



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Saturday, February 2, 1974

CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Governor and Colonial Secretary to open two new government subsidized secondary schools next week	1
Mr. Charles Ching appointed a Queen's Counsel	2
Road and drainage work to be carried out in Sha Tin shortly	2
Party for the elderly people in Kwun Tong	3
Present G.P.O. site to be used for commercial development ..	4
There will be an issue of Daily Information Bulletin on Sunday	5
Retirement of Director of Education	6

Release time: 2.30 p.m.

Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 1 -

GOVERNOR AND COLONIAL SECRETARY TO OPEN TWO NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Two new government subsidized secondary schools will be opened next week, marking another milestone in the provision of places in the fully aided sector, a spokesman for the Education Department said today.

Each project is a 24-classroom secondary school for 920 pupils.

The Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, will open one of the schools - the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Lee Ching Dea Memorial College - on Tuesday at 3.00 p.m.

The other project, the William Booth Secondary School, will be opened by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Denys Roberts next Saturday (February 9) at 3.00 p.m. This school is named after the founder of the Salvation Army, who are the sponsors and operators of the school.

Both projects have been built on land granted free to the sponsors by the Government. In addition, the Government made capital grants towards construction costs of up to 80 per cent of the total cost of building and equipment. In the case of the Tung Wah, a special grant for difficult site works was also given.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to have the two opening ceremonies covered.

The Lee Ching Dea Memorial College is at Cloud View Road near Tin Hau Temple Road, Hong Kong while The William Booth Secondary School is in Yuk Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan, Kowloon.

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/2

Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 2 -

MR. CHARLES CHING APPOINTED A QUEEN'S COUNSEL

The Queen has been pleased to give directions for the appointment of Mr. Charles Ching to be one of Her Majesty's Counsel for Hong Kong.

Mr. Ching, who is the son of the late Mr. Henry Ching and Mrs. Ruby Ching, was born in Hong Kong on October 7, 1935, and was educated at the Diocesan Boys' School, Hong Kong, King's College, Taunton and at University College, Oxford.

He was called to the English Bar (Gray's Inn) on November 25, 1958 and was admitted as a Barrister in Hong Kong in October, 1959.

In the years 1958 to 1959, he served as a Pupil in the Chambers of Mr. Ralph Gibson, Crown Office Row, Temple.

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ROAD AND DRAINAGE WORK IN SHA TIN

Road and drainage work will begin next month in Sha Tin in keeping with the rapid development in the area.

The work mainly involves the surfacing of about 340 feet of dual carriageways fronting the Sha Tin Government Secondary School.

Stormwater drains and other ancillary drainage works will be carried out.

The works, expected to be completed in August, have been designed and construction will be supervised by the Highways (N.T.) Division of the Highways Office, Public Works Department.

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/3

Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 3 -

PARTY FOR THE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN KWUN TONG

A Lunar New Year party to entertain 200 senior residents of Kwun Tong will be held on Tuesday (February 5) at the Kwun Tong Community Centre.

This is a joint project organized by the Community Centre, the Kwun Tong Resettlement Estate Kaifong Welfare Association and the Kai Liu Village Resident's Fraternity Association.

Mr. Wong King-tong, Warden of the Community Centre, explained that this function was an annual event to foster the virtue of respecting the elderly in the community.

"It also provides a channel for volunteers to be involved in meaningful service and promotes co-operation among local organizations," he added.

The party, which will last from 6 to 9 p.m., will be for those aged 70 or above.

Programmes will comprise a Cantonese opera, a Chinese dinner, presentation of souvenir banners to the volunteers and distribution of gifts.

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/4

Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 4 -

G.P.O. SITE TO BE USED FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The present General Post Office site is to be used for commercial development.

Commenting on this today, a Government spokesman said the decision had been reached after careful consideration of all the varying claims for land in the Central District.

In particular, the need for open space and circulation areas had been considered in some detail.

The conclusion was that the Central District was already better served in this respect than most urban areas of Hong Kong. The waterfront was being redeveloped to provide an extensive public concourse; Statue Square was only a few minutes away from the G.P.O. site and the present Cricket Club grounds nearby were earmarked for a public park.

"While consideration will continue to be given to the needs for open space in the Central District, it is felt that office workers in the vicinity of the present G.P.O. building are already well catered for," he commented.

"There is a pressing need for further commercial and office development in this area," he added. "This is the inevitable outcome of increasing confidence in Hong Kong's growth as a financial centre.

"The planned redevelopment of several buildings in the Central District by the Hong Kong Land Investment Company Ltd. is now at an advanced stage, and the designs include extensive elevated walkways and pedestrian bridges.

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Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 5 -

"The designs also take into account the requirements of the Mass Transit Railway and, in particular, the station concourse to be incorporated within the present Alexander House site."

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SUNDAY D.I.B.

Note to Editors: There will be an issue of the Daily Information Bulletin tomorrow (Sunday). Copies will be available for collection at the G.I.S. Press Room, 6th floor, Beaconsfield House, at 2.30 p.m.

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/6

Saturday, February 2, 1974

- 6 -

RETIREMENT OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

A Government spokesman announced today that permission to retire from the public service for purely personal reasons has been granted by the Secretary of State to Mr. John Canning, Director of Education.

Educated at Glasgow University, Mr. Canning, who is 49, came to Hong Kong as an Education Officer in 1952 and first taught at King George V School. Later, he was posted to Queen's College, where he was appointed Principal in 1958.

In 1959, he became an Assistant Director of Education and, in 1967, a Deputy Director. He was appointed Director of Education in 1969 and became an official member of Legislative Council at the same time. He was appointed an Official Justice of the Peace in 1966.

Mr. Canning will be leaving Hong Kong in August. The Government spokesman said that Mr. Canning's successor as Director of Education will be announced later.

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