



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR CIVIL SERVANTS	1
LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM PROPOSED FOR HONG KONG ISLAND	2
FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN MAGISTRATE COURTS	3
LEGCO UNOFFICIALS COMMENT ON EDUCATION GREEN PAPER .	5
BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS (AMENDMENT) BILL	13
AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL	14
CROWN LEASE (AMENDMENT) BILL BECOMES LAWS	15
MAJOR ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN 1979 BEING CONSIDERED	16
ACCIDENTS IN TUEN MUN ROAD	17
COMPENSATION TO SAI LAU KOK BUILDING OWNERS	18
CALL FOR PUBLIC CO-OPERATION TO KEEP ROADS CLEAR OF RUBBISH	19
CHOICE OF TRANSPORT IN HOUSING ESTATES	20
INEXPENSIVE HOLIDAYS FOR WORKERS	21
NUMBER OF PLACES IN CHILD CARE CENTRES	22
QUERY ON HA KWAI CHUNG TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA	22
FLATTED FACTORIES' ALLOCATION CRITERIA	23
INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL	24
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING ALCOHOL EXEMPTED FROM DUTY	25
QUERY ON JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE	26
CONTROL OVER X-RAY APPARATUS	26

/TOURISM

TOURISM PROMOTION	27
SURVEY OF N.T. LAND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES	27
NEW BUILDING FOR MA TAU WEI GIRLS' HOME	28
BUS SERVICES TO TING KOK ROAD	28
BILLS PASSED	29
LEGCO TO CONTINUE MEETING TOMORROW	29
SEWAGE PUMPING STATION EXTENSION	30
CONTRACT SIGNED FOR PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES	30
TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT	31
WATER CUT	31

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 1 -

PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE
* * * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR 120,000 CIVIL SERVANTS. THE AVERAGE INCREASE IS ABOUT 8 PER CENT, RANGING FROM 10.34 PER CENT FOR APPRENTICES TO 5.11 PER CENT FOR TOP OFFICIALS IN THE DIRECTORATE.

THE ADJUSTMENT WILL BE BACKDATED TO APRIL 1, AND ARREARS WILL BE PAID THIS MONTH (JULY). THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE IS \$224 MILLION ANNUALLY.

A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID APPROVAL FOLLOWED A DETAILED REVIEW OF PAY MOVEMENTS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1978, CONDUCTED BY THE PAY INVESTIGATION UNIT AND DISCUSSIONS WITH THE THREE MAIN STAFF ASSOCIATIONS. HE SAID THE ADJUSTMENT WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF FOLLOWING IN THE SHORT TERM TRENDS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND WERE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE COST OF LIVING.

GIVING EXAMPLES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID STARTING PAY FOR AN APPRENTICE GOES UP FROM \$435 PER MONTH TO \$480 PER MONTH AT THE MINIMUM, AND FROM \$670 PER MONTH TO \$735 PER MONTH AT THE MAXIMUM.

POINT 1 ON THE MASTER PAY SCALE GOES UP FROM \$755 PER MONTH TO \$825 PER MONTH, WHILE POINT 48 GOES UP FROM \$9,445 PER MONTH TO \$10,100 PER MONTH.

THE MOD 1 PAY SCALE IS INCREASED FROM A HIGH OF 9.39 PER CENT TO A LOW OF 8.5 PER CENT. AT THE MINIMUM SALARIES RISE FROM \$905 PER MONTH TO \$990 PER MONTH AND AT THE MAXIMUM FROM \$1,365 PER MONTH TO \$1,490 PER MONTH.

DISCIPLINED SERVICES WILL RECEIVE COMPARABLE INCREASES.

SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS ARE FREE TO APPLY TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR ASSISTANCE TOWARDS THE COST OF MAKING SIMILAR ADJUSTMENTS FOR THEIR OWN STAFF. THE APPROPRIATE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH THESE ORGANISATIONS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2

LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM PROPOSED FOR HONG KONG ISLAND
* * * *

A GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONED STUDY ON TRANSPORT SITUATION ON HONG KONG ISLAND PROPOSES THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MASS TRANSIT LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM WHICH IS 50 PER CENT FASTER THAN THE EXISTING TRAMS AND CAPABLE OF CARRYING HALF AS MUCH MORE PASSENGERS.

THIS WAS REVEALED BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. DEREK JONES IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG.

MR. JONES SAID THE LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM WILL AT FIRST RUN ENTIRELY ON THE SURFACE MORE OR LESS ALONG THE ALIGNMENT OF THE PRESENT TRAMWAY AND WITH A LARGELY SEGREGATED RIGHT OF WAY. THEREAFTER, SECTIONS OF THE TRACK WILL BE PLACED UNDERGROUND WITH THE AIM, EVENTUALLY, OF CONSTRUCTING A FULLY UNDERGROUND MASS TRANSIT ISLAND LINE.

HE SAID: +THIS PHASED DEVELOPMENT WILL ENSURE SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN THE SHORT TERM, WHILE RETAINING THE OPTION OF DEVELOPING A FULLY UNDERGROUND MTR ISLAND LINE IN THE LONGER TERM,+

HE SAID AN UNDERGROUND SECTION WILL BE CONSTRUCTED THROUGH CENTRAL DISTRICT AT AN EARLY STAGE TO ENABLE PASSENGERS TO INTERCHANGE EASILY WITH THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY AT ADMIRALTY AND AT CHATER/PEDDER STATIONS.

+THE PLAN,+ HE CONTINUED, +ALSO INCLUDES THE DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED EXPRESS BUS ROUTES ALONG THE NEW WATERFRONT ROADS, AS THEY ARE CONSTRUCTED, AS WELL AS THROUGH THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL.+

MR. JONES SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD APPROACHED THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION TO ASSIST IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDIES AND, IF IT WAS LATER DECIDED TO PROCEED, THE CORPORATION WOULD BE INVITED TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE THE SYSTEM AS AN EXTENSION OF THE MTR.

ON THE OTHER HAND, MR. JONES SAID, THE HONG KONG TRAMWAYS COMPANY HAS ALSO BEEN FORMALLY ADVISED THAT IF, FOLLOWING THE DETAILED IMPLEMENTATION STUDIES, IT IS DECIDED TO DEVELOP THE LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD THEN EXERCISE ITS OPTION, UNDER THE TRAMWAY ORDINANCE, TO PURCHASE THE TRAMWAY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD ALREADY STARTED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TRAMWAYS COMPANY ON HOW THIS MIGHT MOST SMOOTHLY BE CARRIED OUT WHILE MAINTAINING AN EFFICIENT SERVICE IN THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

MR. JONES ALSO STRESSED THAT VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE POSITION OF TRAMWAYS STAFF AND THEY COULD BE ASSURED OF WELL TREATMENT. SUITABLE TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO ARE CHOSEN TO OPERATE THE LIGHT RAIL VEHICLES IF THE GO-AHEAD IS GIVEN, HE ADDED.

A SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY WAS TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY AND MR. JONES SAID A PRESS BRIEFING TO PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED EXPLANATION OF WHAT IS PROPOSED IN THE STUDY WOULD BE ARRANGED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN MAGISTRATE COURTS
* * * *

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE FUNDS FOR INTRODUCING A DUTY-LAWYER SCHEME TO PROVIDE FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE FACING CERTAIN CHARGES IN MAGISTRATE COURTS.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE HON. JOHN HOBLEY WHO ALSO REVEALED THAT NEW ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN EMBODIED IN THE MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 WHICH WILL ENABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE TO APPOINT CANTONESE SPEAKING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SIT WITH MAGISTRATES IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY.

MR. HOBLEY SAID THE DUTY-LAWYER SCHEME WAS RECOMMENDED BY A WORKING COMMITTEE UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP AND WOULD BE ALONG THE LINES OF THOSE OPERATED BY LOCAL LAW SOCIETIES IN ENGLAND.

HE SAID THE CONCEPT OF A DUTY-LAWYER SCHEME IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AT A MAGISTRACY, EACH DAY WHEN THE COURTS ARE SITTING, A LAWYER TO WHOM ACCUSED PEOPLE CAN TURN FOR BASIC LEGAL ADVICE WHEN THEY FIRST COME TO COURT.

+THE DUTY-LAWYER FOR THE DAY WOULD APPEAR IN COURT -- FOR EXAMPLE, TO SEEK BAIL, OR TO MAKE A PLEA OF MITIGATION IN THE CASE OF A DEFENDANT WHO WISHES TO PLEAD GUILTY. HE COULD ALSO CONDUCT THE DEFENCE FOR A DEFENDANT WHO PLEADS NOT GUILTY.+

MR. HOBLEY CONTINUED: +THE WORKING PARTY NEXT CONSIDERED THE CRIMINAL OFFENCES TO WHICH THE SCHEME SHOULD APPLY AND CONCLUDED THAT IN THE INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL STAGE SOME RESTRICTION IS NECESSARY ON THE RANGE OF OFFENCES TO WHICH THE SCHEME MIGHT IDEALLY APPLY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO THE LIKELY AVAILABLE RESOURCES OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION.

+IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, THE WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDED THAT INITIALLY THE OFFENCES TO WHICH THE DUTY-LAWYER SCHEME SHOULD APPLY SHOULD BE MEMBERSHIP OF AND PROFESSING TO BE A MEMBER OF AN UNLAWFUL SOCIETY, LOITERING, LOITERING WITH INTENT, UNLAWFUL POSSESSION CONTRARY TO THE SUMMARY OFFENCES ORDINANCE, GOING EQUIPPED FOR STEALING AND OBSTRUCTING A POLICE OFFICER AND RESISTING ARREST,+ MR. HOBLEY SAID.

+THE SCHEME WILL ALSO EXTEND TO SIMPLE POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS,+ HE ADDED.

MR. HOBLEY ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS THE VIEW OF THE WORKING PARTY THAT THE SCHEME SHOULD NOT OPERATE AT THE OUTSET AT MORE THAN THREE MAGISTRACIES.

+I AM HOPEFUL THOUGH THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO EXTEND THE SCHEME TO A GREATER NUMBER OF MAGISTRACIES AS SOON AS WE HAVE EXPERIENCE OF ITS OPERATION,+ MR. HOBLEY SAID.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 4 -

ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME, MR. HOBLEY SAID IT WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THE LAW SOCIETY, WHICH WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE BAR ASSOCIATION. IT WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT.

ON THE SCHEME TO APPOINT CANTONESE SPEAKING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SIT WITH MAGISTRATES IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY, MR. HOBLEY SAID IT IS HOPED THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHEME WILL ALLAY THE FEAR SOMETIMES HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT THEIR WORDS EXPRESSED IN CANTONESE OR OTHER LOCAL DIALECTS MAY NOT HAVE BEEN PROPERLY UNDERSTOOD IN TRANSLATION BY THE MAGISTRATES AND IT WILL GENERALLY HELP TO BRIDGE A POTENTIAL COMMUNICATION GAP.

HE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS EXPERIMENTAL SCHEME HAS YET TO BE WORKED OUT AND ITS SCOPE WOULD INITIALLY BE LIMITED.

HOWEVER MR. HOBLEY SAID THE CHIEF JUSTICE FEELS THAT PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE COURTS OF MAGISTRATES DURING THEIR FIRST TOUR OF DUTY.

TURNING TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A COMPLAINTS SYSTEM AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE, MR. HOBLEY SAID A DEVELOPMENT DURING THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN THE PROVISION OF IMPROVED MACHINERY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE, AND THE ICAC.

HE POINTED OUT THAT A PARTICULAR ALLEGATION WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN THE SUBJECT OF COMMENT IS THE ONE COMMONLY REFERRED TO BE A +FRAME-UP+, BY WHICH IS MEANT A PROSECUTION BASED ON FABRICATED EVIDENCE.

HOWEVER, MR. HOBLEY SAID THAT THE NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS OF A +FRAME-UP+ IS VERY SMALL IN RELATION TO THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS EACH YEAR AND VERY FEW OF THESE ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIATED.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT AN ALLEGATION CAN BE EASILY AND MALICIOUSLY MADE AGAINST AN INNOCENT OFFICER AND IT WOULD AFFECT HIS MORALE.

MR. HOBLEY BELIEVED THAT CRIMINAL JUSTICE IS IN GENERAL SATISFACTORILY ADMINISTERED BY ALL INVOLVED FROM ARREST TO THE CONCLUSION OF A TRIAL, AND THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF CONVICTED PERSONS ACCEPT THIS.

ON THE COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE AND THE ICAC, MR. HOBLEY SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT SUCH COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED BY THEIR OWN OFFICERS -- SUBJECT ONLY TO A POWERFUL MONITORING BODY, THE UMELCO GROUP.

FINALLY, MR. HOBLEY SAID THAT THE INTEGRITY OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE FAIR ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

+IN THIS END, THIS ELEMENT, AND THE STEPS WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN RELATION TO BOTH THE POLICE FORCE AND ICAC, PERHAPS OVERSHADOW ANY OTHER PROTECTIVE MECHANISM WHICH MAY BE BUILT INTO THE LEGAL SYSTEM,+ MR. HOBLEY SAID.

----- 0 -----

/5 ...

LEGCO UNOFFICIALS COMMENT ON EDUCATION GREEN PAPER

* * *

THREE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY COMMENTED IN DEPTH ON THE PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT FOR SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION PROPOSED IN THE GREEN PAPER.

TOMORROW (THURSDAY) ANOTHER NINE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER.

AN AD HOC GROUP OF UNOFFICIALS WAS FORMED TO CONSIDER THE GREEN PAPER SOON AFTER IT WAS PUBLISHED LAST NOVEMBER. DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR DELIBERATIONS THEY MET REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS EDUCATIONAL BODIES AND STUDIED NO LESS THAN 16 THOROUGHLY RESEARCHED PAPERS PRODUCED BY THE UMELCO SECRETARIAT.

MOVING A MOTION TO DEBATE THE GREEN PAPER IN THE COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON, CONVENER OF THE AD HOC GROUP, THE HON. Q.W. LEE SAID MEMBERS OF THE GROUP HAVE EXAMINED IN DETAIL THE FULL RANGE OF EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED AND WHILE THERE WERE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ARRIVE AT A CONSENSUS ON A NUMBER OF MAJOR POINTS.

ALLOCATION AND PROVISION OF SENIOR SECONDARY PLACES

THE AD HOC GROUP WAS DIVIDED ON THE ORIGINAL SUGGESTION THAT THERE SHOULD BE A PUBLIC EXAMINATION FOR FORM III LEAVERS PROCEEDING TO FORM IV.

THE GOVERNMENT'S SUBSEQUENT DECISION LAST MAY NOT TO INTRODUCE A FULL-SCALE PUBLIC EXAMINATION BUT TO INSTITUTE A SYSTEM OF SELECTION AND ALLOCATION BASED MAINLY ON INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS SCALED BY A MONITORING TEST WAS WELCOMED AS A MORE ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE.

BUT AS THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE MONITORING TEST IS TO SCALE THE ASSESSMENTS OF THE SCHOOLS, ONE OR TWO MEMBERS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE DECISION TO RESTRICT THE TEST TO THE THREE BASIC SUBJECTS OF CHINESE, ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS WOULD LEAD TO THE SCHOOLS PUTTING MORE EMPHASIS ON THESE SUBJECTS AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS, THEREBY DEFEATING THE PURPOSE OF A MORE GENERALISED EDUCATION REQUIRED IN THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SECTOR.

THE GROUP ALSO FELT THAT WHILE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SUBSIDISED SENIOR SECONDARY PLACES FOR ALL FORM III LEAVERS, UNIVERSAL PROVISION SHOULD BE THE LONG-TERM GOAL.

FORMS IV AND V CURRICULUM

THE GROUP CONCURRED WITH THE PROPOSAL TO BROADEN THE CURRICULUM TO INCLUDE MORE EMPHASIS ON PRACTICAL AND TECHNICAL SUBJECTS. AND, TO THIS END, THEY ADVOCATED THAT CENTRAL WORKSHOPS SHOULD BE SET UP TO PROVIDE THE RESOURCES AND FACILITIES FOR THOSE SCHOOLS THAT DO NOT HAVE THEM.

PROVISION OF SUBSIDISED FORMS IV AND V PLACES

GIVEN THE GOVERNMENT'S TARGET TO PROVIDE SUBSIDISED PLACES IN FORM IV FOR 50 PER CENT OF THE 15-YEAR-OLD AGE GROUP BY SEPTEMBER 1981, INCREASING TO 63 PER CENT BY 1986 AND RECOGNISING THAT THERE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT PLACES IN GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS, THE GROUP CONSIDERED THAT PLACES WHICH ARE BOUGHT TO MEET THESE TARGETS SHOULD BE IN SCHOOLS OF ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS AND GENERALLY NON-PROFIT MAKING.

THE GROUP FURTHER RECOGNISED THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR THOSE PRIVATE SCHOOLS WHICH DO NOT MEET ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS TO BE REPLACED BY PROPERLY BUILT AND STAFFED GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS.

IN DOING SO, HOWEVER, THEY FELT THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION OFFERED IN THE NEW PUBLIC SECTOR SCHOOLS REMAINS ATTRACTIVE TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, SO THAT UNDER UTILISATION OF PLACES DOES NOT OCCUR.

THIS MAY MEAN THAT CAPUT SCHOOLS SHOULD BE BROUGHT ONTO FULL AID, IF THE PRINCIPLE OF EDUCATIONAL PARITY FOR ALL FREE-PLACE HOLDERS IS TO BE ATTAINED.

PROVISION OF FORM VI PLACES

THE GROUP AGREED THAT TO FIX THE OVERALL QUOTA OF FORM VI PLACES AT ONE THIRD OF THE NUMBER OF FORM IV PLACES WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE.

THEY FELT THAT THERE SHOULD ALSO BE AN INTEGRATED ONE YEAR CURRICULUM SO THAT THOSE WHO DO NOT INTEND TO PROCEED BEYOND LOWER VI WOULD BE ABLE TO RECEIVE ONE COMPLETE COURSE. STATISTICS IN THE PAST TWO YEARS SHOW THAT ONLY ONE-THIRD OF THE LOWER VI STUDENTS CONTINUED THEIR STUDIES IN UPPER VI.

COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

SINCE SCHOOLS CAN ONLY BE AS GOOD AS THE TEACHERS WHO WORK IN THEM, THE GROUP ALSO EXAMINED THE PROPOSALS REGARDING THE TRAINING AND RE-TRAINING OF TEACHERS. THEY FELT THAT THE MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENT SHOULD BE RAISED TO UPPER FORM VI. DOUBTS WERE EXPRESSED THAT, SINCE THE STANDARD OF ENTRANTS HAD DECLINED, PARTICULARLY IN ENGLISH, THE COLLEGES MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE TEACHERS OF THE RIGHT CALIBRE REQUIRED FOR THE EXPANSION AND BROADENING OF THE CURRICULUM OF SECONDARY EDUCATION.

LIKewise, THE GROUP WAS CONCERNED AT THE HIGH TURNOVER OF LECTURING STAFF AND RECOMMENDED THAT THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED OVERSEAS TRAINING COURSES SHOULD BE POSTED TO THE COLLEGES ON A MORE PERMANENT BASIS IN ORDER THAT MAXIMUM BENEFIT WILL BE OBTAINED FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE.

THE CURRICULUM OF IN-SERVICE COURSES SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE TRAINING IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOLS FOR WHICH MANY TEACHERS ARE OTHERWISE UNPREPARED.

ALTHOUGH THE GREEN PAPER MADE REFERENCE TO THE INCREASED NUMBER OF PLACES IN THE SCHOOLS OF EDUCATION OF THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, MEMBERS OF THE GROUP BELIEVED THAT, DESPITE THE INCREASE, THE RATE OF SUPPLY OF PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED GRADUATE TEACHERS WOULD NOT BE ADEQUATE TO MEET THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SENIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION AT THE TIME NEEDED.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND DAY-RELEASE COURSES

IT IS WITHIN THE FIELD OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN GENERAL THAT THE AD HOC GROUP BELIEVED THAT SOME ADDITIONAL ATTENTION IS NEEDED. THE GROUP BELIEVED THAT THE PRESENT LEVEL OF TRAINING IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IS TOO LOW AND THAT THE TEACHING STAFF ARE LESS QUALIFIED THAN THEY SHOULD BE.

THEY THOUGHT THAT BETTER TRAINING AND REFRESHER COURSES SHOULD BE ORGANISED AT REGULAR INTERVALS TO HELP THE STAFF TO LEARN, AND KEEP UP TO DATE WITH, THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RELEVANT FIELDS.

CENTRALISED TRAINING WORKSHOPS WITH UP-TO-DATE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES SHOULD ALSO BE SET UP BY GOVERNMENT FOR USE BY BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS.

THE GROUP FURTHER BELIEVED THAT DAY-RELEASE COURSES HAD NOT PROVED VIABLE AND THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD PLACE MORE EMPHASIS ON EXPANDING FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME EVENING COURSES.

POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES

THE GROUP TOOK NOTE OF THE PAST AND PRESENT CONTRIBUTION OF THE POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES TO EDUCATION IN HONG KONG AND SUGGESTED THAT AN ATTEMPT BE MADE TO PROVIDE SOME FORM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THEM, INSOFAR AS THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT FINANCIAL, QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE CONTROL BY GOVERNMENT BOTH IN REGARD TO THE CONTENT OF THEIR COURSES AND THE NUMBERS OF THEIR STUDENTS.

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP FAVOURED THE IDEA OF THE POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES PREPARING STUDENTS FOR DEGREES THAT WOULD BE GRANTED BY AN INDEPENDENT, DEGREE-CONFERRING BODY ALONG THE SAME LINES AS THE COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS IN THE UK.

THE AD HOC GROUP BELIEVED THAT, SINCE THE IDEA WAS MOOTED A FEW YEARS BACK AND HAD BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION SINCE THEN, THE TIME HAD NOW COME FOR MORE POSITIVE ACTION TO BE TAKEN.

IT WAS FELT THAT THIS WAS THE PROPER WAY IN WHICH DEGREE-BEARING COURSES MIGHT BE CONDUCTED BY THE COLLEGES, SINCE IT WOULD INVOLVE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THEIR TEACHING FACILITIES, STAFF CAPABILITIES AND STANDARDS OF COURSES.

THE LENGTH OF CHINESE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

MR. LEE SAID MUCH TIME WAS DEVOTED BY THE GROUP TO CONSIDERING THIS CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE. THEIR CONCLUSION WAS THAT IT WAS UNTIMELY TO REQUIRE THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY TO CUT BACK ITS FOUR-YEAR DEGREE COURSE TO THREE YEARS SO SOON AFTER ITS RECENT REORGANISATION, AND THAT THE MATTER SHOULD BE REVIEWED AGAIN IN A FEW YEARS TIME.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE GREEN PAPER

THE GROUP AGREED THAT ADULT EDUCATION HAS AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY IN THE OVERALL EDUCATION SYSTEM IN HONG KONG AND THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD PLACE GREATER EMPHASIS ON ITS DEVELOPMENT.

THE GROUP ALSO REACHED CONCLUSIONS ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE GREEN PAPER SUCH AS THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE SERVICES FOR STUDENTS, THE NEED FOR GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS TO DEVELOP FULLY THEIR POTENTIAL AND THE NEED TO BRING MUSIC INTO THE CURRICULUM AS A GENERAL CULTURAL SUBJECT AND AS AN OPTIONAL EXAMINATION SUBJECT.

MR. Q.W. LEE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG'S PRIME ASSET IS ITS POPULATION AND AN IMPORTANT DUTY OF THE GOVERNMENT IS TO PLAN TO CULTIVATE THIS ASSET TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE LIGHT OF THE DIRECTION OF OUR DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH WHICH IS CLEARLY DEPENDENT ON INDUSTRY AND TRADE.

IT FOLLOWS THAT FOR OUR FUTURE, EDUCATION SHOULD BE PLANNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT.

+THIS MEANS THAT SUCH PLANNING MUST GIVE GREATER WEIGHT TO MANPOWER TRAINING FOR WHICH I THINK WE SHOULD NOT BE APOLOGETIC SO LONG AS BY DOING SO WE DO NOT NEGLECT THE MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL GOALS OF EDUCATION,+ HE SAID.

HE POSED TWO QUESTIONS: HOW ARE WE TO FORECAST OUR MANPOWER WITH SUCH ACCURACY THAT WE CAN SAY THAT WE NEED SO MANY PEOPLE TO BE EDUCATED IN SUCH A WAY AND TO SUCH A LEVEL IN TEN YEARS' TIME, AND HOW EFFECTIVE THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE IN ENCOURAGING THE SELECTIVE ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS IN ONE AREA RATHER THAN ANOTHER BY LIMITING THE PROVISION OF, AND THEREFORE RESTRICTING ACCESS TO PLACES.

ATTEMPTS TO ANSWER THEM IN OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE NOT BEEN ENCOURAGING.

+LABOUR SHORTAGES IN PROSPERITY AND REDUNDANCIES IN RECESSION HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO DISILLUSIONMENT WITH BOTH EDUCATION AND MANPOWER FORECASTS AND TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCONTENT,+ HE SAID.

EVEN IF IN HONG KONG MANPOWER FORECASTS ARE MORE ACCURATE, +SO LONG AS EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS LEAD TO BETTER JOBS AND HIGHER WAGES, THE ENERGIES OF PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN WILL BE DIRECTED TOWARDS OBTAINING THE RELEVANT CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA OR DEGREE.+

FOR THIS REASON, MR. LEE SAID, PUBLIC PRESSURE TO INCREASE PLACES IN FORMS IV AND V WILL CONTINUE UNLESS THE BENEFITS OF A CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION LINKED TO ONE'S EARNING POWER ARE ALTERED. THE SAME APPLIES TO A-LEVEL, POLYTECHNIC AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

RESTRICTING PUBLICLY FINANCED PLACES DOES NOT HALT THE GROWTH OF THOSE WHO SEEK TO QUALIFY IN THESE ACADEMIC FIELDS BUT MERELY FORCES THE ASPIRANTS INTO PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, HE ADDED.

SPEAKING AFTER MR. LEE, THE OTHER FIVE UNOFFICIAL COUNCILLORS PUT FORWARD THEIR INDIVIDUAL VIEWS AND IN PLACES SUPPLEMENTED HIS POINTS.

DR. RAYSON HUANG: BRING POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES INTO EDUCATION
SYSTEM

DR. THE HON. RAYSON HUANG WAS CONCERNED OVER THE POSITION IN THE LATER STAGES OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM, FROM FORM V ONWARDS, WHICH, HE SAID, IS THE POINT OF THE NOTORIOUS +BOTTLE-NECK+.

HE SAID THIS IS AN AREA IN WHICH THE POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES COULD MAKE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION, AND HE THOUGHT IT IS TIME THAT THESE COLLEGES BE BROUGHT INTO THE EDUCATION SYSTEM IN ORDER THAT THEY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMON EFFORT.

HE SUGGESTED THEREFORE THAT THEY GEAR THEIR ENTRY POINT TO THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION LEVEL, AND BROADEN THEIR EDUCATIONAL BASE BY OFFERING COURSES AT FORM VI LEVEL, LEADING TO A-LEVEL OR A COLLEGE QUALIFICATION AFTER TWO YEARS' STUDY, AND THAT THESE COURSES BE FOLLOWED BY HIGHER COURSES, ALSO OF TWO YEARS' DURATION, LEADING TO ANOTHER COLLEGE QUALIFICATION.

THE COURSES OFFERED WOULD BE MAINLY IN THE LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCE AND IN COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS, BUT THERE COULD WITH ADVANTAGE BE DIVERSIFICATION INTO TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL FIELDS= FOR THESE POST-SECONDARY, SUB-DEGREE COURSES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM GOVERNMENT WOULD SEEM JUSTIFIED.

IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT MOBILITY AMONG THE VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS WITH A-LEVEL QUALIFICATIONS TO GAIN DIRECT ENTRY INTO THE SENIOR COURSES IN THE COLLEGES, WHILE SOME OF THEIR GRADUATES MIGHT FIND THEIR WAY TO THE UNIVERSITIES, WHICH IT IS HOPED WOULD KEEP AVENUES OPEN FOR THEIR ADMISSION AT APPROPRIATE LEVELS.

DR. HUANG SAID IT CAN BE ACCEPTED THAT THESE COLLEGES MAY WISH TO WORK TOWARDS DEGREE COURSES IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF DISCIPLINES, ESPECIALLY THOSE NOT BEING PROVIDED FOR BY THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, AND SOME PUBLIC SYSTEM OF VALIDATION OF SUCH COURSES WOULD HAVE TO BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS AND COMPARABILITY OF STANDARDS.

/DR. HUANG

DR. HUANG ALSO CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXPERT AND BROADLY BASED WORKING PARTY TO ASSESS THE ROLE AND NEEDS OF PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS.

IN ORDER TO MEET THE TARGETS SET, GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO RELY HEAVILY UPON BOUGHT PLACES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. +WE MUST THEREFORE LOOK INTO THE POSITION OF THESE SCHOOLS AND ENSURE THE VALUE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THE GREEN PAPER PLANS TO PROVIDE A SET NUMBER OF PLACES TO MEET AN ESTIMATED PERCENTAGE OF NEED= AND ONE THING WHICH SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED IS THE DIFFERENCE WHICH COULD EXIST BETWEEN THE PERCENTAGE GIVEN AND THE ACTUAL NUMBERS INVOLVED.

IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT WHILE THE 1976 BY-CENSUS ANTICIPATES A DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF TEENAGERS RECEIVING EDUCATION IN THE 1980'S, THE MOST RECENT PROJECTIONS FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SHOW AN EVENTUAL UP-SWING OF THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE DURING THE 1980'S, REACHING A NUMERICALLY LARGER NUMBER BY 1991.

BEARING IN MIND ALSO THE NATURAL ASPIRATIONS OF MANY YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION, THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM WE ADOPT MUST HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO ABSORB AT THE VARIOUS STAGES RATHER LARGER NUMBERS THAN STATISTICALLY PROJECTED, HE EXPLAINED.

AN AREA, DR. HUANG NOTED, WHERE THE GREEN PAPER IS RETICENT IS THAT OF THE SUPPLY OF TEACHERS WHO WILL BE REQUIRED IN LARGE NUMBERS IF THE EDUCATIONAL INTENTIONS ARE TO BE ACHIEVED.

HE SAID: +WE NEED A PROJECTION OF THE NUMBER AND KINDS OF TEACHERS REQUIRED AND A POLICY OF TEACHER-TRAINING LINKED WITH A POLICY FOR TEACHER SUPPLY, WHICH WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE KIND, QUALITY, AND QUANTITY OF EDUCATION TO BE PROVIDED.

+OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED RELATE TO THE COMPETENCE OF TEACHERS IN THE LANGUAGE IN WHICH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO TEACH, THE RATIOS OF PUPILS TO TEACHERS, THE POLICIES TOWARDS PERMITTED TEACHERS, AND TOWARDS NON-GRADUATE/GRADUATE TEACHER COMPLEMENTS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.+

HE SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS BY RAISING THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS OR INCREASING THE LENGTH OF COURSES AT THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION, BUT HE DID NOT ENCOURAGE ANY DRIFT TOWARDS A HIGHER PROPORTION OF NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS IN THE UPPER-SECONDARY SECTOR.

ANY PROPOSAL TO DILUTE THE GRADUATE TEACHING FORCE IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS BEYOND THE PRESENT SITUATION SHOULD BE RESISTED, SINCE THE CONSEQUENCE WOULD BE A DROP IN THE QUALITY OF TEACHING, HE SAID.

DR. HUANG SUPPORTED THE INTENTIONS OF THE GREEN PAPER WHICH, HE SAID, IS BOTH A PRACTICAL PROGRAMME TO IMPROVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND AN ATTEMPT AT EDUCATIONAL PLANNING.

APART FROM INCREASING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND FORM III, NEW CURRICULA ARE TO BE DESIGNED TO GIVE A GENERAL EDUCATION TO BRING OUT THE NATURAL APTITUDES OF THE PUPILS, AND TO ENCOURAGE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS TO SEEK TRAINING IN CRAFT AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE PROPERLY IMPLEMENTED. +TO THE EXTENT THAT EDUCATIONAL PROVISION IS BROUGHT INCREASINGLY UNDER THE CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT, SO MUST EVERY STAGE OF THE DEVELOPMENT BE CLOSELY MONITORED TO ENSURE FULL CONFIDENCE ON THE PART OF THE COMMUNITY,+ HE SAID.

REV. JOYCE M. BENNETT : UNIFORM CURRICULUM AND EXAMINATION FOR
UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT ASKED FOR EARLY INTRODUCTION OF A UNIFORM CURRICULUM AND EXAMINATION FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE.

SHE SAID THE NEW EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENSURE THIS AND IT MUST BE GIVEN CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS TO DO THIS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HONG KONG COULD ADOPT THE SYSTEM FOUND HELPFUL IN THE U.K., BY WHICH STUDENTS APPLY TO A CENTRAL ORGANISATION, PERHAPS WITH CONNECTIONS WITH THE EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY, TO ENSURE A FAIRER DISTRIBUTION OF UNIVERSITY PLACES.

A BASIC POLICY MUST ALSO BE INTRODUCED FOR ADMISSIONS TO FORM VI FOR ALL SCHOOLS, WHATEVER THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION AND WHICHEVER UNIVERSITY THE STUDENT PREPARES TO ENTER.

SHE FELT THAT THE GREEN PAPER GAVE INSUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO SIXTH FORM EDUCATION AND DISAGREED WITH IT THAT THE STANDARD OF ENTRY BE RAISED.

SHE POINTED OUT THAT SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN PREPARING THEIR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS FOR MANY CAREERS IN ADDITION TO PREPARING THEM FOR FURTHER STUDY AND THIS WAS RECOGNISED BY THE GREEN PAPER.

SHE THOUGHT THE SIXTH FORM SHOULD BE A TWO-YEAR COURSE AND ITS LENGTH SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE LENGTH OF THE UNIVERSITY COURSE. A ONE-YEAR COURSE, SHE SAID, IN FACT ONLY LASTS SEVEN MONTHS FROM SEPTEMBER TO MARCH.

ON FORM IV-V EDUCATION, MISS BENNETT THOUGHT THAT THE CURRICULUM SHOULD BE BROADENED TO INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE PRACTICAL SUBJECT FOR EACH STUDENT IN HIS CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION.

CERTAIN SUBJECTS DO NOT REQUIRE EXPENSIVE AND LARGE-SCALE EQUIPMENT. TEACHING OF OTHER SUBJECTS SHOULD BE POSSIBLE WITH THE SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL WORKSHOPS.

/SHE PERSONALLY !.....

SHE PERSONALLY ACCEPTED THE 50 PER CENT TARGET OF GOVERNMENT SUBSIDISED PLACES, IN VIEW OF THE OTHER PLACES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND THE NUMBERS WHO ARE CURRENTLY WORKING AT THE AGE OF 15 AND OVER.

ALTHOUGH MORE STUDENTS ARE NOW TAKING THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, THEIR OVERALL STANDARD HAS DROPPED. TO ENCOURAGE ALL STUDENTS TO STUDY IN AN ACADEMIC SYSTEM FOR FORMS IV AND V WOULD HARM THEIR FUTURE POTENTIAL.

MISS BENNETT WANTED THE STANDARD OF ENTRY INTO THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE STAFFING OF THE COLLEGES TO BE IMPROVED.

IF THE ENTRANTS HAVE HAD A TWO-YEAR SIXTH FORM EDUCATION, SHE EXPLAINED, THEY WOULD ALREADY HAVE RECEIVED THE BASIC CONTENT OF WHAT THEY PLANNED TO TEACH SO THE COLLEGES COULD CONCENTRATE ON HOW TO TEACH.

THOSE LECTURERS IN SUBJECTS WHERE HONG KONG CANNOT PROVIDE DEGREE COURSES SHOULD BE SENT OVERSEAS FOR FURTHER STUDIES. THE QUALIFICATIONS AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE REQUIRED OF STAFF LECTURING IN THE MAJOR SUBJECTS WOULD ALSO NEED TO BE DRASTICALLY UPGRADED.

ON POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES, MISS BENNETT SAID THEY ARE CLEARLY MAKING A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND THEY SHOULD HAVE A PROPER STATUS.

SHE SUGGESTED THAT THEIR FOUR-YEAR DIPLOMA COURSES BE BROUGHT MORE FULLY INTO THE SUBSIDISED PUBLIC SYSTEM AND THAT THEY SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PROVIDE A FURTHER PRIVATELY-RUN FIFTH YEAR FOR THOSE DESIRING A DEGREE.

SHE THOUGHT HONG KONG WOULD NEED TO ESTABLISH IN ITS OWN RIGHT AN ORGANISATION COMPARABLE TO THE COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS IN BRITAIN FOR CONFERRING DEGREES.

TWO YEARS COMPLETED AT THE SIXTH FORM, THE POST SECONDARY COLLEGES, TECHNICAL INSTITUTES OR THE POLYTECHNIC SHOULD BE ACCREDITED FOR ENTRY INTO OTHER RELEVANT TERTIARY INSTITUTES.

SHE SUGGESTED THAT THE LENGTH OF THE UNDERGRADUATE COURSE AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY BE LEFT AS IT IS FOR THE TIME BEING.

HONG KONG COULD BE FLEXIBLE SO THAT AS IN ENGLAND, STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE WHETHER TO GO FOR A THREE-YEAR OR A FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY COURSE, SHE SAID.

BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS (AMENDMENT) BILL
* * * * *

A BILL DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FURTHER SAFEGUARD FOR INDUSTRIAL AND PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE USE OF PRESSURE EQUIPMENT WAS INTRODUCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, THE HON. NEIL HENDERSON.

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978, MR. HENDERSON SAID THE BILL WAS THE RESULT OF A REVIEW OF THE MAIN ORDINANCE AND WAS AN EXERCISE IN UPDATING THE LAW IN THIS FIELD IN THE LIGHT OF PRACTICAL WORKING EXPERIENCE.

HE SAID THE BILL EXTENDS THE APPLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE TO VESSELS CONTAINING COMPRESSED INERT GASES WHICH IS CONNECTED WITH AN AIR OR GAS COMPRESSING PLANT BECAUSE OF THEIR POTENTIAL FOR DESTRUCTION.

IT ALSO CLARIFIES THE POWERS OF INSPECTORS OF LAND BOILERS= STIPULATES THAT THE ORDINANCE APPLIES TO BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS WHICH HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY EXEMPTED WHERE OWNERSHIP CHANGES FROM THE CROWN= CLARIFIES THE SCOPE OF EXEMPTION ACCORDED TO ANY PRESSURE EQUIPMENT FIXED ON A FLOATING CRAFT OR INTENDED FOR SUPPLY LOCOMOTIVE POWER TO A VEHICLE, WHICH ARE COVERED BY OTHER LEGISLATION= AND BROADENS THE POWER TO HOLD INQUIRIES INTO ALL ACCIDENTS IN OR TO BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS.

THE BILL FURTHER REQUIRES THAT TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE REGISTRAR OF BOILERS AND PRESSURE RECEIVERS, IF WRITTEN IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH OR CHINESE, SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND THAT ALL APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF EQUIPMENT MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE THE EQUIPMENT IS PUT INTO USE.

IT ALSO MAKES PRESSURE ACCUMULATION TESTS OBLIGATORY IN THE CASE OF EXAMINATION OF NEW EQUIPMENT= SPECIFIES THE PROCEDURE FOR CARRYING OUT PRESSURE ACCUMULATION TESTS ON BOILERS AND MORE REALISTIC TEST PRESSURES FOR HYDRAULIC TESTS OF EQUIPMENT= AND MAKES IT CLEAR THAT A PORTABLE GAS GENERATOR MAY REQUIRE EXAMINATION BEFORE PERMISSION IS GIVEN FOR IT TO BE USED.

MEASUREMENTS IN THE BILL ARE GIVEN IN IMPERIAL AS WELL AS METRIC UNITS, BECAUSE VERY OFTEN BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS HAVE BEEN IMPORTED WITH SPECIFICATIONS AND INSTRUMENTATIONS IN IMPERIAL UNITS. THIS MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO GO FULLY METRIC IN THIS FIELD AT PRESENT.

THE BILL FINALLY REMOVES SPENT PROVISIONS WHICH DEALT WITH THE APPLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE TO PRESSURE EQUIPMENT ALREADY IN USE AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE IN MARCH 1963.

REFERRING TO CONTAINERS WHICH HOLD NON-INERT (FLAMMABLE) GASES UNDER PRESSURE, MR. HENDERSON SAID A REPORT WOULD BE COMPILED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON THIS MATTER IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES AND OTHERS. RECOMMENDATIONS COULD THEN BE MADE AS TO WHETHER FURTHER AMENDMENTS WERE NEEDED OR NOT IN RESPECT OF THIS ORDINANCE OR OTHER LEGISLATION.

COMMENTING ON THE BILL, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, THE HON. SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG SAID IF THE PRESENT CONTROL ON COMPRESSED NON-INERT GASES IS FOUND TO BE ADEQUATE, THE SAME CONTROL FOR COMPRESSED INERT GASES MUST BE ADEQUATE AND THERE IS NO NEED TO INTRODUCE FURTHER CONTROLS AS PROPOSED IN THE BILL.

+ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE PRESENT CONTROL ON COMPRESSED NON-INERT GASES IS FOUND TO BE INADEQUATE AND ADDITIONAL CONTROL IS NECESSARY, THEN THE PRIORITY OF IMPOSING SUCH ADDITIONAL CONTROL SHOULD, WITHOUT DOUBT, BE GIVEN TO COMPRESSED NON-INERT GASES AND NOT TO COMPRESSED INERT GASES AS STIPULATED IN THE PRESENT BILL,+ HE SAID.

SIR SZE-YUEN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AS MR. HENDERSON MENTIONED EARLIER THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS PRESENTLY CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A NEW FRAMEWORK OF LEGISLATION TO COVER COMPLETE PRESSURE SYSTEMS IN INDUSTRY AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE IN HONG KONG THAT THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR TIGHTENING THE CONTROL ON COMPRESSED INERT GASES. IT SEEMS MORE LOGICALLY THAT THIS PARTICULAR SECTION OF THE AMENDING BILL BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE SITUATION IN U.K. IS CLARIFIED.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS LATER ADJOURNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL
* * * * *

A BILL TO AMEND THE AUDIT ORDINANCE TO REFLECT THE CREATION AND THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AS A STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE COUNCIL TODAY BY THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. DAVID JORDAN.

SPEAKING AT THE SECOND READING OF THE AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978, MR. JORDAN SAID THE AMENDING LEGISLATION WAS THE LAST OF TWO MEASURES REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE, THE FIRST BEING A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 10.

THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED IN THE BILL INCLUDE PROVISIONS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT WILL SUBMIT HIS REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ANOTHER CLAUSE IN THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORTS ON THEM WILL BE LAID BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ALONG WITH THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 15 -

CROWN LEASE (AMENDMENT) BILL BECOMES LAW

* * * *

THE CROWN LEASE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 WAS PASSED INTO LAW IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY AFTER SPECIFIC POINTS CONCERNING THE AMENDING LEGISLATION WERE RESOLVED IN MEETINGS BETWEEN AN UMELCO AD HOC GROUP AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

SPEAKING AT THE RESUMED DEBATE ON THE BILL, THE HON. PETER C. WONG WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE AD HOC GROUP SAID THE SPECIFIC POINTS WERE RESOLVED AFTER IT WAS AGREED THAT THE INTERIM VALUATIONS REFERRED TO IN THE BILL SHALL BE MADE IN RESPECT OF NEW OR REDEVELOPED BUILDINGS ONLY, AND WHERE A BUILDING STRADDLES TWO OR MORE LOTS, A TENEMENT IN THAT BUILDING SHALL BE DEEMED TO STRADDLE THE LOTS AND ITS RATEABLE VALUE SHALL BE CALCULATED ON THE PROPORTION THAT THE LOT BEARS TO THE AREA OF ALL THE LOTS ON WHICH THE BUILDING STANDS.

+THIS SOLUTION HAS TO A LARGE EXTENT SIMPLIFIED THE COMPLICATED CONCEPTS AND HENCE THE DRAFTING. THE GENERAL PROBLEM IS THUS RESOLVED,+ MR. WONG SAID.

IN REPLY, THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. DEREK JONES, THANKED THE UNOFFICIAL MEMBER FOR HIS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE AND CLARIFY THE COMPLICATED LEGISLATION.

+THE BILL, AS IT WILL BE AMENDED, WILL BE MUCH BETTER THAN THE ORIGINAL AND THIS DEMONSTRATES THE VALUE OF THIS COUNCIL AS A LEGISLATIVE BODY,+ MR. JONES SAID.

+I WILL HAVE MUCH PLEASURE IN SUPPORTING THE AMENDMENTS WHEN THEY ARE MOVED IN COMMITTEE,+ HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/16

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 16 -

GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER MOUNTING A MAJOR ROAD
SAFETY CAMPGIAN NEXT YEAR

* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, THE HON. DEREK JONES, SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO MOUNTING A MAJOR ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN NEXT YEAR.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, MR. JONES SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED EARLIER THIS YEAR NOT TO LAUNCH A MAJOR ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN IN THE 1978/79 FINANCIAL YEAR BECAUSE THERE HAD BEEN A MAJOR CAMPAIGN ON THIS THEME DURING EACH OF THE PREVIOUS FOUR YEARS AND IT WAS FEARED THAT +TOO MUCH REPETITION WOULD DULL THE EFFECT.+

HE SAID NEVERTHELESS \$200,000 WAS ALLOCATED FOR ROAD SAFETY PUBLICITY AND THIS WAS INCREASED LAST MONTH TO \$350,000 IN RESPONSE TO CONCERN ABOUT THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT FIGURES.

+EXPENDITURE WILL BE CONCENTRATED MAINLY ON TELEVISION AND RADIO PUBLICITY,+ HE SAID.

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTION FROM MR. CHEONG-LEEN, MR. JONES SAID THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WERE 7,279 AS COMPARED WITH 6,615 IN SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

OF THESE ACCIDENTS, 199 INVOLVED FATAL AND 2,741 SERIOUS INJURIES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR WHILE THE FIGURES FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR WERE 187 AND 2,576 RESPECTIVELY.

THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 9,323 PEOPLE INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS THIS YEAR, OF WHICH 209 WERE KILLED AND 3,132 SERIOUSLY INJURED.

THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR WERE 8,493 OF WHICH 201 WERE KILLED AND 2,905 SERIOUSLY INJURED, HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/17

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 17 -

SPEEDING AND ILLEGAL OVERTAKING LED TO ACCIDENTS ON TUEN MUN ROAD

* * * * *

THE ACCIDENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED TO DATE ON THE NEW TUEN MUN ROAD HAVE BEEN DUE MAINLY TO SPEEDING AND ILLEGAL OVERTAKING BY IMPATIENT DRIVERS, THE HON. DAVID MCDONALD, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE HON. JAMES WU, HE SAID THAT THE SIGNS AND MARKINGS ON THE NEW ROAD WERE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED BY THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS FOR THE PROJECT AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE AND WERE NOT CONSIDERED TO BE INADEQUATE.

IN ANSWER TO ANOTHER QUESTION BY THE HON. WONG LAM, MR. MCDONALD SAID THAT OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS NINE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS WERE RECORDED ON THE SECTION OF CLEARWATER BAY ROAD NEAR THE GOOD HOPE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

+THE EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY LAYOUT IS A TEMPORARY DIVERSION ARRANGEMENT TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENT WORKS TO CLEARWATER BAY ROAD,+ HE SAID.

+THESE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DUAL CARRIAGEWAY ON A NEW ALIGNMENT WITH MUCH FLATTER GRADIENTS AND EASIER CURVATURE.+

IN ADDITION, MR. MCDONALD SAID, THE OLD CLEARWATER BAY ROAD WAS BEING WIDENED TO PROVIDE AN EXTRA UPHILL LANE.

WORK ON THE LATTER WOULD BE FINISHED BY OCTOBER AND TRAFFIC WOULD THEN BE RE-DIVERTED TO THE OLD CARRIAGEWAY THUS REMOVING THE NEED TO NEGOTIATE THE BEND ON THE TEMPORARY DIVERSION, HE SAID.

+BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR, WORK ON THE NEW CLEARWATER BAY ROAD ALIGNMENT WILL BE COMPLETED AND ALL THROUGH TRAFFIC WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONTO THIS SUPERIOR AND SAFER FACILITY LEAVING THE OLD CARRIAGEWAY TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE ADJACENT HOUSING ESTATE AND OTHER PROPERTIES,+ SAID MR. MCDONALD.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/18

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 18 -

COMPENSATION TO SAI LAU KOK BUILDING OWNERS
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT HOPES TO BE ABLE TO ANNOUNCE BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH A SOLUTION TO THE COMPENSATION PROBLEMS FACED BY OWNER-OCCUPIERS OF SEVEN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AT SAI LAU KOK, TSUEN WAN, WHICH ARE TO BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY EXTENSION.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE HON. DAVID AKERS-JONES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT REALISES THE AMOUNT OF COMPENSATION BEING BASED ON THE VALUE OF THEIR EXISTING PROPERTY MAY BE INSUFFICIENT TO ALLOW OWNER-OCCUPIERS TO PURCHASE ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN TSUEN WAN AND THAT THEY MAY NOT WISH TO MOVE TO PUBLIC HOUSING.

+THIS PROBLEM IS BEING CONSIDERED AND I HOPE THAT A SOLUTION CAN BE ANNOUNCED BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH,+ HE SAID REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG.

MR. AKERS-JONES SAID THAT ABOUT 3,000 PEOPLE IN SAI LAU KOK WILL BE DISPLACED BY THE MTR DEVELOPMENT -- WITH 231 OF THE RESIDENTIAL UNITS AND 11 OF THE SHOPS INVOLVED OWNER-OCCUPIERS.

THE OWNERS OF PROPERTY IN THE BUILDINGS WERE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION ACCORDING TO AN INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE VALUE OF THEIR PROPERTY, HE SAID.

OWNER-OCCUPIERS AND TENANTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL UNITS WERE ELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING. +THEY AND THE OPERATORS OF COMMERCIAL UNITS WITHIN THE BLOCKS ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE FOR EX-GRATIA DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCES,+ MR. AKERS-JONES ADDED.

+THE ACTUAL AMOUNTS TO BE OFFERED TO THE OWNERS ARE NOT YET KNOWN, OWING TO THEIR RELUCTANCE TO ALLOW GOVERNMENT STAFF ACCESS TO THEIR UNITS FOR ASSESSMENT.

+THE AMOUNTS WILL, HOWEVER, BE ASSESSED AT FREE MARKET VALUE, AND THE OWNERS WILL HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

/19

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 19 -

CALL FOR PUBLIC CO-OPERATION TO KEEP ROADS CLEAR OF
RUBBISH

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, THE HON. DAVID MCDONALD, TODAY CALLED FOR MORE CO-OPERATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO KEEP THE ROADS CLEAR OF RUBBISH.

THE APPEAL CAME IN A REPLY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY TO THE HON. LEUNG TAT-SHING WHO ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WOULD STEP UP THE CLEARING OF GULLIES AND SANDTRAPS ALONG PUBLIC THOROUGHFARES SO AS TO ENSURE THAT THERE WERE NO BLOCKAGES TO CAUSE FURTHER FLOODINGS AFTER TORRENTIAL RAINS.

MR. MCDONALD SAID, +IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE ONSET OF THE RAINY SEASON EACH YEAR A THOROUGH INSPECTION OF ALL DRAINAGE INSTALLATIONS IS CARRIED OUT AND THIS IS FOLLOWED BY A STEPPED-UP PROGRAMME OF INSPECTION AND CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES WHICH IS MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE RAINY SEASON TO ENSURE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE THAT THE ROAD-SIDE DRAINAGE SYSTEM FUNCTIONS PROPERLY.+

NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, GULLIES COULD STILL BE BLOCKED BY RUBBISH DEPOSITED IN THE INTERVALS BETWEEN CLEARINGS AND IF THIS COINCIDED WITH TORRENTIAL RAIN, LOCAL FLOODINGS COULD OCCUR.

+HOWEVER, PROBLEM AREAS ARE KNOWN TO THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CLEANSING STAFF AND THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE ROAD GANGS AND BY PAYING SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THESE, THE RISK OF LOCAL FLOODING CAN BE MINIMISED,+ MR. MCDONALD SAID.

+IN GENERAL, THEREFORE, IT IS FELT THAT THE FREQUENCY OF CLEARING AND CLEANSING OPERATIONS IS ADEQUATE ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION COULD BE IMPROVED WITH MORE CO-OPERATION FROM THE PUBLIC IN KEEPING THE ROADS CLEAR OF RUBBISH.+

- - - - 0 - - - -

/20

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 20 -

HOUSING ESTATES PROVIDED WITH BALANCE CHOICE OF TRANSPORT
* * * * *

THERE IS NO GENERAL POLICY OF PROHIBITING PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES FROM ENTERING PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, THE HON. DEREK JONES, SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THERE ARE FACILITIES FOR THEM IN THE MAJORITY OF ESTATES, MR. JONES SAID IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. MRS. KWAN KO SIU-WAH.

+AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, THEREFORE, THE POLICY IS TO PROVIDE A BALANCED CHOICE OF SERVICES,+ HE ADDED.

MR. JONES SAID THE PRESENT POLICY WAS TO CONTROL THE MOVEMENT OF PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES WITHIN ESTATES BY CONFINING THEM TO A LIMITED NUMBER OF PICK-UP POINTS, EITHER IN CENTRALLY LOCATED OFF-STREET TERMINI OR AT KERBSIDE STANDS OR LAY-BYS.

+THESE CONTROLS HAVE BEEN IMPOSED BECAUSE THE PREVIOUS UNRESTRICTED OPERATIONS OF THE PLBS WERE CAUSING CONGESTION AND FRUSTRATING THE MOVEMENT OF FRANCHISED BUSES. THIS, IN TURN, WAS DISCOURAGING THE BUS COMPANIES FROM IMPROVING THEIR SERVICES,+ HE EXPLAINED.

HE ADDED THAT CIRCUMSTANCES VARIED FROM ESTATE TO ESTATE.

+IN A VERY FEW CASES, WHERE THERE ARE SUFFICIENT BUSES, PLBS ARE BANNED COMPLETELY FROM THE ESTATE.+

BUT, WHERE THERE WAS A HEAVY DEMAND FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT, AND LIMITED ROAD CAPACITY AND SPACE FOR PICK-UP POINTS, MORE PEOPLE COULD BE MOVED BY GIVING PREFERENCE TO THE MOST EFFICIENT CARRIERS, THAT WAS LARGE BUSES, HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/21

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 21 -

INEXPENSIVE HOLIDAYS FOR WORKERS
* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, THE HON. KENNETH TOPLEY SAID TODAY TWO TYPES OF SHORT, INEXPENSIVE HOLIDAYS FOR WORKERS ARE BEING ORGANISED THIS SUMMER.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. JAMES WU IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. TOPLEY SAID THE FIRST TYPE IS A TWO TO FOUR DAYS HOLIDAY INVOLVING CAMPING EITHER AT A RECREATION CENTRE OR IN OTHER CAMPS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES OR ON LANTAU.

+DEPENDING ON THE VENUE A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES IS OFFERED INCLUDING HIKING, TREKKING, CANOEING AND HORSE-RIDING. SOME PARTICIPANTS IN THE HOLIDAYS AT THE SAI KUNG RECREATION CENTRE WILL BE AIR-LIFTED IN OR OUT BY HELICOPTER,+ HE SAID.

THE SECOND TYPE OFFERS ONE-DAY HOLIDAYS OR EXCURSIONS AND ALLOWS THE PARTICIPANTS TO CHOOSE FROM A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS.

MR. TOPLEY SAID THIS TYPE OF HOLIDAY ENABLES PEOPLE IN EMPLOYMENT, IF THEY WISH, TO MAKE UP A +PACKAGE+ OF SEVERAL DAYS, WITH SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO DO EACH DAY.

BOTH TYPES OF HOLIDAYS ARE GEARED MAINLY FOR PEOPLE IN THE AGE RANGE OF 18 TO MID-40S AND FAMILIES CAN BE TAKEN ALONG TO SOME OF THE CAMPS.

MR. TOPLEY ALSO SAID THAT THE IDEA OF THESE HOLIDAYS DEVELOPED FROM THE ALREADY ESTABLISHED AND HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMME OF FAMILY CAMPS HELD DURING THE HOLIDAY PERIODS, MAINLY FOR STUDENTS.

+THEY ARE ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORTS SERVICE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH THE MANPOWER AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE. APPROXIMATELY 15,000 PERSONS WILL PARTICIPATE THIS SUMMER,+ HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/22

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 22 -

NUMBER OF PLACES IN CHILD CARE CENTRES
* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE HON. E.P. HO SAID TODAY A TOTAL OF 3,266 NEW PLACES IN CHILD CARE CENTRES OF ACCEPTABLE STANDARD BECAME AVAILABLE IN THE 22 MONTHS PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 1978 AFTER THE MORE STRINGENT CHILD CARE CENTRE REGULATIONS CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 1, 1976.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. HO SAID A MINIMUM OF 1,334 ADDITIONAL PLACES ARE EXPECTED TO BE PROVIDED IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR OF 1978/79.

HE ALSO SAID THAT SINCE THE CHILD CARE CENTRE REGULATIONS CAME INTO EFFECT THERE HAS BEEN A LOSS OF 1,493 SUB-STANDARD PLACES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MTR EXTENSION DECISION MADE AFTER TEMPORARY
HOUSING AREA WAS BUILT
* * * * *

THE DECISION TO EXTEND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY TO TSUEN WAN WAS TAKEN IN JULY LAST YEAR -- SIX MONTHS AFTER THE HA KWAI CHUNG TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA WAS COMPLETED AND OCCUPIED.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON. ALAN SCOTT, SAID THIS TODAY IN REPLY TO THE HON. MRS. KWAN KO SIU-WAH WHO ASKED WHY THAT TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA WAS BUILT WHEN +SOME RESIDENTS HAVE TO MOVE OUT AFTER ONLY THREE MONTHS.+

WHEN THE DECISION WAS MADE, MR. SCOTT SAID THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WAS INFORMED THAT THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR TO MAKE WAY FOR THE MTR KWAI FONG STATION AND A WORKS AREA.

A TOTAL OF 2,700 RESIDENTS WOULD BE MOVED TO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES. OF THESE, ONLY FOUR PEOPLE FROM TWO FAMILIES WOULD, BY THE TIME OF CLEARANCE, HAVE SPENT LESS THAN 11 MONTHS IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION, HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/23

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 23 -

SAME ALLOCATION CRITERIA FOR SQUATTER FACTORIES
AND ESTATE WORKSHOPS
* * * * *

THE CRITERIA GOVERNING THE ALLOCATION OF HOUSING AUTHORITY FLATTED FACTORY UNITS TO SQUATTER FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ALREADY IN GOVERNMENT ESTATES ARE THE SAME AND THERE IS NO PRIORITY BETWEEN THEM, THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, THE HON. ALAN SCOTT, TOLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. S.L. CHEN, MR. SCOTT SAID THE CRITERIA WERE THAT THE TRADE TO BE OPERATED MUST BE ONE PERMITTED BY THE AUTHORITY AND THAT THE FLOOR LOADING AND ELECTRICAL LOADING MUST BE WITHIN THE DESIGNED CAPACITY.

THE QUESTION OF PRIORITY IN THE ALLOCATION OF FACTORY ACCOMMODATION DID NOT ARISE BECAUSE DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES OF IMPROVEMENT WERE INVOLVED AND DIFFERENT ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE.

+OPERATORS OF SQUATTER FACTORIES ARE OFFERED EITHER FLATTED FACTORY UNITS BUILT FOR THE PURPOSE, IF AVAILABLE, OR CASH ALLOWANCES. WORKSHOPS AFFECTED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ARE OFFERED SPACE IN THE FLATTED FACTORY AT SHEK KIP MEI, OR CASH COMPENSATION.

+AS ESTATE WORKSHOP OPERATORS ARE AUTHORISED HOUSING AUTHORITY TENANTS, REPROVISIONING REQUIREMENTS ARE KNOWN, AND THE NECESSARY FLATTED FACTORY SPACE IS PROVIDED. SURPLUS UNITS HAVE BEEN AND WILL BE OFFERED TO OPERATORS OF DISPLACED SQUATTER FACTORIES, + HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/24

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 24 -

INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL
* * * *

A BILL WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY TO AMEND THE EXISTING LEGISLATION BY EMPOWERING THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO SPECIFY TAX EXEMPTION RATES OF INTEREST PAYABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT, LICENSED BANKS AND CERTAIN SPECIFIED PUBLIC UTILITIES, SUBJECT TO AN UPPER LIMIT OF FIVE PER CENT PER YEAR.

MOVING THE SECOND READING OF THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1978, THE ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE HON. DAVID JORDAN, SAID THE AMENDING LEGISLATION, IF ENACTED, WOULD MEAN THAT CHANGES COULD BE MADE AT SHORT NOTICE TO COINCIDE PRECISELY WITH THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR A CHANGE IN THE RATE PAYABLE BY BANKS ON SAVINGS DEPOSITS.

+THE BILL IS DESIGNED MERELY TO ENABLE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO GIVE EFFECT MORE QUICKLY TO ESTABLISHED POLICY,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

+THERE IS NO INTENTION TO CHANGE THE POLICY NOR AT PRESENT TO ALTER THE EXEMPTION RATE APPLICABLE TO INTEREST PAID BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES LISTED IN THE THIRD SCHEDULE TO THE ORDINANCE,+ HE ADDED.

EXPLAINING THE PRESENT SITUATION, MR. JORDAN SAID THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR EXEMPTION FROM TAX OF INTEREST PAYABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT, LICENSED BANKS, AND CERTAIN SPECIFIED PUBLIC UTILITIES, PROVIDED THAT THE RATES OF INTEREST DO NOT EXCEED CERTAIN PERCENTAGES.

+AS REGARDS INTEREST PAYABLE BY LICENSED BANKS, THIS PERCENTAGE RATE HAS FOR MANY YEARS BEEN VARIED TO ACCORD WITH THE RATE PAID BY BANKS ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

MR. JORDAN ADDED THAT IN 1975, THE LAW WAS AMENDED TO GIVE POWERS TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TO ALTER THE EXEMPTION RATE THUS AVOIDING SOME OF THE TIMING PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ENSURING THAT THE EXEMPTION RATE REMAINED THE SAME AS THE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS RATE.

+THE LAST CHANGE IN THE EXEMPTION RATE ON APRIL 27, WHICH WAS INCIDENTALLY THE FIRST ADJUSTMENT SINCE 1975, WAS BROUGHT INTO EFFECT BY A REVENUE PROTECTION ORDER,+ MR. JORDAN SAID.

+THIS WAS A RATHER CUMBERSOME PROCEDURE, BUT WAS THE ONLY ONE AVAILABLE THAT WOULD ENABLE US TO SYNCHRONISE THE TIMING,+ HE ADDED.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WAS ADJOURNED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/25

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 25 -

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING ALCOHOL WILL BE
EXEMPTED FROM DUTY
* * * * *

A BILL TO EXEMPT FROM DUTY PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING ALCOHOL TODAY RECEIVED ITS SECOND READING IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MOVING THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS, THE HON. WILLIAM DORWARD SAID THAT AS THE LAW NOW STOOD, DUTY WAS NOT NORMALLY CHARGED ON MIXTURES CONTAINING ALCOHOL WHERE THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST CERTIFIED THAT THEY COULD NOT BE CONVERTED INTO INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

HOWEVER, AN EXCEPTION TO THIS WAS WHERE THE LIQUOR IS CONTAINED IN A TOILET PREPARATION, IN WHICH CASE DUTY IS LEVIED AT THE RATE OF \$9.90 A GALLON ON THE TOTAL VOLUME OF THE PRODUCT.

+WHILST THIS IS A REASONABLE LEVY ON SUCH GOODS AS PERFUMES, SHAVING LOTIONS, HAIR SPRAYS AND THE LIKE, IT IS CONSIDERED INAPPROPRIATE THAT IT APPLIES TO COUGH SYRUPS, EYE LOTIONS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES -- EVEN BELIEVE IT OR NOT BABIES' GRIPE WATER -- WHICH CONTAINS ALCOHOL -- BUT ARE FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES.

+BUT BECAUSE OF THE PRESENT DEFINITION OF TOILET PREPARATIONS, WHICH IS A LEFTOVER FROM THE DAYS WHEN PROPRIETARY MEDICINES WERE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES IN THEIR OWN RIGHT AND NOT MERELY IF THEY CONTAINED ALCOHOL, THEY ARE SO LIABLE,+ MR. DORWARD SAID.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WILL EXEMPT FROM DUTY THOSE SUBSTANCES WHICH ARE INTENDED FOR USE IN MEDICINE, VETERINARY MEDICINE AND CHIROPODY.

THE CONSEQUENT REDUCTION IN ANNUAL REVENUE IS ESTIMATED AT ROUGHLY \$600,000.

THE REVENUE COLLECTED ON PERFUMERY PRODUCTS AND COSMETICS -- WHICH AMOUNTS TO SOME \$4.5 MILLION ANNUALLY -- WILL BE UNAFFECTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/26

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 26 -

QUERY ON JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE
* * * * *

THE GOVERNMENT WILL APPROACH THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE BOARD TO FIND OUT THE UP-TO-DATE POSITION ON THE BUILDING OF THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE IN SHA TIN, THE DATE WHEN THE CENTRE WILL BE COMPLETED AND ITS ANTICIPATED OPENING DATE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE HON. SIR DENYS ROBERTS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

X-RAY APPARATUS CONTROLLED BY LAW
* * * * *

IRRADIATING APPARATUS PRODUCING X-RAYS FOR USE IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ARE CONTROLLED BY THE RADIATION (CONTROL OF IRRADIATING APPARATUS) REGULATIONS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR. THE HON. K.L. THONG, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION BY AN UNOFFICIAL MEMBER, DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG, AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING TODAY.

DR. FANG HAD ASKED IF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD STATE WHAT PROTECTIVE, PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES WERE IN EXISTENCE OR BEING DEvised IN THE USE OF X-RAYS IN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

IN REPLY, DR. THONG POINTED OUT THAT EVERY EMPLOYER IS REQUIRED UNDER THE EXISTING REGULATIONS TO MAINTAIN A REGISTER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN RADIATION WORK SO THAT THEY ARE MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT REGULAR INTERVALS DURING A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING 14 MONTHS.

IT IS ALSO COMPULSORY FOR PERSONS EMPLOYED IN RADIATION WORK TO WEAR MONITORING DEVICES WHICH ARE EXAMINED AT REGULAR INTERVALS NOT EXCEEDING 14 DAYS BY APPROVED LABORATORIES, HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/27

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 27 -

TOURISM PROMOTION

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT SEES NO NEED TO DUPLICATE THE PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS OF THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, THE HON. DAVID JEAFFRESON, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

MR. JEAFFRESON WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. PETER C. WONG WHO ASKED WHAT OTHER STEPS GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN HONG KONG APART FROM ESTABLISHING THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SURVEY OF N.T. LAND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES COMPLETED

* * * *

THE GOVERNMENT IS STUDYING THE REPORT ON A RECENTLY-COMPLETED COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF LAND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE HON. DAVID AKERS-JONES, TOLD THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE THAT THERE WAS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN CERTAIN RESPECTS AND HOPED THAT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE PROCEDURES CAN BE FORMULATED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

HE WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION ON THE SUBJECT FROM THE HON. PETER C. WONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 28 -

NEW BUILDING FOR MA TAU WEI GIRLS' HOME
* * * * *

THE REPROVISIONED MA TAU WEI GIRLS' HOME IS EXPECTED TO BE IN OPERATION BY MID-SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, THE HON. THOMAS LEE SAID TODAY.

REPLYING TO A QUESTION BY THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. LEE SAID THE BUILDING WOULD BE COMPLETED AND HANDED OVER TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH.

HE SAID THE HOME WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION AROUND MARCH AND APRIL THIS YEAR, BUT THIS WAS EXTENDED AND CONSTRUCTION WORK IS STILL GOING ON.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BUS SERVICES TO TING KOK ROAD
* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. DEREK JONES, SAID TODAY THERE ARE PLANS FOR MORE BUS SERVICES ALONG TING KOK ROAD IN TAI PO AND NEW BUS ROUTES WOULD BE ESTABLISHED SPECIFICALLY TO SERVE THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE HON. LI FOOK-WO IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY, MR. JONES SAID ALTHOUGH THE BUS SERVICES ARE NOW BETTER THAN THEY WERE BEFORE, GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THEY NEED TO BE FURTHER IMPROVED.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS TO TWO BUS ROUTES, -- NO. 75 FROM TAI PO MARKET TO TAI MEI TUK AND NO. 84 FROM TAI PO MARKET TO SAM MUN TSAI -- PARTLY TO MEET THE INCREASED DEMAND FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA AT YUE KOK.

THESE INCLUDED THE REPLACEMENT OF ALL SINGLE DECKER BUSES ON ROUTE 84 BY DOUBLE DECKERS AND THE PARTIAL CONVERSION TO DOUBLE DECKERS ON ROUTE 75.

+PLANS ARE ALSO IN HAND TO DOUBLE THE FREQUENCY OF ROUTE 84 FROM ONE BUS EVERY 40 MINUTES TO ONE EVERY 20 MINUTES AND ROUTE 75 WILL BE FULLY CONVERTED TO DOUBLE DECKERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, + MR. JONES SAID.

IN ADDITION, RESIDENTS IN THE AREA ARE ALSO BEING SERVED BY PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/29

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 29 -

BILLS PASSED
* * *

ELEVEN BILLS WERE PASSED INTO LAW IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TODAY.

THEY WERE THE DETENTION CENTRES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE FIRE SERVICES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE MISCELLANEOUS LICENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE JURY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE CROWN LEASES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978= THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND URBAN SERVICES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1978= THE WIDOWS' AND CHILDREN'S PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 AND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEGCO TO CONTINUE MEETING TOMORROW
* * * * *

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE ITS MEETING AT 2.30 P.M. TOMORROW (THURSDAY) TO DISCUSS THE GREEN PAPER ON SENIOR SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATION.

TODAY'S MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AFTER THREE UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS -- THE HON. Q.W. LEE, DR. THE HON. RAYSON HUANG AND THE REV. THE HON. JOYCE M. BENNETT -- COMMENTED ON THE GREEN PAPER.

AT TOMORROW'S SITTING, NINE OTHER UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER. THEY ARE: THE HON. ALEX WU, THE HON. MRS. KWAN KO SIU-WAH, THE HON. HILTON CHEONG-LEEN, DR. THE HON. HENRY HU, THE HON. CHARLES YEUNG, THE HON. S.L. CHEN, THE HON. JAMES WU, THE HON. T.S. LO AND DR. THE HON. HARRY FANG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/30

SEWAGE PUMPING STATION EXTENSION

* * * * *

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWAGE PUMPING STATION EXTENSION AT PAK KOK TSUI, TUEN MUN.

MR. CHE PING-DOON, ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER, DRAINAGE WORKS, CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, SAID THAT THE PROJECT WHEN COMPLETED WILL PROVIDE PUMPING FACILITIES TO CARRY SEWAGE FROM TUEN MUN NEW TOWN TO THE PROPOSED SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS AT PILLAR POINT.

+THE ENGINEERING WORKS AT THE EXTENSION WILL CONSIST OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SCREW PUMP CHAMBER, A CONTROL ROOM, AND AN ANCILLARY ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORKS,+ HE SAID.

THE WORK AT THE PUMPING STATION EXTENSION IS PART OF THE OVERALL SEWERAGE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN.

THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN AUGUST AND WILL TAKE ABOUT A YEAR TO COMPLETE.

A SCREENING PLANT WITH A SUBMARINE OUTFALL HAS ALREADY BEEN CONSTRUCTED AT PAK KOK.

THE PLANNED PERMANENT SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS AT PILLAR POINT WILL INCORPORATE MODERN SEWAGE PURIFICATION SYSTEMS AND COME INTO OPERATION BY 1979-80.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CONTRACT FOR PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES

* * * * *

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A \$6.18 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF FOUR PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES AT KAI TAK AIRPORT. IT IS ONE OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING MODIFICATIONS FOR BAY 1 AND 2.

SIGNING THE CONTRACT TODAY WERE MR. T. TAKEMASA, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MITSUBISHI CORPORATION (H.K.) LTD., THE CONTRACTOR, AND MR. G.J. OSBORNE, PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEER, FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE CONTRACT COVERS THE COMPLETE DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING TWO SETS (TOTAL FOUR) OF PURPOSED DESIGNED PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES.

THE PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES WILL BE DESIGNATED AS NO. 1 AND NO. 3 BRIDGES ON EACH OF THE PARKING BAYS. THEY WILL PROVIDE THERMAL-INSULATED, WEATHER-PROOFED, COVERED PASSAGES BETWEEN THE TERMINAL BUILDING AND AIRCRAFTS OF VARIOUS SIZES.

TO PREVENT VERTICAL CIRCULATION IN THE TERMINAL BUILDING, THE BUILDING END OF THE PASSENGER BRIDGES CAN BE MOVED IN A VERTICAL PLANE ON THE FRONT SURFACE OF THE BUILDING TO LOCATE WITH ANY ONE OF THE TWO DOORS CORRESPONDING TO THE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FLOOR LEVELS, RESPECTIVELY.

ERECTION OF THE BRIDGES ON SITE IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE AROUND JULY 1979 AND THEIR OPERATION WILL BEGIN ABOUT SIX MONTHS LATER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1978

- 31 -

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN NORTH POINT
* * * * *

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN NORTH POINT FROM 10 A.M. ON FRIDAY (JULY 7) TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE AREA.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS VEHICLES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TURN RIGHT FROM NORTH POINT ROAD INTO JAVA ROAD EASTBOUND, OR TURN RIGHT FROM TIN CHONG STREET INTO JAVA ROAD EASTBOUND. EASTBOUND VEHICLES ON JAVA ROAD ALSO WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TURN RIGHT INTO TONG SHUI ROAD.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WATER CUT IN TAI KOK TSUI
* * * * *

WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN TAI KOK TSUI AREA WILL BE TEMPORARILY TURNED OFF FROM 10 P.M. ON FRIDAY (JULY 7) UNTIL 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY TO ENABLE WORK ON THE DIVERSION OF A FRESH WATER MAIN TO BE CARRIED OUT AT TAI KOK TSUI ROAD JUNCTION WITH FUK TSUN STREET.

THE PREMISES TO BE AFFECTED ARE NOS. 1 TO 79 AND 2 TO 80 FUK TSUN STREET AND NOS. 1 TO 7 AND 2 TO 8 WALNUT STREET.

- - - - 0 - - - -