DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Monday, July 23, 1973

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Monday, July 23, 1973

REPORT ON CENSUS OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

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More than 670,000 people were employed in the manufacturing industry, according to the report of the 1971 Census of Manufacturing Establishments published today.

In 1970, the total sales of this sector amounted to $18,049 million.

The report said that the textile and wearing apparel groups dominated the industry, accounting for 45.5 per cent of the total employment and 47.7 per cent of total sales.

However, in terms of the total number of establishments these two industry groups constituted only 37.2 per cent. The total number of establishments recorded by the census as at August 4, 1971 was 26,149.

The report said that other important industry groups included plastic products, electrical appliances, fabricated metal products, food manufacturing, and printing and publishing.

By far the biggest number of establishments, 17,962 (or 68.7 per cent of the total) were concentrated in premises in domestic buildings, but they were responsible for only 27.2 per cent of total employment, 23 per cent of total floor area and 20.4 per cent of total sales.

On the other hand, the report says that 67.3 per cent of total employment, 66.9 per cent of total floor area and 75 per cent of total sales were concentrated in the 4,122 establishments (15.8 per cent of the total) housed in premises in manufacturing/industrial buildings.

/The pattern .....

The pattern of geographic concentration was not uniform in respect of establishments, employment, floor area nor sales, the report states. Establishments were concentrated in Tsim Sha Tsui and Yau Ma Tei, Mong Kok, Cheung Sha Wan, and San Po Kong; employment was concentrated in Cheung Sha Wan, San Po Kong and Kwun Tong; and sales were concentrated in Cheung Sha Wan, Kwun Tong and Tsuen Wan.

It says that in terms of sales, over 80 per cent of the total ($14,597 million) together with a corresponding 66 per cent of total employment (443,983) was concentrated in 11 per cent (2,888) of the 26,149 establishments. Each of these 2,888 establishments sold $1 million or more worth of goods and services.

On the export side, the 1971 Census of Manufacturing Establishments reveals that only 36.3 per cent of all establishments produced for export, but they employed 76.3 per cent of the total employed and sold 81 per cent of total sales. Establishments exporting over $1 million dominated the rest.

A spokesman for the Census and Statistics Department said today the primary object of the census was to prepare a list of establishments analysed by size, industry and location which would serve as the basis for the forthcoming Census of Industrial Production relating to 1973.

Information was collected on the type of premises; number and sex of operatives and other employees; shifts worked; floor area used for manufacturing processes and for other purposes; whether power machinery was used; and value of sales and work done, broken-down into exports and local sales, principal products sold and their relationship to total sales.

/The report .....

The report contains 45 analytical tables of useful information for industrialists, planners, developers, government and people interested in Hong Kong's industry.

Copies of the 530-page report will be available in the next day or two from the Government Publication Centre at $45 a copy.

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MEDICAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS ON CLINICS

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A number of health auxiliaries stopped all work for two hours today from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. although they attended at their offices as usual, a spokesman for the Medical and Health Department said.

"During this period, all patients at chest and social hygiene clinics were treated. This was largely due to the fact that doctors worked to clear up the caseload, and patients co-operated by not objecting to a short wait.

"But all field activities normally carried out by the health auxiliaries were suspended for the two hours," he said.

"Government midwives also began their stated intention to perform minimal duties for 48 hours. As on the previous occasion, they did not wash babies in rural clinics. Neither did they prepare dressings or enter records of births, admissions and discharges."

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GOVERNOR EXPRESSES DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO ACCIDENT RELATIVES

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The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, today expressed his sincere condolences to the relatives of those who died in yesterday's bus accident on Lantau Island.

In a message, the Governor said both he and Lady MacLehose were much distressed to learn of the tragedy.

"Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families who have been bereaved and to those who have suffered injuries as a result of this accident."

The Governor also thanked all those who took part in rescue operations, including villagers, and commended them for their untiring efforts.

Meanwhile, an enquiry into the cause of the accident is being undertaken by the police traffic branch and the findings of this will be sent to the coroner.

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COURSE ON URBAN STUDIES IN GEOGRAPHY

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More than 200 geography teachers in secondary schools will attend a two-day summer course on "Urban Studies in Geography" which opens at the Grantham College of Education on Wednesday (July 25).

The course, organised by the Geography Section of the Advisory Inspectorate, Education Department, will be opened by Mr. A.G. Brown, Assistant Director of Education (Chief Inspector of Schools).

Professor A.M. Gunn of the University of British Columbia will speak on "Developments in Urban Studies," Professor D.J. Dwyer of the University of Hong Kong will touch on "Some Problems in Urbanisation in South-East Asia," Dr. C.S. Liang of the Chinese University of Hong Kong will deal with "Urban Studies in Secondary Schools" and Mr. K.N. Au of the Grantham College of Education will speak on "Urban Studies in the American High School Geography Project."

There will be an exhibition of geography textbooks and the latest curriculum development materials, highlighted by the "American High School Geography Project" which features innovations in the method of teaching geography.

The project is the result of a massive effort on the part of many geographers, educators and teachers after eight years of experiment and modification.

Guests invited to attend the opening ceremony include members of the Planning Committee (Curriculum Development Committee, Education Department), representatives from the United States Information Service, the Asia Foundation and the Hong Kong Geographical Association.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to cover the opening of the course at 9 a.m. on July 25 (Wednesday) at the Grantham College of Education, Gascoigne Road, Kowloon.

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FINAL REHEARSALS FOR YOUTH ORCHESTRA

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The Hong Kong Youth Orchestra, which is preparing to take part in an international festival in Scotland next week, will have a special visitor at its rehearsals tomorrow -- Lady MacLehose.

She will call on the orchestra members at the rehearsal room in Kowloon Park at noon to listen to their playing and to offer words of encouragement. They leave on Saturday (July 28).

On August 15, Lady MacLehose will give the 105 member orchestra - 75 boys and 30 girls from various Hong Kong schools -- her personal support by attending a concert in Aberdeen, Scotland where the International Festival of Youth Orchestras will be held.

The programme for the concert comprises "Egmont Overture" by Beethoven, "Rondino" - a modern work composed by David Gwilt of the Chinese University and dedicated to Lady MacLehose - "The Butterfly Concerto" a Chinese violin concerto, "Ballet Suite No. 1" by Shostakovitch and "London Symphony" by Haydn.

The orchestra's conductor is Miss M. Money, Inspector (Instrumental Music) of the Education Department.

During the two-week festival, members of the Hong Kong Youth Orchestra will be selected together with participants from Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Rumania, the United Kingdom, Japan and the United States.

/The best .....

The best musicians will be selected to form the 1973 International Orchestra which will perform under the baton of the famous conductor, Leopold Stokowski, in the Grand Festival Finale in the Royal Albert Hall, London, on August 19. Some violinists from the Hong Kong Youth Orchestra have already been chosen for the finale.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to cover Lady MacLehose's attendance at tomorrow's rehearsal at Kowloon Park, Block 58, at 12 noon.

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G.I.S. LIBRARIES MORE POPULAR

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The library facilities of Government Information Services are being used by an increasing number of people, particularly school students.

The reference library contains more than 3,500 books dealing with a variety of subjects, including the laws of Hong Kong, departmental reports and official documents. It also keeps an up-to-date file of some 35 different periodicals.

In the past six months an average of 200 people -- students, journalists and members of the public -- have used the reference library each month. This represents an increase of some 30 per cent over the average monthly figures for last year.

The press library meets a constant demand for quick reference to newspaper reports and government policies and plans on virtually every subject of local interest.

Five-thousand press files are kept in this library and micro-film facilities are also available.

The photographic library at present contains about 460,000 black and white negatives and more than 23,000 colour transparencies.

These cover a wide variety of subjects and are distributed free of charge for publicity and press release purposes, but a standard fee is charged for reproduction of pictures for commercial use.

During the first six months of this year the library handled a total of 3,662 requests.

/The film .....

The film library is stocked with about 250 films which can broadly be divided into three categories -- films produced by the Government Information Services, films supplied by the Central Office of Information in London and films from the United Nations, provided by UNESCO in Paris.

The 16 mm films are provided with English or Cantonese sound tracks and are available free on condition that they are shown at non-profit making functions.

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ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE PEOPLE

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A series of free entertainment programmes will be held by the Urban Council at various parks and playgrounds in the urban areas and the New Territories next month.

Altogether nine open-air variety shows, 10 film shows and five Chinese band concerts and operas will be held during the month.

The programme for variety shows will include lion dances, folk dances, acrobatic displays, magic shows, folk songs singing and mimicry.

Two films, a cartoon and a Chinese drama entitled 'The Young Patrol' will be screened at each film show.

The shows will begin at 8 p.m. and will last for about two hours.

Between 500 and 3,000 people are expected to attend each of these functions.

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FURTHER PROPOSALS ON MIDWIVES SALARIES

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Further proposals concerning the salary scales for midwives were put forward today at a regular meeting of the Senior Civil Service Council.

They were submitted by representatives of the Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants Association.

The official side undertook to examine the proposals and to discuss them further with the staff side at another meeting to be held soon.

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Release Time: 7.30 p.m.