

**HONG KONG  
GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SERVICES**

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**DAILY  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN**

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Tuesday, May 30, 1972

## PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR APRIL

## Exports Show Slight Increase

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The value of Hong Kong's domestic exports for April was \$1,076 million, which represents an increase of \$6 million or 0.5 per cent over April 1971.

At \$1,743 million, the value of imports shows a decrease of \$26 million or 1.5 per cent while the value of re-exports at \$261 million shows a slight drop of \$0.2 million or 0.06 per cent when compared with April of last year.

A spokesman of the Commerce and Industry Department said today that during the three-month period from February to April 1972, domestic exports totalled \$3,240 million, imports \$4,986 million and re-exports \$848 million.

Compared with the corresponding period in the previous year, these figures represented an increase of 6.8 per cent, a drop of 1.5 per cent and a rise of 8.2 per cent respectively.

Figures for the four-month period January to April show increases over the same period in 1971 of 10.3 per cent for domestic exports, 0.4 per cent for imports and 14.5 per cent for re-exports.

The following provisional figures for April have been released by the Census and Statistics Department:-

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MERCHANDISE: Domestic Exports: \$1,076 million  
 Imports : \$1,743 million  
 Re-exports : \$ 261 million

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	<u>April 1972</u> \$ Million	<u>April 1971</u> \$ Million	<u>Increase or decrease</u> \$ Million Per Cent	
Domestic Exports	1,076	1,070	+ 6	+ 0.5
Imports	1,743	1,768	- 26	- 1.5
Re-exports	261	261	- 0.2	- 0.06
	<u>Feb.-April</u> <u>1972</u> \$ Million	<u>Feb.-April</u> <u>1971</u> \$ Million	<u>Increase or decrease</u> \$ Million Per Cent	
Domestic Exports	3,240	3,034	+ 205	+ 6.8
Imports	4,986	5,061	- 76	- 1.5
Re-exports	848	784	+ 65	+ 8.2
	<u>Jan.-April</u> <u>1972</u> \$ Million	<u>Jan.-April</u> <u>1971</u> \$ Million	<u>Increase or decrease</u> \$ Million Per Cent	
Domestic Exports	4,386	3,977	+ 410	+ 10.3
Imports	6,517	6,494	+ 23	+ 0.4
Re-exports	1,136	992	+ 144	+ 14.5

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A CAREER WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Welfare Supervisors' Role In Correctional Institutions

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About 50 officers of the grade of Welfare Supervisor are now working in the Probation and Corrections Division of the Social Welfare Department -- and all find the job rewarding in a special way.

Satisfaction comes from the realisation that in addition to financial gain, there is the knowledge that one is helping to reconcile delinquents to society so that a second chance becomes possible for most.

Mr. Mak Wing-hong, Principal Social Welfare Officer (Correctional Institutions), says when the next advertisement for Welfare Supervisors takes place to staff the Division's institutions, he hopes a description of the duties and satisfactions implicit in their task will lead to the enrolment of ideal recruits.

He explains that the job is a challenge, and applicants who are interested merely because it is a more attractive financial proposition than a clerkship, are the wrong applicants.

"In this field, as indeed in social welfare work in general, it is one's personal contribution to the betterment of society that should impel an applicant," he says.

A posting in the Division puts the Welfare Supervisor in direct touch with youthful elements of Hong Kong's society who, for many reasons, have rebelled against authority and fallen foul of the law.

In a moment of sometimes cruel reality, these young people find themselves suddenly separated from their homes, temporarily dispossessed of freedom, and placed in institutions where impersonal regimes must put general welfare higher than the comforts of the individual.

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It is in these circumstances that the Welfare Supervisor receives his challenge, for institutional discipline is as humane or as harsh as he makes it.

This is so because he represents, in essence, the direct link between the delinquent and the world outside to which the youth will one day return, and the corrective processes which he implements leading to the boy's restoration, depending on the officer's devotion to his work, can be either inspiring or damaging.

It is his philosophical outlook and the norm of the social conscience that transform the task from being merely another job into a genuinely beneficial community service.

#### Dedicated

The dedicated Welfare Supervisor disregards his own personal likes and dislikes so that in time he comes to react spontaneously to the general wishes of the boys themselves in matters relating, for example, to athletic and cultural activities.

Programmes for enjoyment are conceived in the spirit of general well-being, reinforced by the Welfare Supervisor's maturity and responsibility. But when the proceedings are underway, he is not detached, aloof, withdrawn, but rather very much a part of the corporate whole.

"When such an attitude of mind takes hold of an officer, and he begins to live for his charges, a subtle transformation takes place within the delinquent," Mr. Mak says.

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"The boy, or the girl -- for the Division maintains a home for girls at Ma Tau Wei -- begins to feel wanted. He sees that society has a place for him because someone cares. It is the beginning of the 'new leaf' about which the public hears as a household phrase again and again, -- which in institutions for the delinquent are turned over with real significance."

Mr. Mak believes applicants to the post must ask themselves if they possess certain requisite qualities, under four heads, and he lists them as:-

- \* Maturity and integrity.
- \* Patience, understanding, sympathy.
- \* Accurate judgement and impartiality.
- \* Zeal and devotion to duty.

"If young men and women in Hong Kong possess these characteristics, if they want a reasonable pay, with opportunities for advancement, and the ultimate satisfaction that comes from service to one's fellowmen, then they should consider this job in the Social Welfare Department when the time comes," he suggests.

The salary begins at \$875 a month, and goes on to \$1,400 after six increments. Applicants must be between 25 and 35 and must possess a Hong Kong school certificate, with a credit in English if the examination is taken in Chinese. Applicants require some experience of teaching in classrooms and should have the ability to organise and conduct indoor and outdoor recreational activities. In addition, they must have some knowledge of first aid. If they are women, the applicants should also know something about domestic science.

Prospects occur for promotion, and Mr. Mak recalls cases of Welfare Supervisors who have gone on to become superintendents of homes.

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EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN NON-INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

Survey By Labour Department

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Since November 1968, the Labour Department has been conducting, at half-yearly intervals, surveys of employment and vacancies in the private non-industrial sector covering hotels, restaurants, education and medical services.

These surveys now include boarding houses, import and export businesses, air, ocean and harbour transport and related services, banks and money changers, insurance, and theatres and cinemas.

On May 24, 1972, printed employment return cards were sent to managements of all known establishments in these trades and services with a request that particulars of employment and vacancies as on May 31, 1972 be entered on the cards.

Completed cards should be returned to the Labour Department not later than June 5, 1972.

A Labour Department spokesman said that he hoped that all recipients would fill in these cards fully and accurately and return them promptly in the reply-paid envelopes provided.

"In the last survey, the extent of co-operation from managements was most encouraging," he said.

Managements are assured that the information provided on these cards is kept strictly confidential and is used only for the preparation of statistical information.

The cards are subsequently destroyed under supervision when all the relevant information has been extracted and incorporated in statistical summaries and tables from which individual establishments cannot be identified.

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BUILDINGS IN QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL

Declared Dangerous

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The Building Authority today declared No. 202 Queen's Road Central to be in a dangerous condition and No. 204 Queen's Road Central liable to become dangerous and ordered demolition.

In a statement issued this morning, the Principal Government Building Surveyor said that these four storey pre-war buildings have been under observation for some time following the demolition of adjacent buildings.

During a recent inspection new crushing of the brickwork of the front verandah pier at first floor level was noted and fractures in the load bearing brickwork of the party wall, adjoining the site of No. 200 Queen's Road Central, and in the rear main wall showed signs of worsening.

Although the building is shored it is considered that there is a risk of collapse.

The party wall between Nos. 202 and 204 Queen's Road Central is fractured in several places and it is felt that No. 204 is liable to become dangerous during or after demolition of No. 202.

Notices of intention to apply for Closure Orders in Victoria District Court at 9.30 a.m. on July 12, 1972 were posted today.

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BEST APPRENTICE IN GOVERNMENT WORKSHOPS

Presentation Of "Brown Cup" Tomorrow

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This year's winner of the "Brown Cup" for the best apprentice in Government Workshops is Mr. Tang Wai-keung of the Waterworks Office.

Mr. J.M. Pettigrew, Government Water Engineer (Mechanical & Electrical), will present the Cup to Mr. Tang tomorrow (Wednesday) afternoon.

The "Brown Cup" is awarded to an apprentice in Government Workshops, who makes the best progress in any year either in practical and/or student class.

The Cup was donated by Mr. J.C. Brown, who served as a Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer of the Public Works Department between 1948 and 1959.

Mr. Tang started his apprenticeship in November, 1967. His practical work has been of consistently high standard throughout his apprenticeship.

His technical education has also been consistent and in the latest mid-term examination he was first in his class.

At tomorrow's ceremony, the official signing of indentures of 28 apprentices will also take place.

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Note to editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the ceremony which will take place at 3.00 p.m. tomorrow at the Cinema Room, Civil Aid Services Building, Caroline Hill Road, Hong Kong.

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69 BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN APRIL

Another 45 Certified For Occupation

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The Building Authority approved 69 new building plans of all types in April and certified 45 completed buildings for occupation.

Of the plans approved, 21 were on Hong Kong Island, 13 in Kowloon, and 35 in the New Territories.

Buildings certified for occupation included eleven for domestic use, 12 for non-domestic and 22 for combined domestic and non-domestic purposes.

In addition, the Building Authority approved the demolition of 92 buildings -- 47 on Hong Kong Island, 29 in Kowloon, 15 in New Kowloon and one in the New Territories.

Lists giving brief particulars of all buildings concerned may be inspected at the Public Enquiry Service on the ground floor of the Central Government Offices, West Wing.

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MA TAU WEI GIRLS' HOME

Replacement Site In Ho Man Tin For 150

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Urgent measures are being undertaken to expedite construction of the Social Welfare Department's new girls' home in Ho Man Tin to replace the existing home in Ma Tau Wei.

Mrs. Chen Liu Mu-lan, Senior Principal Social Welfare Officer and head of the Probation and Corrections Division, says the new home will have accommodation for 150 girls, and will be large enough to accommodate, with ease, the number of girls presently referred to the Department by the courts and the Police.

The home in Ma Tau Wei was built some years ago to house 70 girls. On various occasions, the total being accommodated has exceeded 70, but the maximum has never been more than 80.

Mrs. Chen explains that when pressure for accommodation becomes great because of a sudden inflow of cases from the Police, it is customary for the Superintendent of the Home to give up her quarters. This happens when more girls than usual are sent to Ma Tau Wei for temporary shelter, or on remand for minor offences.

In a day or two, when they leave, the pressure eases, and the total number of girls being accommodated returns to 65 or so.

Girls on probation remain for periods not longer than one year.

Another category of girls comprise those sent by the police to Ma Tau Wei for care and protection, and at present there are 36 of them.

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"This Department is entirely conscious of the need for a new and larger home," Mrs. Chen says. "We have been in contact with other departments about this for some time.

"We are doing everything to expedite the Ho Man Tin plan, but other departments are also involved."

Accommodation pressure at Ma Tau Wei has never been allowed to interfere either with the corrective processes or the physical and mental well-being of the girls.

The staff take particular care to meet the occasions of sudden inflow, and adequate facilities are always found. The former accept personal inconveniences so that the standards of general welfare can be sustained.

"Indeed, the staff are to be complimented for their efforts," Mrs. Chen comments.

She says temporary alternative accommodation has been considered for some girls, who will move over to a hostel maintained by a voluntary organisation, along with appropriate staff.

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ENROLLED ASSISTANT NURSE

Time Limit For Registration Without Examination Extended

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Practising nurses who want to register without an examination to become Enrolled Assistant Nurses have now until the end of the year to do so.

Announcing this today, Mr. J. Flinn, Secretary of the Nursing Board, said the seven-month extension would assist those who had been insufficiently informed about the issue by their hospitals, and who could therefore not get their applications to the Board on time.

Enrolment without examination within the new time limit is open to any person who satisfies the Nursing Board that he, or she:-

- \* has attained the age of 20.
- \* is of good character.
- \* has completed a course of training acceptable to the Board.
- \* has been engaged in nursing work and duties during the three years before applying for enrolment.

"Enrolment is designed to give these nurses a status which at present they do not have," Mr. Flinn emphasised. "It is definitely not a denigration."

He assured nurses on these four points:-

- \* The Nursing Board is not forcing anyone to apply for enrolment who do not wish to do so.
- \* If they do not enrol, they will still be allowed to practise nursing without breaking the law.
- \* The Nursing Board cannot stipulate what salaries private hospitals should pay their staff, as this is entirely a matter for the hospitals.
- \* After enrolment, nurses can still apply for registration, and the Board will consider such applications on their merits. But even if they do not enrol, they can still apply for registration.

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Giving the background to the issue, Mr. Flinn recalled that a Working Party on Nurse Education and Training was appointed by the Nursing Board in May 1965 to consider the whole field of nurse education and training and to make recommendations.

The Working Party first met in June 1965, and submitted its final report to the Nursing Board in February 1967.

Included in the report was a recommendation that a second grade of nurse be introduced. This second grade, to be called "Enrolled Assistant Nurse," would comprise nurses who had followed the two-year course now offered by the Government and other hospitals.

The Nursing Board agreed that this second grade should be introduced, and the necessary legislation was enacted in April 1970 when the Nurses Registration Ordinance and subsidiary legislation were amended.

At that time, it was appreciated that there was a considerable number of nurses working in Hong Kong whose qualifications were not acceptable to the Nursing Board for registration. There is still no objection to their continuing to practise.

Mr. Flinn said it was eventually proposed to introduce an amendment to the ordinance to drop the word "assistant" from the term "Enrolled Assistant Nurse."

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OVER \$2 MILLION MADE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR  
To Meet Expenses Of Summer Youth Programme

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More than \$2 million have been made available this year to provide youths in Hong Kong with a bright and meaningful summer.

Government and the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club have set aside \$1.2 million and \$973,794 respectively to meet the expenses of the Summer Youth Programme. The sum exceeds that of last year by \$321,527.

This year's summer youth programme will last throughout the summer with various educational and recreational activities including camping, trips, visits, variety shows, painting and photography.

During the last few months, various organisations and government departments concerned with youths and their recreation have been working quietly behind the scene to work out bigger and better programme of activities for the youths this summer.

Major organisers of this years' summer programme include hundreds of schools, the member-agencies of the Division of Children and Youth of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, the Education Department, the Social Welfare Department, the Urban Council and Urban Services Department, the Secretariat for Home Affairs and the New Territories Administration.

In addition, the Armed Forces, kaifongs, community groups, churches, private clubs, business firms and individual families continue to pledge their support and many actually involve themselves in organising activities for young people.

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The Hong Kong Council of Social Service will receive \$200,000 of government allocation, and the Urban Services Department will get \$150,000. An amount of \$131,000 will be given to the Education Department of which \$26,000 are to be used exclusively on the Learn-to-Swim Campaign.

The Social Welfare Department will receive \$550,000 of which \$150,000 will be spent on programmes directly organised by the department while the rest will be equally divided between district groups and subvented youth agencies.

The remaining \$400,000 are to be spent on the temporary employment scheme under which university and post-secondary school students are employed by government during the summer holidays.

The government allocation represents direct expenditure on the summer youth programme and does not include any staff and administration costs or overall subvention to voluntary agencies.

Of the Jockey Club grants, about \$420,000 will be given to the member agencies of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, \$327,000 to schools through the Education Department, \$185,000 to the Social Welfare Department for district activities and \$33,000 to the Armed Forces for the running of youth leadership camps.

An extra sum of \$8,000 has been made available to the Association of Volunteers for Service for the employment of temporary clerical staff and the purchase of stationery.

The Association is responsible for this year's overall co-ordination of recruiting volunteers with the hope that more young people will join the programme as helpers or leaders.

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INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY IN HAPPY VALLEY

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Water supply to an area in Happy Valley will be interrupted for five hours from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. this Thursday, June 1.

The Waterworks Office will carry out leakage tests during that period.

The area is bounded by the east side of Shan Kwong Road, Wongneichung Road, Blue Pool Road, Holly Road, Hawthorn Road, Sing Woo Road and Tsui Man Street. It also includes Mui Hing Street and Kwai Fong Street.

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Release Time: 7.00 p.m.