



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1976

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SECOND MENTAL HOSPITAL

THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION WORK ON A SECOND MENTAL HOSPITAL AT LAI CHI KOK NEXT MONTH.

ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$64 MILLION, THE NEW HOSPITAL WILL PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL 1,304 HOSPITAL BEDS WHICH SHOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS EASING THE PRESSURE ON EXISTING FACILITIES AT CASTLE PEAK HOSPITAL.

THE HOSPITAL WILL BE BUILT ON THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE NORTHERN END OF THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL SITE AND WILL CATER MAINLY FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS WHOSE CONDITION IS AMENABLE TO TREATMENT, AND FOR VOLUNTARY AND INFIRMARY PATIENTS (I.E. PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DISEASES).

MR. EDWIN WONG, PWD ARCHITECT, SAID TODAY THE NEW HOSPITAL HAD BEEN DESIGNED AS A MULTI-LEVEL DEVELOPMENT SO AS TO LEAVE AS MUCH SPACE AS POSSIBLE FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

+IN A MENTAL HOSPITAL,+ HE SAID, +GREATER PROVISION HAS TO BE MADE FOR RECREATIONAL, OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSIOTHERAPIC ACTIVITIES THAN IN A GENERAL HOSPITAL BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF MENTAL PATIENTS.

+ADEQUATE PROVISION FOR THIS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE DESIGN AND TOGETHER WITH GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS TO REDUCE THE INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTER OF THE BUILDING COMPLEX, A LARGE GARDEN AS WELL AS A ROOF GARDEN WILL BE PROVIDED.+

OTHER RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, HE ADDED, WOULD INCLUDE A THEATRE FOR FILM SHOWS, CONCERTS OR INDOOR SPORTS, SHOP AND SOFT DRINK BAR, HAIRDRESSING SALOON, A LIBRARY AND READING ROOM AS AIDS TO REHABILITATION.

A FOOTBALL PITCH AND A BASKETBALL COURT ARE ALREADY IN EXISTENCE TO SERVE BOTH THE NEW LAI CHI KOK HOSPITAL AND THE SECOND MENTAL HOSPITAL.

THE MENTAL HOSPITAL, MR. WONG SAID, WOULD OCCUPY ABOUT ONE-QUARTER OF THE 10.8 HECTARE (27.15-ACRE) SITE AND WOULD COMPRISE ONE 11-STORY WARD BLOCK FOR MALE PATIENTS AND ONE EIGHT-STORY WARD BLOCK FOR FEMALE PATIENTS.

+BOTH BLOCKS WILL BE LINKED WITH A FOUR-STORY CLINICAL AND SERVICE BLOCK BY A SYSTEM OF SUBWAYS, THUS LEAVING AS MUCH GROUND AS POSSIBLE TO BE LANDSCAPED AS RECREATIONAL GARDENS SUPPLEMENTED BY ALL AVAILABLE ROOF AREAS WHICH WILL ALSO BE DEVELOPED FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.+ HE ADDED.

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PROVISION HAD ALSO BEEN MADE, HE SAID, TO INCLUDE A COVERED LINK WITH THE ADJACENT NURSES' TRAINING SCHOOL AND STAFF QUARTERS TO FACILITATE STAFF CIRCULATION IN BAD WEATHER.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY INVITED TENDERS FOR THE FOUNDATION WORK AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MALE AND FEMALE WARD BLOCKS UNDER PHASE ONE OF THE PROJECT.

WORK ON THIS PHASE WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER NEXT YEAR.

WORK ON THE REMAINDER OF THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER NEXT YEAR. PWD ARCHITECTS EXPECT THE HOSPITAL TO BE FULLY COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 1979.

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300TH M.A.C. IN KOWLOON CITY
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THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. AUGUSTINE KAM CHUI, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE 300TH MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE IN KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT TOMORROW (SUNDAY).

THE CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE AT 2.30 P.M. AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF TANG KANG PO MIDDLE SCHOOL, FARM ROAD, KOWLOON CITY.

THE M.A.C., SITUATED IN KAR MAN HOUSE, OI MAN HOUSE, IS FORMED WITH THE HELP OF C.D.O. (KOWLOON CITY) TO STRENGTHEN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BUILDING.

KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT HAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF MAC'S AMONG THE 10 CITY DISTRICTS. THEY ARE SET UP IN BOTH THE PRIVATE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

BESIDES BEING INVOLVED IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF SECURITY AND SANITARY CONDITION OF THE BUILDINGS, MANY OF THE M.A.C.S ALSO ATTEMPT TO ORGANISE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AMONG RESIDENTS SO AS TO FURTHER PROMOTE A SENSE OF UNITY AND CO-OPERATION.

NOTE TO EDITORS: MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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NEED FOR EVALUATION - SELF-EVIDENT

EVALUATION OF WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG IS NECESSARY TO ENSURE NOT ONLY VALUE FOR MONEY BUT ALSO THAT WELFARE SERVICES DEVELOP IN LINE WITH CHANGING COMMUNITY NEEDS.

THIS WAS STATED IN THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON GROUP DISCUSSIONS AT THE SEMINAR ON EVALUATION HELD IN JANUARY THIS YEAR. THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, OF WHICH THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, IS CHAIRMAN.

THE SEMINAR WAS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 150 DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES, SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, AND A NUMBER OF SERVICE CONSUMERS WHO ARE RECIPIENTS OF WELFARE SERVICES.

IT WAS TO REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INITIAL EVALUATION EXERCISE THAT WAS CARRIED OUT LAST YEAR AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW EVALUATION SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN FUTURE.

ALL DISCUSSION GROUPS CONSIDERED THE NEED FOR EVALUATION TO BE SELF-EVIDENT. +MOST GROUPS ACCEPTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS A DUTY TO ENSURE THAT RESOURCES EXPENDED ON AGENCY SERVICES ARE PROPERLY UTILIZED AND THAT AGENCIES, FOR THEIR PART, HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO ACCOUNT FOR FUNDS RECEIVED FROM SUBVENTION.+

AS TO THE USES OF EVALUATION, THE REPORT NOTED THAT MOST DISCUSSION GROUPS WERE STRONGLY IN FAVOUR THAT EVALUATION SHOULD LOOK AT AN AREA OF SERVICE AS A WHOLE BESIDES INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES.

+THE MAJORITY OPINION WAS THAT EVALUATION SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY NEEDS, CLASSIFYING THESE NEEDS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY AND ASSESSING THE EXTENT TO WHICH EXISTING SERVICES CONFORM TO AN AGREED CONCEPT OF NEED.+

IN REGARD TO FUTURE EVALUATION EXERCISES, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SHOULD HAVE JOINT RESPONSIBILITY AND IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT SUFFICIENT RESOURCES BE COMMITTED TO EVALUATION TO DO THE JOB PROPERLY AND THAT CARE BE TAKEN TO SELECT PERSONNEL OF SUITABLE CALIBRE AND EXPERIENCE FOR THIS WORK.

IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE VIEWS OF SERVICE RECIPIENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEREVER POSSIBLE, THE REPORT CONTINUED.

ON THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF EVALUATION, THE REPORT SAID: +EVALUATION WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN THE EXPANSION OF SOME AREAS OF SERVICE AND THE CURTAILMENT OF OTHERS= AND IN SOME REDISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES THROUGH SUBVENTION FUNDS.+

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TURNING TO THE INITIAL EVALUATION EXERCISE, THE DISCUSSION GROUPS ENDORSED THE REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE THAT AGENCY-BASED EVALUATION HAD PROVED TO BE UNSATISFACTORY AS THIS APPROACH DID NOT ENABLE A SUFFICIENTLY BROAD VIEW TO BE TAKEN OF THE SERVICES RENDERED BY A PARTICULAR AGENCY IN RELATION TO THE AREA OF SERVICE AS A WHOLE AND, EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IN RELATION TO COMMUNITY NEEDS.

THIS EXERCISE WAS CONDUCTED BY TEAMS COMPRISING STAFF OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND THE AGENCIES BEING EVALUATED.

THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DISCUSSION GROUPS, TOGETHER WITH THE VIEWS OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, WILL NOW BE CONSIDERED BY THE EVALUATION SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHICH WILL THEN PREPARE DETAILED PROPOSALS ON FUTURE EVALUATION STUDIES.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD
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ALL EASTBOUND TRAFFIC USING THE EXISTING CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD NEAR THE HOME FOR THE AGED WILL BE DIVERTED ONTO THE NEW ROAD TO THE SOUTH FROM TUESDAY (MARCH 9) TO FACILITATE ROADWORKS.

WITH EFFECT FROM 10 A.M. ON THAT DAY, THERE WILL BE TWO-WAY OPERATION OVER THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE DIVERSION WITH A SUBSTANTIAL SECTION OF DUAL CARRIAGEWAY AVAILABLE.

THE EXISTING CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD BETWEEN THE HOME FOR THE AGED AND THE EAST END OF THE DIVERSION WILL BECOME A CUL-DE-SAC WITH ENTRANCE AND EXIT AT THE EAST END.

APPROPRIATE SIGNS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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CHILDREN CARNIVAL IN RENNIE'S MILL

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ABOUT 1,000 CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS IN RENNIE'S MILL WILL HAVE AN AFTERNOON FULL OF FUN AND JOY TOMORROW (MARCH 7) WHEN THEY ATTEND A CARNIVAL SPECIALLY ORGANISED FOR THEM.

THE CARNIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE BASKETBALL COURT OF QUEEN MAUD MIDDLE SCHOOL IN RENNIE'S MILL FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICE FOR KWUN TONG, THE CARNIVAL IS AIMED AT PROMOTING AND PROVIDING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YOUNGSTERS WHO ARE LIVING IN THIS REMOTE AREA.

MEANWHILE, A +ROUND NEW TERRITORIES TOUR+ HAS ALSO BEEN ORGANISED FOR ABOUT 100 MEMBERS OF THE SAU MAU PING CENTRAL ESTATE OLD PEOPLE'S CLUB TOMORROW.

THE TOUR IS SPONSORED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORTS OFFICE FOR KWUN TONG AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S SAU MAU PING ESTATE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICE (CENTRAL).

IT WILL PROVIDE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR THE OLD PEOPLE AND TO GIVE MEMBERS OF A YOUTH GROUP AN OPPORTUNITY TO RENDER SERVICES TO THE AGED.

THE YOUTH GROUP, LOK YEE CLUB, IS A SELF-PROGRAMMING ONE SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY WORK OFFICE.

DURING THE DAY, THE OLD PEOPLE WILL TOUR AROUND CHING CHUNG KOON AND LUNCH AT THIS WELL-KNOWN MONASTERY IN CASTLE PEAK. THE PROGRAMME WILL ALSO INCLUDE GROUP GAMES AND A LUCKY DRAW.

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DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

Saturday, March 6, 1976

Following is the full text of the Governor's speech at the American Chambers of Commerce Conference:

"Mr. President, Mr. Consul General, Mr. Miller, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is indeed an honour for Hong Kong to be chosen as the location for this meeting of the Asian Pacific Council of Chambers of Commerce in this, the bicentennial year of your great Republic.

"But it is also perhaps appropriate. Hong Kong's links with the United States go back to the early years of its foundation more than 130 years ago and they reflect the close links that have always existed between the Americans and the British.

"Today the United States is Hong Kong's biggest export market and our third biggest source of imports after China and Japan. It is our largest source of foreign investment in industry, commerce and Banking. And the U.S. dollar is the yardstick by which we measure the Hong Kong dollar, as well as the intervention unit for regulating it. Numbers of

/our people

our people have been trained in your colleges and universities and many have relatives in the United States. The American Chamber in Hong Kong is one of our strongest and most active business groups who play an essential role in our links with the United States, and I would wish to pay a tribute here to their enthusiasm and their contribution to our community.

"There is no doubt that Hong Kong has witnessed far greater development in the past twenty-five years than in the previous hundred years of its existence. It was established as a port for the China trade and fitted its position as an entrepot. But since the fifties its own industry has grown at a rapid pace, exporting to all parts of the world but especially to the large consumer markets of North America and Western Europe.

"Despite our small size and population of only 4½ million, no developing country exports more manufactured goods than Hong Kong. We are the largest exporter of clothing and of toys in the world and have expanded rapidly in such other fields as electronic products, radios, watches and clocks, cameras, optical goods and so on.

Hong Kong is also the biggest tourist destination in South East Asia, the largest financial centre in the region outside Japan and a focal point for telecommunications and air and sea transport. It is a large market for China products and a significant source of foreign exchange earnings.

Hong Kong has thus been transformed from a small trading outpost to a modern metropolitan centre in the space of 25 years. This has been achieved through free enterprise and the business acumen of our traders under the spur of somehow having to find a living and the material resources for a population that has quadrupled in 25 years.

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The free port philosophy has not been changed. There are no protective tariffs and our industry is forced to sink or swim, not in a small protected home market, but in the markets of the world. More than 80 per cent of all production is exported. There is also no exchange control; and money can be remitted freely in and out in all currencies. Taxation is relatively low and business can operate with the minimum interference from government controls. In particular, no restriction is placed on the establishment of foreign owned businesses or on the repatriation of their profits. For it is well understood that the investment necessary for economic growth must come essentially from profits.

"There is a popular misconception that Hong Kong is a laissez-faire, uncaring, society. This cannot be sustained. Although, as I have said, we accept free enterprise as the generating force in our economy, our economic growth has also rested very heavily on the development of the essential infrastructure of a modern society, much of it through public expenditure. Large investments have been undertaken in roads, waterworks, hospitals, schools, public transport facilities, electricity supplies, telecommunications and recreational facilities. Two-fifths of the population are already accommodated in subsidised public housing and within four years we will be accommodating 200,000 more people. Plans are now under way to develop three new satellite towns.

"An underground railway is being built through the densest parts of the urban area, the first stage of which will be completed by 1980 at a cost of as much as 1 billion US dollars. Plans are also being carried out to expand secondary and tertiary education, particularly technical and vocational training, through a Polytechnic and new technical colleges. A social welfare net to support the old and the needy has been established. All this has been possible, while maintaining our relatively low tax structure, because of economic growth.

/Of course

"Of course, like all countries in the world that depend on trade, Hong Kong has been hit by the recession. But, despite some difficulties in the latter half of 1974 and early 1975, we have weathered the storm better than most and are now definitely on the upturn again.

"One consequence of the recession was that we virtually eliminated inflation in Hong Kong last year, with the cost of living index increasing as little as 2 per cent. Our balance of payments has also remained in good shape throughout this experience and we have, for example, managed to absorb a three-fold increase in the cost of our imports of oil products. 1976 should see a continuation of the recovery, helped by the upturn which is already apparent in the United States and to a lesser extent in Western Europe.

"I should like to say a word about the nature of the Government here and of our society. By force of circumstances which are well understood, Hong Kong cannot have an elected Government. Yet Hong Kong is in most ways the freest society in Asia, with complete freedom of expression in the press, radio and television and an independent judiciary. The way in which, as a substitute for democracy, we try to achieve a consensus for our policies and seek to be responsive to the wishes of the people is a fascinating and constantly evolving story.

"An essential element for Hong Kong's future prosperity is the relationship with China. Relations between Britain and China are good. They have been developing steadily since the exchange of Ambassadors between London and Peking in 1972 and, in particular, the friendly and practical way in which it has been possible to deal with matters affecting Hong Kong has made a considerable contribution to stability and also to business confidence here.

/So, in the end.....

"So, in the end, we must in Hong Kong always come back to economics. And there we derive considerable strength from our geographical position. We are well placed as a centre of communications and trade in the Pacific basin, which looks set to be the new growth area in the world over the next decade and more.

"In common with other parts of the region, we in Hong Kong have no intention of standing still and we are anxious to expand and upgrade our industrial structure. In particular, we feel that we are well placed to break into the area of higher technology industries involving greater skills and more capital investment per worker, particularly in light and medium engineering and other precision industries.

Already an American firm, the Outboard Marine Corporation, has pioneered the way and is constructing and exporting its engines from its new Hong Kong factory. The Dow Chemical Corporation is also manufacturing polystyrenes for our growing plastics industry. We want more of these sort of industries and are now starting to construct industrial estates to attract them.

"Of course, because of Hong Kong's small size and the mountainous and steep nature of its terrain, land here is expensive to form and it can never be as cheap as in some other locations. But we have a lot else going for us. The freedom of our society, the low tax structure and the absence of unnecessary controls over business I have already mentioned. Next there is the intelligence, diligence, commonsense and adaptability of our labour force, which is now being augmented by the skills imparted by our expanding technical education programme.

/"Our local

"Our local businessmen also are highly skilled entrepreneurs with whom joint ventures could be a rewarding and profitable possibility for an overseas firm. Finally, Hong Kong is a cosmopolitan society that combines the best of the East and the West, where English is spoken widely and is an official language, and which utilises the British legal system. We are not in the business of giving tax holidays, artificial incentives and other gimmicks, but prefer to treat all businesses, both indigenous and of overseas origin, equally and fairly.

"In our view any business considering expanding its manufacturing or commercial operations by investing in the Pacific basin region would do well to look at the advantages Hong Kong has to offer. For I am sure that many of them, having looked, would act and, having acted, would be well satisfied with their investment.

"I should add here that having, so to speak, hidden our light under a bushel for so long, we are now beginning to do more to publicise the advantages Hong Kong has to offer to overseas investor. Some of this is being done by the Government, through our Commerce and Industry Department, which has a wealth of experience of Hong Kong business and industry and of assisting potential investors from overseas and by the Trade Development Council. But a unique feature of our effort is the way private business is also playing a part of its own initiative. Under the auspices of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, a fund has been established for the promotion of overseas investment in Hong Kong, which has been entirely subscribed by local businesses.

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"One of the first results of this initiative was a successful mission to the United States in the autumn of last year which was jointly undertaken by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and the American Chamber of Commerce. The fact that the American Chamber in Hong Kong enthusiastically supported this initiative to sell Hong Kong to the American investor has undoubtedly added a powerful and positive element to the campaign.

"So the message I leave with you is that Hong Kong is a dynamic and vital society that welcomes the contribution the overseas investor can make to its further development.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasure to wish all those here today an enjoyable stay in Hong Kong and to express the hope that you all have a most successful Conference in this bicentennial year."