



SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME SUCCESSFUL	1
600 APPLIED FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE	2
SOCIAL EDUCATION IS ESSENTIAL	3
+HONG KONG - BRAY'S EYE VIEW+	4
SPORTS EVENT AT CITY HALL	5

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

- 1 -

DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME A GOOD PIECE OF PRISON REFORM

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THERE HAS BEEN A DECREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE OF OFFENDERS UNDER 21, DUE IN PART TO THE SUCCESS OF THE DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME WHICH HAS DEALT WITH OVER 2,300 YOUNG OFFENDERS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MR. J.B. HAWTHORNE AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE OF 79 OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS OF THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT AT ITS STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE IN STANLEY THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

MR. HAWTHORNE POINTED OUT THAT THE DROP HAS BEEN FROM OVER 22 PER CENT AT THE BEGINNING OF 1974 TO ABOUT 15 PER CENT AT THE END OF MARCH THIS YEAR.

HE SAID THE DETENTION CENTRE PROGRAMME DEALS WITH CERTAIN TYPES OF YOUNG OFFENDERS IN A MUCH SHORTER PERIOD AND HE DESCRIBED THE SYSTEM AS A SUCCESSFUL PIECE OF PRISON REFORM.

THE DIRECTOR RECALLED THAT IN THE TWO YEARS 1974-75, THE PRISON POPULATION HAD RISEN RAPIDLY AND CAUSED PUBLIC CONCERN, BUT 1976-77 HAS SO FAR SEEN A LEVELLING OUT OF THE PRISON POPULATION.

TACKLING OF THE DRUG PROBLEM, MR. HAWTHORNE CONTINUED, HAS BEEN ANOTHER SUCCESS.

IN SPITE OF THE VERY LARGE NUMBERS OF ADDICTS WHO ARE STILL ADMITTED INTO PENAL INSTITUTIONS, MANY DIFFERENT MEASURES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN RECENT YEARS AND HAVE PROVEN SUCCESSFUL, HE SAID.

NOT THE LEAST OF THESE HAVE BEEN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FIVE LABORATORIES WHICH COMPLETED NEARLY 350,000 TESTS AND HAVE THUS PROVIDED A MONITORING SERVICE WITHIN THE PRISON POPULATION AND FOR THOSE UNDER AFTER CARE, HE ADDED.

MR. HAWTHORNE POINTED OUT TWO FURTHER IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENTS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

+FIRST, THE SETTING UP OF STAFF CONSULTATIVE COUNCILS TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR STAFF AT BOTH JUNIOR AND SENIOR LEVELS TO AIR THEIR VIEWS, AND SECOND, THE PRISONS SERVICE SWINGS WITH THE TIMES AND ACQUIRES A NEW SUMMER UNIFORM,+ HE SAID.

THE DIRECTOR ALSO NOTED THAT THE PRISONS DEPARTMENT WAS PRESSING FORWARD WITH ITS PROGRAMME OF REHABILITATION: +THE AFTER-CARE UNIT WITHIN THE DETENTION CENTRE HAS A BIG ROLE TO PLAY AND IT HAS CURRENTLY A CASE LOAD OF ABOUT 3,000 INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNDER AFTER-CARE SUPERVISION OF VARIOUS KINDS. THEREFORE, THE PRISONS SERVICE IS ALSO MINDFUL OF ITS NEED TO PROTECT SOCIETY.+

HE TOLD THE NEW RECRUITS THAT THEY COULD LOOK FORWARD TO A WORTHWHILE AND TOTALLY ABSORBING CAREER.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

- 2 -

600 APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM UNEMPLOYED

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED ABOUT 600 APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FROM UNEMPLOYED ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE BETWEEN 15 AND 55 YEARS OF AGE SINCE APRIL 1.

OF THESE, 144 WERE FROM SINGLE PERSONS ON THEIR OWN AND 460 FROM PEOPLE LIVING WITH THEIR FAMILIES. ALL OF THEM HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

OF THE 394 APPLICANTS WHO TURNED UP AT THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, 54 HAVE ALREADY TAKEN UP EMPLOYMENT WHILE 25 HAVE FOUND WORK OF THEIR OWN ACCORD.

THOSE WHO DID NOT REPORT TO THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE WITHOUT GOOD REASONS WOULD BE DISQUALIFIED FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

MR. LU YU-HUA, HEAD OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY DIVISION OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR HAD NOT BEEN MANY. +THIS MAY BE DUE TO THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN HONG KONG,+ HE EXPLAINED.

TURNING TO THE PAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, MR. LU SAID: +IF THE APPLICANTS FAIL TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT FOR ONE MONTH AFTER THE DATE OF APPLICATION, THEIR MONTHLY ENTITLEMENT WILL START FROM THE FIRST DAY OF THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

+HOWEVER, PAYMENT OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE DATE OF APPLICATION.+

COPIES OF A LEAFLET EXPLAINING THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME ARE OBTAINABLE FROM ALL CITY DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE URBAN AREA, DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES AND SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF ALL THE 26 SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS ARE ALSO LISTED IN THE LEAFLET.

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/3

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

- 3 -

INCULCATION OF SOCIAL EDUCATION IS ESSENTIAL
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THE INCULCATION OF SOCIAL EDUCATION THROUGH THE LEARNING OF SOCIAL STUDIES IN SCHOOLS IS ESSENTIAL IN TURNING OUT PUPILS WHO WILL ONE DAY AS ADULTS PLAY A FULLER AND MORE ACTIVE PART IN THE AFFAIRS OF THEIR OWN COMMUNITY, THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MRS. LOUISE MOK, SAID THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

MRS. MOK WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE TWO-DAY SOCIAL STUDIES EXHIBITION AT MUNSANG COLLEGE IN KOWLOON CITY. THE COLLEGE IS ONE OF THE 15 MONITORED SCHOOLS IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS FOR SOCIAL STUDIES ON A TRIAL BASIS. ANOTHER 28 SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS.

SECONDARY PUPILS, MRS. MOK SAID, SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH THE NECESSARY SOCIAL SKILLS TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE COMPLEXITIES OF EXISTENCE IN A MODERN URBAN ENVIRONMENT AND BE WELL PREPARED FOR SOCIAL LIVING.

+OUR THREE-YEAR SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE IS CENTRED ON MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT, DESIGNED TO PROMOTE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

+THE APPROPRIATE APPROACH IN TEACHING THIS SUBJECT IS THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHYSICAL, INTELLECTUAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS, THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATTITUDES AND VALUES, AS WELL AS THE ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE, IN THE MAIN, FORMING ACCURATE JUDGEMENT AND SOLVING PROBLEMS.

+FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PUPILS DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR I HAVE FOUND MANY INTERESTING AND LIVELY PROJECTS WHICH ARE DISPLAYED IN THIS EXHIBITION. THE WORK HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT THE PUPILS HAVE NOT ONLY PURSUED SELF-INQUIRY AND ACTIVITY METHODS BUT ALSO SHOWN WORTHWHILE INTERESTS IN HUMAN AFFAIRS AND CO-OPERATIVE ATTITUDES,+ MRS. MOK SAID.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW SUBJECT OF SOCIAL STUDIES WAS MORE THAN HALF ITS WAY TOWARDS THE THREE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION TARGET.

MRS. MOK ADDED : +YOU WILL PROBABLY AGREE WITH ME THAT SOCIAL STUDIES IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IS SOMETHING MORE THAN A NEW SUBJECT- IT REPRESENTS A NEW MODE OF INQUIRY NOT ONLY EXPOSED TO PUPILS BUT TO TEACHERS AS WELL.

+THE INTRODUCTION OF SOCIAL STUDIES IS NOT MEANT TO DEPRECATE THE DISCIPLINES OF HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, E.P.A. AND HEALTH EDUCATION TREATED AS SEPARATE SUBJECTS- ON THE CONTRARY THE SPIRIT OF THESE SOCIAL SUBJECTS IS BEING KEPT ALIVE IN SOCIAL STUDIES AS AN INTEGRAL WHOLE, WHICH SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED THROUGH A NEW PROCESS OF 'LEARNING BY EXPERIENCE'.

/+PERHAPS

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

- 4 -

+PERHAPS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE FEATURE, AND PERHAPS THE MOST OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE PAST YEAR WAS NOT IN HOW TACTFULLY THE SUBJECT WAS TAUGHT, BUT IN THE ENTHUSIASM AND CONFIDENCE YOU HAVE SHOWN AS TEACHERS OF A PILOT SCHOOL AND THE CO-OPERATION AND EFFORTS DISPLAYED BY YOUR PUPILS.+

SHE SAID THAT INSPECTORS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WERE ALWAYS READY TO HELP TEACHERS WHENEVER THEY REQUIRED ASSISTANCE.

MRS. MOK THANKED THE TEACHERS AND THE SCHOOLS FOR EVERYTHING THEY HAD DONE FOR THE SUBJECT AND ENLISTED THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

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+HONG KONG - BRAY'S EYE VIEW+
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A SPECIAL DOCUMENTARY WHICH HIGHLIGHTS THE PAST 27 YEARS LOCAL SERVICE OF MR. DENIS BRAY, FORMER SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, WILL BE SHOWN ON THE TWO ENGLISH TELEVISION CHANNELS TOMORROW (SUNDAY) NIGHT.

THE HALF-HOUR SPECIAL, +HONG KONG - BRAY'S EYE VIEW+, IS PRODUCED BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG. IT GIVES AN IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF MR. BRAY'S SERVICE IN HONG KONG, STARTING WITH HIS EARLIEST SERVICE WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE.

THE PROGRAMME IS NOT ONLY AN ACCOUNT OF THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES MR. BRAY HAD TO FACE IN PAST YEARS, IT ALSO REFLECTS THE GROWTH AND STRUGGLE OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE SINCE THE FIFTIES.

AS MR. BRAY IS LEAVING FOR LONDON AS HONG KONG'S REPRESENTATIVE THERE, THIS IS A GOOD MOMENT TO SHARE HIS FEELINGS ON THE PROSPERITY AND ADVERSITIES WHICH HAVE SEVERELY AND REPEATEDLY TESTED HONG KONG AND ITS PEOPLE.

+HONG KONG - BRAY'S EYE VIEW+ STARTS AT 10.10 P.M. ON SUNDAY NIGHT ON TVB PEARL AND 10 P.M. ON RTV 2.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1977

- 5 -

POTTED SPORTS FESTIVAL AT CITY HALL

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO VISIT THE CITY HALL THIS WEEKEND WILL FIND THEMSELVES IN THE MIDST OF A POTTED SPORTS FESTIVAL.

THERE WILL BE A SEMINAR THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON IN THE THEATRE ON RECREATION AND SPORTS POLICY IN HONG KONG AND THEIR FACILITIES IN THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS, AS WELL AS A PRIZE PRESENTATION FOR AWARD WINNING SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHS.

TOMORROW (SUNDAY) MORNING, MUCH ACTIVITY WILL TAKE PLACE AT EDINBURGH PLACE IN FRONT OF QUEEN'S PIER WHERE THERE WILL BE A SPORTS DISPLAY.

ALL THESE EVENTS ARE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION OF THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AT THE EXHIBITION HALL, WHICH TRACES THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE IN ITS SHORT 2-1/2 YEARS OF EXISTENCE.

THE EXHIBITION ALSO SHOWS SOME INTERESTING PROJECTS FOR THE FUTURE, INCLUDING THE PLANNED USE OF SOME HOUSING ESTATE ROOFTOPS AS TENNIS COURTS.

THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN TODAY AND TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FROM 9 A.M. TO 6 P.M., WHILE THE SPORTS DISPLAY WILL BE HELD FROM 10 A.M. TO 12.30 P.M. TOMORROW.

THE SEMINAR AND PRIZE-PRESENTATION AT THE THEATRE, BEGINNING AT 2.20 P.M. TODAY, WILL HAVE THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION, MR. JAMES Y.C. SO, AND OFFICIALS OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS SPEAKERS.

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