



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1974.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF MEDICAL WHITE PAPER UNDERLINED

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THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. GERALD CHOA, SAID TODAY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WHITE PAPER ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN HONG KONG MEANT A CONSIDERABLE EXPANSION OF EXISTING FACILITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, DR. CHOA REVIEWED THE WHITE PAPER, DRAWING ATTENTION TO ITS MOST SALIENT POINTS.

AMONG THESE WERE PROJECTS SUCH AS NEW HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, THE RE-ORGANISATION OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF REGIONALISATION PLANS, THE RENOVATION OF CERTAIN CLINICS, THE CREATION OF THE DENTAL NURSES TRAINING SCHOOL, AND THE SETTING UP OF A DENTAL CLINIC FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

DR. CHOA TOLD THE AUDIENCE THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEGUN TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN INTEGRATING FAMILY PLANNING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICE.

IT WAS NOW ALSO FULLY OCCUPIED WITH A PILOT METHADONE MAINTENANCE RESEARCH STUDY, AND THE RESULTS OF THIS THREE-YEAR PROJECT WOULD BE CAREFULLY ANALYSED TO DETERMINE THE BEST COURSE TO ADOPT FOR THE FUTURE.

HEALTH EDUCATION WOULD BE THE SPECIAL CONCERN OF A HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT TO BE SET UP, AND ADDED EMPHASIS WOULD BE PLACED ON THE REHABILITATION OF THE PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

THE PROBLEMS OF AN AGEING POPULATION HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE WHITE PAPER, AND THERE WOULD BE GERIATRIC BEDS IN THE HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, AS WELL AS PSYCHIATRIC BEDS.

THE WHITE PAPER HAD TAKEN A CLOSE LOOK AT THE DOCTOR SHORTFALL THAT WOULD BE OCCURRING IN THE NEXT DECADE, AND DR. CHOA REPEATED HOW IT HAD BEEN DECIDED THAT TO MEET THIS SHORTFALL A MEDICAL FACULTY WOULD BE SET UP IN THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, AND A DENTAL FACULTY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

A THIRD NURSES TRAINING SCHOOL WOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN THE NEW PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL IN LAI CHI KOK, AND THE TRAINING OF PARA-MEDICAL STAFF, SUCH AS LABORATORY ASSISTANTS, RADIOGRAPHERS, AND OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSIOTHERAPISTS, WAS ALSO UNDER REVIEW.

THE CAPITAL COST FOR ALL THESE PROJECTS WOULD BE ABOUT \$914 MILLION AT CURRENT PRICES. THE GOVERNMENT, HAVING REGARD TO PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, WOULD BE ABLE TO SPEND ABOUT \$690 MILLION FROM NOW UNTIL 1984 FOR ALL ITEMS IN CATEGORIES A AND B OF THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME. OTHER ITEMS MAKING UP THE BALANCE WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS THE ECONOMIC SITUATION ALLOWED.

THE ESTIMATED RECURRENT EXPENDITURE IS AT \$800 MILLION A YEAR.

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GOOD START TO SECOND ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN

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A TOTAL OF 1,709 CHILDREN WAS IMMUNISED AGAINST MEASLES DURING THE 10 DAYS ENDING ON AUGUST 10 IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECOND ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN FOR THIS YEAR.

OF THESE, 380 WERE INOCULATED ON HONG KONG ISLAND, 799 IN KOWLOON, AND 530 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SECOND ANTI-MEASLES CAMPAIGN BEGAN ON AUGUST 1 AND WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING PRECAUTIONARY ACTION AGAINST THE DISEASE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID THE SECOND CAMPAIGN HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO IMMUNISE MORE CHILDREN BEFORE THE COMING WINTER-SPRING, AND SO PREVENT ANY SIGNIFICANT RISE IN THE INCIDENCE OF THE DISEASE DURING THIS PERIOD.

FREE VACCINE IS AVAILABLE AT ALL THE DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL OUT-PATIENT CLINICS AND MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES, IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SPOKESMAN URGED PARENTS OF SUSCEPTIBLE CHILDREN BETWEEN SIX MONTHS AND FIVE YEARS TO HAVE THEM IMMUNISED IMMEDIATELY.

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FIVE-POINT INCREASE IN JULY G.C.P.I.

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THE GENERAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR LAST MONTH WAS 193 WHICH IS FIVE POINTS OR 2.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THE INCREASE WAS DUE MAINLY TO A RISE OF 10 POINTS IN THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS.

HE EXPLAINED THAT BECAUSE OF A SEASONAL REDUCTION IN SUPPLIES COUPLED WITH STRONG LOCAL DEMAND AS A RESULT OF THE HOT WEATHER, A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF 70 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF FRESH VEGETABLES.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF RICE, FRESH WATER FISH AND MARINE FISH DECLINED.

INCREASES OF ONE POINT EACH WERE ALSO RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS AND THE INDEX FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.

DECREASES OF ONE POINT EACH WERE RECORDED IN THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT AND THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINK AND TOBACCO.

MOVEMENTS IN THE INDEXES FOR OTHER SECTIONS OF COMMODITY AND SERVICES WERE INSIGNIFICANT.

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WORK STARTS ON ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT IN LICENSED AREAS

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WORK BEGAN TODAY ON THE INSTALLATION OF A PROPER ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM AT CHEUNG SHA WAN LICENSED AREA 3.

UNDER THE PROJECT ABOUT 500 PEOPLE IN THE AREA WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE A LEGITIMATE POWER SUPPLY FOR LIGHTING AND GENERAL DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES.

THE INSTALLATION WORK, COSTING MORE THAN \$115,000, WILL TAKE ABOUT FOUR WEEKS TO COMPLETE.

MEANWHILE, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IS FINALISING ITS TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR A SIMILAR PROJECT TO BE INSTALLED AT KOWLOON BAY LICENSED AREA STAGE ONE.

WORK ON THIS SCHEME IS EXPECTED TO START BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH.

TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT ARE NOW WORKING ON THE PLAN FOR ELECTRIFICATION FOR FIVE MORE EXISTING LICENSED AREAS. THESE ARE CHEUNG SHA WAN AREA 2, CHAI WAN AREA 2 AND 3, HIP WO STREET AND SAM KAR CHUEN.

TENDERS WILL BE INVITED PROGRESSIVELY AS SOON AS DOCUMENTS FOR EACH AREA ARE PREPARED.

TWO SPECIAL SQUADS, COMPRISING TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT HAVE ALSO BEEN FORMED TO CARRY OUT PERIODIC INSPECTIONS AND TO GIVE ADVICE TO LICENSEES.

THEY WILL TOUR ALL LICENSED AREAS IN TURN TO INFORM THEM OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PLAN TO ELECTRIFY THEIR AREAS AND TO TELL THEM HOW TO AVOID DANGEROUS ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

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Y.W.C.A. YOUTH WEEK

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE Y.W.C.A.'S YOUTH WEEK AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 24) AT 3.00 P.M.

THE PROGRAMME FOR THE WEEK WILL INCLUDE AN EXHIBITION OF YOUTH WORK, A DRAMA NIGHT AND A VARIETY SHOW.

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EXPENDITURE SURVEY ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS CARRYING OUT A SURVEY AMONG ITS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS, BOTH FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.

MISS CHAN JOY-YIN, PRINCIPAL SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S RESEARCH AND EVALUATION UNIT, SAID THE STUDY WAS BEING CONDUCTED TO OBTAIN DETAILS ON HOW MONEY RECEIVED UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME WAS BEING SPENT ON THE PURCHASE OF DAILY HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

SHE SAID THOSE CHOSEN FOR THE SURVEY HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO KEEP A DAILY RECORD OF THEIR SPENDING, AND ARE BEING PROVIDED WITH THE NECESSARY STATIONERY ON WHICH TO DO SO.

MISS CHAN SAID SUCH DETAILS WILL BE OF GREAT VALUE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED WILL BE USED FOR A GENERAL REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING SERVICES.

SHE STRESSED THAT IT WOULD IN NO WAY AFFECT THE MONTHLY PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS WHICH THE PEOPLE ARE CURRENTLY RECEIVING FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY WILL LAST OVER A PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS DURING WHICH SURVEY INTERVIEWING OFFICERS ON LOAN FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL BE CALLING ON THE VARIOUS HOUSEHOLDS CHOSEN FOR THE SURVEY.

THIS SURVEY IS ONE OF THE PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO KWUN TONG ESTATE AND TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE INTERRUPTED FOR FIVE HOURS AS FROM 1 A.M. ON FRIDAY (AUGUST 23) TO ENABLE TESTS FOR LEAKAGE TO BE CONDUCTED IN BOTH AREAS.

THE PREMISES AFFECTED IN TSIM SHA TSUI ARE THOSE BOUNDED BY NATHAN ROAD, PEKING ROAD, HANKOW ROAD AND HAIPHONG ROAD. BLOCKS 1, 12, 13, AND BLOCKS 15-19 OF KWUN TONG ESTATE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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CONSUMER ADVISORY SERVICE

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THE FOLLOWING PRICES WERE REALISED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT SALE UNDER THE RICE CONTROL SCHEME AND AT THE VEGETABLE MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AND THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKET AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON:

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF RICE

<u>GRADE OF RICE</u>	<u>AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY</u>	<u>WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY) AVERAGE</u>
<u>CHINA RICE</u>		
SEE MEW	GOOD	2.02
S.C. JIEN	GOOD	1.86
PO NGAI	--	-
CHU CHO	--	-
<u>THAI RICE</u>		
100% WHOLE	GOOD	1.80
10-15% BROKENS	GOOD	1.72
A1 SUPER EXTRA	GOOD	1.70
A1 SUPER	GOOD	1.45
WHOLE GLUTINOUS	GOOD	1.77
<u>U.S. RICE</u>	--	-
<u>AUSTRALIAN RICE</u>	GOOD	1.67
<u>PAKISTAN RICE</u>	--	-
<u>TAIWAN RICE</u>	--	-

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SWINE

(CALL SOURCES)

AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	-	GOOD
WHOLESALE PRICES OF PORK (\$/PICUL-LIVE WEIGHT)	-	320 (AVERAGE)

/SUPPLIES AND

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SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF MARINE FISH

(FMO CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET)

SPECIES	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
GOLDEN THREAD	GOOD	3.80	1.40	2.20
BIG-EYES	NORMAL	3.00	1.00	1.90
SQUID	GOOD	3.50	1.30	2.60
HAIR-TAILS	LIMITED	1.40	0.30	1.00
LIZARD FISHES	NORMAL	3.00	0.70	1.80
CROAKERS	LIMITED	1.70	0.80	1.30
CONGER-PIKE-EELS	GOOD	2.40	1.50	2.00
MELON COAT	NORMAL	2.20	1.10	1.80
BREAMS	LIMITED	5.00	1.60	3.00
YELLOW BELLY	NORMAL	1.80	0.50	0.90
MACKERELS	LIMITED	5.80	2.00	4.50
RED GOAT FISH	--	--	--	--
FORK-TAIL	--	--	--	--
HORSE-HEAD	LIMITED	5.00	1.60	3.50
MELON SEED	GOOD	1.80	0.70	1.20
POMFRETS	SCARCE	9.30	8.00	8.50
GARROUPAS	LIMITED	9.50	6.00	8.00
YELLOW CROAKER	--	--	--	--

SUPPLIES AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF LOCALLY PRODUCED VEGETABLES

(V.M.O. CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET)

TYPE OF VEGETABLE	AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY	WHOLESALE PRICE (\$/CATTY)		
		HIGH	LOW	MODE
FLOWERING CABBAGE	LIMITED	1.30	0.40	0.80
WHITE CABBAGE	GOOD	0.50	0.10	0.30
CHINESE LETTUCE	LIMITED	1.00	0.40	0.70
WATER SPINACH	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
CHINESE KALE	SCARCE	1.60	0.60	1.20
STRING BEANS	LIMITED	1.60	0.50	1.20
SPRING ONION	NORMAL	1.40	0.30	0.80
SPINACH	--	--	--	--
WATER CRESS	SCARCE	3.00	1.20	2.50
LEAF MUSTARD CABBAGE	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
CHINESE SPINACH	GOOD	0.40	0.10	0.25
TOMATO	SCARCE	4.00	1.50	3.00