

**HONG KONG
GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICES**

**DAILY
INFORMATION
BULLETIN**

Saturday, August 19, 1972

ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN

Dr. Choa Issues Third Warning To Hesitant Mothers

More than 780 children were immunised against measles during the first week of the current nine-week anti-measles campaign -- a total the Medical and Health Department regards as poor.

The Director of Medical and Health Services, Dr. G.H. Choa, said today mothers of susceptible children should not allow the campaign to fail by not bringing their children forward to be vaccinated.

In his third warning within 10 days, he said: "I wish to stress that there is absolutely no need for any child to be exposed to measles, and the danger of its accompanying complications.

"It is quite wrong for mothers to continue to adopt the attitude that it is better for a child to have measles at an early age than later in life."

He repeated that measles, by itself, was not a serious disease, but the complications resulting from it could cause death, deafness, or mental retardation.

Addressing himself directly to hesitant mothers, he emphasised: "Your idea, that immunisation is only to suppress measles until your children get older, is simply not true. I mentioned the other day that a 'booster' dose may be necessary at a later date because it is not yet certain that one dose will provide a life-long immunity."

/Dr. Choa said

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Dr. Choa said the Department had done all it could to impress upon the public that all susceptible children between nine months and five years should be vaccinated to spare Hong Kong future outbreaks of the disease.

A press conference had been held. The resources of the Press, radio and TV had been mobilised. Eighty centres had been set up. Warning slogans had been posted at strategic points in all urban and rural districts.

"Materially," he said, "we have done all we can to get the message across. But we are battling against an age-old belief which pays no heed to the progress of medical science. Enlightened members of the public must help this Department to make the campaign successful. It is a civic duty."

Dr. Choa said while the campaign itself would run nine weeks, free measles vaccine would continue to be available after that at all government maternal and child health centres on a year-round basis.

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NEW MEASURES TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC

The Commissioner for Transport today announced restrictions on public light buses and new traffic routings to improve traffic along King's Road and in the Morrison Hill area respectively.

As from 10 a.m. on Tuesday, August 22, public light buses will not be permitted to pick up or set down passengers on certain sections of the road.

These sections are the eastbound carriageway between Lau Sin Street and Mercury Street, and the westbound carriageway between North View Road and a point about 260 feet to the west of Fortress Hill Road.

To improve traffic in the Morrison Hill area, new traffic routings will be introduced with effect from 10 a.m. on Monday, August 21.

Traffic in the unnamed street lying between Bowrington Road and Canal Road West will be routed one-way from east to west.

In addition, traffic in the section of Bowrington Road running northwards from Sharp Street West to the junction with the unnamed street will be routed one-way from south to north.

Appropriate traffic signs will be posted along King's Road to indicate the restricted area, and, in the case of new routings, to guide motorists.

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POSTMAN RETIRING AFTER OVER 34 YEARS' SERVICE

Mr. Fok Cheung, a postman, is retiring next week after serving the Post Office for over 34 years.

To mark his retirement, a gift contributed by his colleagues will be presented to him on Tuesday, August 22.

The presentation will be made by Mr. Li Yun-gun, Senior Controller of Posts (Traffic) at the Cheung Sha Wan Post Office, Kowloon, at 1.55 p.m..

Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to have the presentation ceremony covered.

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QUARTERS FOR HIGH ISLAND WATER SCHEME STAFF

Quarters accommodation will be provided for the supervisory staff engaged in the construction of the High Island Water Scheme.

Four two-storey blocks will be built at Po Lo Che near Sai Kung to house the staff. They will comprise 24 units with a total floor area of 14,000 square feet.

Some of these units will be allotted on a family basis while others will be shared among bachelor officers.

Tenders are being invited for the construction of the blocks and work is expected to start shortly afterward.

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WEEKLY MEDICAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS

Statistics released today by the Medical and Health Department for the week ended August 5, 1972 are as follows:-

Notifications of infectious cases (previous week's figures in brackets) -- total 190 (196); amoebiasis -- nil (1); bacillary dysentery -- 7 (8); cerebrospinal meningitis and meningococcal infections -- nil (1); chickenpox -- nil (1); tuberculosis -- 174 (174); diphtheria -- nil (nil); enteric fever (typhoid) -- 5 (6); enteric fever (paratyphoid) -- nil (nil); leprosy -- nil (3); measles -- 3 (2); ophthalmia neonatorum -- nil (nil); poliomyelitis -- nil (nil); and scarlet fever -- nil (nil).

Births -- total registered 1,587; 388 on Hong Kong Island, 979 in Kowloon, and 220 in the New Territories.

Deaths -- 447 from all causes; 102 on the Island, 334 in Kowloon and 11 in the New Territories.

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MORE OVERSEAS VISITORS COMING TO HONG KONG

The number of overseas visitors to Hong Kong in the second quarter of this year increased by more than 20 per cent compared with the same quarter in 1971.

Statistics released by the Immigration Department show the numbers of overseas visitors for the months of April, May and June, 1972, were 98,286, 99,171 and 79,828 respectively.

The same figures for the corresponding months last year were 78,839, 83,886 and 66,794 respectively.

During the quarter under review, a total of 433,908 Hong Kong residents travelled to Macao for short visits. Arrivals from Macao totalled 447,274.

Immigration Officers at the Hong Kong International Airport cleared a total of 5,382 inward commercial flights during the same period. Outward clearance totalled 5,362.

The number of jumbo jet flights continued to increase, but this had caused little hardship to Immigration officials dealing with the clearance of their large numbers of passengers.

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TEMPORARY WATER STOPPAGE AT STANLEY

Water supply to certain premises at Stanley will be turned off for eight hours as from 10 p.m. on Monday (August 21).

The temporary water supply interruption is to allow work to be carried out on water mains connection.

The premises which will be affected are all premises in Stanley Main Street, Stanley Market Road and Stanley New Street.

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QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED

The Port Health Authority announced today that quarantine restrictions have been imposed against arrivals from Phnom-Penh (Port and Airport) of Khmer Republic, Cambodia on account of plague.

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278,000 LOTTERY TICKETS SOLD

A total of 278,000 tickets of the 53rd Government Lottery have been sold up to 12 noon today (Saturday).

The winning numbers will be drawn at the Jockey Club in Happy Valley on Saturday, August 26.

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Release Time: 2.30 p.m.