



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1979

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DEATH OF DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES

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MR. JOHN DESMOND SLIMMING, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES, DIED THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING. HE WAS 52.

MR. SLIMMING WAS FOUND UNCONSCIOUS IN HIS FLAT AT THE ALBANY AND WAS TAKEN BY AMBULANCE TO QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL. HE WAS CERTIFIED DEAD ON ARRIVAL. THE POLICE ARE DEALING WITH THE CASE AS A DEATH DUE TO NATURAL CAUSES.

MR. SLIMMING IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE, LUCY AND DAUGHTER, FRANCESCA. DETAILS OF FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS THEY ARE FINALISED.

JOHN SLIMMING WAS BORN IN LONDON AND EDUCATED AT THE KING'S SCHOOL, CANTERBURY. HE JOINED THE ARMY IN 1944, WAS TRAINED AS A GLIDER PILOT AND SERVED WITH THE 6TH AIRBORNE DIVISION IN EGYPT AND PALESTINE BEFORE HE WAS DEMOBILISED IN 1948. HE SPENT THREE YEARS ACTING IN REPERTORY BEFORE ENTERING THE MALAYAN POLICE SERVICE IN 1951. HE WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN A GUNFIGHT WITH COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR WHICH NECESSITATED PROLONGED TREATMENT IN HOSPITAL. HE WAS APPOINTED ASSISTANT PROTECTOR OF ABORIGINES IN MALAYA IN 1954 AND RETURNED TO ENGLAND IN 1957 BEFORE TAKING UP AN APPOINTMENT IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE IN BURMA.

MR. SLIMMING FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN 1968 AS A SENIOR INFORMATION OFFICER. HE WAS PROMOTED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (NEWS) IN 1974 AND DIRECTOR IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR. MR. SLIMMING WAS THE AUTHOR OF SEVERAL BOOKS ON THE FAR EAST, INCLUDING +TEMIAR JUNGLE+, +GREEN PLUMS AND A BAMBOO HORSE+, +IN FEAR OF SILENCE+, AND +THE PASS+.

APART FROM WRITING, PHOTOGRAPHY FORMED ONE OF HIS MAIN INTERESTS.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MAGLEHOSE, THIS AFTERNOON SENT A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE JOHN SLIMMING.

+THE DEATH OF JOHN SLIMMING IS A SAD LOSS TO HONG KONG. HIS PROFESSIONALISM AND DEVOTION TO WORK WAS RESPECTED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND THE MEDIA ALIKE. IN PARTICULAR HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF OUR REFUGEE PROBLEM IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS, AND HE WILL BE SORELY MISSED.+

/IN HIS

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IN HIS MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER, SAID: +JOHN SLIMMING WAS RESPECTED, LIKED AND TRUSTED BY ALL HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, AND HIS DEATH IS A SHOCK TO US ALL. HIS RAPID PROMOTION TO BE DIRECTOR OF HIS DEPARTMENT IS A TRIBUTE TO HIS QUALITIES, ENTHUSIASM AND HARD WORK. JOHN SLIMMING SET A FINE EXAMPLE IN HIS DEDICATION TO THE JOB IN HAND AND HIS PROFESSIONAL APPROACH TO HIS WORK. I WILL SADLY MISS HIS SOUND ADVICE AND JUDGEMENT. PEGGY AND I WILL MISS THIS DEAR FRIEND OF MANY YEARS STANDING; WE SEND OUR SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES TO LUCY AND TO JOHN'S FAMILY.+

THE SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, MR. DAVID FORD, SAID: +I AM SHOCKED AND SADDENED BY THE TRAGIC NEWS OF JOHN SLIMMING'S DEATH. AS A CLOSE FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, I HAVE COME TO KNOW AND RESPECT HIS QUALITIES OVER THE YEARS. JOHN WAS TOTALLY COMMITTED PROFESSIONALLY TO THE WORK OF HIS DEPARTMENT AND ALL OF US IN THE INFORMATION WORLD WILL SADLY MOURN THE LOSS OF THIS MAN WHO CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH TO HONG KONG. MY HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES GO TO HIS DEVOTED WIFE, LUCY, WHO HAS GIVEN HIM SO MUCH SUPPORT AND COMFORT.+

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BANKING STATISTICS AND MONEY SUPPLY FOR MAY * * * * *

THE MAY 1979 MONEY SUPPLY STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY), WITH THE MONTHLY FIGURES FOR BANKS AND FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES. THE GROWTH RATE OF THE MONEY SUPPLY IS STILL SLOWING DOWN, AND THERE IS ALSO SOME SLOWING DOWN APPARENT IN THE GROWTH RATE OF BANK LOANS AND ADVANCES.

THE MAY FIGURES ARE THE FIRST ONES TO REFLECT THE EXCHANGE FUND (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1979.

MONEY SUPPLY

THE MONEY SUPPLY ON BOTH DEFINITIONS ROSE ONLY SLIGHTLY IN MAY. M1 (NOTES AND COIN IN CIRCULATION OUTSIDE THE BANKS AND DEMAND DEPOSITS AT LICENSED BANKS) ROSE BY \$82 MILLION (0.4 PER CENT) TO \$23,437 MILLION, WHICH WAS 27.7 PER CENT ABOVE THE LEVEL AT THE END OF MAY 1978.

/THIS SEEMINGLY

THIS SEEMINGLY SHARP ANNUAL INCREASE REFLECTED A LOW MAY 1978 FIGURE—M1 IS STILL (DESPITE ITS RECENT ERRATIC MOVES) BELOW ITS LEVEL AT THE END OF JANUARY, WHICH WAS OF COURSE INFLUENCED BY THE LUNAR NEW YEAR EXPANSION OF THE NOTE CIRCULATION.

M2 (M1 PLUS TIME AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS) ROSE IN MAY BY \$244 MILLION (0.3 PER CENT) TO \$78,620 MILLION, WHICH WAS 22.3 PER CENT ABOVE THE LEVEL OF MAY 1978.

THE YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE IN M2 IS THE LOWEST FIGURE FOR 15 MONTHS, AND IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS M2 HAS RISEN AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF 14.6 PER CENT, WHICH IS RATHER LESS THAN THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF THE ECONOMY IN MONEY TERMS IN 1979.

BANKING STATISTICS

BANK LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG ROSE IN MAY 1979 BY ONLY \$524 MILLION (0.9 PER CENT) TO \$60,640 MILLION, WHICH WAS 46.1 PER CENT ABOVE THE END OF MAY 1978. IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS, HOWEVER, BANK LOANS HAVE RISEN BY 7.2 PER CENT, EQUIVALENT TO AN ANNUAL RATE OF 32 PER CENT, WHICH THOUGH STILL HIGH IS A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION ON THE GROWTH RATE OF EARLIER MONTHS.

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY OF THE BANKING SYSTEM FELL SLIGHTLY, FROM 48.25 PER CENT TO 48.17 PER CENT, WHILE THE RATIO OF LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG TO DEPOSITS ROSE FURTHER FROM 83.8 PER CENT TO 84.2 PER CENT.

TWO MORE RECENTLY-LICENSED BANKS BEGAN TO OPERATE DURING MAY, BRINGING THE NUMBER OF REPORTING BANKS TO 99.

DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES

DEPOSITS AT THE 246 REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE IN MAY 1979 BY \$1,602 MILLION TO \$16,964 MILLION, AND THE AMOUNT PLACED BY THESE COMPANIES WITH BANKS IN HONG KONG ROSE BY \$251 MILLION TO \$11,951 MILLION, SO THAT THEIR NET DEPOSIT LIABILITIES FOR MONEY SUPPLY PURPOSES ROSE BY \$1,351 MILLION TO \$5,013 MILLION.

LOANS AND ADVANCES IN HONG KONG BY DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE BY \$176 MILLION TO \$10,604 MILLION, AND THE AMOUNT BORROWED BY THESE COMPANIES FROM BANKS IN HONG KONG FELL BY \$136 MILLION TO \$8,106 MILLION, SO THAT THEIR NET LENDING IN HONG KONG ROSE BY \$312 MILLION TO \$2,498 MILLION.

LENDING IN HONG KONG BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES TOGETHER ROSE IN MAY BY \$836 MILLION (1.3 PER CENT).

IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS THEIR COMBINED LENDING HAS RISEN BY 6.6 PER CENT, EQUIVALENT TO 29 PER CENT AT AN ANNUAL RATE, WHICH (THOUGH STILL HIGH) IS LOWER THAN THE CURRENT RATE OF INCREASE IN LENDING BY BANKS ALONE.

THE NET IDENTIFIABLE FOREIGN ASSETS OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE IN MAY BY \$1,369 MILLION TO \$9,543 MILLION, LARGELY REFLECTING A SHARP RISE OF \$1,161 MILLION TO \$22,198 MILLION IN THEIR LENDING ABROAD.

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MONEY SUPPLY

Month ended
31st May, 1979

Million

1. Legal tender coins and notes in circulation (A)		
(i) Commercial bank issues	7,065	
(ii) Government issues	<u>839</u>	7,904
2. Licensed banks' holdings of legal tender coins and notes (B)		1,304
3. Legal tender coins and notes in hands of non-bank public (A) - (B) = (C)		6,600
4. Demand deposits with licensed banks (D)		16,837
5. Money supply (definition 1) (C) + (D) = (E)		23,437
6. Time deposits with licensed banks (F)		30,929
7. Savings deposits with licensed banks (G)		24,254
8. Money supply (definition 2) (E) + (F) + (G) = (H)		78,620

/BANKING STATISTICS

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BANKING STATISTICS

Month ended
31st May 1979

Number of licensed banks : (99)

LIABILITIES

\$ million

1. Deposits		72,020
2. Amount due to banks abroad		60,020
3. Other liabilities		19,730
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Total liabilities :		151,770
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ASSETS

1. Cash		1,304
2. Amount due from banks abroad :		
(i) Demand and short term claims	36,925	
(ii) Time deposits	<u>14,544</u>	51,469
3. Loans and advances :		
(i) Hong Kong	60,640	
(ii) Abroad	<u>18,537</u>	79,177
4. Investments :		
(i) Hong Kong	4,733	
(ii) Abroad	<u>251</u>	4,984
5. Other assets :		
(i) Hong Kong	8,469	
(ii) Abroad	<u>6,367</u>	<u>14,836</u>
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Total Assets :		151,770
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Average liquidity during month 48.17%

/DEPOSIT-TAKING

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DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY STATISTICS

Month ended
31st May, 1979

Number of registered deposit-taking companies

(246)

\$ million

LIABILITIES

1. Deposits		16,964
2. Amount due to banks in Hong Kong		8,106
3. Amount due to banks abroad		24,943
4. Other liabilities		9,043
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	Total liabilities	59,056
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ASSETS

1. Cash		5
2. Amount due from banks in Hong Kong		11,951
3. Amount due from banks abroad:		
(i) Demand and short-term claims	2,902	
(ii) Time deposits	7,285	10,187
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4. Loans and advances:		
(i) Hong Kong	10,604	
(ii) Abroad	22,198	32,802
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5. Investments:		
(i) Hong Kong	860	
(ii) Abroad	663	1,523
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6. Other assets:		
(i) Hong Kong	1,150	
(ii) Abroad	1,438	2,588
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	Total assets	59,056
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TWELVE QUESTIONS FOR LEGCO
* * *

UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL RAISE 12 QUESTIONS AT THE COUNCIL MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE HON. LYDIA DUNN WILL ASK THE GOVERNMENT TO STATE WHAT ACTION IS BEING PROPOSED TO ENSURE THAT THE SUM OF \$4.2 MILLION OWED BY PETER GODBER IS RECOVERED NOW THAT A JUDGMENT HAS BEEN MADE IN FAVOUR OF THE CROWN.

THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN WILL ASK HOW MANY FAKE \$5 COINS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED SO FAR THIS YEAR AND WHAT MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM.

HE WILL ALSO ENQUIRE ABOUT THE CURRENT RATE OF INFLATION IN HONG KONG, AND WHETHER THE PROJECTED INFLATION RATE FOR THE SECOND HALF OF THIS YEAR WOULD EXCEED 10 PER CENT.

IN VIEW OF THE TWO BUS ACCIDENTS WITHIN A WEEK IN WHICH OVER 40 PASSENGERS WERE INJURED, THE HON. HARRY FANG WILL ASK WHAT MEASURES, BOTH LONG AND SHORT TERMS, THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO TAKE TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF SUCH ACCIDENTS.

DR. FANG'S NEXT QUESTION WILL FOCUS ON THE REGIONALISATION OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN THE URBAN AREAS, ASKING WHAT CO-ORDINATING MACHINERY IS OPERATING AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL TO ENSURE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS.

OTHER QUESTIONS TO BE RAISED BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS CONCERN EXHAUST FUMES FROM VEHICLES, NOISE POLLUTION GENERATED BY MOTORCYCLES, SOLAR ENERGY AND OVERSEAS TRAINING FOR LOCAL OFFICERS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

TWELVE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. THEY ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT)(NO. 6) BILL 1979, THE SMALL CLAIMS TRIBUNAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE SHIPPING AND PORT CONTROL (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1979, THE CLEAN AIR (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE WIDOWS' AND CHILDREN'S PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1979, THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (RECRUITING OF SEAMEN) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979, THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 AND THE EMPLOYMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1979.

DEBATE WILL RESUME ON THE ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL 1979, THE RATING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 AND THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1979.

THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 WILL BE INTRODUCED AND GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE.

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OVER \$2,220 MILLION SPENT ON SOCIAL WELFARE IN 1970'S
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THE GOVERNMENT'S EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL WELFARE SINCE THE TURN OF THE DECADE AMOUNTED TO OVER \$2,220 MILLION, WITH THE PROVISION OF \$660 MILLION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR BEING 15 TIMES THE FIGURE FOR 1970-71.

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) WHILE REVIEWING THE MAJOR SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENTS IN HIS ADDRESS AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF PO LEUNG KUK.

MR. LEE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN SPENDING A LOT MORE ON SOCIAL WELFARE AS A RESULT OF DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT ON ALL FRONTS.

FOR SUBVENTION ALONE, HE SAID, THE PROVISION IS ABOUT NINE TIMES BIGGER, RISING FROM \$12.4 MILLION IN 1970-71 TO A STAGGERING \$117 MILLION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

ON THE INFLUX OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, MR. LEE SAID THAT WHILE IT COULD POSE A STRAIN ON HONG KONG'S WELFARE SERVICES, IT WAS AN UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENT WHICH WAS NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN INITIAL PLANNING.

HE STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING QUALITY OF WELFARE SERVICES AND TO ENSURE THAT THESE SERVICES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS WERE NOT AFFECTED.

+IT IS HOPED THAT UNDER THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR, APPROPRIATE WAYS COULD BE FOUND TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM CONFRONTING US,+ HE SAID.

GIVING A CHRONOLOGICAL RUN-DOWN OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 1970'S, MR. LEE SAID THE YEAR 1970-71 WAS BEST REMEMBERED FOR THE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE AREAS OF SOCIAL WORK TRAINING AND SOCIAL SECURITY.

HE SAID THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S LADY TRENCH TRAINING CENTRE AND DAY NURSERY WAS OPENED TO ASSIST WITH THE TRAINING OF WORKERS ENGAGED IN A VARIETY OF WELFARE SERVICES.

A FIRM PACE WAS ALSO SET FOR FUTURE PLANNING WHEN THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK, DAME EILEEN YOUNGHUSBAND, CAME HERE TO ADVISE ON THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF SOCIAL WORKERS, HE SAID.

/IN EARLY 1971,

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IN EARLY 1971, THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME TOOK A DRAMATIC TURN BY PROVIDING CASH ASSISTANCE INSTEAD OF DRY RATIONS.

DEVELOPMENT IN SOCIAL WORK TRAINING CONTINUED INTO 1971-72, HE SAID, WHEN DAME EILEEN YOUNGHUSBAND'S REPORT WAS PUBLISHED WHICH RECOMMENDED THE SETTING UP OF A TWO-YEAR NON-UNIVERSITY COURSE OF SOCIAL WORK TRAINING.

IN 1972-73, MR. LEE SAID AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE WAS REACHED WHEN A DRAFT WHITE PAPER ENTITLED +SOCIAL WELFARE IN HONG KONG - THE WAY AHEAD+ WAS PUBLISHED.

THIS WHITE PAPER, TOGETHER WITH A FIVE-YEAR PLAN MAPPED OUT FOR SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT, SET OUT THE BROAD AIMS ON HOW SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES SHOULD DEVELOP IN THE 1970'S, HE SAID.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE YEAR, HE SAID, INCLUDED THE INTRODUCTION OF WHAT IS NOW KNOWN AS SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE, THE SETTING-UP OF A REHABILITATION DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT, AND THE PROVISION OF A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS TO PROMOTE, DEVELOP AND COORDINATE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES IN DISTRICTS.

IN 1973-74, MR. LEE SAID THE FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENT WAS MADE TO MONITOR AND ADJUST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AGAINST CHANGING NEEDS.

THE YEAR ALSO SAW THE INTRODUCTION OF ANOTHER SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR PEOPLE INJURED OR KILLED IN A CRIME OF VIOLENCE OR THROUGH THE ACTION OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHILST CARRYING OUT HIS DUTIES, HE SAID.

IN OCTOBER 1973, HE SAID, THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING OPENED AS RECOMMENDED BY DAME EILEEN YOUNGHUSBAND TO PROVIDE A TWO-YEAR FULL-TIME NON-UNIVERSITY COURSE LEADING TO A CERTIFICATE IN SOCIAL WORK.

IN 1974-75, HE SAID THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED TO PROVIDE A SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION, INSPECTION AND CONTROL OF ALL CHILD CARE CENTRES.

DURING THE YEAR, THE NEW KOWLOON SOCIAL WELFARE KITCHEN AT CORNWALL STREET WAS OPENED AS A BASE FOR PROVIDING FOOD AND EMERGENCY RELIEF ARTICLES FOR VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS.

MR. LEE SAID THE YEAR 1976-77 WAS MARKED BY THE COMPLETION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT OF A PROGRAMME PLAN AND A GREEN PAPER ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES.

/OTHER MAJOR

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OTHER MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS, HE SAID, INCLUDED THE LAUNCHING OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION, THE PHASED ENFORCEMENT OF THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS AND THE SETTING UP OF A CHILD CARE CENTRES ADVISORY INSPECTORATE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

IN 1977-78, MR. LEE SAID THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS EXTENDED TO COVER THE UNEMPLOYED ABLE-BODIED ADULTS AGED 15 TO 55 INCAPABLE OF SUPPORTING THEMSELVES THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN.

HE SAID THE YEAR ALSO SAW THE PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE PAPER ON REHABILITATION SERVICES AND THE THREE GREEN PAPERS ON SOCIAL SECURITY DEVELOPMENT, SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND PERSONAL SOCIAL WORK AMONG YOUTH.

IN 1978-79, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTED SEVERAL PROPOSALS IN THE SOCIAL SECURITY GREEN PAPER, WHICH INCLUDED A LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT, AN OLD AGE SUPPLEMENT AND A DISREGARDED INCOME SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANT RECIPIENTS- THE EXTENSION OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE TO COVER PEOPLE UNDER INSTITUTIONAL CARE- THE SETTING UP OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY APPEAL BOARD- AND THE LOWERING FROM 75 TO 70 THE QUALIFYING AGE FOR THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE.

IN SEPTEMBER 1977, THE INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL WORK TRAINING BECAME THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK WITHIN THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, HE SAID.

HE SAID PREPARATIONS WERE ALSO UNDERWAY FOR REORGANISING THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT ON A REGIONAL BASIS AS FROM APRIL 1979 TO ACHIEVE GREATER ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY AND BETTER COORDINATION OF WELFARE SERVICES.

AND TWO MONTHS AGO, HE ADDED, THE GOVERNMENT INTRODUCED THE +NO FAULT+ TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME PROVIDING QUICK CASH RELIEF FOR ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDANTS.

IN ADDITION, A COMPREHENSIVE WHITE PAPER ENTITLED +SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1980'S+ WAS PUBLISHED SETTING OUT THE BASIS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN SOCIAL SECURITY AND DIRECT WELFARE SERVICES, HE SAID.

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JOB STANDARDS FOR BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL HAS COMPILED A MANUAL OF JOB STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

THE MANUAL, PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, CENTRAL, TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT \$16 A COPY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE TRAINING BOARD WAS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO ADVISE ON INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY.

THE TRAINING BOARD HAS REVIEWED AND REVISED THE MANUAL OF JOB STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED IN 1971. IT HAS ALSO PREPARED JOB STANDARDS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL JOBS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PREVIOUS MANUAL, AND NEW PRINCIPAL JOBS AT TECHNICIAN AND CRAFT LEVELS.

THE REVIEW WAS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER CHANGES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE YEARS FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL STANDARDS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN THE MANUAL, THE TRAINING BOARD HAS RECOMMENDED JOB STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR 14 TECHNOLOGIST, EIGHT TECHNICIAN AND 17 CRAFT JOBS IN THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY. THE JOB STANDARDS SPECIFY THE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND TRAINING WHICH A PERSON WOULD REQUIRE IF HE WERE TO BE COMPETENT IN ANY ONE OF THESE JOBS.

IT WAS PUBLISHED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- * TO ESTABLISH ADEQUATE AND UNIFORM STANDARDS OF SKILL FOR THE PRINCIPAL JOBS IN THE INDUSTRY-
- * TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS AND TRAINING ORGANISATIONS IN THE PLANNING OF RELEVANT COURSES-
- * TO HELP EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY TO DRAW UP SYSTEMATIC AND PRACTICAL ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR THEIR TRAINEES, AND
- * TO HELP EMPLOYERS TO ASSESS THE COMPETENCE OF THEIR WORKERS.

+THE TRAINING BOARD BELIEVES THAT THESE TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS, IF FOLLOWED, WILL UP-GRADE MANPOWER TRAINING IN THE INDUSTRY WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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SURVEY OF INSTRUCTORS

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THE COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTOR TRAINING OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT A THIRD SURVEY THIS MONTH TO DETERMINE THE NEEDS FOR INSTRUCTORS IN INDUSTRIES, EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND TO UP-DATE THE INFORMATION COLLECTED IN A SIMILAR SURVEY CONDUCTED TWO YEARS AGO.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED BETWEEN JULY 16 AND 31, COVERING ESTABLISHMENTS SELECTED FROM THE MAJOR INDUSTRIES, EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

IT IS AIMED AT ASCERTAINING, AMONG OTHER MATTERS, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- * THE EXISTING NUMBER OF INSTRUCTORS EMPLOYED-
- * THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES, AND
- * A FORECAST OF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTORS IN THE TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE SURVEY.

EXPLANATORY LETTERS TOGETHER WITH QUESTIONNAIRES WILL BE SENT TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FIELD WORK.

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

THE EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE REQUESTED TO RETURN COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE BEFORE JULY 31.

THE INFORMATION REQUIRED 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 IT TO DRAW UP RECOMMENDATIONS ON TRAINING OF INSTRUCTORS TO INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.

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DESIGN VERSUS FASHION
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ONE OF THE GREATEST ENEMIES OF GOOD DESIGN IS FASHION, MR. DAVID JORDAN, DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

+THE DESIGNER'S JOB SHOULD BE TO RECONCILE THE PRACTICAL AND THE AESTHETIC, BUT ALL TOO OFTEN FASHION DICTATES THAT THE PRODUCT SHOULD SHOW NO SIGN OF EITHER,+ HE SAID.

OPENING A SEMINAR ON PRODUCT DESIGN, ORGANISED BY THE ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANISATION AT THE HOLIDAY INN, MR. JORDAN ACCEPTED THAT DESIGNERS MAY HAVE TO COMPROMISE BETWEEN PRACTICALITY AND FASHION.

+BUT, EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO COMPROMISE IN THE END, I THINK DESIGN SHOULD ALWAYS START AS AN HONEST ATTEMPT TO DEVISE THE MOST EFFICIENT PRODUCT FOR THE PURPOSE, WHATEVER IT MAY BE,+ HE SAID.

+WHEN YOU COME TO WHAT WE CAN NOW CALL LATE 20TH CENTURY PRODUCT DESIGN, I SUPPOSE THE GREATEST CHANGE, AND THE GREATEST DIFFICULTY, LIES IN THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE TO DESIGN PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES, SO THE DESIGNER HAS TO TRY AND PUT HIMSELF INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S SHOES.

+THAT IS WHERE THIS SEMINAR COMES IN, CREATING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND GAIN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND INSIGHT IN THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN TECHNOLOGY, PRACTICE AND MANAGEMENT.+

HAVING WELCOMED THE OVERSEAS VISITORS ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT, MR. JORDAN CONCLUDED: +WE ARE VERY GLAD THAT THE APO, WHICH HAS DONE SO MUCH SOLID WORK FOR ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES, SHOULD HAVE DECIDED TO HOLD THIS SEMINAR HERE, AND I'M SURE THAT THE JOINT SPONSORS IN HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DESIGN COUNCIL AND THE PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE, WILL MAKE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO IT.+

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EXHIBITION OF STUDENTS' WORK ON CHINESE HISTORY
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AN EXHIBITION ON THE PROVISIONAL CHINESE HISTORY SYLLABUS WILL BE HELD LATER THIS MONTH TO ENABLE SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS TO GAIN A MORE COMPREHENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT.

ON DISPLAY AT THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION WILL MAINLY BE THE WORK OF FORM 2 STUDENTS OF 17 +MONITORED+ SCHOOLS FOR THE 1978-79 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THESE +MONITORED+ SCHOOLS HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR SPECIAL OBSERVATION WHEN THE PILOT SCHEME OF THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS STARTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1977. FEEDBACK FROM THESE SCHOOLS WERE USED FOR REVIEWING AND IMPROVING THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS.

/ALSO

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ALSO ON DISPLAY WILL BE WORK RELATING TO THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS BY STUDENT-TEACHERS OF THE THREE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

A SEMINAR WILL BE HELD DURING THE EXHIBITION FOR TEACHERS FROM THE +MONITORED+ SCHOOLS AND OTHER SCHOOLS ADOPTING THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TALKS, DEMONSTRATION LESSONS AND AN EVALUATION SESSION.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD ON JULY 18 AND 19 IN THE SCHOOL HALL OF THE HO LAP COLLEGE AT 15 TSEUK LUK STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON. OPENING HOURS ARE FROM 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

IT IS ORGANISED BY THE HISTORY SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE 17 +MONITORED+ SCHOOLS.

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THIRD QUARTER RATES TO BE PAID BY JULY 31
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RATEPAYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT RATES FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1979 MUST BE SETTLED BY 4 P.M. ON JULY 31.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT WOULD BE IMPOSED ON LATE PAYMENTS. A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT MIGHT BE ADDED TO THE AMOUNT, INCLUDING THE INITIAL FIVE PER CENT, IF LATE PAYMENTS WERE STILL NOT PAID SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

HE SAID RATEPAYERS SHOULD HAVE, BY NOW, RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES AND THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SHOULD APPLY FOR A COPY AT THE RATES SECTION OF THE TREASURY, ROOM 203, HANG CHONG BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR, 5 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

+NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DOES NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES SHOULD BE PAID BY THE DUE DATE,+ HE SAID.

TO AVOID QUEUING, RATEPAYERS ARE ADVISED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER BY POST, OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PREMISES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN THE RATING ORDINANCE.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, THERE WILL BE NO REFUND IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED, OR INTENDED TO BE USED, WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES (UNLESS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT).

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TODAY (TUESDAY) COMMUTED THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON SIU YIU-MAN, ALIAS KAM KWAI-CHEUNG, 25, ON FEBRUARY 21, 1978 FOR THE MURDER OF AN ELDERLY WATCHMAN TO THAT OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

SIU, A CONSTRUCTION SITE WORKER, WAS FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING CHEUNG CHUN-KWONG, 62, AT A HOUSE IN YAU OI VILLAGE, TUNG LO WAN, SHA TIN ON MAY 14, 1977.

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WATER CUT

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TAI HANG TUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6 A.M. ON THURSDAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY TAI HANG TUNG ROAD INCLUDING BLOCK NOS. 1 TO 14, TAI HANG TUNG ESTATE.

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