTORY A VITAL LINK
IN HONG KONG'S MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
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HIDDEN IN AN OBSCURE WING OF A GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES COMPOUND IN OIL STREET, NORTH POINT, IS A SMALL MANUFACTORY THAT FORMS AN IMPORTANT PART OF HONG KONG'S MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

UNSEEN AND UNHEARD OF BY MOST PEOPLE, THE MANUFACTORY PRODUCES MILLIONS OF TABLETS, GALLONS OF MIXTURES AND THOUSANDS OF TUBES OF OINTMENTS AND +STERILE PREPARATIONS+ EACH YEAR.

THESE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS ARE DELIVERED TO GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS FOR DISPENSING TO MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO SEEK TREATMENT. YET THE WORK OF THE MANUFACTORY, WHICH IS MANNED BY THE PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, IS LITTLE KNOWN TO ITS BENEFICIARIES.

EQUIPPED WITH MODERN MACHINERY, THE MANUFACTORY PRODUCES AN ARRAY OF PILLS AND MIXTURES, VITAMINS AND INTRAVENOUS SOLUTIONS AS WELL AS OINTMENTS AND EYE-DROPS -- IN FACT MOST UNPATENTED PREPARATIONS REQUIRED IN BULK BY GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS.

ALTHOUGH HUNDREDS OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS ARE MADE BY THE PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE EACH YEAR, THEY ARE RELATIVELY SMALL COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL RANGE OF PRODUCTS USED IN THE HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. BUT BY VOLUME THE QUANTITY OF SERVICE-MADE PRODUCTS IS LARGER.

CHIEF PHARMACIST, MR. HARRY THUMB, EXPLAINED THAT COMMONLY USED PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS COULD BE MORE ECONOMICALLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY MADE BY THE SERVICE'S MANUFACTORY THAN BUYING THEM FROM WHOLESALERS.

+METHADONE MIXTURES FOR THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS, FOR INSTANCE, ARE MADE IN THE PHARMACY LABORATORIES,+ HE SAID.

WHATEVER THE PRODUCT, MR. THUMB EMPHASISED, IT IS PRODUCED UNDER STRICT STANDARD SPECIFICATION OR FORMULA.

THE MANUFACTURING SECTION IS ONLY ONE OF MANY IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS OF THE PHARMACY SERVICE WHICH IS MANNED BY 27 PHARMACISTS AND 202 DISPENSERS.

DRESSINGS AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, DRUGS OR ANY PRODUCT THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT MANUFACTURE, ITS PROCUREMENT SECTION SEES TO IT THAT TENDERS ARE SENT OUT AND EXPERT ADVICE GIVEN AS TO THE BEST PRODUCT TO BUY.

ON THE TRAINING ASPECT OF ITS WORK, THE SERVICE RUNS A THREE-YEAR COURSE FOR TRAINEE DISPENSERS ON A FULL-TIME BASIS. THE TRAINEES QUALIFY AS A DISPENSER ONLY AFTER PASSING AN EXAMINATION ON THE THIRD YEAR OF THEIR TRAINING.

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AT THE MOMENT THERE ARE 29 UNDERGOING PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL TRAINING IN CLASSROOMS FOR THREE HOURS IN THREE AFTERNOONS EACH WEEK. ON OTHER DAYS THEY ARE +ON THE JOB+ IN HOSPITAL AND CLINIC DISPENSARIES.

APART FROM TRAINING, THE SERVICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HOLDING EXAMINATIONS FOR PHARMACISTS WITH DEGREES FROM SUCH COUNTRIES AS TAIWAN, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES AFTER THEY HAVE DONE ONE YEAR PRACTICAL WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF REGISTERED PHARMACISTS IN CHEMISTS' SHOPS OR HOSPITALS. THOSE WHO PASSED THE EXAMINATIONS WILL BE ALLOWED TO REGISTER AND PRACTISE IN HONG KONG. THE EXAMINATION IS HELD TWICE A YEAR.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICE IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MANNING OF ALL DISPENSARIES IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, AND THE ROLE OF THE PHARMACIST IN CHARGE OF THE DISPENSARY IS EQUALLY VITAL TO THAT OF THE DOCTOR WHO PRESCRIBES THE MEDICINE.

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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MUSIC SECTION MOVES OFFICE
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THE MUSIC SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS MOVING ITS OFFICE FROM KOWLOON TO HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE SECTION'S NEW OFFICE FROM SEPTEMBER 1 WILL BE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF CAROLINE MANSION, 8 YUN PING ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY. THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE 5-779006 AND 5-779150.

THE OFFICE OF THE LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC, TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCING, LONDON, IS LOCATED IN THE MUSIC SECTION.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED THAT IF THEY HAVE ANY ENQUIRIES ON THE EXTERNAL MUSIC AND BALLET EXAMINATIONS, THEY SHOULD DIRECT THEM TO THAT OFFICE.

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YEAR OF EXPANSION FOR POST OFFICE

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THE SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE POST OFFICE WENT THROUGH A PERIOD OF TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE POST OFFICE'S SPEEDPOST SERVICE WAS NOTICEABLY GROWING IN POPULARITY WITH BUSINESS COMPANIES BECAUSE OF ITS RELIABLE AND FAST DELIVERY. IN VIEW OF THIS, SPEEDPOST WAS EXTENDED TO AUSTRALIA, FRANCE AND THE NETHERLANDS, IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHED SERVICES TO BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES, BRAZIL, JAPAN AND BELGIUM, AND LATER INCLUDED ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE TO BRITAIN AND AUSTRALIA.

REVENUE FROM SPEEDPOST AMOUNTED TO \$3.6 MILLION, WHICH WAS 157 PER CENT MORE THAN IN 1975-76.

THE EXPRESS DELIVERY MAIL SERVICE ALSO HAD A YEAR OF RAPID GROWTH. DURING 1976-77, 713,000 ITEMS WERE DESPATCHED -- AN INCREASE OF 77.4 PER CENT OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

THE YEAR 1976-77 WAS A YEAR OF POSTAL EXPANSION. IT SAW THE OPENING OF THE NEW MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR GENERAL POST OFFICE IN AUGUST, AND THE COMMISSIONING OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE HUNG HOM INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE AT THE END OF APRIL.

COMPLETION OF THIS PHASE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MAIL CENTRE HAS MADE AVAILABLE STORAGE AND BAG-HANDLING FACILITIES FOR MAIL SENT TO AND RECEIVED FROM CHINA. PLANNING OF THE MAIN BUILDING IN PHASE II IS NOW ALMOST COMPLETED.

THE CONCEPT OF ESTABLISHING A MAIL ROOM IN HIGH-RISE COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS HAS ALSO PROVED A SUCCESS FOLLOWING THE OPERATION OF A MAIL ROOM IN THE WORLD TRADE CENTRE. SIMILAR FACILITIES ARE BEING INTRODUCED TO OTHER COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, INCLUDING THE RE-DEVELOPED ALEXANDRA HOUSE, TO EASE DELIVERY PROBLEMS IN SUCH BUILDINGS.

WITH ALL THESE NEW FACILITIES, GREATER HEIGHTS WERE ACHIEVED BY THE POST OFFICE IN MANY ASPECTS OF ITS WORK AND A SPOKESMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT FORESEES FURTHER GROWTH IN THE YEARS TO COME.

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