



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Friday, October 27, 1972

## BANKING LICENCE GRANTED TO BARCLAYS BANK

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The Governor in Council has granted a licence to Barclays Bank International Limited to set up a branch in Hong Kong.

It is the first to be granted since the general moratorium on the issue of new licences came into effect in 1965.

A government spokesman explained today that while the moratorium will continue, an exception may be made, under certain circumstances, if an application is received from a bank incorporated outside Hong Kong.

The application may be granted if one, or both, of the following circumstances apply:-

- (a) Hong Kong has a significant export market in the country of incorporation of the applicant bank and there is at present no licensed bank in Hong Kong incorporated in that country;
- (b) in the opinion of the Government, the licensing of the bank would add prestige and expand the facilities available to the public through the banking industry in Hong Kong.

The spokesman emphasised that these circumstances were subject in all cases to two conditions.

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Firstly **that** there must be reciprocity between Hong Kong and the country of incorporation of the applicant bank, with regard to the granting of banking licences; and secondly that only one office of the applicant bank may be established in Hong Kong.

Regarding locally incorporated banks, the spokesman said that the needs of the community seemed to be well served by the existing licensed banks and their expanding network.

"Only in exceptional circumstances would applications be considered for licences for new locally incorporated banks. The applicant would have to demonstrate, in addition to satisfying the normal requirements, that the new bank proposed would serve the interests of the community and enhance the facilities available to the public," he said.

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WORKING GROUP ON CERTIFICATED MASTERS SALARY SCALES

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The head of the Working Group appointed to recommend an appropriate salary scale for certificated masters will arrive in Hong Kong next week and the first meeting will be held soon afterwards.

He is Mr. J.C. Morgan, who is the group's chairman. The members are Mr. Li Fook-wo and Mr. Lo Kwee-seong.

In the meantime, it was announced today that people or organisations interested in making representations should send them in quadruplicate to reach the Secretary not later than November 6.

They should be addressed to the Secretary to the Working Group of the 1971 Salaries Commission, Central Government Offices, East Wing.

In making its recommendations, the Working Group is requested to have regard to (a) the principles and considerations set out in the 1971 Salaries Commission's terms of reference; (b) the position reached in consultations about this matter in the Senior Civil Service Council; and (c) the acceptance by the Government of the principle that salary scales for teachers in government and aided schools should be the same.

In addition, members are invited to take into account any other factors or information which has a bearing on the subject, including representations from the teaching profession and other interested parties.

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APPEAL TO EMPLOYERS TO CONSIDER ENGAGING DISABLED

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Employers in Hong Kong were today urged to take on the disabled as members of their staff.

The appeal came from Mrs. John Marden, the wife of a leading Hong Kong businessman during the second open day of the Social Welfare Department's World Rehabilitation Fund Day Centre in Kwun Tong.

She said the economic independence of the disabled was "a very necessary contribution to the whole process of rehabilitation," and there could never be a surfeit of employers who were socially responsible.

Mrs Marden called for a greater realisation in Hong Kong of the need to see that "social rehabilitation went hand in hand with economic rehabilitation," because it was not enough merely to find work for the handicapped, and then ignore them.

During the ceremony, Mrs. Marden presented certificates of merit to 11 industrial establishments and one government department as tokens of appreciation for their continuous efforts in engaging the disabled following training at the Centre.

The 12 were Carter Semiconductor Ltd., Leung Fat Garment Factory, Universal Knitting Company, Tung Mee Knitting Factory, Man Fung Knitting Factory, Florist Design Corp. Ltd., Crocodile Garments Ltd., the Royal Hong Kong Police Force, Fairchild Semiconductor (HK) Ltd., Lever Shirt Garment Weaving B and D Factory Ltd., Swiss Plating Corp. Ltd., and Texwood (Jeans) Garment Factory.

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The Deputy Director of Social Welfare, Mr. Thomas C.Y. Lee, joined Mrs. Marden in congratulating the recipients of the certificates of merit for their public spirit, and he hoped these "trail blazers" would point the way to others.

"Indeed," he said, "it is considerate gestures such as theirs that encourage this Centre, and the disabled people it serves, to look to the future with confidence."

Mr. Lee described the proposals in the draft white paper on social welfare policy, recently tabled in the Legislative Council, as "serving to confirm the Government's determination to provide adequate welfare services for the disabled in Hong Kong."

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IMPROVED WATER SUPPLY TO THREE DISTRICTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES

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The Government is to spend about \$2 million on improving the water supply to several districts in the New Territories.

The project involves the construction of the Tai Po Tau Treatment Works Extension.

The new treatment works, consisting of an additional clarifier and two rapid gravity filters, is designed to have a capacity of six million gallons a day.

On completion, the entire Tai Po Tau Treatment Works will produce 12 million gallons of fully treated water a day to meet the increasing demand from the Sheung Shui, Fanling and Tai Po Districts.

The work is expected to begin in December and take about 12 months to complete.

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BUILDING IN CENTRAL DECLARED DANGEROUS

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The Building Authority today declared No. 163 Hollywood Road to be in a dangerous condition and ordered demolition.

During routine inspection it was found that the brickwork of the main rear wall of this three-storey prewar building was badly bulged and eroded.

Fractures were also noted in the rear portion of the old party wall adjoining No. 165 Hollywood Road.

As there is a risk of collapse, a notice of intention to apply for a Closure Order in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on December 13, 1972 was posted today.

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NEW ROAD BRIDGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES

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Two road bridges are to be built in the Tai Po District as part of a programme to provide better access to villages in the New Territories.

One of the bridges will be built at Luk Keng and will form part of the third and final stage of the overall Luk Keng to Tai Mei Tuk road scheme.

It will have a carriageway width of 20 feet with a footpath six feet wide on one side.

The other project involves the reconstruction of the existing humped single-lane bridge at San Uk Tsuen on Sha Tau Kok Road.

It will be rebuilt to a width of 24 feet with two six-foot footpaths.

Work on both bridges is expected to begin in December for completion a year later.

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MAGISTRATES BILL PUBLISHED

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A bill, seeking to extend from seven to 14 days the time which an application may be made to a magistrate to review his decision, was published in the Government Gazette today for information.

The Magistrates (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 1972 will be introduced into the Legislative Council next Wednesday.

If enacted, it will also extend to 14 days the period within which a magistrate may, on his own initiative, review his own decision and in which an application may be made to a magistrate to state a case.

A spokesman for the Judiciary said representations have been made that the existing period of seven days is too short.

He added that this also applies, if, as is usual, the record needs to be considered by counsel or the solicitor for the defendant before deciding whether or not to apply to the magistrate for a review of his decision.

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RETIREMENT OF DR. R.J. BARNES

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Colleagues of Dr. R.J. Barnes, Specialist (Medicine) in the Medical and Health Department, presented him with a movie projector today on the occasion of his retirement after serving the department for more than 18 years.

The presentation was made by Dr. J.K. Craig, Deputy Director of Medical and Health (Health) on behalf of the Director and the department as a whole.

Dr. Craig referred to Dr. Barnes' long career in the medical service, which began in 1954 when he was appointed a Medical Officer.

In 1958, he was promoted to Senior Medical Officer. In 1963, he became Specialist (Medicine), and 1970, he was further promoted to the highest segment of the specialist grade, the post from which he was now retiring.

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SWISS FLAUTIST TO PLAY AT CITY HALL

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Famous flautist Alexandre Magnin will give a recital, under the auspices of the Urban Council, next Tuesday October 31, at 8 p.m. at the City Hall Concert Hall.

At the piano will be Miss Nancy Loo.

He will also play Mozart's D Major Concerto at the three concerts by the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra on October 28 and 29.

Alexandre Magnin was born in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1936. He studied in Geneva with Andre Pepin, and at the age of twenty, received a first prize for virtuosity.

He then spent several years with Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, under the famed conductor Ernest Ansermet.

In 1961, he went to Zurich, as a soloist at the Opera House. He perfected his playing with Andre Jaunet, and in 1966 he was awarded the "prix de soliste" by the Association of Swiss Musicians which enabled him to embark favourably upon the career as a soloist.

Alexandre Magnin has given numerous recital in Switzerland, France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Portugal, Marocco and the Netherlands. He has performed with outstanding orchestras and many Swiss contemporary composers have dedicated works to him.

Tickets at the popular price of \$1, \$2 and \$3, are available daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the City Hall Box Office.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.