



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, November 27, 1972

PING SHEK ESTATE PUBLIC LIBRARY "VERY POPULAR"

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The Urban Council Public Library set up recently in the Ping Shek Estate has proved very popular with its facilities heavily used by residents in the area.

Set up only four months ago, this library already has more than 5,000 members, which shows it is meeting a growing public need for such services.

With a basic bookstock of some 26,000 volumes, the library recorded about 27,000 book issues for home reading in October alone, and another 28,000 book issues for books read or consulted within the library's premises.

Judging from these figures, the library can be considered the third most heavily used library in Hong Kong, the other two being the City Hall Public Library and the Waterloo Road Public Library.

Mr. Oblitas, Assistant Director (Cultural Services) of the Urban Services Department said: "The density of population, the transport convenience as well as the large number of schools in the nearby areas account for the rapid development of the Ping Shek Public Library."

He said that since its opening, residents in the north-east part of the Kowloon peninsula no longer had to travel to the Waterloo Road or Yau Ma Tei Public Libraries.

/Mr. Oblitas .....

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Mr. Oblitas believes that in densely populated areas such as Kwun Tong, Shau Kei Wan and Sham Shui Po, it is becoming increasingly obvious that public libraries are urgently needed.

There are at present five public libraries run by the Urban Council. Altogether the Urban Council Public Libraries have a stock of 448,000 books, about 65 per cent of which are in Chinese, and some 30 per cent in English with representative collections in French, German, Japanese and Spanish.

As more and more people in search of knowledge are now using the public library services in Hong Kong, the recorded number of book issues for home reading has increased to a monthly total of 170,000.

Since the beginning of September this year all Urban Council Public Libraries have been issuing one extra library ticket to members to meet the demand for wider use of library facilities. Now, members can borrow up to three books instead of two at any one time.

This new policy has been warmly welcomed and 20,000 additional library tickets have been issued so far.

Mr. Oblitas stressed that public libraries are set up to help satisfy people's thirst for knowledge and urged anyone with constructive ideas for the improvement of library services to bring them forward for serious consideration by the Urban Council.

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BRITISH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION SCHOLARSHIPS

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Three of the companies participating in the British Industrial Exhibition held in Hong Kong last month have offered scholarships to suitably qualified candidates from Hong Kong.

The three scholarships form part of the Confederation of British Industry Overseas Scholarships Scheme and are tenable in the United Kingdom during 1973.

One Type 'A' scholarship is offered by the Hawker Siddeley Electric Export Ltd. for a minimum period of twelve months for training in electrical engineering covering the manufacture of transformers, switchgear and the full range of electrical machines.

This Type 'A' Scholarship is for recently graduated engineers and carries with it a maintenance allowance of £936 per annum with fares paid to and from Britain.

One Type 'C' scholarship, offered by the Wadkin Ltd., is for a period of six months in 1973 for training in the manufacture of woodworking machinery and machine tools.

Another Type 'C' scholarship is offered by the Reyrolle Parsons Ltd. for a maximum period of four months in 1973 for training in electrical engineering, electrical switchgear and protection.

The two Type 'C' Scholarships are for more experienced engineers under 35 years of age who have been following their careers for a minimum period of five years. The maintenance allowance is at the rate of £1,140 per annum.

/Intending .....

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Intending applicants should obtain the support and approval of their employers and successful scholars are required to pay their own passages to and from Britain.

Applicants for all the scholarships must hold a degree or diploma in engineering issued by a recognised university, college or institute.

Application forms are obtainable from the Overseas Students and Scholarships Section, Education Department, Lee Gardens, Hysan Avenue, Hong Kong.

Completed forms and supporting documents must be returned to the same office not later than Saturday, December 9, 1972. Late applications will not be considered.

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LADY MACLEHOSE TO VISIT COMMUNITY CHEST AGENCIES

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Lady MacLehose, President of the Community Chest of Hong Kong, will visit three member agencies in Wan Chai tomorrow (November 28) to see for herself the work of the agencies.

The member agencies are the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society's Eastern Centre; the Canossian School and Workshop for the Visually Disabled Girls and the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

Lady MacLehose will be accompanied on her visit by Mr. Lamson Kwok, Chairman of the Community Chest's Campaign Committee; Mr. D.L. Millar, Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee; Mr. G.A. Pilgrim, Deputy Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, and Mr. Colin Morrison, Executive Director of the Community Chest.

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Note to Editors: You are cordially invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover these visits. Transport will be provided. Press representatives are requested to assemble at Queen's Pier at 2.30 p.m. tomorrow where Mr. Thomas Ng, Administrative Assitant of the Community Chest, will meet them. Background information of the three agencies will be provided.

... Lady MacLehose is scheduled to arrive at the Eastern Centre at 3 p.m., the Canossian School at 3.30 p.m., and SARDA at 4 p.m.

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EXPORTS OF RESTRAINED COTTON TEXTILES TO U.K.

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The Director of Commerce and Industry has issued a Notice to Exporters on the subject of exports of restrained cotton textile items to the United Kingdom.

The Notice concerns licensing arrangements for these exports to the United Kingdom for the remainder of the current restraint period ending December 31, 1972, as well as the introduction of a special shipment scheme for the balances of quota remaining uncommitted as at December 5, 1972.

Trade associations and companies on the Commerce and Industry Department's mailing list for Notice to Exporters, Series I, will receive copies of the Notice shortly.

However, persons who wish to seek advance notice of the contents are invited to contact Mr. H.T.W. Lau, Assistant Trade Officer, at Tel. No. H-430719; and Mr. C.K. Ng, Industry Assistant, at Tel. No. H-446789.

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SPEED RESTRICTION ON SHA TIN BY-PASS ROAD

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The Transport Department today advised motorists to take heed of the 30 m.p.h. speed restriction already imposed on the Sha Tin by-pass road and to drive cautiously particularly at weekends and on public holidays.

A department spokesman said action would be taken against those who drive at a higher speed. He sounded the warning in order to prevent further accidents.

He said a number of traffic accidents have occurred on the Sha Tin by-pass road because of motorists travelling at high speed.

In the past six months, he said, there were 22 traffic accidents on the short stretch of road causing one death, three serious injuries and nine less serious injuries.

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PROHIBITION OF LOADING AND UNLOADING OF GOODS

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Loading and unloading of goods by goods vehicles will be prohibited in two Kowloon streets as from Thursday (November 30) to reduce congestion caused by stationary goods vehicles blocking a lane of traffic at peak hours.

A Transport Department spokesman said the prohibition will be effective as from 10 a.m. on that day, between 7.30 a.m. and 10 a.m. and between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. daily in Sai Yee Street, between Prince Edward Road and Argyle Street; and Yim Po Fong Street, between Waterloo Road and Argyle Street.

Appropriate signs to this effect will be erected.

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#### CLEAN-UP OPERATION IN KWUN TONG ESTATE

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The Resettlement Department today launched another massive clean-up operation in the Kwun Tong Estate in which some 300 illegal hawker structures and scores of illegal shop extensions were removed.

A Resettlement Department spokesman said that these illegal structures had been causing severe obstruction to tenants of the estate.

He said it was time that this open space be returned to the tenants.

The cement surfaces on which these illegal structures stood had deteriorated to such an extent that they have to be completely re-surfaced.

Some 140 lorryloads of abandoned articles and refuse were removed during today's operation.

All hawkers now trading in the clearance zone have been given temporary sites in a nearby bazaar to continue their trade.

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#### APPLICATIONS FOR PASSPORTS

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The Immigration Department announced today that with the seasonal relaxation in the demand for passport facilities, it is now normally possible to issue British (Hong Kong) passports in a period of 10 working days.

A department spokesman said that, similarly, renewals or replacement of valid British (Hong Kong) passports can now usually be undertaken within four working days.

The replacement of British passports issued in the United Kingdom will continue to take about six weeks as replacement is effected through London, he said.

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TEMPORARY WATER SUPPLY INTERRUPTION

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Water supply to a number of premises in the Western district on Hong Kong Island will be interrupted for eight hours from 10 p.m. tomorrow (November 28) to 6 a.m. on Wednesday.

The temporary stoppage is to enable the Waterworks Office to connect fresh water pipes at South Lane.

The premises affected are Nos. 20-66 Hill Road; Nos. 506-562 Queen's Road West; and all premises at Woo Hop Street, South Lane and Yat Fee Lane.

Between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. on Wednesday (November 29) water supply to certain premises in Central and Wong Tai Sin will also be stopped to facilitate leakage tests.

The area in Central to be affected by the temporary stoppage is bounded by Queensway, Queen's Road Central to Zetland Street, Murray Road, Harcourt Road and the seafront.

In Wong Tai Sin, the premises to be affected are Blocks 14 to 20, and Block 5 of the Tung Tau Tsuen Resettlement Estate.

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Release time: 7.00 p.m.