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HKGIS 香港政府新聞處

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Thursday, December 14, 1972

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Thursday, December 14, 1972

HOMES FOR OVER 27,000 PEOPLE

New Housing Estate To Go Up In 1976

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More than 27,000 people will be provided with homes in Kwai Chung when the Lai King Low Cost Housing Estate is completed in 1976.

The estate will comprise seven blocks -- five 15-storey blocks and two 22-storey blocks -- providing over 4,000 flats.

The flats will conform to the present requirement of 35 square feet per individual unit, and will be equipped with private bathrooms and kitchens.

In planning the estate, consideration must be given to the condition of the site, which is long and narrow and cut into two halves -- north and south -- by the container service flyover.

The site is situated on a series of platforms off Kwai Chung Road opposite the container terminal which have been formed as part of the Kwai Chung Development Scheme.

The planners must also take into consideration the proposed Mass Transit System. If it is implemented, an underground station will be built in the centre of the estate.

Four blocks have been planned in the northern section of the site, and due to the terraced landscape, these blocks will be linked at different levels by bridges.

/There will .....

There will be a modular market in this section providing 40 stalls for hawkers.

There will be three blocks in the southern section, one 22-storey and the rest 15 storeys high.

There will also be a modular market with 40 hawker stalls. The roof of this market complex will be used as a play deck providing recreational facilities.

Connected to the play deck will be a welfare hall which provides premises for voluntary agencies to carry out community work.

A special feature in the southern section is a three-storey workshop. Due to the peculiar slope of the site, the lower ground floor of this building will only have half the area of the upper floors.

Workshop Facilities

Families living in housing estates often engage in handicraft as a means of income. When goods such as plastic flowers and beads are taken into the homes, they impose a fire hazard.

In view of this, workshop facilities have been included to provide working space together with vehicular delivery for family industry, thus reducing the danger of fire in the home.

Two sub-termini have been planned in the estate for buses routed to Kowloon and Tsuen Wan.

Public light bus stands have been planned along the main access road near the centre of the estate.

Local residents will rely heavily on the Mass Transit System if it is implemented.

/A total .....

A total of 340 private car and 51 lorry parking spaces have been planned, resulting in a provision ratio of one space to 12 flats.

Recreation grounds have been provided throughout the estate, and a large plot of land at the northern tip has been earmarked for a sports ground.

Two kindergartens will be provided in Blocks One and Seven of the estate, and three estate primary schools will also be built.

Two secondary schools will be constructed on a site adjacent to the estate. They will be built to an "inter-locking" design sharing common hall and welfare facilities.

Estate offices and a post office will be accommodated in the ground floor bays of the blocks.

A large two-storey restaurant building with a total floor area of 12,000 square feet has been provided near the site for the underground station.

A small cafe has also been planned in the central area near an open car park.

Shopping facilities will be arranged in two groups to serve the two sections of the estate.

Construction work on the estate is expect to begin in 1973.

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Note to Editors: Copies of a photograph showing a model of the new Estate are distributed separately in the G.I.S. press boxes this evening.

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AUSTRALIAN YOUTH ORCHESTRA

To Perform In Hong Kong

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An Australian youth orchestra - The Melbourne Church of England Grammar School Orchestra, which is on its 1972 South-east Asian tour, will give one concert at 8 p.m. on Sunday (December 17) at the City Hall Concert Hall.

The Orchestra's performance here has been arranged by the Urban Council as a cultural exchange between Australia and Hong Kong.

Founded in 1954 by its Musical Director, Mr. Donald Britton, the Orchestra reflects the remarkable upsurge in musical activities of the young people during the last fifteen years in Australia.

Under the National Music Camp scheme, Australia has now many permanent youth orchestras which form part of her cultural life.

The Orchestra, which comprises some 42 members, will give their first concert in Hong Kong, after which they will perform in Bangkok and Singapore.

On Sunday, they will play works by Elgar, Hindemith, Purcell, Farkas, Haydn, Holst and Britton.

Tickets at $1 (for students), $2 and $3 are available daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the City Hall Box Office.

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NEW CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND ON CHEUNG CHAU

Built With Donation From Jockey Club

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Children of Cheung Chau will have better recreational facilities with the opening of a new children's playground at Tung Wan tomorrow (Friday).

The playground was built at the former site of Deacon Park, which was damaged by a typhoon in 1967.

The playground is the brainchild of the District Office, Islands, which undertook the planning and preparation of the project.

It was given material life by a generous donation of $75,000 from the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, together with the assistance from the New Territories Administration under the Local Public Works Vote.

Jointly officiating at the opening ceremony tomorrow will be Mr. Mayer Ng, District Office, Islands and Dr. Douglas Laing, a Steward of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club.

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Note to Editors: The opening ceremony is to be held at 3.30 p.m. You are invited to send a reporter/photographer to cover the event.

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PASSING-OUT PARADE OF FIREMEN

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A passing-out parade for four squads of firemen comprising 92 men will be held at the Fire Services Training School, Fan Kam Road, Pat Heung, New Territories, on Saturday.

Sir Yuet-keung Kan will inspect about 200 officers and men at the parade.

The parade and inspection will be followed by a display of Fire Service equipment and rescue drills including the use of a helicopter.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to attend. The parade will start at 10.15 a.m. on Saturday.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR SITES

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The Urban Services Department has earmarked sites at the Victoria Park, Choi Hung Playground and Cheung Sha Wan Playground for Lunar New Year Fairs.

Tenders for stalls at the fair sites are now being invited.

Forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained from the Hawker Records Offices on the 6th floor of the Causeway Bay Magistracy Building, and on the 2nd floor of the U.S.D. depot in Sai Yee Street from tomorrow (Friday).

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ANTI-DIPHTHERIA AND TETANUS CAMPAIGN

Figures For Ninth Week Announced

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During the week ending on December 9, a total of 18,677 doses of the combined anti-diphtheria and tetanus vaccine was administered, according to statistics released today by the Medical and Health Department.

Of these, 1,284 were administered on the Island, 10,509 in Kowloon, and 6,884 in the New Territories.

In the nine weeks since this routine campaign began on October 9, a total of 175,954 doses has been administered.

The campaign will continue for the rest of December. Free vaccine is available at all government maternal and child health centres and clinics.

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QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS

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Quarantine restrictions have been imposed against arrivals from Dacca (excluding Airport), Bangladesh, on account of smallpox.

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MING TAK BANK CREDITORS ASKED TO PROVE DEBTS

Forms Of Proof Available On Request

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Creditors of the Ming Tak Bank, other than depositors and holders of gift coupons, are advised to prove their debts as soon as possible if they have not already done so.

In a notice to be published in tomorrow's newspapers, the Official Receiver, Mr. W. Hume, who is Trustee in Bankruptcy of the Bank, says these creditors are required to prove their debts not later than January 5, 1973.

Forms of proof will be supplied on request made by post, telephone or personally to the Official Receiver's Office, Sutherland House, 10th floor, 3 Chater Road, Hong Kong (Tel. No. 5-231957).

On December 1 this year, Mr. Hume announced his intention to pay a first dividend of not less than 20 per cent to all unsecured creditors before the next Lunar New Year provided the necessary arrangements can be made in time.

Tomorrow's notice indicates that depositors and holders of gift coupons need not take any action at present, but they should watch for future press announcements regarding the payment arrangements.

Other creditors, including holders of bank drafts issued by the Ming Tak Bank, should prove their debts as soon as possible if they have not done so.

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SEWAGE DISPOSAL AT LAI CHI KOK TO BE IMPROVED

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A temporary sewage screening plant will be built at Lai Chi Kok next year to improve the sewage discharge system in the area.

When completed, the plant will extract coarse screenings from the sewage discharged from the Lai Chi Kok sewerage district.

The screened sewage, after passing through the plant, will be conveyed to the existing twin-pipe submarine outfall that discharges into the sea.

The engineering works comprise the construction of a building where the screening plant will be housed, and also an office for the employees who will man the station.

The project will occupy about 200 ft. by 150 ft. on the eastern side of the Lai Chi Kok incinerator.

The site will be served by an access road connecting into Lai Chi Kok Road.

Construction will start next February and the project will take about 7 months to complete.

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SHOP TENANTS TO GET RENT REBATE

Affected By Shek Kip Mei Rehousing Scheme

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The 44 Shek Kip Mei shop tenants affected by the first phase of the Rehousing Scheme will be able to enjoy a rent rebate for two years when they move to new premises at Pak Tin Estate.

The rent rebate is designed to reduce the temporary difficulty which might be caused to shop tenants as a result of their move.

At the same time, any shop tenant not wishing to take up the reprovisioning offer may apply for ex-gratia cash compensation as an alternative. The option to accept cash in lieu of reprovisioning also applies to workshop operators.

Announcing this today, a spokesman for the Resettlement Department said the decision to introduce these modifications was reached after exhaustive interviews with each of the shop tenants affected.

The modifications are aimed at reducing the transitional difficulties posed for some of the tenants affected. The aim is to ensure that nobody suffers undue hardship while the $80 million rehousing scheme is being implemented.

The shop tenants must put in their applications for reprovisioning by January 3, 1973. Evacuation of the shop premises is scheduled for February 1973.

Shop tenants taking up the reprovisioning offer will enjoy rent rebates of 50% for the first year and 25% for the second year of their new premises at Pak Tin Estate.

/The spokesman .....

The spokesman said that even without any rebate, the rents for Pak Tin shops were very reasonable.

"The rent rebates only reflect Government's sincere wish to help the Shek Kip Mei shopkeepers re-establish themselves at Pak Tin during the initial period", he said.

Shop tenants not wishing to take up the reprovisioning offer may apply for ex-gratia compensation which will be fixed at the same rates as those applying to shopkeepers cleared from squatter areas.

The scale of compensation will be:- $8,100 for a half-bay shop of 120 sq. ft., $11,700 for a full-bay shop of 240 sq. ft. and $18,900 for a two-bay shop of 480 sq. ft.

Compensation

The spokesman said this would provide an alternative to those shop tenants who may prefer to wind up their business and get a lump sum of compensation as well as a domestic living unit at Pak Tin.

He reiterated that it was impossible and impracticable to allow the shopkeepers to remain in situ after the redevelopment of Shek Kip Mei Estate.

"We know that even at present quite a number of shops in the old estate are doing no business and many of them have had to close down. Because the population in new Shek Kip Mei will be about half of the present population, business will be likely to be less."

He said this was the main reason why the Resettlement Department was convinced that their proposals would be beneficial to shopkeepers.

"We are only trying to ensure a reasonable business and a fair return for every shopkeeper in the new estate", he added.

The department feels sure that shopkeepers will find these new arrangements much more acceptable.

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WATER CUT IN WAN CHAI

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Water supply to a number of premises in Wan Chai will be interrupted for eight hours from 10 p.m. tomorrow (Friday) to 6 a.m. the following day.

The temporary stoppage is to enable the Waterworks Office to install a waste detection meter body and a sluice valve at Queen's Road East near Anton Street.

The premises to be affected include Houses Nos. 26-44, Queen's Road East, Nos. 1-7 Anton Street and Nos. 2-22 Hennessy Road.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.