



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1976

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GREEN PAPER ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES
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A GREEN PAPER WHICH OUTLINES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPING HONG KONG'S REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS IS PUBLISHED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THEM BY THE PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES WILL BE STUDIED CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY DECISION IS TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

IT IS HOPED THAT EARLY NEXT YEAR A FIRM PROGRAMME FOR DEVELOPMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT DECADE WILL BE PUT BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS IN THE FORM OF A WHITE PAPER.

THE GREEN PAPER SUMMARISES THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF A +PROGRAMME PLAN FOR REHABILITATION SERVICES+ SUBMITTED BY AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP IN JULY THIS YEAR.

IT CONTAINS SOME 30 RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH FALL INTO FOUR MAIN SERVICE AREAS:

1. IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES:

THESE SERVICES SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND EXPANDED SO THAT DISABILITIES ARE DISCOVERED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT SERVICES PROVIDED.

2. SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES:

THEY SHOULD BE EXPANDED IN BOTH QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE TERMS. THE NUMBER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PLACES SHOULD INCREASE FROM 12,200 IN SEPTEMBER 1976 TO 38,700 BY SEPTEMBER 1985.

3. MEDICAL SERVICES:

THESE SHOULD BE IMPROVED FOR THE PHYSICALLY AS WELL AS THE MENTALLY DISABLED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THREE ADDITIONAL MEDICAL REHABILITATION CENTRES BE BUILT AND COMPLETED DURING THE DECADE. DAY CENTRES AND HALF-WAY HOUSES FOR MENTAL PATIENTS WILL ALSO BE INCREASED TO CATER FOR INCREASED DEMAND. AND,

4. SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES:

THESE SERVICES (INCLUDING COUNSELLING, RECREATIONAL AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES) SHOULD BE EXPANDED. IT IS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT JOB PLACEMENT AND SHELTERED WORK SERVICES SHOULD BE IMPROVED SO THAT MORE DISABLED PERSONS CAN LEAD A FULL AND USEFUL WORKING LIFE.

/COMMENTING,

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COMMENTING, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE PUBLICATION OF THE GREEN PAPER WAS THE FIRST ATTEMPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW THE DEMAND, SUPPLY AND SHORTFALL OF SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED.

THE GOVERNMENT IS GRATEFUL FOR THE ADVICE GIVEN TO THE WORKING GROUP BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE, WHICH WAS CONSULTED DURING THE PREPARATION OF THE PROGRAMME PLAN, HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT IN ITS PROGRAMME PLAN, THE WORKING GROUP HAD ALSO MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW FUTURE POLICIES AND SERVICES SHOULD BE CO-ORDINATED.

HE SAID: +THIS IS AN IMPORTANT AREA SINCE THREE MAJOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND A LARGE NUMBER OF DEDICATED VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ARE INVOLVED IN PROVIDING SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED.

+THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN PARTICULAR HAS PLAYED A MAJOR AND PIONEERING ROLE IN THE REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED IN HONG KONG AND THE GOVERNMENT LOOKS FORWARD TO ITS CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION IN THIS IMPORTANT FIELD.+

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE GREEN PAPER WAS PUBLISHED IN ORDER THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC MAY BE AWARE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND MAY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED.

+THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT MAKE A FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP UNTIL IT HAS CONSIDERED THE REACTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL BODIES INTERESTED IN REHABILITATION SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESENT SERVICES CAN BE IMPROVED AND THAT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE DISABLED. IT MUST NOW DETERMINE THE EXTENT AND SPEED OF SUCH EXPANSION TAKING INTO ACCOUNT PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMPETING CLAIMS ON THE SCARCE RESOURCES OF QUALIFIED STAFF, MONEY AND LAND.+

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO COMMENT ARE ASKED TO DO SO BEFORE THE END OF DECEMBER 1976 TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO REACH AN EARLY CONCLUSION SO THAT A DEFINITIVE PROGRAMME CAN BE DRAWN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE DISABLED BOTH IN THE SHORT TERM AND IN THE LONG TERM.

COMMENTS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO : THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 7TH FLOOR, MAIN WING, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE GREEN PAPER IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE ARE OBTAINABLE FREE FROM THE MARKETING OFFICE, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. THEY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE VARIOUS CITY DISTRICT OFFICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON, AND AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

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CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG BILL 1976
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A SITUATION WITH EACH COLLEGE DEVELOPING INTO A LITTLE UNIVERSITY OF ITS OWN WAS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE SENSIBLE EVOLUTION OF A MODERN MAJOR SEAT OF HIGHER LEARNING, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON. MORRIS MORGAN, SAID TODAY.

IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG BILL 1976 IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. MORGAN SAID THAT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE UNIVERSITY ORGANISATION WOULD PRODUCE AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OF TEACHING WHICH WAS VERY MUCH IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT PUBLISHED THE BILL LATE LAST MONTH WITH THE AIM TO CARRY INTO EFFECT THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (FULTON REPORT) RELATING TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS CONSTITUENT COLLEGES.

THE FIRST OBJECT OF THE BILL IS TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OVER THE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES. ALL STAFF WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL, AND THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY CERTAIN ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF ARE APPOINTED BY THE COLLEGES WILL BE DISCONTINUED.

MR. MORGAN SAID THAT THE FULTON REPORT, WHICH WAS SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR IN MARCH THIS YEAR, WAS NOT UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED.

+THERE HAVE BEEN THOSE WHO HAVE SUSPECTED THE WISDOM OF HAVING ONLY THREE COMMISSIONERS AND THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THE PERSONS APPOINTED,+ HE SAID.

ONE OF THE OBJECTIONS WAS THAT THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION WERE TOO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY PROPER AND NOT WITH THE CONSTITUENT COLLEGES.

IN REFUTING THESE VIEWS, HE SAID: +AS REGARDS THE SIZE OF THE COMMISSION, EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THREE IS ABOUT RIGHT IF THE DELIBERATIONS OF A COMMISSION ARE NOT TO BE PROTRACTED AND ITS FINDINGS UNDULY DELAYED.

+BUT THE CALIBRE OF COMMISSIONERS IS, PERHAPS, MUCH MORE IMPORTANT AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW THIS COULD HAVE BEEN IMPROVED BY OTHER APPOINTMENTS IN THIS CASE.+

MR. MORGAN SAID THAT ALL THE COMMISSIONERS HAD WIDE EXPERIENCE OF UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY AND OUR LOCAL PROBLEMS IN PARTICULAR.

FURTHERMORE, THEY WERE SCRUPULOUS IN THE CONDUCT OF THEIR BUSINESS HERE TO PERMIT PROPER ACCESS TO ANY INTEREST PERSON OR BODY, HE ADDED.

/MR. MORGAN

MR. MORGAN POINTED OUT THAT SOME HAD CONTENTED THAT THE CORRECT ENVIRONMENT FOR THIS COMING OF AGE TO TAKE PLACE WAS WITHIN A SMALLER INSTITUTION THAN ONE THE SIZE OF THE UNIVERSITY AND, BY INTENSE STUDY WITHIN A RESTRICTED CIRCLE OF TEACHERS AND FELLOW STUDENTS, FUTURE LEADERS COULD BEST BE PRODUCED.

HOWEVER, HE SAID : +HOT-HOUSE PLANTS RARELY SURVIVE THE RIGOURS OF LIFE OUTSIDE TO BECOME STURDY AND VIGOROUS.+

+I DOUBT WHETHER FUTURE LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITY CAN DEVELOP IN CLOISTERED ACADEMIC SOCIETIES, IN CIRCLES DEVOTED TO THE PURSUIT OF A SOLITARY ACADEMIC GOAL.

+WE NEED HIGHLY TRAINED SPECIALISTS CERTAINLY, BUT UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION FLOURISHES IN DIVERSITY AND UNDERGRADUATES LEARN MUCH FROM EACH OTHER.

+ANY ORGANISATION WHICH SEEKS TO SEGREGATE STUDENTS IN ONE BRANCH OF STUDY FROM THOSE IN ANOTHER OR TO DIVIDE A UNIVERSITY STUDENT BODY INTO SMALL ELEMENTS, IS SURELY RETROGRADE.+

+HONG KONG,+ HE SAID, +NEEDS MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE DEVELOPED PERSONAL ASSOCIATES WITH UNDERGRADUATE COLLEAGUES IN DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES SO THAT THEIR HORIZONS ARE WIDENED AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT FULLER.+

MR. MORGAN SAID THAT AFTER CAREFULLY WEIGHING THE ISSUES, GOVERNMENT HAD ACCEPTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION IN PRINCIPLE AND WHEN THE REPORT WAS PUBLISHED, IT WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT. THE STATEMENT ALSO SAID THAT APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION WOULD BE INTRODUCED IN THE COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO UNDERESTIMATE THE RADICAL CHANGE IN THE UNIVERSITY ORGANISATION WHICH THIS BILL, IF ENACTED, WOULD CAUSE.

HE CONTINUED : +AND IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO ADMIT THAT EVERYONE IN THE UNIVERSITY IS HAPPY WITH THE CHANGE.

+SOME WILL FEEL A SENSE OF LOSS WHEN, PERHAPS, THEIR OWN PARTICULAR ROLE IN THE UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE IS TAKEN OVER BY SOMEONE ELSE. SOME FEEL THAT THE PRESENT SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIC ORGANISATION ARE APPROPRIATE AND SHOULD ENDURE.

+BUT HAVING FOLLOWED ALL THE ARGUMENTS WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY AND TAKEN THE BEST ADVICE, GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS THAT CHANGES HAVE TO BE MADE.+

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METHODS OF CLEARING MARINE REFUSE UNDER REVIEW

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THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE INCIDENCE OF SKIN DISEASE AS A RESULT OF PEOPLE SWIMMING IN THE SEAS AROUND HONG KONG, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. ALAN ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON. OSWALD CHEUNG, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS NEVERTHELESS CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO PREVENT THE INDISCRIMINATE DUMPING OF REFUSE INTO THE SEA AND WAS TACKLING THE PROBLEM IN SEVERAL WAYS.

FIRSTLY, HE SAID, EVERY EFFORT WAS BEING MADE TO DEAL WITH POSSIBLE SOURCES OF MARINE REFUSE.

MR. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT POINTED OUT THAT MOST MARINE REFUSE ORIGINATED ON LAND, AND THE NORMAL AND VERY EXTENSIVE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE AND THE CLEANSING OF NULLAHS AND STREAMS CONSIDERABLY REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF THIS REFUSE GETTING INTO THE SEA.

+ONCE REFUSE FINDS ITS WAY INTO THE SEA, ITS COLLECTION BECOMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S HARBOUR SCAVENGING FLEET, WHICH REMOVES APPROXIMATELY TEN TONS A DAY.

+REFUSE FROM OCEAN-GOING SHIPS MOORED IN THE HARBOUR IS COLLECTED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND BINS ARE PROVIDED ALONG THE SEAWALLS OF TYPHOON SHELTERS FOR REFUSE FROM SMALL CRAFT.

+IN THE SUMMER MONTHS THE URBAN COUNCIL PROVIDES AN ADDITIONAL SCAVENGING SERVICE OFF CERTAIN GAZETTED BEACHES,+ HE SAID.

SECONDLY, MR. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT SAID, THE URBAN COUNCIL AND THE GOVERNMENT WERE CONTINUALLY SEEKING PUBLIC SUPPORT IN REDUCING THE GENERAL PROBLEM BY MEANS OF VARIOUS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS SUCH AS THE CLEAN HONG KONG CAMPAIGN.

+IN PARTICULAR A RECENT SPECIAL CAMPAIGN WAS MOUNTED BY GOVERNMENT, ASSISTED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION (EPCOM), ON THE THEME 'KEEP OUT WATERS CLEAN'+, HE ADDED.

THIRDLY, HE SAID, HEAVY PENALTIES HAD BEEN INTRODUCED FOR DUMPING REFUSE IN HONG KONG WATERS. +HOWEVER, IT IS NOT EASY TO ENFORCE THIS LEGISLATION, BECAUSE OF THE VERY LARGE NUMBERS OF SMALL VESSELS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT HONG KONG WATERS, AND BECAUSE IT IS NOT EASY TO PIN-POINT OFFENDERS.+

DESPITE THESE ARRANGEMENTS, MR. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT POINTED OUT THAT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF REFUSE COULD BE SEEN IN THE SEA AND ON THE ADVICE OF EPCOM, THE METHODS OF PREVENTION AND CLEARANCE OF THIS REFUSE WERE BEING REVIEWED.

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MAXIMUM OF 20 QUESTIONS AT ANY ONE LEGCO SITTING
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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY PASSED A RESOLUTION WHICH SEEKS TO INCREASE FROM 15 TO 20 THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF QUESTIONS THAT CAN BE ASKED AT ANY ONE SITTING BY AMENDING THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE COUNCIL.

IN MOVING THE MOTION, THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, DR. THE HON. S.Y. CHUNG SAID: +WITH THE RECENT EXPANSION OF THIS COUNCIL MY UNOFFICIAL COLLEAGUES AND I REGARD IT AS BOTH APPROPRIATE AND TIMELY FOR THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WHICH CAN BE ASKED AT ANY ONE SITTING OF THE COUNCIL UNDER STANDING ORDER 16 (2) TO BE INCREASED SO AS TO ACCORD MORE CLOSELY WITH OUR OWN NUMBER.

+WE DO, OF COURSE, READILY APPRECIATE THAT THE PREPARATION OF ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS INVOLVES A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF WORK ON THE OFFICIAL SIDE AND FOR THIS VERY REASON WE HAVE TRIED TO STRIKE A HAPPY MEDIUM ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH SIDES.+

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GREEN PAPER ON REHABILITATION SERVICES TABLED
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A GREEN PAPER OUTLINING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS WAS TABLED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON. MORRIS MORGAN, TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT IT WAS THE FIRST ATTEMPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW COMPREHENSIVELY THE DEMAND FOR AND THE SHORTFALL OF SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED.

HE SAID THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP WHICH DRAFTED THE PAPER, THOUGH FACED WITH A FORMIDABLE NUMBER OF TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS, HAD BEEN ABLE TO MAKE LONG-TERM FORECASTS OF NEEDS AND TO PROPOSE PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MOST AREAS.

THIS INCLUDED SUCH ISSUES AS HOW IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND EXPANDED= HOW SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES SHOULD BE DEVELOPED= HOW MEDICAL REHABILITATION SERVICES SHOULD BE EXPANDED= HOW SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES SHOULD BE IMPROVED AND HOW POLICIES AND SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION SHOULD BE CO-ORDINATED IN THE FUTURE.

+HOWEVER, THERE ARE STILL AREAS INTO WHICH FURTHER RESEARCH MUST BE UNDERTAKEN AND IT IS PROPOSED TO DO THIS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS IN THE FUTURE,+ MR. MORGAN SAID.

HE URGED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISHED TO COMMENT ON THE PAPER TO DO SO BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR SO THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD REACH AN EARLY CONCLUSION ON THE PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT.

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LABOUR RELATIONS PRACTICE CODE TABLED
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A CODE OF LABOUR RELATIONS PRACTICE COMPILED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WAS TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON. IAN PRICE, INTRODUCING THE CODE SAID ITS PURPOSE WAS TO SET STANDARDS AND TO GIVE PRACTICAL GUIDANCE, PARTICULARLY TO MANAGEMENT, ON THE CONDUCT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES TO IMPROVE HUMAN RELATIONS IN ALL PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT WHATEVER THEIR SIZE.

+IN BRIEF,+ MR. PRICE SAID, +IT SETS OUT IN CLEAR AND CONCISE TERMS THE PRINCIPAL GUIDE LINES FOR THE PROMOTION OF HARMONIOUS LABOUR RELATIONS.+

MR. PRICE SAID THE CODE WAS OF VALUE EQUALLY TO EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, EMPLOYEES AND TRADE UNIONS. IT COVERED SUCH MATTERS AS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE, METHODS OF COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION, GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT POLICIES, RECRUITMENT PROCEDURES, WORKING CONDITIONS, FRINGE BENEFITS AND THE HANDLING OF TRADE DISPUTES.

ITS CONTENTS ARE BASED NOT ONLY ON THE EXTENSIVE AND LONG EXPERIENCE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE BUT ALSO, WHERE APPLICABLE, ON PRACTICES IN DEVELOPED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES.

MR. PRICE SAID THE CODE HAD BEEN UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED BY THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD WHICH HAD EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT, OVER THE YEARS, IT WOULD EXERT A BENEFICIAL INFLUENCE ON RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

MR. PRICE SAID IT WAS HIS INTENTION THAT THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW THE CODE FROM TIME TO TIME AND EXPAND ON IT.

PUBLISHED IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH, THE CODE WILL BE SENT TO THE MAIN EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, MAJOR TRADE ASSOCIATIONS AND TO ALL REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS.

COPIES OF THE CODE ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE AT ALL OFFICES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE AND THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT THE STAR FERRY CONCOURSE, HONG KONG.

COPIES WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO LARGE EMPLOYERS BY OFFICERS OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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PLANS TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN KWAI CHUNG

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HEAVY TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN THE KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL AREA WILL BE EASED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR WHEN ANOTHER CONTAINER FREIGHT STATION IN THE VICINITY WILL BE OPENED, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. D.G. JEAFFRESON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. FRANCIS TIEN, HE SAID THAT AS AN ADDITIONAL RELIEF, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WAS EXPLORING WITH THE OTHER DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED THE POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING A HOLDING AREA FOR GOODS VEHICLES WAITING TO GET TO THE FREIGHT STATIONS.

HE SAID THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION WAS CAUSED BY LATE DELIVERIES OF GOODS FOR PACKING INTO THE CONTAINERS AT THE CONTAINER FREIGHT STATIONS.

+AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THESE DELAYS, GOODS VEHICLES SOMETIMES HAVE TO QUEUE UP TO GET INTO THE FREIGHT STATIONS,+ MR. JEAFFRESON SAID.

+THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN INCREASED RECENTLY BY THE PRESENT BOOM IN EXPORTS,+ HE ADDED.

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NON-ACCEPTANCE OF HONG KONG'S MEDICAL DEGREE QUESTIONED

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THE SECRETARY OF THE HONG KONG MEDICAL COUNCIL HAS WRITTEN TO THE NEW SOUTH WALES MEDICAL BOARD AND THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND ASKING FOR AN EXPLANATION OVER THEIR DECISION TO CEASE ACCEPTANCE OF THE QUALIFICATION OF M.B.B.S. HONG KONG FOR DIRECT REGISTRATION.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. THE HON. GERALD CHOA IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. LEUNG TAT-SHING.

DR. CHOA SAID: +NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM NEW SOUTH WALES.

+AS FOR NEW ZEALAND, NO REASON HAS BEEN GIVEN, BUT IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED THAT THE ONLY TYPE OF REGISTRATION FOR WHICH GRADUATES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG CAN BE CONSIDERED WILL BE PROBATIONARY REGISTRATION WHICH MEANS THAT THEY MUST FIRST TAKE UP A HOSPITAL APPOINTMENT IN NEW ZEALAND FOR AT LEAST 12 MONTHS BEFORE THEY CAN APPLY FOR FULL REGISTRATION AS A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE DEGREE OF M.B.B.S. HONG KONG WAS REGISTRABLE WITH THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND RECOGNITION BY OTHER COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES WAS EITHER THROUGH THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL OR DIRECT RECOGNITION ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS.

+I CAN ASSURE THE HONOURABLE MEMBER THAT WHATEVER ACTION OTHER COUNTRIES MAY TAKE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED KINGDOM REMAINS UNAFFECTED,+ HE ADDED.

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FEWER OBJECTIONABLE COMIC BOOKS ON MARKET

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THERE HAVE BEEN 87 SEIZURES OF NEARLY 9,000 MAGAZINES CONTAINING +HARD CORE+ PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL SINCE THE OBJECTIONABLE PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE CAME INTO FORCE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON. JOHN HOBLEY, SAID TODAY.

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS BY THE HON. MISS KO SIU-WAH, HE SAID SOME 8,000 OF THE MAGAZINES SEIZED HAD BEEN IMPORTED.

IN ADDITION, 196 OBJECTIONABLE FILMS AND 41 FILM PROJECTORS HAD BEEN SEIZED. THERE WERE 70 PROSECUTIONS AND IN 64 CASES CONVICTIONS WERE RECORDED.

MR. HOBLEY SAID THAT THE PENALTIES VARIED FROM THE BINDING OVER OF A STREET HAWKER TO A FINE OF \$12,000 ON A PERSON CONVICTED OF DISTRIBUTING OBJECTIONABLE FILMS.

IN ONE CASE, HE ADDED, A SENTENCE OF FIVE MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT WAS IMPOSED ON A PERSON CONVICTED OF POSSESSING OBJECTIONABLE FILMS AND MAGAZINES.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID: +PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL CONTINUES TO BE AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG, BUT IN SMALL INDIVIDUAL QUANTITIES.+

POLICE ACTION AGAINST IT WAS CONTINUOUS, HE ADDED.

MR. HOBLEY POINTED OUT THAT A PARTICULAR PROBLEM BEFORE THE ENACTMENT OF THE ORDINANCE WAS THE WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF OBJECTIONABLE MATERIAL OF A KIND LIKELY TO BE READ BY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

THE ORDINANCE, HE SAID, HAD A CONSIDERABLE EFFECT ON THE TRADE EVEN BEFORE IT BECAME LAW AND THERE HAD BEEN A MARKED DECLINE IN THE AVAILABILITY OF OBJECTIONABLE COMIC BOOKS.

+THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE TELLS ME THAT THAT HAS CONTINUED TO BE THE POSITION AND THAT PUBLICATIONS OF THAT TYPE DO NOT NOW PRESENT A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM,+ HE SAID.

MR. HOBLEY ADDED THAT 148 COMIC BOOKS HAD BEEN SEIZED AND THERE HAD BEEN ONE PROSECUTION IN RESPECT OF A COMIC BOOK SINCE THE ORDINANCE CAME INTO FORCE.

+IN THAT CASE FINES WERE IMPOSED ON THE PUBLISHER, PRINTER AND TWO DISTRIBUTORS,+ HE SAID.

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PLANS FOR A NEW MACAU FERRY TERMINAL
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THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, THE HON. DAVID MCDONALD, SAID TODAY THAT TENTATIVE PLANS HAD NOW BEEN SUBMITTED FOR A NEW MACAU FERRY TERMINAL INCORPORATING A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX.

HE SAID SEA-BED INVESTIGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT HAD ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED AND DETAILED COST ESTIMATES WERE NOW BEING PREPARED.

MR. MCDONALD WAS SPEAKING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG WHO ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THE EXISTING FACILITIES AT THE TERMINAL OBSOLETE, AND WHETHER PLANS FOR NEW FACILITIES WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AT AN EARLY DATE.

MR. MCDONALD SAID THE EXISTING FACILITIES WERE FAR FROM IDEAL, BUT THE GOVERNMENT WAS IN BROAD AGREEMENT WITH A PRIVATE DEVELOPER REGARDING THE BUILDING OF A NEW TERMINAL IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RIGHT TO CONSTRUCT A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX ABOVE IT.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS WERE NOW BEING WORKED OUT AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY.

+WHEN THEY ARE AGREED BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE DEVELOPER IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO FINALISE ARRANGEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE WAY WILL THEN BE CLEAR FOR THE DEVELOPER TO SUBMIT FORMAL BUILDING PLANS AND FOR WORK TO COMMENCE ON CONSTRUCTION OF THE TERMINAL,+ HE ADDED.

REPLYING TO A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION, MR. MCDONALD SAID THE DEVELOPER HAD NOT YET PRODUCED A PROGRAMME OF WORKS BUT THE COMPANY HAD STATED THAT IF THE SCHEME PROCEEDED ACCORDING TO PLAN WORKS ON SITE WOULD START NEXT YEAR.

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTION FROM DR. FANG, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, SAID THAT THE RECEIPTS FROM THE EMBARKATION FEE PAYABLE BY PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO MACAU WERE \$7.41 MILLION FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1976.

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THROWING OBJECTS FROM BUILDINGS
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THE SUBSTANTIVE LAW RELATING TO THROWING OR DROPPING OBJECTS FROM A BUILDING MUST BE IMPROVED AND THE MAXIMUM PENALTY INCREASED, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON. JOHN HOBLEY, SAID TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON. WONG LAM, HE SAID THE EXSITING LAW, IN SECTION 4 OF THE SUMMARY OFFENCES ORDINANCE, WAS SOMEWHAT UNSATISFACTORY.

+IF A PASSER-BY WERE KILLED, THE OFFENDER MAY BE GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER, BUT THERE ARE MANY POSSIBILITIES SHORT OF CAUSING DEATH,+ HE SAID. +THEY RANGE FROM THE VERY MINOR TO INJURY CAUSING TOTAL INCAPACITY.+

HE SAID MR. WONG HAD RAISED A MATTER WHICH WAS OF REAL CONCERN BECAUSE +TO THROW OR DROP SOMETHING FROM A BUILDING, WHETHER DELIBERATELY OR CARELESSLY, IS SO OBVIOUSLY DANGEROUS THAT I NEED SAY NO MORE.+

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/12

SAFETY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES
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THE GOVERNMENT IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF YOUNG PEOPLE WHO TAKE PART IN OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES PARTICULARLY THOSE WHICH CARRY SOME DEGREE OF RISK, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON. DENIS BRAY SAID TODAY.

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING, HE SAID : +IT IS RECOGNISED THAT SOME COMMERCIAL OPERATORS WHO ARE PROVIDING OUTDOOR PHYSICAL RECREATION FACILITIES, DO SO MAINLY FOR A PROFIT MOTIVE WITHOUT A PROPER REGARD OR KNOWLEDGE OF THE RISK INVOLVED.

+THIS MATTER HAD BEEN OF CONCERN TO THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT WHICH IN JUNE THIS YEAR SET UP A WORKING PARTY TO EXAMINE THE PROBLEM.+

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THIS WORKING PARTY ARE TO CONSIDER WHERE DANGER LIES AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO REDUCE IT BY LAW OR IN ANY OTHER WAY.

+WHEN WE HAVE THE REPORT FROM THIS WORKING PARTY WE SHALL BE ABLE TO PROPOSE POSITIVE MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD THE SAFETY OF YOUNG PEOPLE TAKING PART IN OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES,+ HE SAID.

MR. BRAY REVEALED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO AWARE OF COMMERCIALY OPERATED HOLIDAY YOUTH CAMPS AT CHUK WAN AND TAI MONG TSAI WHICH WERE THE SUBJECT OF PUBLIC COMPLAINT THIS SUMMER.

THE OPERATOR OF THESE CAMPS, HE SAID, WERE NOT COMMITTING ANY OFFENCE AS THEY WERE IN LAWFUL OCCUPATION OF THEIR LAND WITH PERMISSION TO USE IT FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS.

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO AWARE OF THE GROWING DEMAND FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS WHICH WOULD NO DOUBT INCREASE WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF MORE PAID HOLIDAYS.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT OVER 40 CAMPS AND HOSTELS SPREAD OVER HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

+MORE CAMPS WILL NO DOUBT BE OPENED AS AND WHEN MORE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS COME FORWARD AND LAND BECOME AVAILABLE,+ THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS SAID.

+THE PART TO BE PLAYED BY COMMERCIALY OPERATED CAMPS AND HOLIDAY RESORTS IS YET TO BE THOUGHT THROUGH.

+WITH INCREASING WEALTH AND LEISURE OF THE COMMUNITY I AM SURE WE SHALL FIND AN INCREASING DEMAND FOR FACILITIES OF THIS SORT. WE SHOULD SEE THAT THIS DEMAND CAN BE LEGITIMATELY PROVIDED FOR BY ENTREPRENEURS AS WELL AS WELFARE AGENCIES.+

PROVIDENT FUNDS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS
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PRIVATE SCHOOLS OF ALL KINDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN PROVIDENT FUNDS OR JOIN EXISTING APPROVED FUNDS IF THEY WISH AND A NUMBER HAVE ALREADY DONE SO, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON. KENNETH TOPLEY, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM REV. THE HON. JOYCE BENNETT, HE SAID MEMBERSHIP OF THE GRANT AND SUBSIDISED SCHOOLS PROVIDENT FUNDS WAS LIMITED BY LAW TO THE FULLY AIDED SECTOR OF EDUCATION.

+IN THE PRIVATE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS THE NEED TO KEEP FEES AT A REASONABLE LEVEL PREVENTS THESE SCHOOLS IN MOST CASES FROM OFFERING SALARIES ATTRACTIVE TO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATES,+ HE SAID.

MR. TOPLEY POINTED OUT THAT IN THE PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS THE GOVERNMENT WAS ABLE TO GIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS SALARIES THROUGH THE PER CAPUT GRANT SCHEME FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1971.

+IT IS LARGELY AS A RESULT OF THIS SCHEME THAT THE POSITION HAS NOW BEEN REACHED WHEREBY IN THOSE CLASSES CONSIDERED TO BE PART OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THE TEACHERS HAVE ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATIONS AND I EXPECT THIS PROPORTION TO INCREASE,+ HE ADDED.

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WAITING TIME FOR DRIVING TESTS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS RECRUITING 10 EXTRA DRIVING EXAMINERS IN A BID TO SHORTEN THE WAITING TIME FOR DRIVING TESTS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. ALAN ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, HE SAID WHEN THE EXTRA EXAMINERS WERE AVAILABLE AND FULLY TRAINED, THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DRIVING TEST APPOINTMENTS FROM 17,000 TO 22,000 A MONTH.

+THIS SHOULD DO MUCH TO REDUCE THE WAITING PERIOD,+ HE SAID.

MR. ARMSTRONG-WRIGHT SAID THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAD 34 DRIVING EXAMINERS AT PRESENT AND THE WAITING TIME FOR PRACTICAL DRIVING TESTS VARIED ACCORDING TO THE CLASS OF VEHICLE, THE LONGEST BEING JUST UNDER 10 MONTHS. THIS, HE SAID, WAS FOR PRIVATE CARS IN KOWLOON.

+IT TAKES ABOUT ONE MONTH FOR LEARNER DRIVERS IN ALL CATEGORIES TO GET WRITTEN TESTS,+ HE ADDED.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1976

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INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY)
(AMENDMENT) BILL 1976

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CONSTRUCTION WORKS VALUED AT LESS THAN \$250,000 WILL NO LONGER HAVE TO BE NOTIFIED TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY IF AN AMENDMENT BILL IS APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON. IAN PRICE, IN MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID EXPERIENCE HAD PROVED THAT THIS REQUIREMENT HAD PLACED A HEAVY AND UNNECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON CONTRACTORS, AUTHORISED PERSONS AND THE TRAINING AUTHORITY.

MR. PRICE POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY) ORDINANCE A LEVY WAS IMPOSED ON THE VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS UNDERTAKEN IN HONG KONG TO FINANCE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRAINING AUTHORITY.

HOWEVER, SUBSEQUENT AMENDING LEGISLATION PRESCRIBED THAT CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF LESS THAN \$250,000 WERE NOT LIABLE TO LEVY BUT REQUIRED THE CONTRACTOR AND AUTHORISED PERSON RESPONSIBLE TO NOTIFY THE TRAINING AUTHORITY OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE WORKS AS WELL AS PAYMENTS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF THEM.

MR. PRICE SAID THE ORDINANCE CONTAINED A PROVISION OF +REASONABLE EXCUSE+ TO PROTECT THE CONTRACTOR OR AUTHORISED PERSON WHO MIGHT HAVE GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE ESTIMATED VALUE WOULD BE LESS THAN \$250,000 AND THEREFORE DID NOT GIVE NOTICE TO THE AUTHORITY.

HOWEVER, IF THE FINAL VALUE OF THE WORKS EVENTUALLY REQUIRED THE PAYMENT OF THE LEVY, THE TRAINING AUTHORITY COULD ASSESS THE AMOUNT OF LEVY DUE FROM THE CONTRACTOR.

MR. PRICE SAID THAT, THROUGH AN ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TRAINING AUTHORITY AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, THE TRAINING AUTHORITY IS PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ON THE FINAL VALUE OF ALL CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1976

- 15 -

MOVE TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 15), LEARNER DRIVERS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING LAI TAK TSUEN ROAD IN ORDER TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

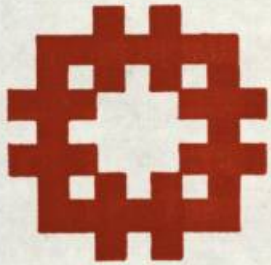
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WATER CUT
* * *

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MONG KOK WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON FRIDAY (OCTOBER 15) TO ENABLE THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY SHAN TUNG STREET, NATHAN ROAD, ARGYLE STREET AND CANTON ROAD, BETWEEN PITT STREET AND ARGYLE STREET, INCLUDING NELSON STREET, RECLAMATION STREET, SHANGHAI STREET AND PORTLAND STREET.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Wednesday, 13th October 1976

\$300 MILLION
REVOLVING FUND
PROPOSED FOR 'FLATS FOR SALE' SCHEME

A proposed "revolving fund" of \$300 million would help finance the Housing Authority's flats-for-sale scheme which would in turn release purchasers' present homes for other people needing public housing.

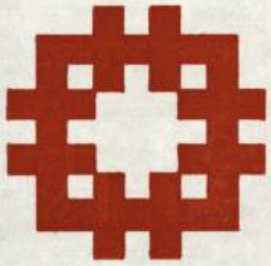
How this proposed fund would work is explained by Mr. I.M. Lightbody, Chairman of the Housing Authority, in the Authority's Annual Report for 1975/76, tabled in the Legislative Council today.

He said the Government had offered to set up the revolving fund of about \$300 million specifically for the Authority to build flats for sale.

"These new blocks will be sold to better off families already occupying flats in the Authority's old (and lower rent) estates, so releasing these flats for reallocation to less well off families still waiting for public housing," Mr. Lightbody writes.

"In this way, we can reach our eventual housing targets more quickly in a financially viable way, while at the same time satisfying the widespread desire for home ownership."

Particular care would be taken to ensure this scheme did not compete unfairly with private developers, he said.



HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Wednesday, 13th October 1976

HOUSING AUTHORITY'S BUILDING PROGRAMME

GATHERING MOMENTUM,

ANNUAL REPORT REVEALS

The Housing Authority's building programme is beginning to gather momentum with twice as many flats completed in 1975/76 as in the previous year.

This is stated in the Annual Report of the Housing Authority for the last financial year, just released.

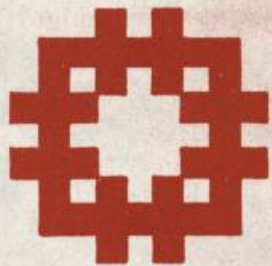
Since it was formed in 1973, the report reveals, the Authority has built 26,000 flats to house up to 173,000 people.

"Production this year was considerably higher than in 1974/75 with over twice as many flats completed (11,027 compared with 5,500)."

It goes on: "The building programme is beginning to gather momentum: seven new estates were started during the year bringing the total of estates under construction to 14, and annual production of flats will be progressively increased over the next few years."

The report also says that the Building Committee has approved new designs for domestic blocks in future estates.

The basic design would create a sense of community among residents by grouping families in small clusters on each floor and would at the same time provide more privacy for individual flats.



HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Wednesday, 13th October 1976

DEFICIT ON FORMER RESETTLEMENT ESTATES

\$80 MILLION A YEAR

HOUSING AUTHORITY REPORT REVEALS

The deficit on former Resettlement Estates was running at more than \$80 million a year, states the Chairman of the Housing Authority, Mr. I.M. Lightbody, in the Authority's Annual Report for 1975/76 which has just been released.

"Clearly, we can never hope to reach our housing targets if new estates require to be subsidised to cover running costs and, so, the Authority is bound to fix rents at a realistic level and to review rents in accordance with the pace of inflation," Mr. Lightbody states.

This might mean that some poorer families would not be able to afford flats in new estates; for them, units would have to be recovered in the older, low rent estates. "In any event, they can seek help from the Public Assistance scheme to meet their rent payments. This is a practicable arrangement and recognises the realities of the situation."

Mr. Lightbody says restraints are imposed on the Authority by its heavy capital expenditure programme.

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房屋委員會報告中透露

一九七六年十月十三日星期三

前徙置大廈赤字

一年達八千萬元

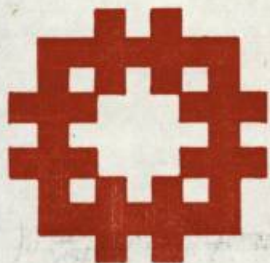
房屋委員會主席黎保德在剛剛發表之一九七五年至七六年度委員會工作報告中陳述，經營以前徙置大廈出現赤字，一年約為八千萬元。

他說：「明顯地，倘若新建的屋邨還需要撥款補助其經營費用，我們就難望可以達到我們的建屋目標，所以委員會必須將租金釐定至一個實際水平，而且更要依隨通貨膨脹的動率加以重訂。」

此舉可能令到一些貧苦家庭未能負擔新屋邨的租金；為了他們，就需要收回在較舊式和租金較低的屋邨內的若干單位。

無論如何，他們可向公共援助計劃方面求助，以應付繳交租金。這樣的安排既實際可行，而且又照顧到這個問題的事實。

黎氏表示：本會所受到其他的掣肘是它的巨大資本支銷項目。



HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Wednesday, 13th October 1976

85,566 PEOPLE REHOUSED IN 1975/76 -

A JUMP OF 32.5 PER CENT ON PREVIOUS YEAR

A total of 85,566 people were rehoused in 1975/76, compared with 64,556 the previous year, according to the Annual Report of the Housing Authority, released today.

This is a rise of just over 32.5 per cent.

Those rehoused were allocated 16,685 flats, giving an average density of 5.13 persons per flat.

Of the 11 categories provided rehousing the largest number were on the waiting list with 36,711 people being allocated 6,733 flats. A further 13,507 people were rehoused to relieve overcrowding in public housing estates.

Through development clearances, 8,053 persons were allocated flats; 7,290 people from estates due to be redeveloped were rehoused.

Other categories rehoused were :

Re-use of licensed area	5,415
Junior civil servants and pensioners	5,280
Compassionate cases	3,701
Victims of fires and natural disasters	3,581
Tenants of buildings demolished as dangerous	1,367
Tenants of properties acquired for urban renewal	309
Others	352

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一九七五至七六年度
八萬五千多人
獲配公共房屋
增長率逾百分之廿二

根據今日發表的房屋委員會工作報告，在一九七五至七六年度共有八萬五千五百六十六人獲配住所，與上年度之六萬四千五百五十六人的數目比較，增長百分之三十二點五。

獲配住所的人士共配得一萬六千六百八十五間房舍，顯示平均密度為每間五點一三人。

在十一種獲配房屋的類別中，最大的數目為名列登記冊之申請者，共有三萬六千七百一十一人，獲編配房屋共六千七百三十三間。此外有一萬三千五百零七人獲配房屋以減輕公共屋邨擠迫情況。

在清拆土地作發展用途的類別，共有八千零五十三人獲配房屋，至于因重建屋邨而獲配住房的有七千二百九十人。

其他獲配住所的類別如下：

類別

- 收回再用之安置區內居民
- 低薪公務員及退休公務員
- 獲恩恤的人士
- 火災及其他天然災災民
- 已拆卸危樓之租客
- 因市區重建計劃而收回之物業之租客
- 其他類別

類別	人數
收回再用之安置區內居民	五、四一五
低薪公務員及退休公務員	五、二八〇
獲恩恤的人士	三、七〇一
火災及其他天然災災民	三、五八一
已拆卸危樓之租客	一、三六七
因市區重建計劃而收回之物業之租客	三〇九
其他類別	三五二