



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
REGISTRATION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORS	1
LAND, BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEING SET UP	7
VIETNAMESE CONTINUE JOURNEY	8
PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TO HOLD FIRST MEETING	9
EPCOM GETS REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION	9
POLICE AIM AT BETTER PUBLIC SERVICE	10
REHOUSING FOR SQUATTERS IN DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE	11
RETAIL SALES FROM 1981 TO 1984	12
PRESS CONFERENCE	18
LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME MORE POPULAR	18
SCHOOLS URGED TO TAKE UP FIRST AID	19
DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED	20
AUTOMATION WIDELY USED HERE	20
ILLEGAL WATER SYSTEM DEMOLISHED	22
FILM TELLS ABOUT HALF-WAY HOUSES	22
NEW DORMS FOR SAI KUNG HOLIDAY CAMP	23
MONEY FROM FAIR HELPS CENTRE	23
SEMINAR FOR TRADE UNIONISTS	24
BOARD LEARNS ABOUT UC CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS	24
MORRISON HILL SWIMMING POOL CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE	25
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF PARKING SPACES	26
WATER CUT	26

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 1 -

REGISTRATION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORS

* * * * *

A TOTAL OF 3 507 ORGANISATIONS AND 30 345 INDIVIDUALS HAVE REGISTERED THEMSELVES AS ELECTORS FOR THE FORTHCOMING LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS OVER THE PAST THREE WEEKS.

ANNOUNCING THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), MR PETER TSAO, SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE RESPONSE COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER, IT NEVERTHELESS MARKED THE FIRST CONCRETE STEP TAKEN TOWARDS OPENING UP THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO ELECTED ELEMENTS.

+THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS ARE MORE EXCLUSIVE AND COMPLICATED THAN THE DISTRICT BOARD OR URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS. THAT IT HAS TAKEN A WHILE FOR PEOPLE TO BECOME ALERTED TO IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE. THE SERIOUS TIME CONSTRAINT ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXERCISE HAS NOT ALLOWED US TO PUBLICISE IT MORE WIDELY OR IN GREATER DETAILS; BUT MORE WILL BE DONE BEFORE REGISTERED ELECTORS GO TO THE POLL IN LATE SEPTEMBER,+ MR TSAO PROMISED.

SPEAKING ON THE BREAKDOWN OF FIGURES, MR TSAO NOTED THAT AS EXPECTED, THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE MEMBERS HAVE EXPRESSED KEEN INTEREST IN THE EXERCISE. +THAT THE FIGURE IS NOT ONE HUNDRED PER CENT IS ONLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT SOME MEMBERS ARE CURRENTLY OUT OF TOWN AND WILL HAVE TO SIGN UP LATER DURING THE PERIOD FOR LATE REGISTRATION,+ MR TSAO SAID. AS REGARDS THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE TEACHERS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS AND TOWN PLANNERS HAVE RESPONDED BETTER THAN OTHERS IN THE +INDIVIDUAL+ CATEGORIES.

HOWEVER, IN TERMS OF HIGHEST PERCENTAGE THE LABOUR, FINANCIAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES SECTORS HAVE ALL SCORED BETWEEN 82 PER CENT AND 75 PER CENT.

MR TSAO ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO THE REVISED ESTIMATED SIZE OF ELECTORATE.

+NOW THAT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION HAS OBTAINED THE MEMBERSHIP LISTS OF ALL ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO ARRIVE AT A MORE ACCURATE ESTIMATE OF THE SIZE OF EACH OF THE CONSTITUENCIES. AT THE SAME TIME ADJUSTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT +CROSS MEMBERSHIPS+. SINCE A VOTER ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN MORE THAN ONE CONSTITUENCY MAY ONLY VOTE IN ONE CONSTITUENCY HE HAS TO CHOOSE IN WHICH CONSTITUENCY TO CAST HIS VOTE. IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT TRUE BASE FIGURES, DOUBLE COUNTING HAS HAD TO BE ELIMINATED. CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENCE OF EXPATRIATE MEMBERS IN SOME OF THE PROFESSIONS WHO ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO REGISTER BECAUSE OF THE RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT LAID DOWN IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION.+

/MR TSAO

MR TSAO REMINDED THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SIGNED UP YET OF THE SECOND AND LAST OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO IN ABOUT ONE-AND-A-HALF MONTH'S TIME, BETWEEN JUNE 21 AND JULY 1. LATE APPLICATIONS CAN BE LODGED BY ANY PERSON OR ORGANISATION QUALIFIED TO VOTE.

THOSE ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER ARE URGED NOT TO GIVE UP THEIR RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE TO DO SO.

+IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THOSE WHO REPRESENT THE VARIOUS TRADES AND PROFESSIONS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ARE CHOSEN FROM AS WIDE AND SOLID A BASE AS POSSIBLE. BY SIGNING UP AS AN ELECTOR YOU ARE HELPING TO CONSOLIDATE THIS BASE,+ MR TSAO SAID.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS 1985
REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS

APRIL 15 - MAY 6

	MAX. NO. OF INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE	1	APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	%
A. <u>ELECTORAL COLLEGE</u>	434		430	99.1
<hr/>				
B. <u>FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES</u>	ESTIMATED SIZE OF ELECTORATE		APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	%
1. (A) FIRST COMMERCIAL (HK GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)	2 334 ²		661	28.3
(B) SECOND COMMERCIAL (CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE)	5 211 ³		1 801	34.6

/2. (A) FIRST

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 3 -

2. (A) FIRST INDUSTRIAL (FED. OF HK INDUSTRIES)	777 ⁴	373	48.0
(B) SECOND INDUSTRIAL (CHINESE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION)	2 233 ⁵	882	39.5
3. FINANCIAL (HK ASSOCIATION OF BANKS)	141	116	82.3
4. LABOUR (EMPLOYEE TRADE UNIONS)	390	292	74.9
5. SOCIAL SERVICES (HK COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE)	156	124	79.5
6. MEDICAL (HK MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, ALL REGISTERED DOCTORS, ETC.)	4 540	2 029	44.7
7. LEGAL (LAW SOCIETY, BAR ASSOCIATION AND GOVERNMENT LAWYERS)	1 500 ⁶	708 ⁷	47.2
8. TEACHING (TEACHERS OF ALL LEVELS)	53 270	24 745	46.5
9. ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING	2 500 ⁸	1 691 ⁹	67.6
<hr/>			
TOTAL :	73 486	33 852	46.1

/1. THE DISTRICT

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 4 -

1. THE DISTRICT BOARDS, URBAN COUNCIL AND PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL HAVE A TOTAL OF 450 SEATS. HOWEVER, SOME MEMBERS ARE ACTING IN MORE THAN ONE CAPACITY (EG. DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER ELECTED TO THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL), HENCE THE MAX. NO. IS LESS THAN 450. THE FIGURE OF 434 DOES NOT INCLUDE THREE OTHER MEMBERS TO BE NOMINATED TO THE PRC BY THE HEUNG YEE KUK AFTER THE CURRENT REGISTRATION PERIOD. WHETHER THE ULTIMATE NO. OF THE INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE IS MORE THAN 434 DEPENDS ON WHETHER ANY OR ALL OF THE 3 ARE ALSO DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS.
2. THIS REVISED ESTIMATE TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE PRESENCE OF DUPLICATES IN THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONSTITUENCIES. WHERE A MEMBER HAS REGISTERED IN ONE DIVISION, THE ORGANISATION'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE OTHER DIVISION(S) WILL BE DELETED AS THE ORGANISATION CANNOT REGISTER AT THE SAME TIME IN ANOTHER DIVISION. THIS ESTIMATE IS STILL ON THE HIGH SIDE AS IT INCLUDES THOSE WHICH HAVE NOT YET INDICATED WHICH DIVISION THEY WISH TO REGISTER IN.
3. DITTO
4. DITTO
5. DITTO
6. THE REVISED FIGURE OF 1 500 IS ARRIVED AT AFTER RED HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT AT LEAST 20 - 30 PER CENT OF THE MEMBERS OF LAW SOCIETY, BAR ASSOCIATION, ETC. DO NOT SATISFY THE RESIDENTIAL (OR HONG KONG BELONGER) REQUIREMENTS AND CANNOT REGISTER IN THE FIRST PLACE.
7. THIS CAN BE BROKEN DOWN INTO: LAW SOCIETY: 515, BAR ASSOCIATION: 148, GOVT. LAWYERS: 45.
8. THE SITUATION HERE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 20 - 30 PER CENT OF PROFESSIONALS PRACTISING IN THESE FIELDS DO NOT MEET THE RESIDENTIAL (OR HONG KONG BELONGER) CRITERIA AND THUS NOT ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER IN THE FIRST PLACE. THE ESTIMATED SIZE HAS ACCORDINGLY BEEN REDUCED TO REFLECT A MORE REALISTIC PICTURE.
9. THIS CAN BE BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:
 - (A) ENGINEERS: 1085
 - (B) ARCHITECTS: 314
 - (C) SURVEYORS: 243
 - (D) TOWN PLANNERS: 49

/FOLLOWING IS

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER K.Y. TSAO, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD TODAY (TUESDAY):

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION
REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION ENDED YESTERDAY, MAY 6. DURING THE 3-WEEK PERIOD, A TOTAL OF 3 507 ORGANISATIONS AND 30 345 INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED THEMSELVES AS ELECTORS. MANY OF THE ORGANISATIONS ARE LARGE AND IMPORTANT ONES, EMPLOYING HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE IN VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL FIELDS.

SOME PRESS REPORTS HAVE MADE COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE REGISTRATION FOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION AND THAT FOR THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTION, POINTING IN PARTICULAR TO THE LACK OF FANFARE AND PUBLICITY. SOME HAVE DRAWN THE CONCLUSION THAT THE RATE OF REGISTRATION COULD HAVE BEEN HIGHER HAD THERE BEEN MORE PUBLICITY.

THE LEGCO ELECTION IS RATHER DIFFERENT FROM DB ELECTION IN SEVERAL RESPECTS:-

- (A) IT ONLY INVOLVES SOME 73 000 PEOPLE OR ORGANISATIONS, WHEREAS THE FRANCHISE FOR DB ELECTION I.E. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE INVOLVES 2.9 MILLION PEOPLE;
- (B) IT IS OBVIOUSLY MORE COMPLICATED FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, NOT LEAST BEING THE FACT THAT IT IS BEING HELD FOR THE FIRST TIME;
- (C) BETWEEN THE PROMULGATION OF THE LEGCO ELECTOR REGISTRATION REGULATIONS ON APRIL 12 AND THE STARTING OF THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS ON APRIL 15, ALL WE HAD WAS A WEEKEND AND THERE WAS SIMPLY NO TIME FOR PRE-REGISTRATION PUBLICITY OTHER THAN A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY MR LEE;
- (D) SINCE ALL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES WERE CLOSELY CONSULTED ON THE FORMULATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS, THEY WERE FULLY AWARE OF WHAT WAS BEING PROPOSED. WE THEREFORE RELIED ON THEM TO LIAISE WITH THEIR OWN MEMBERS.

THESE WERE THE REASONS WHY PUBLICITY ON THE SCALE MOUNTED FOR DB ELECTIONS WAS NOT POSSIBLE NOR NECESSARY; ALTHOUGH PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS WERE MADE DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD THROUGH RADIO, TELEVISION AND NEWSPAPERS URGING ELIGIBLE VOTERS TO REGISTER.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 6 -

AS REGARDS THE BREAKDOWN OF REGISTRATION FIGURES, THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE MEMBERS HAVE EXPRESSED THE KEENEST INTEREST IN THE EXERCISE. THAT THE FIGURE IS NOT 100 PER CENT IS ONLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT SOME MEMBERS ARE CURRENTLY OUT OF TOWN AND WILL HAVE TO SIGN UP LATER DURING THE PERIOD FOR LATE REGISTRATION.

AMONGST THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, TEACHERS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, SURVEYORS AND TOWN PLANNERS HAVE RESPONDED BETTER THAN OTHERS IN THE +INDIVIDUAL+ CATEGORIES. THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED ARE TEACHERS, A TOTAL OF 24 745 HAVE SENT IN THEIR FORMS.

HOWEVER, IN TERMS OF PERCENTAGE, THE FINANCIAL, SOCIAL SERVICE AND LABOUR SECTORS HAVE RESPONDED QUITE WELL, WITH PERCENTAGES OF 82 PER CENT, 80 PER CENT AND 75 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE INITIAL +BASE FIGURES+ WE USED FOR EARLIER REPORTS WERE NO MORE THAN ESTIMATED MEMBERSHIP OF THE VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS. NOW THAT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION HAS OBTAINED THE MEMBERSHIP LISTS OF ALL ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO ARRIVE AT A MORE ACCURATE ESTIMATE OF THE SIZE OF EACH OF THE CONSTITUENCIES. AT THE SAME TIME ADJUSTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT +CROSS MEMBERSHIPS+. SINCE A VOTER ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN MORE THAN ONE CONSTITUENCY MAY ONLY VOTE IN ONE CONSTITUENCY HE HAS TO CHOOSE IN WHICH CONSTITUENCY TO CAST HIS VOTE. IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT TRUE BASE FIGURES, DOUBLE COUNTING HAS HAD TO BE ELIMINATED. CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE PRESENCE OF EXPATRIATE MEMBERS IN SOME OF THE PROFESSIONS WHO ARE NOT QUALIFIED TO REGISTER BECAUSE OF THE RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENT LAID DOWN IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION.

I STARTED BY SAYING THAT THE FIRST PHASE OF REGISTRATION ENDED YESTERDAY. ANYONE (AND I STRESS ANYONE WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE WILL HAVE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER BETWEEN JUNE 21 AND JULY 1.

MAY I NOW GO THROUGH THE FIGURES WITH YOU.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/7

LAND, BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEING SET UP

* * * * *

A NEW COMMITTEE KNOWN AS THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LBAC) WILL BE SET UP ON JUNE 1, TO REPLACE THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND SUPPLY (SCLS) AND THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BDAC).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE FORMATION OF THIS COMMITTEE WAS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE BECAUSE THE SCLS HAD FULFILLED THE MAIN PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY FORMED AND THERE WAS A NEED TO RATIONALISE THE EXISTING NETWORK OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES DEALING WITH LANDS AND WORKS MATTERS. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE ROLE OF SCLS AND BDAC AND HAD CONCLUDED THAT LBAC SHOULD BE FORMED TO ENABLE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE THE BENEFIT OF UNOFFICIAL ADVICE ON LAND AND BUILDING RELATED MATTERS.

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF LBAC ARE:

- (A) TO KEEP UNDER REVIEW THE NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR LAND AND THE PLANNED PROVISIONS, TAKE UP AND UTILISATION OF LAND;
- (B) TO CONSIDER THE ADEQUACY OF LAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IN THE LIGHT OF (A);
- (C) TO MONITOR AND ASSESS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN RELATION TO PLANNING, LAND, BUILDINGS AND THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY;
- (D) TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON ANY OF THE MATTERS REFERRED TO IN (A), (B) AND (C).

LBAC WILL INITIALLY HAVE THE FOLLOWING THREE SUB-COMMITTEES:

- (A) REAL ESTATE SUB-COMMITTEE (RESC);
- (B) LAND SUPPLY SUB-COMMITTEE (LSSC); AND
- (C) LEGISLATION SUB-COMMITTEE (LSC)

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED MR W.C.L. BROWN, WHO HAD BEEN THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND SUPPLY SINCE 1983, AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NEW COMMITTEE. OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS ON THE COMMITTEE ARE:

MR STANLEY HO OF THE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION

MR EDWARD HO OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

MR FRANCIS LAU OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS

MR D.A. MORRIS OF THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LTD.

- 8 -

MR H.K. CHENG OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS

MR J.C. SHAW OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF PLANNERS

MR W.M. SULKE

PROFESSOR Y.K. CHEUNG OF HONG KONG UNIVERSITY

OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY, DIRECTOR OF LANDS, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING DEVELOPMENT AND DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT.

THESE APPOINTMENTS ARE FOR ONE YEAR INITIALLY, WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 1.

- - - - 0 - - - -

VIETNAMESE CONTINUE JOURNEY

* * *

TWO GROUPS OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WHO ENTERED HONG KONG WATERS ON APRIL 28 AND MAY 1, VOLUNTARILY CONTINUED THEIR JOURNEYS ON MAY 3, A HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED TODAY.

THE FIRST GROUP OF 75 PEOPLE INCLUDED EIGHT CHINESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. OF THE 67 VIETNAMESE REMAINING, 66 CHOSE TO CONTINUE THEIR JOURNEY AND ONE DECIDED TO STAY IN HONG KONG.

THE SECOND GROUP CONSISTED OF 21 PEOPLE, INCLUDING THREE CHINESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. ALL OF THE REMAINING 18 VIETNAMESE OPTED TO LEAVE HONG KONG.

THE TWO GROUPS WERE PROVIDED WITH FOOD, WATER AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS. MINOR REPAIRS WERE MADE TO THE FIRST BOAT AND ITS ENGINE.

THE 11 CHINESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (EIGHT FROM THE FIRST GROUP AND THREE FROM THE SECOND) WERE REPATRIATED TO CHINA ON MAY 3.

THE 84 VIETNAMESE (66 FROM THE FIRST GROUP AND 18 FROM THE SECOND) LEFT HONG KONG WATERS AT 1.15 PM ON THE SAME DAY, AND THE VIETNAMESE MALE FROM THE FIRST GROUP WHO CHOSE TO STAY WAS TRANSFERRED TO CHI MA WAN CLOSED CENTRE.

EIGHT BOATS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR JOURNEYS AFTER ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CLOSED CENTRE POLICY IN JULY 1982, FIVE OF WHICH WERE THIS YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 9 -

PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TO HOLD FIRST MEETING

* * * * *

THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL HOLD ITS FIRST MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM, AFTER MONTHS OF PREPARATION.

THE SECRETARY FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES, MR GRAHAM BARNES, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, MR CHEUNG YAN-LUNG, WILL DELIVER THEIR INAUGURAL SPEECHES TO THE 24-MEMBER BODY, WHICH OFFICIALLY CAME INTO BEING ON APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

THE INAUGURAL SESSION WILL BE LARGELY DEVOTED TO DISCUSSING A TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS AND THEIR AGENDAS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY TO JULY. MEETINGS ARE EXPECTED TO BE HELD EVERY FORTNIGHT DURING THIS INITIAL INDUCTION PERIOD, TO ENABLE COUNCIL MEMBERS TO GET TO KNOW THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED, UNDER THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINANCE, WITH THE JOB OF ADVISING THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON THE PROVISION OF A WIDE RANGE OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES IN THE NON-URBAN AREAS. ITS OTHER MAJOR TASK IS TO ADVISE ON THE SETTING UP OF THE FULL REGIONAL COUNCIL WITH FINANCIAL AUTONOMY NEXT APRIL.

SO FAR, 21 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL HAVE BEEN NAMED - THE REMAINING THREE WILL BE APPOINTED BEFORE THE END OF MAY FROM AMONG HEUNG YEE KUK MEMBERS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

EPCOM GETS REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

* * * * *

THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY RECEIVED A REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF ITS AD HOC WORKING GROUP SET UP TO LOOK INTO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

THE WORKING GROUP, WHICH IS CHAIRED BY PROFESSOR BRIAN MORTON OF HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, HAS HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ON THE EXISTING SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AS WELL AS THE NEED FOR GRADUATES IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES.

GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS IN PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, AND THE HOLDING OF SEMINARS FOR LEADING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ARE TWO OTHER ISSUES WHICH THE WORKING GROUP HAS IDENTIFIED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

/AT THEIR

AT THEIR MEETING, EPCOM ALSO RECEIVED A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF TERRITORY-WIDE CONTROLS ON THE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL WASTE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDED A REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF ROUTINE MONITORING OF POLLUTION LEVELS IN THE TERRITORY IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS THIS YEAR, AND PROPOSALS TO AMEND TWO SETS OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL REGULATIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

POLICE AIM AT BETTER PUBLIC SERVICE
* * * *

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SAU MAU PING DISTRICT MARKS THE CULMINATION OF MANY YEARS OF PLANNING AND CONSULTATION, AND DEMONSTRATES CONSTANT POLICE DESIRE TO PROVIDE A BETTER SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, SAID THIS WHEN HE OFFICIALLY OPENED THE SAU MAU PING DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AND SAU MAU PING DIVISIONAL POLICE STATION THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

"FOR MANY YEARS THE OFFICERS OF KWUN TONG POLICE DISTRICT HAD TO POLICE A VERY LARGE AREA AND WERE FACED WITH INCREASING PROBLEMS GENERATED BY RISING POPULATION," MR ANNING SAID.

"HOWEVER, THEY DID COMMENDABLY WELL TO COPE AS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY AS THEY DID. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS FACT, IT WAS DECIDED A FEW YEARS AGO TO DIVIDE THE DISTRICT INTO TWO," HE SAID.

KWUN TONG DISTRICT, BASED AT THE OLD KWUN TONG POLICE STATION IS CURRENTLY SERVING THE EASTERN PART OF KWUN TONG, AND SAU MAU PING DISTRICT, THE WEST.

MR ANNING POINTED OUT THAT OVER THE YEARS, THE PEOPLE OF KWUN TONG HAVE BEEN VERY PROMINENT IN THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND HE IS CONFIDENT THAT GOOD CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE RESIDENTS OF SAU MAU PING AND THE POLICE CAN CONTINUE TO DEVELOP.

"I MUST STRESS YET AGAIN HOW RELIANT THE POLICE ARE ON MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC COMING FORWARD AS WITNESSES AND TO REPORT CRIME.

"THIS EXTENDS EVEN TO SUSPICIONS, AND WHAT MAY SEEM INSIGNIFICANT TO YOU COULD IN FACT BE OF GREAT VALUE TO US." HE ADDED.

/MR ANNING

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 11 -

MR ANNING STRESSED THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT PEOPLE ARE PREPARED TO FOLLOW UP THEIR REPORTS AND GIVE EVIDENCE IN COURT, OTHERWISE THE CRIMINAL DOES NOT GET HIS JUST DESERTS AND THE COMMUNITY CAN ONLY SUFFER IN THE LONG TERM.

''SAU MAU PING POLICE STATION IS LOCATED HERE TO PROVIDE A MORE CONVENIENT VENUE FOR THE PUBLIC TO COME AND AIR THEIR PROBLEMS AND WE SINCERELY HOPE AND ENTREAT FOR THEM TO DO SO.'' HE SAID.

THE NEW SAU MAU PING DISTRICT BECAME OPERATIONAL ON MARCH 10 WITH ITS HEADQUARTERS HOUSED IN THE \$35 MILLION NEW SAU MAU PING POLICE STATION AT 200 HONG NING ROAD.

IT HAS TWO DIVISIONS NAMELY THE NEWLY FORMED SAU MAU PING DIVISION AND THE REVAMPED NGAU TAU KOK DIVISION.

UNDER THE SAME ROOF OF THE NEW SAU MAU PING POLICE STATION, THE SAU MAU PING DIVISION IS A MERGER OF THE FORMER KWUN TONG DIVISION AND SOME AREAS WHICH FALL WITHIN THE ORIGINAL NGAU TAU KOK DIVISION. IT ALSO COVERS EIGHT ESTATES COMPRISING SAU MAU PING, SHUN LEE, SHUN ON, SHUN TIN, JORDAN VALLEY, UPPER NGAU TAU KOK, GARDEN AND LOK WAH.

RESIDENTS OF THESE ESTATES MAY GO TO THE NEW POLICE STATION OR TELEPHONE 3-7514250 IF THEY WANT TO MAKE A REPORT OR SEEK POLICE ASSISTANCE.

NGAU TAU KOK DIVISION WHICH IS LOCATED AT 1 SIU YIP STREET WITH TELEPHONE NUMBER 5-7583261 IS COVERING PING SHEK ESTATE, KAI YIP ESTATE, LOWER NGAU TAU KOK ESTATE, TELFORD GARDENS, AMOY GARDENS, KOWLOON BAY FACTORY ESTATE AND KWUN TONG FACTORY ESTATE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REHOUSING FOR SQUATTERS IN DEVELOPMENT CLEARANCE
* * * * *

TWO-MEMBER FAMILIES IN SQUATTER AREAS AFFECTED BY CLEARANCE ARE ONLY ELIGIBLE FOR TEMPORARY HOUSING ACCOMMODATION UNDER THE EXISTING REHOUSING POLICY.

THIS WAS REITERATED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT IN A REPLY LETTER TO A SQUATTER REPRESENTATIVE AT LAM TIN SOUTH VILLAGE WHERE STRUCTURES WOULD BE CLEARED FOR DEVELOPMENT.

THE DEPARTMENT SAID IN THE LETTER: +A TWO-MEMBER FAMILY IN CLEARANCE WILL BE GIVEN PERMANENT PUBLIC HOUSING ONLY ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS, OR WHERE THE MEMBERS ARE CLOSELY RELATED WITH EITHER ONE BEING A DISABLED OR ELDERLY MEMBER.

/+IN THE

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 12 -

+IN THE LATTER CASE, BOTH MEMBERS MUST BE LIVING IN A SURVEYED DOMESTIC STRUCTURE AND HAVE LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR 10 YEARS.

+OTHER TWO-MEMBER FAMILIES ARE INITIALLY QUALIFIED FOR TEMPORARY HOUSING EITHER IN THE URBAN AREA OR IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ACCORDING TO THEIR ELIGIBILITY.

+URBAN THA UNITS ARE ALLOCATED TO THOSE WHO LIVE IN A SURVEYED DOMESTIC STRUCTURE IN EXISTENCE BEFORE JUNE 1, 1982.+

TO THOSE ENTITLED TO PUBLIC HOUSING AND URBAN THAS, TWO OTHER OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE.

THEY CAN COLLECT AN EX-GRATIA CASH ALLOWANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR REHOUSING, OR PURCHASE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS WITH GREEN-FORM STATUS PROVIDED THEY HAVE LIVED IN HONG KONG FOR AT LEAST SEVEN YEARS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY TWO-MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS WISHING TO GET PERMANENT PUBLIC HOUSING MIGHT NOW APPLY ON THE GENERAL WAITING LIST UNDER REVISED ALLOCATION POLICIES.

+HOWEVER, PRIORITY IN THE ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING IS BEING GIVEN TO THOSE TWO-MEMBER FAMILIES WHO LIVE IN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREAS OR IN MARK I/II ESTATES AFFECTED BY REDEVELOPMENT.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

RETAIL SALES FROM 1981 TO 1984
* * * * *

THE VALUE INDEX OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES SHOWED A STEADY RISING TREND WHILE THE VOLUME INDEX REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE, ACCORDING TO A REVIEW OF MONTHLY RETAIL SALES FOR THE YEARS 1981 TO 1984 RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE MOVEMENTS OF BOTH THE VALUE AND THE VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES FROM JANUARY 1981 TO DECEMBER 1984, WITH AVERAGE MONTHLY RETAIL SALES IN 1980 TAKEN AS 100, ARE SHOWN IN CHART 1. IN THE YEARS COVERED, BOTH THE VALUE AND THE VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES SHOWED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER AND JANUARY AND SIGNIFICANT DECREASES IN FEBRUARY. THIS WAS LARGELY DUE TO THE SEASONAL INFLUENCES OF CHRISTMAS AND THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

INDEX MOVEMENTS OF MAJOR TRADE GROUPS ARE SHOWN IN CHART 2.

SEASONAL PATTERNS OF MOVEMENTS IN THE VALUE INDEXES WERE EXPERIENCED BY THE FIVE MAJOR TRADE GROUPS, WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY AND DRASTIC DROPS IN FEBRUARY.

/WHILE THE

WHILE THE VALUE INDEXES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO; FUELS; CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS; AND +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ SHOWED NOTICEABLE UPWARD TRENDS DURING THE YEARS 1981 TO 1984, THOSE OF CONSUMER DURABLES SHOWED A DECLINE IN 1982 BUT ROSE AGAIN IN 1983 AND 1984.

EXCEPT FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, THE VOLUME INDEXES OF FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO, AND FUELS WERE RELATIVELY STABLE DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. THOSE OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS, CONSUMER DURABLES AND +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+ SHOWED GREATER FLUCTUATIONS, HOWEVER.

CHART 3 DEPICTS THE INDEX MOVEMENTS OF THE FOUR SELECTED TRADES.

WHILE SUPERMARKETS, DEPARTMENT STORES AND CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES SHOWED MARKED INCREASES IN SALES VALUE THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD, THEIR CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN SALES VOLUME WERE RELATIVELY MUCH LESS. MOTOR VEHICLES, ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINED DRASTICALLY IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME.

WHEN COMPARING THE RATES OF CHANGE OF VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN 1984 WITH THOSE IN 1983, AS SHOWN IN CHART 4, CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS SHOWED THE HIGHEST RATE OF INCREASE AMONG THE FIVE MAJOR TRADE GROUPS IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY CONSUMER DURABLES; FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO; +OTHER CONSUMER GOODS+; AND FUELS.

ANALYSED BY SELECTED TRADES, SUPERMARKETS RECORDED THE HIGHEST RATE OF INCREASE IN 1984 WHEN COMPARED WITH 1983 IN BOTH SALES VALUE AND VOLUME. MOTOR VEHICLES RANKED SECOND. DEPARTMENT STORES, THOUGH WITH THE SMALLEST INCREASE IN SALES VALUE, SHOWED A FASTER INCREASE IN SALES VOLUME THAN CONSUMER DURABLES OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES.

THE RETAIL SALES STATISTICS WERE COMPILED FROM THE RESULTS OF THE MONTHLY SURVEYS OF RETAIL SALES CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SINCE 1981. THE MONTHLY SURVEY AIMS TO COLLECT SALES DATA FOR THE PROVISION OF AN INDICATOR OF CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS IN GENERAL AND OF CONSUMER SPENDING IN PARTICULAR.

UP-TO-DATE MONTHLY REPORTS CONTAINING DETAILED ANALYSES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AT \$1.00 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 3-7216024).

Chart 1: Value and Volume Indexes of Total Retail Sales
(Monthly average of 1980 = 100)

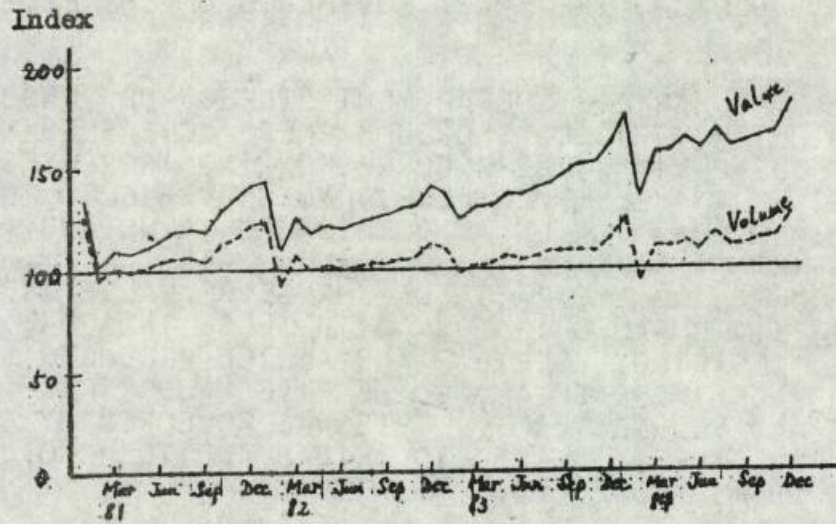


Chart 2: Value and Volume Indexes of Retail Sales Major Trade Groups

(Monthly average of 1980 = 100)

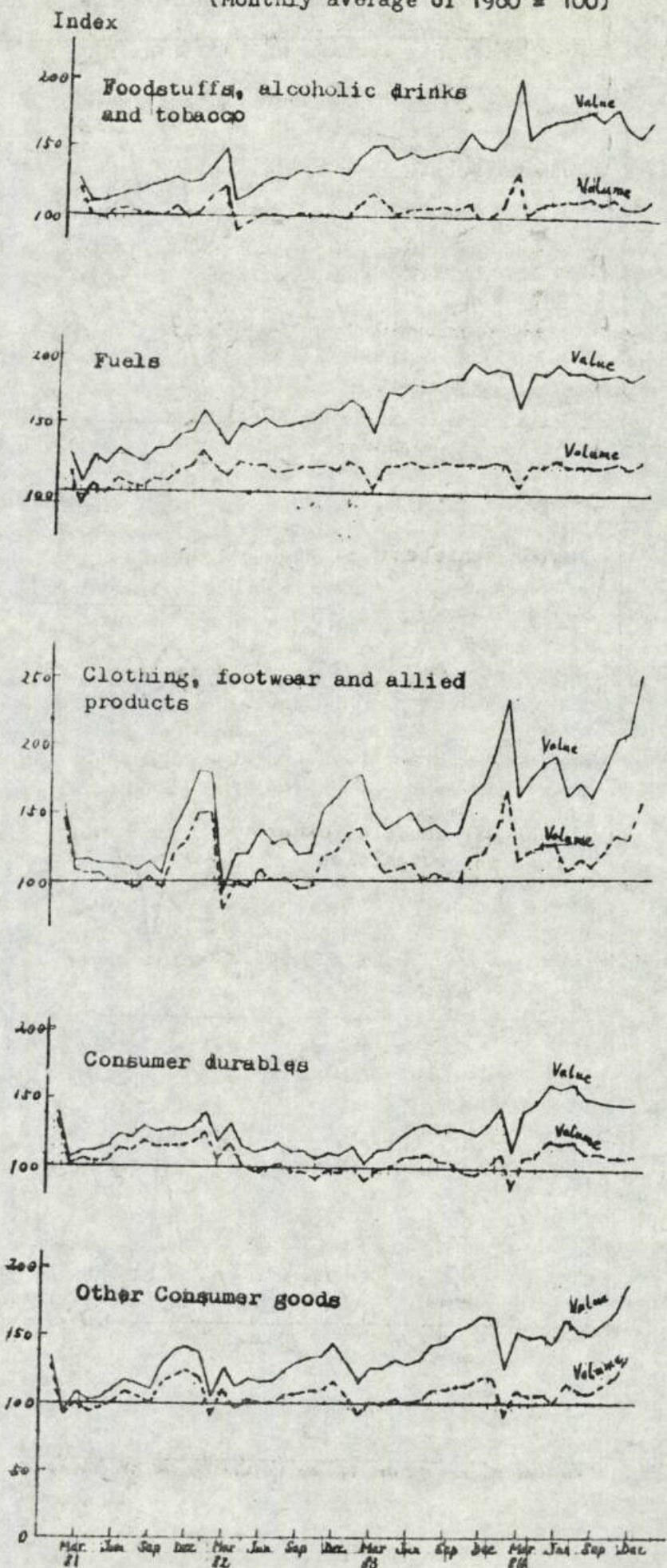


Chart 3: Value and Volume Indexes of Retail Sales of Selected Trades
(Monthly average of 1980 = 100)

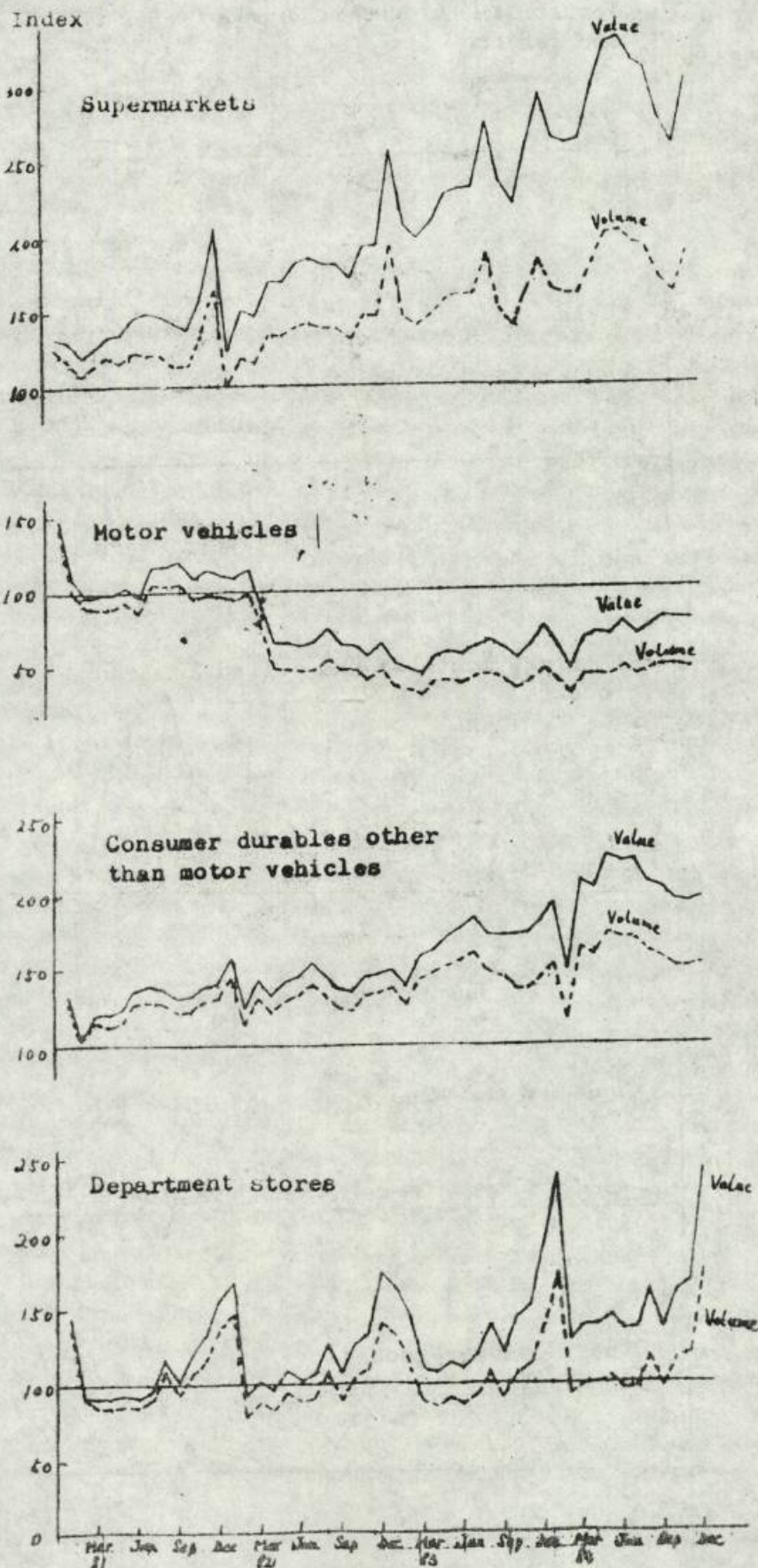
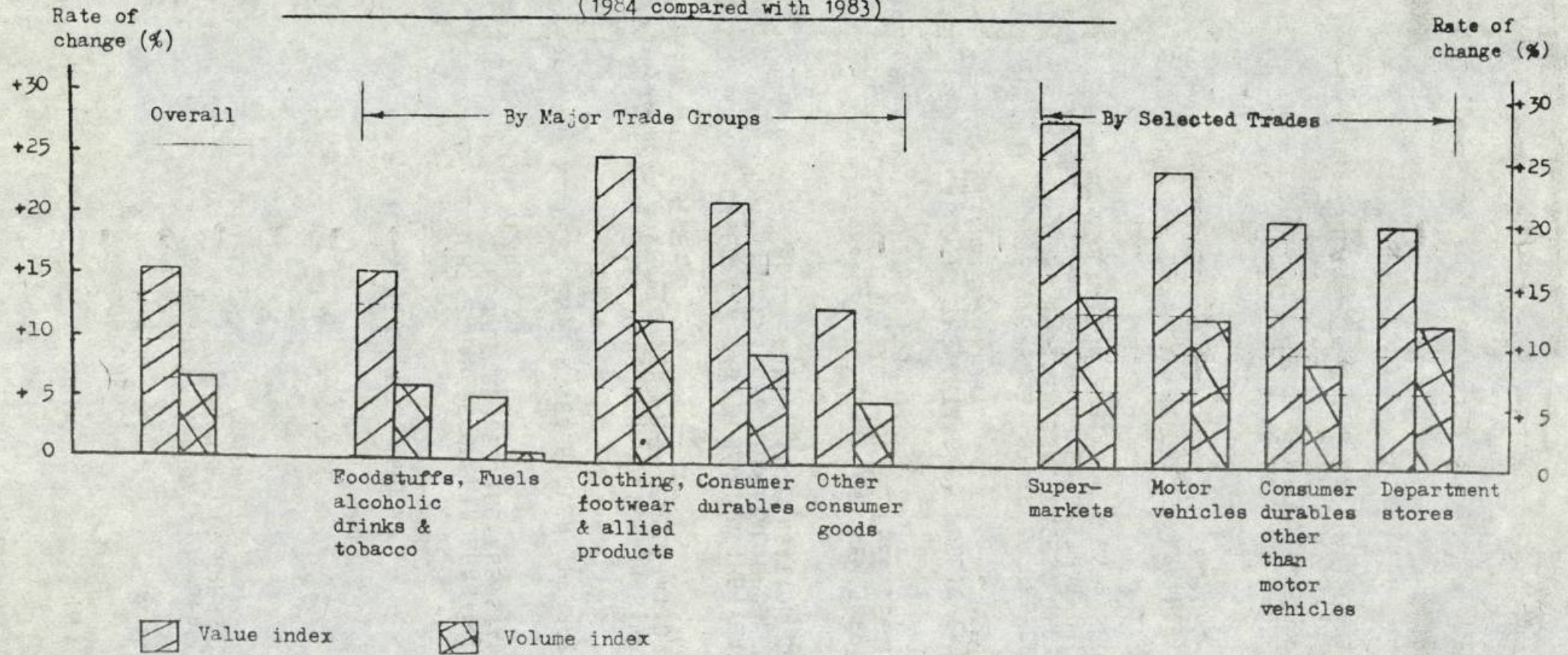


Chart 4: Rates of Change of Value and Volume Indexes of Retail Sales
(1984 compared with 1983)



----- 0 -----

NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS CONFERENCE
* * *

THE DIRECTOR OF ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR PATRICK SHAM, WILL MEET THE MEDIA ON THURSDAY (MAY 9) AT 4 PM IN THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM ON 5TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME MORE POPULAR
* * *

THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR WITH MORE THAN 26 700 PEOPLE REQUESTING ASSISTANCE DURING THE PAST FINANCIAL YEAR.

THIS REPRESENTS A 21 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURES.

WHILE MOST OF THE ENQUIRIES INVOLVED ADVICE ON SIMPLE LEGAL MATTERS, 3 242 PEOPLE WERE GIVEN FREE CONSULTATIONS WITH DUTY LAWYERS UNDER THE SCHEME.

THE MAJORITY OF THE CASES DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR INVOLVED MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS, MARITAL PROBLEMS, MATTERS CONCERNING LANDLORDS AND TENANTS, COMPENSATION CLAIMS AND CRIMINAL CASES.

THE SCHEME IS ADMINISTERED BY THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE LAW SOCIETY, TO PROVIDE FREE LEGAL ADVICE TO THOSE WHO CANNOT AFFORD IT.

THE SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT THE CNTA'S 65 PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

+APPLICANTS ARE FIRST INTERVIEWED BY STAFF OF THE CENTRES TO IDENTIFY THEIR NEED, AND FOR GENUINE LEGAL CASES, THE DETAILS ARE RECORDED AND FORWARDED TO THE DUTY LAWYER SO THAT RESEARCH CAN BE UNDERTAKEN BEFORE CONSULTATION BEGINS,+ A CNTA SPOKESMAN SAID.

+AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE DUTY LAWYER CAN BE ARRANGED WITHIN TEN DAYS AT AN EVENING BUREAU OF THE APPLICANT'S CHOICE,+ HE ADDED.

INTERVIEWS TAKE PLACE AT EIGHT EVENING BUREAUX OPENED FOR WEEKLY SESSIONS AT THE FOLLOWING DISTRICT OFFICES: WAN CHAI AND EASTERN ON HONG KONG ISLAND; MONG KOK, WONG TAI SIN, YAU MA TEI AND KWUN TONG IN KOWLOON; TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

/+LAST YEAR,

+LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 280 LAWYERS, DRAWN FROM PRACTISING SOLICITORS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, CONTRIBUTED THEIR SERVICES AT THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE EVENING BUREAUX,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APART FROM THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME, THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES ALSO OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER SERVICES SUCH AS OATHS AND DECLARATIONS, RENT OFFICER SCHEME, GENERAL ENQUIRIES ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FORMS AND LEAFLETS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SCHOOLS URGED TO TAKE UP FIRST AID
* * * * *

SCHOOL HEADS ARE BEING URGED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO ENCOURAGE THEIR STAFF AND STUDENTS TO TAKE COURSES ON FIRST AID SO THAT THEY CAN BE OF HELP IN THE EVENT OF EMERGENCIES.

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ARE ORGANISING COURSES OF INSTRUCTION IN FIRST AID AS PART OF THEIR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES EITHER BY THEMSELVES OR IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER AGENCIES, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

FIRST AID COURSES ARE ARRANGED BY THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION FOR SCHOOLS.

IN ADDITION TO FIRST AID AND HOME NURSING, THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE'S CADET SECTION ALSO OFFERS COURSES IN FIRE FIGHTING, SWIMMING AND LIFE SAVING, MAP READING, CAMPING AND SILK SCREEN PAINTING TO ITS MEMBERS.

SCHOOLS INTERESTED IN ORGANISING FIRST AID COURSES AND FORMING CADET DIVISIONS SHOULD CONTACT THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND BRIGADE AT 2 MACDONNELL ROAD, HONG KONG, OR BY TELEPHONING 5-247034.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 20 -

DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED
* * * *

THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCES PASSED ON YAU SAU-KAM, CHAN CHEUNG-KWOK AND TSE CHAN-YUN ON JULY 1, 1983, SEPTEMBER 6, 1983 AND MARCH 19, 1984 RESPECTIVELY SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

IT WAS ALSO DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON SO KAM-LOI ON APRIL 1, 1982 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO FIFTEEN YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

YAU WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF HO SAU-YING ON OCTOBER 21, 1982. CHAN WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF LAI SO ON DECEMBER 23, 1982, AND TSE WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF CHAN CHEUNG-NGAI AND TSE SIU-SHEUNG ON JANUARY 24, 1983.

SO WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF CHAN WING-HO ON MAY 27, 1981.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AUTOMATION WIDELY USED HERE
* * * * *

HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS HAD LONG RECOGNISED THE NEED TO DIVERSIFY THEIR PRODUCT RANGE, AND TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY THROUGH ADOPTION OF AUTOMATION AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR JOHN YAXLEY, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR YAXLEY SAID THIS WHEN OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF +HONG KONG MACHINE TOOL 85+ ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG EXHIBITION SERVICES LTD.

+ALTHOUGH THE PRINCIPAL MOTIVE IN INTRODUCING AUTOMATION AND MODERN PRECISION TOOLS AND MACHINERY MAY BE THAT OF INCREASING BOTH PRODUCTIVITY AND CONSISTENCY OF QUALITY, WE SHOULD NOT FORGET THE OTHER BENEFITS THAT IT BRINGS.

+THESE INCLUDE SAVINGS IN RAW MATERIALS, THE ELIMINATION OF LOW GRADE MANUAL JOBS, IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS AND INCREASES IN THE VALUE ADDED PER WORKER,+ HE SAID.

MR YAXLEY SAID A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES ON THE FACTORY FLOOR WAS NOW AFFECTED BY AUTOMATION IN VARIOUS FORMS.

+THESE INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, MATERIAL AND PARTS FEEDING, INDEXING, CLAMPING, MACHINING, ASSEMBLY TESTING AND QUALITY CHECKING.

/+MODERN TOOLS

+MODERN TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT ARE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE AUTOMATION IN THE SHOPFLOOR. NUMERICALLY CONTROLLED MACHINE FITTED WITH MICROPROCESSORS OR COMPUTERS ARE COMMONLY USED NOWADAYS AND THERE IS ALSO AN INCREASING USE OF COMPUTERS IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY TO ASSIST DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE.+

HE FELT THAT WITH THE POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES NOW BEHIND HONG KONG, LOCAL MANUFACTURERS COULD MOVE AHEAD WITH THEIR INVESTMENT AND RE-INVESTMENT PLANS.

+INDEED THERE ARE ALREADY ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT MANUFACTURERS IN GENERAL HAVE BEEN MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION TO EXPAND AND UPDATE THEIR PRODUCTION CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES IN RESPONSE TO MARKET DEMANDS.

+RETAINED IMPORTS OF ALL INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND MACHINE TOOLS IN 1984 WERE VALUED AT HK\$4 740.3 MILLION. THIS WAS 31 PER CENT HIGHER THAN 1983.

+THE GOVERNMENT FOR ITS PART, IS ALSO PUTTING GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO MODERNISE PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES AND FACILITIES THROUGH ITS SUPPORT OF THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE,+ MR YAXLEY SAID.

+OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS, GOVERNMENT'S SUBVENTION TO THE CENTRE HAS INCREASED THREEFOLD, FROM \$10 MILLION IN 1980-81 TO \$31 MILLION IN 1984-85. IN 1985-86 THE ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO THE CENTRE WILL AMOUNT TO \$36.9 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

+THIS PROVIDES, AMONG OTHER THINGS, FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE MECHANICAL CAPABILITY OF THE MICRO PROCESSOR APPLICATION LABORATORY TO ENABLE IT TO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP THE USE OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT.+

HE NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT, ON THE ADVICE OF THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, HAD RECENTLY ASKED THE PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE TO FURTHER INCREASE ITS EFFORTS IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION.

+DETAILED PROPOSALS ARE NOW BEING DRAWN UP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION SERVICE AND AN EXPANDED METAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE.

+TO THIS END, THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES OF THE CENTRE WILL BE FURTHER AUGMENTED IN RESPECT OF MECHANICAL DESIGN, ELECTRO-MECHANICAL INTERFACE SUPPORT, COMPUTER SOFTWARE SUPPORT, PRECISION MACHINING, CAD-CAM AND TOOL SURFACE TREATMENT.+

STATING THAT IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO SEE THE LARGE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS AT THIS FAIR, MR YAXLEY SAID ALSO THAT THE OCCASION PROVIDED A CONVENIENT VENUE AT WHICH LOCAL MANUFACTURERS COULD SEE AND SAMPLE ADVANCED MACHINE TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 22 -

ILLEGAL WATER SYSTEM DEMOLISHED

* * * *

AN ILLEGAL WATER SYSTEM IN CHEUNG LUNG TIN VILLAGE AT YAU TONG WAS DEMOLISHED IN AN OPERATION THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

A WATER TANK, A PUMP, THE ILLEGAL STRUCTURE HOUSING THE EQUIPMENT, AND WATER PIPES LEADING THROUGH THE VILLAGE WERE REMOVED UNDER THE CO-ORDINATION OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE EXERCISE FOLLOWED A SQUATTER AREA IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE PROVISION OF METERED WATER SUPPLY TO THE AREA.

THE DISTRICT OFFICE SET UP A WORKING GROUP EARLY THIS YEAR TO CO-ORDINATE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS' EFFORTS IN DISMANTLING THE ILLEGAL WATER SYSTEM.

TODAY'S OPERATION WAS JOINTLY CARRIED OUT BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE POLICE AND CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FILM TELLS ABOUT HALF-WAY HOUSES

* * * * *

A 15-MINUTE FILM TELLING ABOUT HALF-WAY HOUSES AND THEIR FACILITIES, WILL BE SHOWN TO SHA TIN RESIDENTS ON WEEKDAYS BETWEEN MAY 6 AND JUNE 1, AS PART OF ITS PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME.

IT INCLUDES INTERVIEWS WITH PSYCHIATRISTS, SOCIAL WORKERS AND ESTATE RESIDENTS, AND WILL BE SHOWN AT THE LUNG HANG, SAN TIN WAI AND SHA KOK COMMUNITY HALLS.

THE SHOWINGS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, TO HELP RESIDENTS UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT HALF-WAY HOUSES.

SOCIAL WORKERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES WILL BE ON HAND ONCE A WEEK TO ANSWER QUESTIONS. COPIES OF A LEAFLET WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED.

THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE HAS OVER THE PAST YEAR BEEN PUBLICISING HALF-WAY HOUSES THROUGH SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS, VISITS AND MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ESTATE RESIDENTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1935

- 23 -

NEW DORMS FOR SAI KUNG HOLIDAY CAMP

* * * * *

NINE SINGLE AND TWO-STOREY BLOCKS ARE TO BE BUILT AS DORMITORIES AT THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE TO REPLACE THE EXISTING NISSEN HUTS.

THE PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TOILET BLOCK, WILL BOOST THE CENTRE'S PRESENT CAPACITY OF 200 RESIDENTIAL CAMPERS AND 150 DAY-CAMPERS - BY 50 ADDITIONAL PLACES EACH.

THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WHICH IS PART OF THE OVERALL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE CENTRE.

AT A LATER STAGE, ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED TO INCLUDE A CYCLING AREA, FITNESS TRAIL, TENNIS AND SQUASH COURTS.

WORK ON THE 12-MONTH PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN JULY THIS YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONEY FROM FAIR HELPS CENTRE

* * * * *

THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECENTLY DONATED ITS ANNUAL AUTUMN FAIR PROCEEDS TO THE MARGARET TRENCH MEDICAL REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR THE PURCHASE OF SPECIAL EQUIPMENT VALUED AT \$50 000.

THE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDED A SHOWER TROLLEY AND THREE HEIGHT ADJUSTABLE BEDS.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE CENTRE IN KWUN TONG TODAY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION, SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT JOHN WONG, HANDED OVER THE EQUIPMENT TO THE CENTRE'S MEDICAL DIRECTOR, DR S.F. LAM.

DR LAM THANKED THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DONATION AND SAID THE TROLLEY AND BEDS WERE VERY USEFUL IN THE TREATMENT AND NURSING OF THE CENTRE'S PATIENTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/24

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 24 -

SEMINAR FOR TRADE UNIONISTS

* * * * *

PEOPLE INTERESTED IN TRADE UNION MATTERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AN EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE, ON SUNDAY (MAY 12) AT THE RECITAL HALL, CITY HALL HIGH BLOCK, 8TH FLOOR, FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM.

THE SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE REGISTRY OF TRADE UNIONS, +AIMS AT PROVIDING TRADE UNIONISTS WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE OF TRADE UNIONS TO THE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF HONG KONG+, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRY SAID.

TWO EXPERTS ON TRADE UNION AND LABOUR RELATIONS MATTERS WILL SPEAK AT THE SEMINAR. THE STAFF RELATIONS CONSULTANT OF CABLE AND WIRELESS (HONG KONG) LIMITED, MR TSUI TIM-FOOK, WILL TALK ON +A REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF TRADE UNIONS IN HONG KONG+ AND A LECTURER IN THE MANAGEMENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, DR NG SEK-HONG, WILL TALK ON +THE ROLE OF TRADE UNIONS: CONTINUITY AND PROSPERITY+.

ADMISSION IS FREE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BOARD LEARNS ABOUT UC CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

* * *

MEMBERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD TODAY EXPRESSED A GREAT INTEREST IN THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CAPITAL AND MINOR WORKS PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE DISTRICT BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

THESE PROJECTS, INCLUDING FIVE UNDER CONSTRUCTION, COVER A VERY WIDE FIELD INCLUDING MULTI-STOREY MARKET COMPLEXES, COOKED-FOOD CENTRES, SWIMMING POOLS, INDOOR GAMES HALLS, GARDENS, PLAYGROUNDS, TENNIS COURTS, SQUASH COURTS, PLAYGROUNDS, SITTING-OUT AREAS, TOILETS, REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS AND A MULTI-STOREY COLUMBARIUM.

FULL DETAILS OF THE PROJECTS AND THEIR PROPOSED PRIORITIES WERE TABLED AT THE MEETING BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S PLANNING DIVISION, MR ANDREW CHENG.

IN ALL, THERE ARE 29 CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS AND 10 MINOR PROJECTS IN THE COUNCIL'S PLANNING PIPELINE FOR WONG TAI SIN OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

DURING THE ENSUING DISCUSSION, BOARD MEMBERS PUT FORWARD VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS ON A NUMBER OF PROJECTS AND URGED THE DEPARTMENT TO UPGRADE THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

/THESE INCLUDED

THESE INCLUDED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MORSE PARK OPEN-AIR THEATRE, THE FUNG TAK ROAD OPEN-AIR THEATRE, AND THE HAMMER HILL ROAD SPORTS GROUND AND SWIMMING POOL.

ONE BOARD MEMBER PROPOSED THAT THE URBAN COUNCIL REVIEW THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CHOI HUNG ROAD PLAYGROUND IN VIEW OF THE LOW USAGE RATE OF THE NEARBY KAI TAK EAST PLAYGROUND. THE MEMBER POINTED OUT THAT THE USAGE RATE OF THE REDEVELOPED PLAYGROUND WAS EXPECTED TO BE VERY LOW SINCE IT WAS LOCATED IN A FACTORY AREA.

MR CHENG AGREED TO TAKE THESE VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION AND TO SUGGEST ADJUSTMENTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. HE ADDED THAT THE USD WOULD PRESENT ITS FINALISED DRAFT CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME TO THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL AND THAT THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT BOARDS WOULD BE INFORMED OF THE FINALISED DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THEIR DISTRICTS AROUND NOVEMBER.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR MICHAEL CHENG, SAID BEFORE THE MEETING THAT HE FOUND THE PRESENT CONSULTATION EXERCISE VERY USEFUL AND HOPED THAT MORE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE BOARD AND THE COUNCIL WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN FUTURE.

URBAN COUNCILLORS ATTENDING THIS AFTERNOON'S MEETING WERE MISS CECILIA YEUNG AND MESSRS LAWRENCE FUNG AND AUGUSTINE CHUNG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORRISON HILL SWIMMING POOL CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE
* * * * *

THE MORRISON HILL SWIMMING POOL HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE. THE TEACHING POOL WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ORGANISATIONS THROUGH BLOCK BOOKING FROM JULY 1 WHILE THE MAIN POOL WILL BE REOPENED ON SEPTEMBER 1.

MEANWHILE, DUE TO TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ON MAY 16 (THURSDAY), THE KENNEDY TOWN SWIMMING POOL WILL BE OPENED TO THE PUBLIC FROM 7 A.M. TO 9 A.M. AND FROM 7.15 P.M. TO 10 P.M. ON THAT DAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1985

- 26 -

TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF PARKING SPACES
* * * *

FIFTY-SIX PARKING SPACES AT MURRAY BARRACKS OPEN AIR CAR PARK WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM 8 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 10) FOR THE REPAINTING OF MARKINGS.

OTHER PARKING SPACES WILL BE SUSPENDED BY STAGES FOR THE SAME PURPOSE WITHIN THE NEXT 14 DAYS.

DETAILS WILL BE POSTED AT THE CAR PARK.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER CUT
* *

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 9) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY FUNG TAK ROAD, PO KONG VILLAGE ROAD, SHUNG WAH STREET, SHEUNG FUNG STREET, LUNG FUNG STREET AND SHA TIN PASS ROAD.

- - - - 0 - - - -