



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
LEGCC APPROVES PROPOSAL TO RAISE FIXED PENALTY RATE	1
UNHCR TRIES ITS BEST TO RESETTLE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES	3
DEBATE ON LIQUIDITY REQUIREMENTS FOR BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES	3
GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME	5
WORK ON JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE TO START SOON	6
NEW OFFICE TO PROMOTE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES	7
SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION RECEIVES A \$15 MILLION BOOST	8
BENEFITS FOR EX-PRISONERS OF WAR	9
BILL TO PROTECT PUBLIC FROM PYRAMID SELLING	10
REPORT ON FINANCING OF OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES	10
SAI KUNG DEVELOPMENTS OUTLINED BY DISTRICT OFFICER	11
WHO TRAINING COURSE ON TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG DEPENDENT PERSONS ENDS	12
CHECKS ON FACTORIES AGAINST EXCESSIVE SMOKE EMISSION	13
LAW REVISION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL	14
HK'S IMAGE OVERSEAS PROJECTED IN COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUES	15
FUNDS FOR CDC TO CARRY OUT URGENT LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS	16
FIVE BILLS PASSED	16
176 DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES INSPECTED IN NT	17
GRANT OF YUEN LONG SITE TO POK OI HOSPITAL	18
KWAI CHUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE MOVES TO NEW PREMISES	18
SPEED LIMIT IN ABERDEEN	19
WATER CUT	19

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 1 -

LEGCO APPROVES PROPOSAL TO RAISE FIXED PENALTY RATE

* * * * *

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) APPROVED THE PROPOSALS TO RAISE THE FIXED PENALTIES FOR PARKING AND MOVING TRAFFIC OFFENCES IN ORDER TO RESTORE THE ORIGINAL DETERRENT EFFECT OF THE PENALTIES WHICH HAS BEEN ERODED OVER THE YEARS BY THE GENERAL INCREASE OF PRICES AND INCOMES.

THE REVISION OF PENALTY WILL BE FROM \$30 TO \$70 FOR PARKING OFFENCES WHILE THAT FOR MOVING OFFENCES WILL BE DOUBLED SO THAT THE \$50 PENALTY WOULD BE INCREASED TO \$100 AND THE \$100 PENALTY TO \$200.

MOVING THE RELEVANT MOTIONS IN THE COUNCIL TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. DEREK JONES SAID THE MOTIONS PROVIDED FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW FIXED PENALTY RATE ON A DATE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND NOTIFIED IN THE GAZETTE AS THE REVISION OF THE PENALTY WOULD REQUIRE THE MODIFICATION OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMES AND THE PRINTING OF NEW FORMS AND THIS WOULD TAKE A FEW MONTHS.

MR. JONES SAID THE FIXED PENALTY OF \$30 FOR PARKING OFFENCES HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE IT WAS INTRODUCED IN 1971 AND IN RECENT YEARS, THE NUMBER OF FIXED PENALTY TICKETS ISSUED HAS BEEN STEADILY INCREASING.

+WELL OVER 100 000 PARKING TICKETS ARE BEING ISSUED EACH MONTH THIS YEAR,+ HE SAID. +INDEED, MANY DRIVERS NO LONGER MAKE ANY SERIOUS EFFORT TO FIND LEGAL PARKING SPACES, PERHAPS BECAUSE THE PENALTY IS NOW LITTLE GREATER THAN LEGAL PARKING CHARGES.+

+VEHICLES WHICH ARE ILLEGALLY PARKED VERY OFTEN CONTRIBUTE TO TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND THUS HELP TO DELAY OTHER TRAFFIC, INCLUDING THE MAJORITY OF TRAVELLERS WHO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT,+ HE STRESSED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PROPOSED INCREASES ARE INTENDED TO DISCOURAGE ILLEGAL PARKING BY RESTORING THE DETERRENT EFFECT OF THE PENALTIES AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE TO BETTER DRIVING HABITS ON HONG KONG'S CROWDED ROADS.

ON FIXED PENALTY FOR MOVING OFFENCES, HE SAID THE PRESENT LEVEL OF PENALTIES WAS INTRODUCED WHEN THE ORDINANCE CAME INTO FORCE IN NOVEMBER 1976 BUT THE AMOUNTS OF PENALTY WERE FIXED FOUR YEARS BEFORE THAT.

+THE LAPSE OF SEVEN YEARS IS CONSIDERED SUFFICIENTLY LONG TO MERIT A REVIEW IN THE INTEREST, AGAIN, OF MAINTAINING THEIR DETERRENT EFFECT IN THE FACE OF RISING PRICES AND INCOMES.

+MOREOVER, IT IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE RELATIVITY BETWEEN THE PENALTIES FOR PARKING AND MOVING OFFENCES, ESPECIALLY AS THE LATTER ARE, IN GENERAL, MORE SERIOUS AND CAN AT TIMES BE POSITIVELY DANGEROUS.+

A NUMBER OF OTHER MINOR AMENDMENTS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE SCHEDULE TO THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) ORDINANCE ARE ALSO PROPOSED, HE SAID.

/THESE AMENDMENTS

THESE AMENDMENTS ARE:

- * TO DELETE THE OFFENCES ON +NOT GIVING CORRECT NAME/ ADDRESS+ AND +NOT IDENTIFYING DRIVER+ FROM THE SCHEDULE IN PURSUANCE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ADVICE THAT A FIXED PENALTY IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THESE SERIOUS OFFENCES WHICH SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN COURTS=
- * TO DELETE TWO OFFENCES AND AMEND ANOTHER ONE ON PUBLIC CARS WHICH HAVE CEASED TO EXIST AS A SEPARATE CATEGORY OF VEHICLE=
- * TO REPLACE THE OFFENCE +DRIVING AN UNLICENSED VEHICLE+ AS A NEW ITEM IN THE SCHEDULE= AND
- * TO DELETE TWO TAXI-RELATED OFFENCES IN THE SCHEDULE BUT REPLACE WITH SEVEN RELATED OFFENCES IN THE SCHEDULE. THE PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENING THESE SEVEN OFFENCES, MAINLY FOR +NOT DRIVING TO DESTINATION REQUIRED BY HIRER+ AND +REFUSING PASSENGERS+ IS \$200.

SPEAKING IN THE DEBATE ON THE MOTIONS, UNOFFICIAL MEMBER THE HON. ANDREW SO SAID INCREASING FIXED PENALTY FINES TO DETER ILLEGAL PARKING IS ONLY A SUPERFICIAL REMEDY AND CANNOT REMOVE THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IN HONG KONG THERE ARE LESS THAN 16 000 ON-STREET PARKING SPACES, 6 103 SPACES IN GOVERNMENT CAR PARKS AND ONLY SOME 9 000 SPACES IN PRIVATELY-RUN PUBLIC CAR PARKS.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED VEHICLES TOTALLED 233 150 AT THE END OF LAST YEAR AND THIS FIGURE WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THIS YEAR.

+AS LONG AS THE SHORTAGE OF PARKING SPACES CONTINUES, THE PROBLEM CANNOT BE THOROUGHLY SOLVED BY SIMPLY IMPOSING FINES AS A DETERRENT,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT LIMIT THE REGISTRATION OF VEHICLES, IT MUST TRY TO PROVIDE AND ENCOURAGE THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PROVIDE MORE PARKING SPACES. WHEN PARKING SPACES ARE TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY CANCELLED, IT SHOULD TRY TO PROVIDE OTHER SPACES NEARBY.

SPECIAL ATTENTION MUST ALSO BE PAID TO THE UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION OR PROLONGED OCCUPATION OF PARKING SPACES BY ABANDONED CARS AND CARS AWAITING REPAIRS, HE ADDED.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 3 -

UNHCR TRIES ITS BEST TO RESETTLE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES
* * * *

THE UNHCR HAS GIVEN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AN ASSURANCE THAT IT WILL USE ITS BEST ENDEAVOURS TO RESETTLE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES OVERSEAS, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON. LEWIS DAVIES SAID IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. LYDIA DUNN, MR. DAVIES SAID IN IMPLEMENTING THIS ASSURANCE, THE UNHCR REGISTERED ALL REFUGEES, PROVIDED CONSULATES OF POTENTIAL RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES WITH DETAILS AND ALLOCATED STAFF TO CARRY OUT A LIAISON ROLE BETWEEN CONSULATES, REFUGEE CAMP MANagements AND INDIVIDUAL REFUGEES AND FAMILY GROUPS.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE UNHCR IS INCREASING ITS STAFF ALLOCATED TO RESETTLEMENT DUTIES AND THE FACILITIES IN CAMPS FOR LIAISON AND INTERVIEWS.

+CLOSER CO-ORDINATION IS ALSO BEING DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE UNHCR, CAMP MANagements, IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND MY BRANCH TO ENSURE THAT THE MACHINERY OF RESETTLEMENT WORKS AS EFFICIENTLY AND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.+

MR. DAVIES POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH FROM TIME TO TIME THERE WERE EXCEPTIONS, THE MAJORITY OF INTERVIEWS, DISCUSSIONS, MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND PREPARATIONS FOR OVERSEAS RESETTLEMENT HAD PROCEEDED AS PLANNED.

HE SAID THE EXTENT OF 'NO SHOWS' WAS RELATIVELY SMALL WHEN ONE CONSIDERED THE SCALE OF THE OPERATION, THE EXTENT OF NECESSARY TRANSFER OF REFUGEES BETWEEN CAMPS AND SOMETIMES THE SHORT NOTICES GIVEN BY RESETTLEMENT COUNTRIES. +WHERE THEY DO OCCUR THEY ARE QUICKLY FOLLOWED UP,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

DEBATE ON LIQUIDITY REQUIREMENTS
FOR BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES
* * * * *

THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AGREED THAT IT IS UNDESIRABLE FOR BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO REPAY TIME DEPOSITS IN ADVANCE OF THEIR MATURITY DATES AND SUPPORTED THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT SUCH DEPOSITS SHOULD BE TREATED AS SHORT-TERM FUNDS, THE HON. LI FOOK-WO SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MR. LI WAS SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1979 AND THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1979.

MR. LI NOTED THAT THERE MAY BE DIFFICULTY IN ASCERTAINING THE DETAILS OF TRANSACTIONS WHERE THERE WAS ONLY AN ORAL AGREEMENT. HOWEVER SINCE THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING WAS CONFIDENT THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO MONITOR THE POSITION FAIRLY CLOSELY, THE UNOFFICIALS HAVE DECIDED TO GIVE THE PROPOSAL A TRY, HE SAID.

/ON THE

ON THE SPLIT-LEVEL LIQUIDITY RATIO NOW PROPOSED FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, MR. LI SAID THE UNOFFICIALS AT FIRST HAD SOME MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE PRUDENCE OF ADOPTING SUCH A TWO-TIER LIQUIDITY RATIO. THEY LATER AGREED TO IT AFTER HAVING CAREFULLY STUDIED THE MATURITY PATTERN OF THE DEPOSIT LIABILITIES OF LICENSED BANKS AND REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

REFERRING TO THE EXTENDED LIST OF SPECIFIED LIQUID ASSETS WHICH CAN BE HELD AGAINST DEPOSIT LIABILITIES, MR. LI SAID THE UNOFFICIALS WELCOMED THE EXTENSION BUT WERE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED THAT HONG KONG DOLLAR DENOMINATED CERTIFICATES WERE OMITTED FROM THE LIST AT THE FIRST STAGE.

MR. LI SAID IT WAS MOST DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN A MARKET HAS MOVED FROM IMMATURITY TO MATURITY AND HE THOUGHT IT WAS PREFERABLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO SEIZE THE INITIATIVE AND SPECIFY SUCH CERTIFICATES AS LIQUID ASSETS WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

HE EXPLAINED THAT SINCE THE ACTUAL VOLUME OF TURNOVER IS RESTRAINED BY THE NUMBER OF ISSUES AVAILABLE FOR TRADING, AS MORE ISSUES COME TO THE MARKETS, THE VOLUME WILL INCREASE TO A HIGHER LEVEL THUS PROVIDING A MORE ADEQUATE SECONDARY MARKET.

AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO REVIEW THIS +CHICKEN-AND-EGG+ SITUATION WITHIN A YEAR, THE UNOFFICIALS HAVE AGREED TO LET THIS PASS TOO WITHOUT AMENDMENT.

IN REPLY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE SAID THE GOVERNMENT ONLY PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE A SPLIT-LEVEL LIQUIDITY RATIO FOR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES.

+IT IS ONLY A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY THAT CAN OBTAIN A COMPETITIVE EDGE BY, AS IT WERE, SURREPTITIOUSLY REPAYING TIME DEPOSITS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.+

HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING IS SATISFIED THAT HE CAN, IN THE COURSE OF HIS REGULAR EXAMINATION OF EVERY REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY MONITOR THE EXTENT TO WHICH TIME DEPOSITS ARE REPAYED EARLY. THE COMMISSIONER IS ALSO SATISFIED THAT HE CAN MATCH THAT INFORMATION AGAINST THE TIME DEPOSITS WHICH EACH COMPANY HAS DECLARED AS SHORT-TERM FOR THE PURPOSES OF CALCULATING THE MINIMUM HOLDING OF SPECIFIED LIQUID ASSETS.

ON LIQUIDITY REQUIREMENTS FOR BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES, MR. HADDON-CAVE AGREED WITH MR. LI THAT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO TELL WHEN A MARKET IN INSTRUMENTS, SUCH AS HONG KONG DENOMINATED CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT, HAS MOVED FROM IMMATURITY TO MATURITY.

HE SAID THE ESSENCE OF A SPECIFIED LIQUID ASSET IS THAT THE BANK OR DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HOLDING THAT ASSET MUST BE ABLE TO REALISE IT, IN REASONABLE VOLUME AND AT AN ACCEPTABLE PRICE, IN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

HE WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT THE SECONDARY MARKET IN THESE CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT YET MEETS THAT CRITERION. HOWEVER, HE ASSURED THAT THE MARKET POSITION WOULD BE CLOSELY WATCHED AND THE SITUATION BE REVIEWED WITHIN 12 MONTHS.

GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME

* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, THE HON. LEWIS DAVIES TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME TO THE POLICE.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM DR. THE HON. HO KAM-FAI, MR. DAVIES SAID, APART FROM SIMPLIFYING REPORTING PROCEDURES, THERE WAS A SUSTAINED PROGRAMME AIMED AT SECURING INCREASED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE POLICE AND THERE WERE STEPS AIMED DIRECTLY AT ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME.

MR. DAVIES POINTED OUT THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICERS IN EACH DIVISION, THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL SCHEME, THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE UNITS, LOCAL ANTI-CRIME FUNCTIONS ORGANISED BY MAC, DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEES AND POLICE INVOLVEMENT IN A VARIETY OF COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, ACTUAL STEPS TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME INCLUDED:

- * WIDE RANGING PUBLICITY INCLUDING A SPECIAL TV SERIES, POSTERS, AND A FORTHCOMING +COMMUNITY AGAINST CRIME+ CAMPAIGN-
- * IMPROVED TECHNIQUES AND FACILITIES SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE REPORTING CENTRES, +HOTLINES+ FOR REPORTING CRIME AND THE EXPANSION OF THE BEAT RADIO SCHEME TO COVER WIDER AREAS-
- * NEW DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS A SCHEME WHEREBY MINOR CRIMES CAN BE INVESTIGATED BY UNIFORMED CONSTABLES- AND AN EXPERIMENT WHEREBY CRIMES MAY ALSO BE REPORTED BY POSTAGE-PAID LETTER- AND
- * THE EXPANSION OF THE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU.

+IN ADDITION, A CRIME VICTIMISATION SURVEY HAS RECENTLY BEEN CONDUCTED IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEFINE THE NATURE AND LEVEL OF CRIME AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT IS REPORTED.

+THE SURVEY PROVIDES A BASELINE AGAINST WHICH TO MEASURE FLUCTUATIONS IN FUTURE LEVELS OF CRIME AND REPORTING BEHAVIOUR. IT IS ALSO OF ASSISTANCE TO THE POLICE IN DEPLOYING THEIR MANPOWER TO THE BEST EFFECT,+ MR. DAVIES SAID.

WORK ON JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE TO START SOON
* * * *

WORK ON THE FIRST PHASE OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IN SHA TIN IS EXPECTED TO START SOON.

UPON COMPLETION IN MAY 1982, THE FACILITIES IN THE CENTRE MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE USE OF THE FAR EAST AND SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES FOR THE DISABLED (FESPIC GAMES), TO BE HOSTED BY HONG KONG IN OCTOBER 1982.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE HON. LI FOOK-WO WHEN HE TABLED THE 2ND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1979, IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE BOARD, MR. LI SAID, HAD RECEIVED SOME \$12.6 MILLION DURING THE YEAR FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE QUEEN'S SILVER JUBILEE APPEAL IN HONG KONG.

+IN ADDITION TO MATCHING THIS SUM, THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB HAS RECENTLY AGREED UPON A SECOND GENEROUS DONATION OF \$70 MILLION.

+TOGETHER WITH THE \$25 MILLION TO BE CONTRIBUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT, THERE WILL BE A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY \$120 MILLION AVAILABLE TO START THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT.+

MR. LI RECALLED THAT WHEN AN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE CENTRE WAS HELD LAST YEAR, NO LESS THAN 73 ENTRIES AND 52 SETS OF PLANS AND DRAWINGS WERE RECEIVED.

HE NOTED THE PANEL OF JUDGES, HEADED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES, DID NOT HAVE AN EASY TASK IN DECIDING ON THE WINNING ENTRY, +SINCE THE SITE COVERS SOME 41 ACRES AND THE COMPETITORS WERE REQUIRED TO DESIGN A GROUP OF BUILDINGS AIMED AT PROVIDING ADEQUATE AND UP-TO-DATE FACILITIES FOR TRAINING THE TALENTED ATHLETE.+

MR. LI SAID MUCH HAD BEEN DONE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NUCLEUS OF THE COACHING STAFF.

A CHIEF COACH WAS APPOINTED IN JANUARY THIS YEAR AND SINCE THEN FIVE SPECIALIST COACHES HAVE ALSO BEEN RECRUITED, RESPONSIBLE RESPECTIVELY FOR TABLE TENNIS, SOCCER, SQUASH, BADMINTON AND FENCING.

+WITH THESE COACHES NOW AVAILABLE TO TEACH AT GRASS ROOTS LEVEL, THE CENTRE HAS AN IDENTITY AND HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO PROVIDE TOP LEVEL COACHING FOR LOCAL ATHLETES AND SPORTS MEN AT THE MODERN SPORTS COMPLEX OF LA SALLE COLLEGE.

+IT WILL DIRECTLY BENEFIT THE PUPILS OF LA SALLE COLLEGE FOR TWO EVENINGS IN EVERY WEEK, BUT MORE IMPORTANT, WILL SERVE AS A TEMPORARY VENUE FOR THE PROGRAMME OF TRAINING TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE COACHES OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE UNTIL THE FACILITIES AT SHA TIN ARE READY FOR USE.+

BUT MR. LI POINTED OUT THAT MUCH REMAINED TO BE DONE BEFORE THE CENTRE WOULD PLAY ITS COMPREHENSIVE ROLE IN THE GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT OF STANDARDS IN SPORTS. +WITH THE HELP OF THE LOCAL SPORTS COMMUNITY WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WILL BE MADE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD,+ HE ADDED.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 7 -

NEW OFFICE TO PROMOTE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

A NEW DIVISION WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH UNDER THE PROPOSED REORGANISATION BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE AND CO-ORDINATE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. ALEX WU IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY), THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON. F.K. LI SAID THE RESTRUCTURING IS AIMED AT IMPROVING CO-ORDINATION, PLANNING, MONITORING AND CONTROL OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES- AND SHORTENING THE LINE OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE POLICY BRANCH AND THE EXECUTIVE ARMS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROMOTING SUCH ACTIVITIES.

THE NEW DIVISION WILL BE HEADED BY AN OFFICER AT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY LEVEL AND WILL REQUIRE A SMALL ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT SERVICES.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW DIVISION DOES NOT HAVE IMMEDIATE POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND ITS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WILL SHORTLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL.

+HOWEVER, IT IS ENVISAGED THAT, BY BRINGING TOGETHER ALL POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CULTURE AND RECREATION AS WELL AS EXECUTIVE CONTROL OF THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE AND THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PURSUE OUR POLICIES EVEN MORE VIGOROUSLY THAN HITHERTO,+ MR. LI SAID.

+THIS NEW DIVISION WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR STEERING THE PROGRAMME PLAN FOR THE LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT OF BOTH MUSIC AND THE PERFORMING ARTS, AND THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN MAY OF COURSE INVOLVE NEW POLICIES AND THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING THEREFROM WILL BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND WILL BE INCLUDED IN A SEPARATE CHAPTER OF THE PLAN,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8

SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION
RECEIVES A \$15 MILLION BOOST
* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR HAS APPROVED THE GRANTING OF \$15 MILLION FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND TO THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND TO ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL, SPORTING, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, THE HON. F.K. LI TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. F.K. HU, MR. LI SAID THE ENLARGED CAPITAL OF THE FUND SHOULD ENHANCE FUTURE INCOME TO AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$2 MILLION A YEAR.

HE SAID AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, IT WAS AGREED THAT ABOUT \$500 000 OF THIS FUTURE INCOME SHOULD BE EARMARKED FOR PURCHASES OF RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND THE OCCASIONAL EXPENSES OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES WHILE THE REMAINDER OF \$1.5 MILLION SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE RECREATION FIELD.

+THIS PROPORTION IS, OF COURSE, SUBJECT TO REVIEW FROM TIME TO TIME,+ HE SAID.

MR. LI RECALLED THAT THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR RECREATION WAS A STATUTORY FUND ESTABLISHED IN 1970 BY PRIVATE DONATIONS AMOUNTING TO \$3 MILLION AND IT IS STIPULATED BY LAW THAT ONLY THE INTEREST FROM THE FUND SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED AND THAT THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE EACH YEAR IS IN THE REGION OF \$400 000.

+AS THIS SUM IS RELATIVELY SMALL IN RELATION TO TOTAL DEMAND, THE FUND HAS SO FAR CONCENTRATED ON ALLOCATIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE PURCHASING OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT.

+HOWEVER, A PRIVATE DONATION OF \$10 MILLION WAS MADE IN 1974 MAINLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING VOLUNTARY AGENCIES TOWARDS THEIR CAPITAL PROJECTS,+ MR. LI SAID.

THE AVERAGE SUM ALLOCATED, ON THE ADVICE OF THE COUNCIL FOR RECREATION AND SPORT, HAS BEEN IN THE REGION OF \$1.8 MILLION A YEAR DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS OR SO.

+IN ANTICIPATION OF THE EXHAUSTION OF THIS SUBSTANTIAL PRIVATE DONATION, I SOUGHT ADVICE FROM THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES ON THE POSSIBILITY OF GRANTS FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND FOR RECREATIONAL PROJECTS,+ MR. LI SAID.

THIS PROPOSAL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CONSIDERED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH RECOMMENDED THE GRANT OF \$15 MILLION FROM THE LOTTERIES FUND TO THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND. THE RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN JULY THIS YEAR.

APART FROM FUNDS ALLOCATED BY THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND, MR. LI NOTED THAT THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES INVOLVED IN PROVIDING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ALSO RELIED ON THEIR OWN FUND-RAISING EFFORTS AND ON PRIVATE DONATIONS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT.

BENEFITS FOR EX-PRISONERS OF WAR
* * * *

FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR ARE ENTITLED TO ALL PUBLIC SERVICES, AND TO THE SAME SOCIAL SECURITY, HEALTH AND WELFARE BENEFITS, AS ANY OTHER RESIDENTS OF HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE HON. E.P. HO, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. LYDIA DUNN.

MR. HO SAID VOLUNTEER PRISONERS OF WAR WHO HAD BEEN DISABLED IN ACTION OR CAPTIVITY, AND THE DEPENDANTS OF THOSE WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY OR SUBSEQUENTLY BECAUSE OF THEIR INJURIES, ARE ENTITLED TO PENSIONS UNDER THE ROYAL WARRANTS BY VIRTUE OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE VOLUNTEER AND NAVAL VOLUNTEER PENSIONS ORDINANCE.

+THE CURRENT RATE OF PENSION TO A WIDOW OR TO A VOLUNTEER WHO IS CLASSIFIED AS 100 PER CENT DISABLED IS 25.30 POUND STERLING A WEEK. THERE IS ALSO PROVISION FOR AGE, DEPENDANTS, RENT AND EDUCATION ALLOWANCES. THE AVERAGE CURRENT RATE OF PAYMENT IS ABOUT 25 POUND STERLING A WEEK.+

MR. HO SAID PRISONERS OF WAR WHO CAME WITHIN THE AMBIT OF THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE HONG KONG WAR MEMORIAL FUND ORDINANCE AND ARE IN NEED, INCLUDING THOSE WHO DO NOT QUALIFY FOR PENSIONS UNDER THE ROYAL WARRANTS, ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THIS FUND. +THE CURRENT RATE OF GRANT APPROVED BY THE WAR MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE IS UP TO \$870 A MONTH FOR EACH ELIGIBLE ADULT. CHILDREN'S AND EDUCATION ALLOWANCES ARE ALSO PAYABLE WHERE DUE,+ HE ADDED.

MR. HO POINTED OUT THAT SINCE JULY 1977 PRISONERS OF WAR WHO COME WITHIN THE AMBIT OF THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE HONG KONG WAR MEMORIAL FUND ORDINANCE, AND ARE RESIDENT IN HONG KONG, HAVE BEEN ENTITLED TO FREE MEDICAL TREATMENT AT GOVERNMENT CLINICS AND HOSPITALS.

A SIGNIFICANT FEATURE OF THIS SCHEME IS THEIR ELIGIBILITY FOR FREE TREATMENT IN FIRST AND SECOND CLASS BEDS AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, WHEN AVAILABLE, AT AN INCLUSIVE MAINTENANCE CHARGE OF \$35 A DAY AND \$25 A DAY, RESPECTIVELY.

MR. HO SAID OTHER FAR EAST PRISONERS OF WAR MAY APPLY TO THE WAR MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE FAR EASTERN RELIEF FUND, EVEN THOUGH THE INITIAL 3 000 POUND STERLING GRANT FROM THE LORD MAYOR'S FUND AND SUBSEQUENT ALLOCATIONS THERETO FROM LOCAL SOURCES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED.

+THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THIS COUNCIL HAS VOTED THE NECESSARY MONEYS TO KEEP THE FUND IN BEING. ACCORDINGLY, IF A NEW CASE COMES TO NOTICE, INCLUDING THAT OF A FORMER PRISONER OF WAR, AND THE WAR MEMORIAL FUND COMMITTEE CONSIDERS HIM WORTHY OF ASSISTANCE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER INVITING THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO VOTE THE APPROPRIATE GRANTS ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS,+ MR. HO SAID.

BILL TO PROTECT PUBLIC FROM PYRAMID SELLING
* * * *

A BILL TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM PYRAMID SELLING SCHEMES WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THE CURRENT SESSION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. DAVID JEAFFRESON, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. ROGER LOBO IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID THE DRAFT BILL HAS BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH AND IS NOW WITH TWO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED FOR COMMENTS.

THE DEPARTMENTS ARE DUE TO REPLY, IF THEY HAVE ANY COMMENTS, BY DECEMBER 3, HE SAID. IF THEY RAISE NO OBJECTIONS, IT WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE SENT TO INTERESTED BODIES OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT FOR COMMENTS.

IF THERE ARE NO SERIOUS OBJECTIONS, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID: + I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THIS COUNCIL IN THE CURRENT SESSION.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

REPORT ON FINANCING OF OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT WORKING PARTY ON SUBVENTION ADMINISTRATION IS EXPECTED TO GIVE A REPORT ON THE FINANCING OF OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES SHORTLY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, THE HON. THOMAS LEE SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE BENNETT, MR. LEE SAID EARLIER THIS YEAR THE PLANNING AND EVALUATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERED A REPORT SUBMITTED BY A WORKING GROUP WHICH HAD BEEN EXAMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE FINANCING OF OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES.

+HOWEVER, THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT WORKING PARTY ON SUBVENTION ADMINISTRATION HAVE RATHER OVERTAKEN THE WORKING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND IT WAS DECIDED TO DEFER FURTHER CONSIDERATION PENDING THE WORKING PARTY'S REPORT WHICH IS EXPECTED SHORTLY,+ SAID MR. LEE.

MEANWHILE, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ADVISING VOLUNTARY AGENCIES OPERATING OLD PEOPLE'S HOMES TO CHARGE FEES WITHIN THE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS RECEIVED BY THE CLIENTS AND THIS SEEMS TO BE WORKING WELL, SAID MR. LEE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 11 -

SAI KUNG DEVELOPMENTS OUTLINED BY DISTRICT OFFICER
* * * * *

SAI KUNG IS NOW PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BOOSTING THE HOUSING STOCK WITH LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. COLIN BOSHER, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE VICTORIA LIONS CLUB, HE SAID THAT SAI KUNG HAD PROVIDED LARGE UNIT HOUSING - THE TYPE WHICH HAD SUFFERED THE GREATEST INFLATION IN PRICES AND RENTS OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS. THE STRONG DEMAND FOR HOUSING AND PROPERTY IN THE DISTRICT WHICH HE HAD DESCRIBED IN 1978 HAD BEEN UNABATED IN 1979.

MR. BOSHER SAID: +THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAS RELEASED AS MUCH LAND AS POSSIBLE TO TRY TO MEET THE DEMAND, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO NEXT YEAR.+

IN MARCH A PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL SITE OF 2 600 SQUARE METRES (28 000 SQUARE FEET) WITH A PLOT RATIO OF 0.3 AT TAI MONG TSAI WOULD BE SOLD BY AUCTION. IN SUMMER THREE SITES AVERAGING 1 860 SQUARE METRES (20 000 SQUARE FEET) IN AREA WITH PLOT RATIOS OF 0.6, AT SHA HA WOULD BE PUT UP FOR LETTER B TENDER. ALSO IN THE SUMMER, THE SHAW BROTHERS STUDIO DORMITORY COMPRISING 30 FLATS OF 37 TO 93 SQUARE METRES (400 TO 1 000 SQUARE FEET) WOULD BE SOLD AT AUCTION BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

MR. BOSHER SAID THAT COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL LAND WOULD ALSO BECOME AVAILABLE. THIS INCLUDED A 740 SQUARE METRES (8 000 SQUARE FEET) NON-INDUSTRIAL SITE WITH A PLOT RATIO OF ONE, AT RAZOR HILL AND TWO INDUSTRIAL LOTS TOTALLING 4 830 SQUARE METRES (52 000 SQUARE FEET) AT TUI MIN HOI, WITH PLOT RATIOS OF FOUR, TO BE AUCTIONED IN MARCH.

+DURING THIS YEAR A SITE OF 61.3 ACRES (24.8 HECTARES) WAS EXCHANGED AT HO CHUNG FOR A \$300 MILLION RESIDENTIAL AND MARINA COMPLEX. THE DEVELOPMENT WILL PROVIDE APPROXIMATELY 400 THREE-STORY LUXURY HOME UNITS, LIKELY TO HOUSE OVER 2 000 PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

LOOKING FURTHER INTO THE FUTURE THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAD PLANS TO EXTEND THE SAI KUNG TOWN LAYOUT TO THE NORTH AND WEST, AND TO OPEN UP AT LEAST TWO MORE COMPLETELY NEW MINOR RESIDENTIAL LAYOUTS FOR THE SALE OF MORE CROWN LAND FOR LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

+IT IS VERY NOTICEABLE THAT TRAVELLING IS NO LONGER A SERIOUS DISINCENTIVE TO LIVING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. MANY PEOPLE ARE CHOOSING THE LIFE OF A SUBURBANITE, AND FINDING THAT IT HAS MANY COMPENSATING FACTORS.

+SAI KUNG IS THE ONLY NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT WHICH WILL BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM THE MTR MODIFIED INITIAL SYSTEM. TOGETHER WITH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, THE DISTRICT OFFICE HAS BEEN WORKING ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MAXI-CAB FEEDER ROUTES TO THE MTR STATIONS AT CHOI HUNG AND DIAMOND HILL,+ HE SAID.

/MR. BOSHER

MR. BOSHER SAID SAI KUNG HAD CONTINUED ITS REGIONAL ROLE IN HONG KONG AS +A CENTRE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION.+

THE LAST 12 MONTHS HAD SEEN THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE COUNTRY PARKS PROGRAMME IN SAI KUNG. MORE LAND HAD BEEN GAZETTED IN THE NAMES OF THE MA ON SHAN AND CLEAR WATER BAY COUNTRY PARKS, BRINGING ALL THE MOST SCENIC PARTS OF THE DISTRICT UNDER EXPERT MANAGEMENT.

THE PO LEUNG KUK'S HOLIDAY CAMP AT PAK TAM CHUNG WAS NOW OPEN AND TAKING LARGE NUMBERS OF HOLIDAY-MAKERS, YOUNG AND OLD. ENCOURAGED BY THE KUK'S EXAMPLE OTHER ORGANISATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG YOUTH CLUB, THE CANOE UNION AND THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION HAD PUT IN APPLICATIONS FOR LAND.

MR. BOSHER SAID THE DISTRICT OFFICE WAS GIVING EVERY ASSISTANCE IT COULD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WHO TRAINING COURSE ON TREATMENT AND
REHABILITATION OF DRUG DEPENDENT PERSONS ENDS
* * * * *

THE RAVAGES OF THE INSIDIOUS PLAGUE — NARCOTIC ADDICTION — HAVE ATTAINED PANDEMIC PROPORTIONS WORLDWIDE, SAPPING THE ENERGIES OF YOUTH AND THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF NATIONS, THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. K.L. THONG SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION'S FIRST INTER-REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE FOR PHYSICIANS ON THE TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG DEPENDENT PERSONS IN HONG KONG.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS, SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES AND THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR. PETER LEE, ALSO ATTENDED THE CEREMONY.

DR. THONG SAID: +THE GROWING CONCERN OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS OVER THIS RAPIDLY SPREADING CANCER IS REFLECTED IN AN INCREASING INVOLVEMENT AT HIGH POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEVELS, IN GREATER EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE, AND IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION IN ALL FIELDS OF ANTI-NARCOTICS WORK.+

HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT IN HONG KONG THERE WERE REAL INDICATIONS OF CONTAINMENT OF THE NARCOTICS ABUSE, AND +IN A WORLD OF ESCALATING PROBLEMS, CONTAINMENT IS PROGRESS.+

HONG KONG'S APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM, WHICH HAVE BESET US OVER THE DECADES, HAD BEEN PRAGMATIC, AND IN THIS RESPECT NARCOTICS ADDICTION HAD BEEN NO EXCEPTION, DR. THONG POINTED OUT.

+WE HAVE LEARNT FROM EXPERIENCE THAT THERE IS NO SINGLE SOLUTION, THAT THERE IS NO ACCEPTABLE PANACEA, AND THAT WE MUST PERFORCE ADOPT A MULTI-MODALITY APPROACH,+ HE EXPLAINED.

/HE SAID

HE SAID DRUG ABUSE WAS AFFECTING NOT ONLY THOSE IN THE MAJOR CITIES AND GREAT URBAN CONURBATIONS, NOT ONLY INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, BUT IMPOVERISHED FARMERS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO WHOM, OPIUM, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS NOT MERELY A SIMPLE MEDICINE, BUT A MEANS OF EXISTENCE AT SUBSISTENCE LEVEL.

+NO NATION CAN INNOCULATE ITSELF AGAINST THE SPREAD OF THIS DISEASE AND IT IS ONLY BY INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND ACTION, AND BY PREVENTIVE MEASURES, IN THE LAST RESORT, THAT IT WILL BE OVERCOME,+ DR. THONG SAID.

HE ADDED +WE HAVE OBSERVED THAT THE PATTERNS OF ABUSE VARY FROM REGION TO REGION, AND FROM TIME TO TIME WITHIN THE SAME REGION. WE HAVE NOTED THAT THE CONDITION RESPECTS NO BOUNDARIES, NO CLASS, NO RACE, NO BELIEF.

+WE HAVE SEEN THAT NO MAN IS IMMUNE TO THIS DREADFUL SCOURGE GIVEN THE APPROPRIATE COMBINATION OF CIRCUMSTANCE AND OPPORTUNITY.+

DR. THONG SAID DRUG ABUSE WAS NOT A DISEASE ENTITY IN ITSELF, IT WAS A SYMPTOM OF AN UNDERLYING CONDITION WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY CONCERNED WITH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND HIS ENVIRONMENT IN THE COMMUNITY.

+IN THIS RESPECT IT IS NO DIFFERENT FROM THE MANY OTHER DISEASE PROCESSES WITH WHICH THE MODERN PHYSICIAN MUST CONCERN HIMSELF.

+IN SUCH CASES, IT IS AXIOMATIC THAT SYMPTOMATIC TREATMENT ALONE WILL NOT SUFFICE, AND THAT WE MUST DIRECT OUR ATTENTION TO THE ROOT CAUSES,+ HE SAID.

THE MONTH-LONG TRAINING COURSE, WHICH WAS OPENED ON OCTOBER 30 BY SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES, WAS PARTICIPATED BY 25 PHYSICIANS FROM AFGHANISTAN, BURMA, EGYPT, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, PAKISTAN, THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND.

IT WAS AIMED AT PROVIDING AN IN-DEPTH STUDY INTO THE LATEST ANTI-NARCOTICS TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION POLICIES AND METHODS IN HONG KONG.

THE INTENSIVE COURSE ALSO PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTICIPATING PHYSICIANS TO TAKE A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT THE ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HONG KONG'S MULTI-MODALITY TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES AND TO DISCUSS THEM WITH THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND STAFF OF THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHECKS ON FACTORIES AGAINST EXCESSIVE SMOKE EMISSION

* * * * *

SINCE 1976, OFFICERS FROM THE SMOKE INSPECTORATE AND THE INDUSTRIAL HEALTH DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAVE CARRIED OUT MORE THAN 100 INVESTIGATIONS TO FACTORIES NEAR THE BOARDING SCHOOL OVERLOOKING DIAMOND HILL TO ENSURE THAT SMOKE EMISSION IN THE AREA IS KEPT WITHIN LEGAL LIMITS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON. NEIL HENDERSON, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY) IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE BENNETT.

/MR. HENDERSON

MR. HENDERSON SAID THE OFFICERS HAD ALSO GIVEN TECHNICAL ADVICE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BLEACHING AND DYEING FACTORIES ON HOW TO ABATE OR AVOID DARK SMOKE EMISSION. ONE OF THE FACTORIES WHICH FAILED TO FOLLOW THE ADVICE WAS PROSECUTED AND CONVICTED ON TWO OCCASIONS.

+IN GENERAL, FACTORY MANagements HAVE NOW CONTROLLED THE EMISSIONS TO BE WITHIN THE STATUTORY LIMITS UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ORDINANCE,+ HE ADDED.

MR. HENDERSON SAID OFFICERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION WOULD CONTINUE TO KEEP THE FACTORIES IN THE AREA UNDER SURVEILLANCE TO ENSURE THE SMOKE EMISSION WOULD NOT EXCEED THE LEGAL LIMITS AS SET DOWN IN THE CLEAN AIR ORDINANCE.

+I AM GLAD TO REPORT THAT SINCE MISS BENNETT LAST ASKED A QUESTION IN THIS COUNCIL ON ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ORDINANCE, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RECRUIT A FURTHER SEVEN INSPECTORS,+ HE POINTED OUT.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LAW REVISION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL

* * * * *

THE LAW REVISION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1979 WHICH SEEKS TO AMEND A NUMBER OF ORDINANCES AND SOME SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION WAS TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BILL, THE LAW DRAFTSMAN, THE HON. GERALD NAZARETH OUTLINED THE VARIOUS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

- * TO AMEND SECTION 5 OF THE JURY ORDINANCE BY DELETING REFERENCES TO THE FORMER DESIGNATION AND REPLACE THEM WITH REFERENCES TO THE NEW DESIGNATION OF THOSE OFFICES CHANGED IN THE RE-CONSTITUTION OF THE SUPREME COURT. THIS SECTION OF THE ORDINANCE CONFERS UPON THE WIVES OF HOLDERS OF CERTAIN JUDICIAL OFFICES EXEMPTION FROM SERVICE AS JURORS.
- * TO REPLACE AN INACCURATE REFERENCE IN THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE TO A SPECIALLY ENDORSED WRIT WITH A REFERENCE TO A WRIT ENDORSED WITH A STATEMENT OF CLAIM WHICH IS ACTUALLY PROVIDED FOR IN THE SUPREME COURT RULES.
- * ANOTHER AMENDMENT TO THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE TO EMPOWER THE CHIEF JUSTICE TO DETERMINE THE RATE OF INTEREST BY ORDERS. SUCH ORDERS WILL AS USUAL HAVE TO BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
- * TO PROVIDE FOR THE NECESSARY DELETIONS AND AMENDMENTS OF CERTAIN FORMS PRESCRIBED BY THE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP RULES FOLLOWING THE REPEAL OF SECTION 10 OF THE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP ORDINANCE.

/*TO INCLUDE

- * TO INCLUDE IN THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE THE DEFINITION OF +MORTGAGE+ WHICH WAS FORMERLY DEFINED BUT RECENTLY DELETED IN THE STAMP DUTY ORDINANCE, SUBJECT TO MINOR MODIFICATION.
- * TO PROVIDE FOR AMENDMENTS THAT ARE CONSEQUENTIAL UPON THE TRANSFER OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES FROM THE ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS TO THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.
- * TO AMEND THE HONG KONG HOUSING SOCIETY INCORPORATION ORDINANCE BY SUBSTITUTING THE DESIGNATION +SECRETARY+ WITH +EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR+ WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE SOCIETY.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HK'S IMAGE OVERSEAS PROJECTED IN
COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUES

* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS PAYING GREATER ATTENTION TO HONG KONG'S IMAGE OVERSEAS IN THE ISSUE OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS AND FIRST DAY COVERS, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. DAVID JEAFFRESON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. ALEX WU, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID FOR THE LAST TWO COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ISSUES THIS YEAR, THE ENVELOPES HAVE CONTAINED A CARD ELABORATING ON THE THEME OF THE STAMP.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT ONE OF THE OBJECTS OF COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES IS TO PROJECT HONG KONG'S IMAGE ABROAD.

OF THE THREE THEMES CHOSEN FOR THIS YEAR, +HONG KONG INDUSTRIES+ AND +THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY+ WERE CLEARLY PICKED WITH HONG KONG'S IMAGE OVERSEAS IN MIND, HE SAID. AND THE THIRD, +HONG KONG BUTTERFLIES+, WHILE PERHAPS OF GREATER APPEAL TO PEOPLE IN HONG KONG MUST HAVE CREATED SOME INTEREST ABROAD.

HOWEVER, MR. JEAFFRESON SAID +ORDINARY STAMPS+ ARE THE DEFINITIVE ISSUE OF STAMPS IN NORMAL USE OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME AND IT IS NOT DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO PROJECT HONG KONG'S IMAGE ABROAD.

+BUT ONE OF OUR OBJECTS, WITH HONG KONG'S IMAGE AT LEAST IN MIND, IS TO MAKE SURE THAT IT IS DESIGNED TASTEFULLY,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 16 -

FUNDS FOR CDO TO CARRY OUT URGENT LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS

THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CITY DISTRICT OFFICE SCHEME WILL INCLUDE THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO CARRY OUT URGENT LOCAL PUBLIC WORKS.

IT WILL BE SIMILAR TO THOSE ALLOWED TO THE DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARDS.

THIS WAS STATED BY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIR, THE HON. JOHN WALDEN IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE BENNETT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

----- 0 -----

FIVE BILLS PASSED

FIVE BILLS WERE PASSED INTO LAW IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THEY WERE THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1979= THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1979= THE PROBATION OF OFFENDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979= THE HAWKER CONTROL FORCE (REPEAL) BILL 1979 AND THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979.

----- 0 -----

/17

176 DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES INSPECTED IN NT

* * * * *

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU OFFICERS TODAY (WEDNESDAY) CARRIED OUT A FULL-SCALE CHECK ON DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE OFFICERS CONCENTRATED THEIR CHECK ON VEHICLES CARRYING DANGEROUS GOODS BUT NOT LICENSED TO DO SO AND VEHICLES CARRYING KEROSENE IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE.

DURING THE FOUR-HOUR OPERATION LED BY ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL OFFICERS MR. CHEUNG CHI-WAH AND MR. CHIU WIN-PO, A TOTAL OF 176 DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES WERE INSPECTED OF WHICH SIX WERE FOUND TO BE UNLICENSED- 12 CONVEYING MIXED STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS WITHOUT THE NECESSARY ENDORSEMENTS ON THEIR LICENCES TO ALLOW THEM TO DO SO AND 13 REQUIRED RE-INSPECTION BY FPB OFFICERS CONCERNING MINOR DEFECTS IN THEIR SAFETY REQUIREMENTS. ONE VEHICLE WAS FOUND TO BE UNATTENDED TO.

IN THE OPERATION, FPB OFFICERS DIVIDED INTO TEN TEAMS BEGAN THEIR CHECKS FROM 8.30 AM IN TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG, KAM TIN, SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, SHEUNG SHUI, TAI PO, FANLING, TAI LAM CHUNG AND KWAI CHUNG.

IN KAM TIN, TWO UNLICENSED DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES WERE DISCOVERED OF WHICH ONE WAS FOUND USING 17 FOUR-GALLON PLASTIC CONTAINERS TO CONVEY KEROSENE. THE REMAINING FOUR UNLICENSED VEHICLES WERE FOUND IN KWAI CHUNG AND TSUEN WAN.

A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE MAXIMUM PENALTY UPON CONVICTION FOR USING AN UNLICENSED VEHICLES TO CONVEY DANGEROUS GOODS WAS A FINE OF \$8 000 AND SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT.

HE ADDED THAT THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR USING PLASTIC CONTAINERS TO CONVEY KEROSENE WAS A FINE OF \$5 000 AND TWO MONTHS IMPRISONMENT.

+THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR CONVEYING MIXED STORAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND UNATTENDED DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLE IS A FINE OF \$1 000,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

COMMENTING ON TODAY'S OPERATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RESULTS WERE QUITE SATISFACTORY BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF THE DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES INSPECTED WERE LICENSED AND ALL THEIR SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WERE COMPLIED WITH.

+WE SENT LETTERS TO VARIOUS OIL COMPANIES AND AGENTS IN SEPTEMBER REMINDING THEM OF THE LICENSING CONDITIONS, SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND PARTICULARLY THAT FOUR-GALLON PLASTIC CONTAINERS MUST NOT BE USED TO CONVEY KEROSENE.

+THE FACT THAT ONLY A FEW PLASTIC CONTAINERS WERE SEIZED TODAY SHOWS THAT GENERALLY ALL OIL COMPANIES AND AGENTS ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO CO-OPERATE,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 18 -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

**GRANT OF YUEN LONG SITE TO POK OI HOSPITAL

THE GOVERNMENT IS TO GRANT A SITE IN YUEN LONG TO THE POK OI HOSPITAL TO BUILD STAFF QUARTERS AS PART OF THE HOSPITAL'S EXPANSION PROGRAMME.

THE GRANT, BY PRIVATE TREATY, WILL BE SIGNED TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AT THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HEADQUARTERS, HOUSING AUTHORITY BUILDING, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON, AT 4 PM.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SIGNING CEREMONY. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ARRIVE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY BUILDING BEFORE 3.45 PM WHERE THEY WILL BE MET BY INFORMATION OFFICERS OF NTA.

----- 0 -----

**KWAI CHUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE MOVES TO NEW PREMISES

THE KWAI CHUNG URBAN SERVICES OFFICE OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, PRESENTLY IN CHARTERED BANK BUILDING, TAI PO ROAD, TSUEN WAN, WILL MOVE TO ITS NEW OFFICE IN SHING WAH BUILDING, 31 SHING FONG STREET, THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS, KWAI CHUNG THIS FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

TO FACILITATE THE REMOVAL, THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY. IT WILL RESUME OPERATION ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 1) WHEN ALL ENQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE NEW OFFICE AT TELEPHONE 12-209204.

----- 0 -----

/19

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1979

- 19 -

SPEED LIMIT IN ABERDEEN
* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT A SPEED LIMIT OF 30 MILES PER HOUR WILL BE IMPOSED IN NEW SHEK PAI WAN ROAD AND A SECTION OF SHEK PAI WAN ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH TIN WAN HILL ROAD AND NEW SHEK PAI WAN ROAD IN ABERDEEN FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 30).

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP IN THE AREA TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER CUT
* * *

SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN ABERDEEN WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR NINE HOURS FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 30) TO FACILITATE ESSENTIAL WORK ON THE SUPPLY SYSTEM.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY HEUNG YIP ROAD, YIP FAT STREET, WONG CHUK HANG ROAD AND WONG CHUK HANG ESTATE.

- - - - 0 - - - -