



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1974.

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METHADONE MAINTENANCE +HERE TO STAY+  
SAYS DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH  
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DR. GERALD CHOA, DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, SAID TONIGHT HE WAS PERSONALLY CONVINCED THAT METHADONE MAINTENANCE +HAS COME TO STAY+, AND VERY GOOD PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN THE TWO TRIAL SCHEMES NOW GOING ON.

HE TOLD THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY THAT HE HAD NO DOUBT THE PRESENT METHOD OF CONTROLLED DAILY DOSAGE BY MOUTH WOULD BE USED ON A WIDER SCALE IN THE FUTURE IN OTHER CENTRES, BUT THE SCALE WOULD DEPEND ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND STAFF.

WITH THE EXPERIENCE GAINED SO FAR, HE FELT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO MODIFY CERTAIN DETAILS OF THE REGIMES NOW USED IN THE TRIALS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THE COMPULSORY PERIOD OF HOSPITALISATION DURING WHICH THE WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS WERE OBSERVED, AND THE DOSAGE OF METHADONE DETERMINED, MIGHT HAVE TO BE DISPENSED WITH.

DR. CHOA SAID HE WAS RELIEVED THAT SO FAR +THERE HAS BEEN NO EVIDENCE OF METHADONE BEING TRADED IN THE BLACK MARKET, DUE LARGELY TO THE EXTREME CARE WITH WHICH THE DRUG IS ADMINISTERED TO THE ADDICTS WHO ARE NEVER GIVEN A SUPPLY TO TAKE AWAY.+

HE MADE THE POINT THAT IT WAS UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED THAT THE SUCCESS OF A METHADONE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME DID NOT LIE ON THE PERCENTAGE OF 'CURES' ACHIEVED.

+IN FACT,+ HE SAID, +THE WORD 'CURE' WHENEVER IT IS USED SHOULD BE IN INVERTED COMMAS BECAUSE IF IT MEANS COMPLETE ABSTINENCE FROM THE USE OF ADDICTIVE DRUGS, THEN THIS MAY BE ACHIEVED IN ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OR PERCENTAGE OF THE SAMPLE.

+THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF METHADONE MAINTENANCE IS TO KEEP A LARGE NUMBER OF ADDICTS ON THE PROGRAMME SO THAT THEY CAN GET COUNSELLING AND AFTER-CARE, AND BE REHABILITATED INTO SOCIETY AS WORKING AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS.+

IN A REFERENCE TO THE USE OF ACUPUNCTURE IN THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ~~ADDICTION~~ 589,, DR. CHOA SAID SOME WORK HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT, BUT HAVING STUDIED PRELIMINARY REPORTS, HE WAS OF THE OPINION THAT MORE HAD YET TO BE DONE TO ESTABLISH WHETHER ACUPUNCTURE WAS SUITABLE FOR ALL ADDICTS -- +BEARING IN MIND THAT METHADONE MAINTENANCE, FOR INSTANCE, SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR THE YOUNG AND NEWLY-INITIATED, AND PHYSICAL REHABILITATION IS NOT FOR THE OLD AND INFIRMED.+

HE TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) HAD ASKED THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH IN THE USE OF ACUPUNCTURE FOR THE TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTION, AND THE DEPARTMENT HAD ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE BY SETTING UP A NARCOTICS AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION DIVISION.

THE DIVISION'S FUNCTION WAS TO CO-ORDINATE ALL TREATMENT PROGRAMMES NOW BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT AND VARIOUS ASSOCIATIONS, AND IT WAS +ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT SUCH TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES AS ARE AVAILABLE NOW WILL HAVE TO BE EXPANDED TO ACCOMMODATE A SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER NUMBER OF ADDICTS.+

ON THE CONTROL OF SYNTHETIC OR FACTORY-MADE DRUGS, DR. CHOA SAID MUCH PREPARATORY WORK HAD BEEN DONE ON A LEGAL BILL, AND IT HAD BECOME CLEAR THAT EITHER THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE WOULD HAVE TO BE AMENDED, OR A SEPARATE ORDINANCE ENACTED.

IT WAS ALONG THESE LINES THAT DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT, AND +HOPEFULLY, THE MATTER WILL SOON BE SETTLED.+

IN HIS VIEW, COMPARED WITH OPIUM OR HEROIN ADDICTION, IT WAS FORTUNATE THAT ABUSE OF SO-CALLED +SOFT+ DRUGS, AND MULTIPLE DRUG ABUSE — SUCH AS PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES TAKING AS MANY AS FIVE DRUGS, ALCOHOL, BARBITURATES, AMPHETAMINE, HEROIN, AND MARIJUANA — WERE NOT, AS YET, COMMON IN HONG KONG.

BUT THERE WAS OBVIOUSLY A RISK THAT MALPRACTICES COULD SPREAD, PARTICULARLY AS THE SUPPLY OF OPIUM PRODUCTS WAS BEING REDUCED.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS AWARE THAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO CONTROL FACTORY-MADE DRUGS,+ DR. CHOA SAID, +AND THE QUESTION HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BY THE PHARMACY AND POISONS BOARD AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. WE ARE IN UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT THAT LEGISLATION MUST BE INTRODUCED.+

HE DISCLOSED THAT THE NEW PHARMACY AND POISONS REGULATIONS, A SEPARATE ISSUE, WERE BEING PROCESSED, AND WOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL +AS SOON AFTER JANUARY 1, 1975 AS POSSIBLE.+

DR. CHOA DIGRESSED AT ONE POINT IN HIS TALK TO FOLLOW THE +ROMANTIC+ JOURNEY OF CONFISCATED OPIUM AND MORPHINE TO HONG KONG, THEN AWAY FROM HONG KONG, AND FINALLY BACK AGAIN, DURING WHICH THEY UNDERWENT THE TRANSFORMATION FROM ILLICIT TO LICIT.

UNDER THE DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE, THE CONFISCATED PRODUCTS WERE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES WHICH WERE PERFECTLY LEGAL.

THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, HONG KONG HAD BEEN SELLING OPIUM AND MORPHINE FOR THE LAST 15 YEARS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, WEST GERMANY, JAPAN, DENMARK, NORWAY AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE PRODUCTS ENTERED A MODERN PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORY WHERE THEY WERE CONVERTED FROM +A CURSE TO A COMFORT AND RELIEF TO MANKIND.+

SUMMING UP, DR. CHOA SAID HE HOPED HONG KONG HAD +AT LAST, COME TO GRIPS WITH THE DRUG ADDICTION PROBLEM.+ HE COMMENDED THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE FOR ITS ENCOURAGING SUCCESSFUL BIG HAULS MADE THIS YEAR.

WITH THE RADICAL ELIMINATION OF THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY, ILLICIT OPIUM AND MORPHINE WOULD BECOME SCARCER AND MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN, AND THEN MORE ADDICTS WOULD COME FORWARD TO BE TREATED.

+WE ARE ALL CONFIDENT THAT WE NOW HAVE A NEW MACHINERY IN THE RECONSTITUTED ACAN WHICH WILL FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY, PERFORM USEFUL WORK, AND PRODUCE GOOD RESULTS,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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GREATER PROTECTION FOR COUNTRYSIDE FROM HILL FIRES  
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AMENDING LEGISLATION WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED TO GIVE GREATER PROTECTION TO HONG KONG'S COUNTRYSIDE FROM THE THREAT OF HILL FIRES CAUSED BY CARELESS PEOPLE.

WHEN ENACTED, THE FORESTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 WILL MAKE IT AN OFFENCE TO LIGHT OR USE A FIRE IN OR NEAR A FOREST, PLANTATION, PROHIBITED AREA OR AREA OF OPEN COUNTRYSIDE, OR TO BE IN A GROUP OF PEOPLE USING SUCH A FIRE, WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS LIT BY A MEMBER OF THE GROUP.

HOWEVER, IT WILL BE A DEFENCE FOR AN ALLEGED OFFENDER TO SHOW THAT THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRE IN THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS LIT WAS REASONABLE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCE, AND THAT ALL REASONABLE STEPS WERE TAKEN TO PREVENT THE FIRE FROM DAMAGING OR ENDANGERING ANYTHING GROWING IN THESE AREAS. AND THE ONUS OF PROOF RESTS WITH THE OFFENDER.

THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE APPROACH, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED, WAS THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL USING A FIRE HAD A CLEAR MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE FIRE WAS KEPT UNDER PROPER CONTROL AND THAT IT WOULD NOT ENDANGER THE SURROUNDING VEGETATION.

HOWEVER, THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE LEGISLATION WAS, IN NO WAY, DESIGNED TO DISCOURAGE OR PREVENT THE PUBLIC FROM ENJOYING THEMSELVES IN NATURAL RECREATIONAL AREAS SO LONG AS THEY WOULD EXERCISE THE GREATEST CARE TO ELIMINATE ANY POSSIBLE OUTBREAK OF HILL FIRES THERE.

IN THIS CONNECTION, HE ADDED, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT HAD BUILT 300 BARBECUE PITS AND NEARLY 500 PICNIC TABLES AND BENCHES AT MORE THAN 100 SCENIC AND POPULAR SPOTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR PICNICKERS.

MORE SUCH FACILITIES ARE BEING PROVIDED, AND NEW PICNIC AND BARBECUE PLACES ARE BEING SET UP AT A RATE OF APPROXIMATELY ONE PER WEEK.

BARBECUE FIRES OFTEN PROVE TO BE A FIRE HAZARD. +BY PROVIDING PROPER BARBECUE FACILITIES, IT IS HOPED THAT THE RISK OF HILL FIRE CAN BE REDUCED.+

THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED THAT THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOLLOWED SERIOUS FIRE THREAT POSED TO VEGETATION DUE TO THE CARELESSNESS OF THOSE VISITING OR LIVING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE. +WITH MORE AND MORE PEOPLE VISITING THE COUNTRYSIDE, THIS HAZARD BEGINS TO TAKE ON ALARMING PROPORTIONS.+

THE AVERAGE INCIDENCE OF HILL FIRES OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS HAD BEEN IN EXCESS OF 500 PER DRY SEASON, WITH UPWARDS OF 100 OUTBREAKS BEING REPORTED IN A SINGLE DAY AS AN EXTREME.

THE 1973/74 FIRE SEASON WAS ONE OF THE WORST ON RECORD, WITH ABOUT 1,200 OUTBREAKS REPORTED. THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO 700 OF THEM WHICH AFFECTED ABOUT 4,000 ACRES OF WOODLAND AREAS MANAGED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

/THE REMAINDER .....

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THE REMAINDER OF THE FIRES AFFECTED ANOTHER 3,500 ACRES OF LAND IN OPEN COUNTRYSIDE NEAR GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS. DURING THE SAME YEAR, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT ALSO DEALT WITH 1,420 CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE WITH GRASS AND ROADSIDE FIRES.

+FIRE IS THE GREATEST SINGLE DANGER TO THE COUNTRYSIDE SINCE IT SERIOUSLY HARMS THE ENVIRONMENT. EVERY DRY SEASON, OUTBREAKS OF FIRE OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE DESTROYING THE VEGETATION COVER, RENDERING IT USELESS AS A HABITAT FOR WILD LIFE AND DIMINISHING ITS VALUE AS A RECREATIONAL AND WATER-GATHERING RESOURCE.

+REPEATED BURNING LEAVES THE LAND VULNERABLE TO EROSION RESULTING IN THE SILTING-UP OF RESERVOIRS AND WATER COURSES AND CREATING A DRY BARREN LANDSCAPE.+ HE SAID.

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WATER SITUATION REPORT

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THE TOTAL WATER STORAGE IN ALL RESERVOIRS AS AT 9 A.M. TODAY (FRIDAY) STOOD AT 54,259 MILLION GALLONS, REPRESENTING 80.6 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY OF 67,300 MILLION GALLONS. AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR THERE WERE 57,960 MILLION GALLONS IN STORE.

THIS MORNING'S STORAGE AT PLOVER COVE WAS 38,651 MILLION GALLONS, COMPARED WITH 45,348 MILLION GALLONS ON THE SAME DAY LAST YEAR. PLOVER COVE'S PRESENT STORAGE REPRESENTS 76.5 PER CENT OF ITS FULL CAPACITY OF 50,500 MILLION GALLONS.

NO 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 2,112.3 MM (83.16 IN).

THE MEAN AVERAGE RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 STANDS AT 2,131.0 MM (83.90 IN), REPRESENTING A SHORTFALL OF 0.9 PER CENT.

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AUGUST ACCOUNTS SHOW \$202 M. DEFICIT

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1974 SHOW A DEFICIT OF \$202 MILLION COMPARED WITH A DEFICIT OF \$106 MILLION IN AUGUST LAST YEAR.

THIS HAS RESULTED IN AN ACCUMULATED DEFICIT OF \$590 MILLION FOR THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE MONTH AT \$302 MILLION WAS \$26 MILLION MORE THAN IN AUGUST 1973.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE AMOUNTED TO \$504 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF \$123 MILLION OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO INCREASED SPENDING ON PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS, PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS AND EDUCATION SUBVENTIONS.

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NEW FEES FOR PARTICULAR SERVICES AND DOCUMENTS  
FEW MOTORISTS TO BE AFFECTED.  
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FEES FOR CERTAIN PARTICULAR SERVICES AND DOCUMENTS, WHICH ARE REQUIRED FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT BY A SMALL NUMBER OF MOTORISTS ONLY, ARE REVISED AS FROM TODAY.

THESE FEES HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED FOR AT LEAST 13 YEARS, AND THE REVISION IS TO REFLECT THE CONSIDERABLE ADMINISTRATIVE COST INVOLVED IN THE SERVICE OR IN THE ISSUE OF THE DOCUMENT.

UNDER THE NEW RATES, CHARGES FOR NINE CATEGORIES OF SPECIFIC SERVICES AND DOCUMENTS ARE RAISED TO \$15. THESE ARE THE INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, INTERNATIONAL FISCAL PERMIT, INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MAXIMUM LOAD, INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT, CERTIFICATE OF PARTICULARS OF MOTOR VEHICLE, TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP, AND DUPLICATES OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION BOOK, VEHICLE LICENCE DISC AND TRADE LICENCE.

IN CASES WHERE THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IS SATISFIED THAT THE PARTICULARS OF THE LICENCE DISC HAVE BECOME ILLEGIBLE THROUGH NO FAULT OF THE REGISTERED OWNER, THE NEW SPECIAL FEE FOR A DUPLICATE VEHICLE LICENCE DISC OR A DUPLICATE TRADE LICENCE IS \$3.

AS REGARDS OTHER PARTICULAR DOCUMENTS AND SERVICES, THE NEW CHARGES ARE : \$5 FOR A DUPLICATE CAR CLEANER'S PERMIT- \$50 FOR A DUPLICATE INSTRUCTOR'S LICENCE OR A DUPLICATE DRIVING LICENCE- AND \$300 FOR THE TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION MARK.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY POINTED OUT THAT TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION MARK, FOR WHICH THE FEE IS NOW \$200, INVOLVES CONSIDERABLE WORK, NOT ONLY AT THE TIME THE TRANSFER IS MADE, BUT ALSO IN ANY SUBSEQUENT SEARCHING OF RECORDS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT WHEN A VEHICLE HAS ITS REGISTRATION NUMBER CHANGED, IT IS NECESSARY TO INCORPORATE IN THE RECORDS INFORMATION THAT WILL ALLOW THE HISTORY OF THE VEHICLE TO BE TRACED, NOTWITHSTANDING THAT IT MAY HAVE HAD MORE THAN ONE REGISTRATION NUMBER.

SIMILARLY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE FEE FOR A DUPLICATE DRIVING OR INSTRUCTOR'S LICENCE WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$10 TO \$50 BECAUSE DUPLICATE LICENCES ARE A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF MALPRACTICE AND THEREFORE ENQUIRIES HAVE TO BE MADE ABOUT HOW THE ORIGINAL LICENCE WAS LOST.

+THIS AGAIN INVOLVES, BOTH FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE, MUCH TIME AND EFFORT, WHICH THE REVISED CHARGE WILL REFLECT MORE ADEQUATELY,+ HE ADDED.

HE STRESSED THAT THE FEE REVISION WOULD NOT AFFECT MANY MOTORISTS SINCE THE DOCUMENTS OR SERVICES WERE ONLY INFREQUENTLY REQUIRED FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSES BY A SMALL SECTION OF THE MOTORING PUBLIC.

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CHILD DEVELOPMENT

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YOUTH WORK AGENCIES PLAY JUST AS IMPORTANT A PART IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT AS SCHOOLS, MR. ALFRED CHUI, PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION SAID TODAY.

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION HOMANTIN CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND LIBRARY IN BLOCK 4 OF THE HOMANTIN ESTATE IN KOWLOON.

HE NOTED THAT THE UP-BRINGING OF A CHILD NORMALLY RESTED WITH THE PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL. BUT WHERE AS SCHOOL EDUCATION WAS INHERENTLY MORE ORGANISED IN FORM, CHILDREN OR YOUTH WORK OFFERED OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREATER FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND EXPRESSION.

+WHERE THE FORMAL CURRICULUM STRESSES ON IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE, CHILDREN ACTIVITIES PROMOTE FREE PLAY AND EXPERIMENT. WHERE CLASS WORK TENDS TO EMPHASIZE INDIVIDUAL ATTAINMENT, CHILDREN PROGRAMMES ACCENTUATE MUTUAL HELP AND CO-OPERATION.+

IN OTHER WORDS, MR. CHUI SAID, A CHILDREN OR YOUTH WORK AGENCY PROVIDES THE SOCIALISATION PROCESS FOR A CHILD BRINGING IT BEYOND THE SMALL CIRCLES OF THE FAMILY AND THE SCHOOL.

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

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MAJOR ROAD PROJECT IN NEW TERRITORIES

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WORK IS TO START NEXT MONTH ON A NETWORK OF ROADS TO LINK SHA TIN NEW TOWN AND THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AREA IN FO TAN.

ABOUT 9,500 SQUARE METRES OF PAVED ROADWAY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED, PROVIDING DIRECT ACCESS TO (FO TAN) WHICH WILL PROVIDE SIX HECTARES OF LAND FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

ASSOCIATED WITH THE ROAD PROJECT WILL BE THE PROVISION OF SUCH ANCILLARY FACILITIES AS KERBING, FOOTPATHS AND DRAINAGE.

AT THE SAME TIME, A TRUNK SEWER MEASURING 600 MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER AND 700 METRES IN LENGTH WILL ALSO BE LAID. THE SEWER WILL BE CONNECTD TO THE HALF-COMPLETED TEMPORARY SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS IN SHA TIN.

WORK ON THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY NEXT SEPTEMBER.

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PUMPING STATION FOR HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR

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TENDERS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PUMPING STATION, ACCESS ROAD AND PIPELINE NEAR HOI HA IN TAI PO.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST OF EIGHT PUMPING STATIONS TO BE BUILT AS PART OF THE HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME TO DEVELOP THE LOWLAND CATCHMENTS IN THE SAI KUNG PENINSULA.

FLOOD WATER FROM THE CATCHMENT TO THE SOUTH OF HOI HA VILLAGE WILL BE ABSTRACTED FROM THE STREAM. IT WILL THEN BE PUMPED, THROUGH A 600-MM DIAMETER PIPELINE OF 1.9 KILOMETRES IN LENGTH, TO A POINT FROM WHERE IT WILL FLOW THROUGH THE TUNNEL SYSTEM TO THE HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR BOTH OF WHICH ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

AN ACCESS ROAD MEASURING 3.1 KILOMETRES IN LENGTH AND SIX METRES WIDE WILL BE CONSTRUCTED TO THE PUMPING STATION AND HOI HA VILLAGE AS PART OF THE CONTRACT.

LOCAL WATER SUPPLIES FOR DOMESTIC AND AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES WILL BE MAINTAINED DURING AND AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PUMPING STATION.

IMPROVEMENT WORKS INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER CHANNELS AND PIPELINES WILL ALSO BE CARRIED OUT TO IMPROVE THE IRRIGATION SUPPLY OF THE FIELDS AND THE DOMESTIC NEEDS OF VILLAGERS LIVING IN THE AREA AFFECTED BY THE WATER SCHEME.

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BEFRIENDING THE ELDERLY

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A GROUP OF YOUNG VOLUNTEERS FROM FIVE YOUTH AGENCIES IN EASTERN DISTRICT WILL MAKE A GOODWILL VISIT TOMORROW TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON WITH THE OLD FOLK IN ST. MARY'S HOME FOR THE AGED IN ABERDEEN.

THE YOUTHS ARE FROM THE SALVATION ARMY SHAUKIWAN CENTRE, ST. JUDE'S CHURCH, ZION YOUTH CENTRE, THE SHAUKIWAN SECONDARY SCHOOL'S YOUTH SERVICE GROUP AND THE SHAUKIWAN YOUTH COUNCIL.

DURING THE VISIT, THEY WILL ENTERTAIN THE RESIDENTS OF THE HOME WITH SONGS AND DANCES AS WELL AS PRESENT THEM WITH SMALL GIFTS.

THE VISIT WAS ARRANGED THROUGH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S EASTERN DISTRICT COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE.

THE AIM WAS TO PROVIDE MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH SERVICE GROUPS TO MEET WITH ONE AND OTHER FOR A COMMON CAUSE AND TO ENABLE THEM TO GET A BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF EXISTING SOCIAL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THE ELDERLY.

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SYMPOSIUM FOR SCHOOL HEADS AND SOCIAL WORKERS

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A SYMPOSIUM FOR HEADS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND SOCIAL WORKERS IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE HELD TOMORROW MORNING AT THE LEE KAU YAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL IN SAN PO KONG.

THEY WILL DISCUSS EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOLS AND THE EXTENT OF THE ALLEGED INFILTRATION OF BAD ELEMENTS INTO SCHOOLS.

ABOUT 130 HEADMASTERS/ HEADMISTRESSES, PREFECTS, TEACHERS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS WILL ATTEND THE SYMPOSIUM WHICH LASTS FROM 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

THERE WILL BE THREE MAIN SPEAKERS FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND A REPORT-BACK SESSION.

MR. M.C. CASWELL, PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL TALK ON HIS DEPARTMENT'S NEWLY CREATED RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE AND HOW IT WILL AFFECT SCHOOLS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.

THE SENIOR PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION WILL TALK ON HOW TO LINK EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOLS WITH SOCIAL WORK OF WELFARE AGENCIES.

MR. TANG SIK-FAI, OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE TRIAD SOCIETY SECTION WILL SPEAK ON HOW TO PREVENT AND HANDLE PROBLEMS OF INFILTRATION OF BAD ELEMENT OR CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOLS IN A PRACTICAL WAY.

THE SYMPOSIUM IS ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICER FOR THE DISTRICT, MRS. HENRIETTA CHEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE EVENT.

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MAJOR RECLAMATION PROJECT IN TUEN MUN  
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WORK WILL SOON BEGIN ON THE RECLAMATION OF SOME 305 ACRES OF LAND IN CASTLE PEAK BAY TO HOUSE HALF A MILLION PEOPLE.

FORMING PART OF THE TUEN MUN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION IS LOCATED ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD AT THE SECTION BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK BEACH AND WONG KA WAI.

THE RECLAIMED LAND WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO A SOPHISTICATED MODERN TOWNSHIP, WHICH WILL HAVE AN ESTIMATED POPULATION OF 500,000 BY 1983.

SOME 75 ACRES WILL BE USED FOR PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES WHILE ANOTHER 40 ACRES WILL BE FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

A SELF-CONTAINED TOWN CENTRE COVERING SOME 40 ACRES WILL BE DEVELOPED IN THE PORTION OF THE RECLAMATION FRONTING WONG KA WAI. IT WILL BE EQUIPPED WITH ALL THE FACILITIES THAT GO WITH A MODERN TOWNSHIP, AND IS DESIGNED TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF NEW TOWN'S EVENTUAL POPULATION.

AT THE SAME TIME, LAND WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR WATERFRONT AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, UTILITY SERVICES AND OPEN SPACES AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS PLANNED THAT A 100-FOOT WIDE DUAL CARRIAGEWAY WILL BE BUILT ON THE RECLAIMED LAND TO PROVIDE BETTER VEHICULAR ACCESS TO THE NEW TOWN. IN ADDITION, A PRIMARY DISTRIBUTOR ROAD WILL ALSO BE FORMED ACROSS THE LAND TO PROVIDE A SOUTHERN ACCESS TO THE INDUSTRIAL AREA WEST OF THE SAN HUI RIVER CHANNEL AND TO FACILITATE THE LAYING OF A TRUNK SEWER.

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MARINE DEPARTMENT FUN FAIR FOR STAFF  
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S RELIEF AND WELFARE COMMITTEE HAS ORGANISED A FUN FAIR FOR ITS STAFF, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS AT KOWLOON PARK ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 24) FROM 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE FAIR WILL BE A RAFFLE DRAW. OTHER ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE 13 GAMES STALLS, A MERRY-GO-ROUND AND A NUMBER OF STALLS SELLING SOFT DRINKS AND HOT DOGS.

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR. ALAN FLETCHER, WILL PERFORM THE OPENING CEREMONY AT 1.45 P.M.

ABOUT 500 TO 600 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE FAIR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (FRIDAY) 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

| <u>GRADE OF RICE</u>   | <u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u> | <u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>CHINA RICE</u>      |                               |                                   |
| SEE MEW                | GOOD                          | 1.89                              |
| S.C. JIEN              | GOOD                          | 1.73                              |
| PO NGAI                | GOOD                          | -                                 |
| CHU CHO                | GOOD                          | -                                 |
| <u>THAI RICE</u>       |                               |                                   |
| 100% WHOLE             | GOOD                          | 1.77                              |
| 10-15% BROKENS         | GOOD                          | -                                 |
| A1 SUPER EXTRA         | GOOD                          | -                                 |
| A1 SUPER               | GOOD                          | 1.39                              |
| WHOLE GLUTINOUS        | GOOD                          | 1.72                              |
| <u>U.S. RICE</u>       |                               |                                   |
|                        | GOOD                          | 1.91                              |
| <u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u> |                               |                                   |
|                        | GOOD                          | 1.72                              |
| <u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>   |                               |                                   |
|                        | GOOD                          | -                                 |
| <u>TAIWAN RICE</u>     |                               |                                   |
|                        | GOOD                          | -                                 |

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESAL PRICES OF SWINE

(ALL SOURCES)

|   |   |               |
|---|---|---------------|
| AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY                          | - | GOOD          |
| WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT) | - | 340 (AVERAGE) |

/SUPPLIES AND .....

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1974.

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

| SPECIES          | AVAILABILITY<br>OF SUPPLY | WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) |      |      |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------|------|
|                  |                           | HIGH                       | LOW  | MODE |
| GOLDEN THREAD    | GOOD                      | 5.20                       | 1.70 | 3.50 |
| BIG-EYES         | GOOD                      | 3.90                       | 0.50 | 2.20 |
| SQUID            | LIMITED                   | 5.80                       | 3.00 | 4.20 |
| HAIR-TAILS       | GOOD                      | 2.00                       | 0.30 | 1.00 |
| LIZARD FISHES    | NORMAL                    | 3.30                       | 1.00 | 1.80 |
| CROAKERS         | NORMAL                    | 2.20                       | 1.20 | 1.80 |
| CONGER-PIKE-EELS | NORMAL                    | 3.10                       | 2.60 | 2.80 |
| MELON COAT       | GOOD                      | 3.00                       | 1.50 | 2.40 |
| BREAMS           | NORMAL                    | 5.50                       | 4.20 | 4.80 |
| YELLOW BELLY     | NORMAL                    | 2.00                       | 0.90 | 1.10 |
| MACKERELS        | NORMAL                    | 5.50                       | 2.60 | 4.20 |
| RED GOAT FISH    | LIMITED                   | 4.40                       | 0.50 | 1.50 |
| FORK-TAIL        | GOOD                      | 1.50                       | 0.55 | 1.00 |
| HORSE-HEAD       | LIMITED                   | 6.70                       | 3.00 | 4.80 |
| MELON SEED       | NORMAL                    | 2.80                       | 2.00 | 2.30 |
| POMFRETS         | SCARCE                    | 10.00                      | 4.00 | 8.50 |
| GARROUPAS        | LIMITED                   | 8.50                       | 5.50 | 7.00 |
| YELLOW CROAKER   | LIMITED                   | 6.30                       | 5.00 | 5.80 |

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

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

| TYPE OF<br>VEGETABLE | AVAILABILITY<br>OF SUPPLY | WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) |      |      |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------|------|
|                      |                           | HIGH                       | LOW  | MODE |
| FLOWERING CABBAGE    | LIMITED                   | 3.20                       | 1.00 | 2.50 |
| WHITE CABBAGE        | LIMITED                   | 2.00                       | 0.70 | 1.60 |
| CHINESE LETTUCE      | LIMITED                   | 2.00                       | 0.70 | 1.50 |
| WATER SPINACH        | SCARCE                    | 0.60                       | 0.30 | 0.40 |
| CHINESE KALE         | LIMITED                   | 3.20                       | 1.20 | 2.60 |
| STRING BEANS         | SCARCE                    | 2.50                       | 1.80 | 2.20 |
| SPRING ONION         | LIMITED                   | 1.80                       | 0.50 | 1.20 |
| SPINACH              | SCARCE                    | 4.00                       | 1.50 | 3.00 |
| WATERCRESS           | LIMITED                   | 3.20                       | 1.80 | 2.60 |
| CHINESE SPINACH      | ---                       | ---                        | ---  | ---  |
| LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE | SCARCE                    | 2.00                       | 0.80 | 1.40 |
| TOMATO               | SCARCE                    | 4.00                       | 2.50 | 3.50 |

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