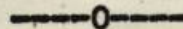




DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1975

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CLEAN AIR REGULATIONS PROVE EFFECTIVE
LESS INDUSTRIAL AIR POLLUTION IN PAST TWO YEARS
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ABLE TO APPROVE ONLY HALF THE APPLICATIONS MADE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS FOR THE ALTERATION AND INSTALLATION OF FUEL-BURNING PLANT UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ORDINANCE AND ITS REGULATIONS. THE OTHER 50 PER CENT WERE NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LEGISLATION.

HOWEVER, THIS APPARENTLY HIGH REJECTION RATE HAS RESULTED IN A VISIBLE IMPROVEMENT IN INDUSTRIAL AIR POLLUTION, ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER, MR. DAVID NEWBURY.

+IT IS ALSO AN INDICATION OF THE HIGH STANDARDS SET BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ITS PROGRAMME TO COMBAT THIS FORM OF POLLUTION,+ MR. NEWBURY SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THE CLEAN AIR (FURNACES, OVENS AND CHIMNEYS) (INSTALLATION AND ALTERATION) REGULATIONS WHICH CAME INTO FORCE JUST OVER TWO YEARS AGO, HAD PROVED VERY EFFECTIVE. IN THE TWO YEARS THE REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN IN FORCE, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT HAS PROCESSED 345 APPLICATIONS AND RE-APPLICATIONS - AND APPROVED 144 OF THEM.

THE REGULATIONS LIMIT THE PERMISSIBLE AMOUNT OF POLLUTION-PRODUCING SMOKE EMITTED FROM FUEL-BURNING PLANT.

+THE REGULATIONS CARRY A FINE OF UP TO \$5,000 FOR EVADING THE LAW,+ MR. NEWBURY SAID. +SO FAR THERE HAVE BEEN 47 PROSECUTIONS FOR THIS - AND 45 OF THEM HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

+THE FINES IMPOSED HAVE RANGED FROM \$100 TO \$4,100, AND THEY TOTAL \$18,000.+

MR. NEWBURY ADDED: +THE LENGTHY AND FORBIDDING TITLE OF THE REGULATIONS HAS TENDED TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM AN EFFECTIVE SET REGULATIONS FOR THE REDUCTION OF AERIAL POLLUTION.

+PREVIOUSLY, THE ANTI-AIR POLLUTION BATTLE HAD TO BE FOUGHT BY INSPECTORS TRACKING DOWN OFFENDERS BY VISUAL EVIDENCE AND CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE.

+THE 1972 REGULATIONS PROVIDE A MORE POSITIVE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH RIGHT AT THE DESIGN STAGE, AND ENSURE THAT ANY FUEL-BURNING PLANT SHOULD BE SO ENGINEERED THAT THE EMISSION OF AERIAL POLLUTIONS IS REDUCED TO THE MINIMUM CONSISTENT WITH OPTIMUM OPERATIONAL AND ECONOMIC LIMITATIONS.+

MR. NEWBURY POINTED OUT THAT THE REGULATIONS MADE IT MANDATORY FOR ANY OWNER OR OCCUPIER INTENDING TO INSTALL NEW FUEL-USING PLANT OR ALTER EXISTING PLANT TO SUBMIT FULL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR.

+THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL UNIT THEN CONSIDERS THE PROPOSALS AND DECIDES ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE DESIGN,+ HE SAID.

+ONLY PROPOSALS THAT ARE OF GOOD DESIGN AND MINIMUM AIR POLLUTION ARE GRANTED AN APPROVAL CERTIFICATE.

+THIS INVOLVES THE UNIT IN DISCUSSION WITH THE OWNER'S ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER.

+IN MANY CASES, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RECOMMEND DESIGN CHANGES WHICH HAVE IMPROVED NOT ONLY THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONAL QUALITY BUT HAVE REDUCED THE CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE OWNER.+

MR. NEWBURY SAID RESPONSE TO THE REGULATIONS HAD BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING, WITH THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS INCREASING AND THE INCIDENCE OF OFFENDERS DECREASING EVERY MONTH.

+INDUSTRY REALISES THAT THE REGULATIONS ARE DESIGNED TO REDUCE A SOCIAL EVIL BY GOOD DESIGN AND TO ROOT OUT AIR POLLUTION AT SOURCE,+ HE SAID.

THE REGULATIONS HAVE ALSO HELPED INDUSTRY SAVE FUEL - AND MONEY - BY IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF FUEL-BURNING PLANT IN HONG KONG.+

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SERVICE RESERVOIRS IN KWAI CHUNG

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WORK WILL START SOON ON A FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR AT LAI KING HEADLAND, KWAI CHUNG TO COPE WITH FUTURE WATER DEMAND BROUGHT ABOUT BY DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA.

THE SERVICE RESERVOIR, SITUATED ON A HIGH LEVEL AREA THAT LIES BETWEEN CASTLE PEAK ROAD AND KWAI CHUNG, WILL HAVE A STORAGE CAPACITY OF FIVE MILLION LITRES (1.1 MILLION GALLONS).

A SALT WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR WITH A STORAGE CAPACITY OF 0.7 MILLION LITRES (150,000 GALLONS) WILL ALSO BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE SAME AREA TO PROVIDE A SALT WATER FLUSHING SYSTEM.

WORKS ON EACH OF THE TWO WATER SYSTEMS WILL COMPRISE A PUMPING STATION, A SERVICE RESERVOIR, A PUMPING MAIN AND DISTRIBUTION MAINS.

COMMENTING ON THE PROJECT, A WATERWORKS OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE TWO RESERVOIRS WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FRESH WATER AND SALT WATER SUPPLIES TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S HA KWAI CHUNG ESTATE AND THE HOUSING SOCIETY'S CHO YIU CHUEN ESTATE BEING PLANNED IN THIS AREA.

THE HA KWAI CHUNG ESTATE, WHICH WILL ACCOMMODATE 19,000 PEOPLE, WILL HAVE ITS FIRST INTAKE IN MID-1977, AND CHO YIU CHUEN ESTATE WHICH WILL PROVIDE HOMES FOR 16,000 PEOPLE, IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1978.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD ALSO SERVE OTHER PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ADJACENT HIGH LEVEL AREAS. CONSTRUCTION WORK ON THE RESERVOIRS WILL BEGIN IN MARCH AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

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SCHOOLS TO JOIN FIGHT AGAINST AIR POLLUTION

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ABOUT 50 SCHOOLS ARE TO TAKE PART IN +PROJECT WINDSHIFT+, WHICH IS A CONTINUOUS EXPERIMENT DESIGNED TO PRODUCE UNIQUE LOCAL WIND PATTERN DATA TO ASSIST IN THE BATTLE AGAINST AIR POLLUTION.

THE PROJECT, WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, IS A JOINT EFFORT BY THREE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS - EDUCATION, LABOUR AND THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY - AND THE CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION. RANK XEROX IS FINANCING THE PROJECT AND PRINTING THE INSTRUCTION BOOKLETS FOR STUDENTS.

THIS PROJECT IS ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION BY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN AN ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT. IT FOLLOWS THE +CLEAN WATER+ SURVEY WHICH WAS CARRIED OUT IN MID-1973 BY 18,440 PUPILS. THAT SURVEY FOCUSES THE PROBLEM OF STREAM POLLUTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES VERY WELL AND THE FINDINGS ARE REGARDED AS A USEFUL ADDITION TO THE INFORMATION ALREADY COLLECTED.

A SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS TO LAUNCH +PROJECT WINDSHIFT+.

EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL WILL BE GIVEN A +HOME-MADE+ ANEMOMETER, THE PROTO-TYPE OF WHICH WAS INITIALLY PREPARED BY THE JOCKEY CLUB GOVERNMENT SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOL AND MODIFIED BY THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

THE INSTRUMENTS, PRODUCED BY A NUMBER OF SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, WILL BE CALIBRATED BY SCIENCE INSPECTORS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BASED ON STANDARDS SET BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THEY WILL BE CAPABLE OF GIVING CONSISTENT AND ACCURATE WIND SPEED READINGS. THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL ADVISE THE SCHOOLS WHERE TO PLACE THE INSTRUMENTS TO OBTAIN THE BEST RESULTS.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS WILL BE ASKED TO MAKE TWO READINGS EACH DAY TO COMPARE WITH THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S OBSERVATIONS AT WAGLAN ISLAND, KING'S PARK AND CHEUNG CHAU.

+AT THE END OF THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR, THE RESULTS FROM EACH SCHOOL WILL BE COLLATED, COMPILED AND ANALYSED BY COMPUTER TO PRESENT THE LOCAL VARIATIONS IN WIND PATTERN+, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

+THESE RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED AND GIVEN TO THE GOVERNMENT PLANNING AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL.+

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IT IS PLANNED TO ARRANGE A SEMINAR AFTERWARDS FOR ALL PARTICIPATING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS IN THE FINAL REPORT.

THE SPOKESMAN WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE STUDENTS WOULD BENEFIT FROM HAVING FIRST-HAND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN GATHERING SCIENTIFIC DATA WHICH WERE COMPLETELY LACKING AT PRESENT BUT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR TOWN-PLANNERS WHO WERE WORKING TO IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT.

THE SCHOOLS INVITED BY THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO TAKE PART IN +PROJECT WINDSHIFT+ ARE SITUATED IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS CONSIDERED TO BE MOST APPROPRIATE IN THIS PROJECT.

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INTERRUPTION OF SALT WATER SUPPLY
IN KOWLOON
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SALT WATER FLUSHING SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF AREAS IN THE EAST KOWLOON DISTRICT WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR 24 HOURS STARTING FROM 9 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 3). THIS IS TO ENABLE RENEWAL WORK ON A 21-INCH SALT WATER SLUICE VALVE TO BE CARRIED OUT AT THE JUNCTION OF SHEUNG HEUNG ROAD AND KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

AFFECTED WILL BE PREMISES WITHIN AREAS OF HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON CITY, TUNG TAU TSUEN, KOWLOON TONG, LO FU NGAM, WANG TAU HOM, WONG TAI SIN AND FUNG WONG TSUEN.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS FOR WORKERS

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, TODAY REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THE FIRST AND SECOND DAYS OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, WHICH FALL ON FEBRUARY 11 AND 12, 1975, ARE TWO OF THE SIX STATUTORY HOLIDAYS UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EARNINGS, AND ALL NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT EARN MORE THAN \$2,000 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THESE HOLIDAYS.

AN EMPLOYEE IS QUALIFIED FOR PAY ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY IF HE HAS BEEN EMPLOYED CONTINUOUSLY BY HIS EMPLOYER FOR THREE MONTHS OR MORE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY. AN EMPLOYEE WHO HAS NOT WORKED FOR THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS STILL ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY, AND HIS EMPLOYER MAY AGREE VOLUNTARILY TO PAY HIM.

+IF THE EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE AGREE, ANY DAY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF A STATUTORY HOLIDAY MAY BE TAKEN BY THE EMPLOYEE AS A SUBSTITUTED HOLIDAY,+ MR. PRICE SAID.

ANY EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYEE WHO IS IN DOUBT ABOUT HIS OBLIGATIONS OR RIGHTS REGARDING STATUTORY HOLIDAYS OR HOLIDAY PAY MAY CONSULT OFFICERS OF 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, 12-422096= AND HONG KONG ISLAND, 5-282523, EXT. 60.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YUEN LONG DURING LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT TWO ROADS IN YUEN LONG WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM FEBRUARY 3 (MONDAY) TO FEBRUARY 11 (TUESDAY) FOR A CHINESE NEW YEAR FAIR TO BE HELD IN THE AREA.

THE TWO ROADS ARE KIK YEUNG ROAD AND ON NING ROAD BETWEEN MA MIU ROAD AND TAI KIU ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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EDUCATION DIRECTOR TO VISIT KWUN TONG SCHOOLS

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, WILL VISIT A MIDDLE SCHOOL AND TWO PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN KWUN TONG ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 3).

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER (KOWLOON EAST), MISS WONG SHU-FAN.

MR. TOPLEY WILL SPEND ABOUT HALF AN HOUR AT EACH SCHOOL. THE THREE SCHOOLS ARE: THE KWUN TONG GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL (A.M.), THE SUBSIDISED KEI CHI MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THE SUBSIDISED GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PAST STUDENTS ASSOCIATION KWUN TONG PRIMARY SCHOOL.

IN KWUN TONG, THERE ARE 91 PRIMARY AND 27 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WITH A TOTAL ENROLMENT OF MORE THAN 138,000.

AFTER THE TOUR, THE DIRECTOR WILL MAKE A BRIEF STOP AT THE KWUN TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WHICH IS IN AN ADVANCED STAGE TOWARDS COMPLETION. THE INSTITUTE PLANS TO BEGIN COURSES IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE SCHOOL VISITS COVERED ON MONDAY. THE PROGRAMME IS AS FOLLOWS:

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| 9.30 AM - | VISIT KWUN TONG GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL (AM), |
| 10.00 AM | NGAU TAU KOK ROAD.
(HEADMISTRESS: MRS. SUEN CHAN CHI-TAK). |
| 10.15 AM - | VISIT KEI CHI MIDDLE SCHOOL, SHUI NING STREET. |
| 10.45 AM | (PRINCIPAL: MR. TONG PO-KWAI). |
| 11.00 AM - | VISIT GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PAST STUDENTS |
| 11.30 AM | ASSOCIATION KWUN TONG PRIMARY SCHOOL, BLOCK 17,
GROUND FLOOR, KWUN TONG ESTATE, TSUI PING ROAD.
(HEADMASTER: MR. SZETO WAH). |
| 11.45 AM | BRIEF STOP AT KWUN TONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE. |

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