



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, MAY 29, 1978

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ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY LIKENS POLYTECHNIC
TO SELF-CONTAINED TOWNSHIP
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THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, MR. PHILIP HADDON-CAVE, THIS EVENING LIKENED THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC TO A TOWNSHIP.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT THE POLYTECHNIC, MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID OUT OF THE METAPHORICAL ASHES OF THE OLD HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE HAD ARISEN, IN EFFECT, A NEW TOWNSHIP AND, LIKE THE NEW STYLE HOUSING ESTATES, IT WAS DESIGNED TO BE AS SELF-CONTAINED AS POSSIBLE.

TO HAVE 32,000 PEOPLE BY 1980-81 ON A SITE SO PHYSICALLY RESTRICTED AND BOUNDED BY FOUR MAIN ROADS WAS NO MEAN ACHIEVEMENT, MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID.

HE SAID THERE WAS AN ANALOGY TO BE DRAWN BETWEEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE AS A CAMPUS AND THE WAY +THE PROBLEM OF PEOPLE+ GENERALLY HAD HAD TO BE TACKLED IN THE 1950S AND 1960S WITHIN THE CONFINED SPACE OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE.

+THERE IS AN ANALOGY, TOO, BETWEEN THE EMERGENCE OF THIS COMMUNITY CENTRE AND THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY IN THE 1970S,+ MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID.

HE SAID SIR SZE-YUEN CHUNG HAD ALREADY SPOKEN OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH THE FACILITIES OF THE POLYTECHNIC WOULD PLAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CORPORATE SPIRIT IN THE CAMPUS LIFE OF THE POLYTECHNIC, AND HE WAS CLEARLY RIGHT.

+AND I AGREE WITH HIM THAT THIS CENTRE SHOULD BE SEEN AS FACILITATING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STUDENTS AND STUDENTS AND BETWEEN STAFF AND STUDENTS. IN THIS DAY AND AGE, PARTICULARLY, THIS IS TO BE WELCOMED. I HOPE THE CENTRE WILL BE USED IMAGINATIVELY FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND WITH TOLERANCE. IT DESERVES TO BE= AND I AM SURE IT WILL BE.+

MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID THAT SINCE ITS INCEPTION THE POLYTECHNIC HAD BEEN SEEN BY ALL CONCERNED, OFFICIALS AND UNOFFICIALS ALIKE, AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S TOTAL EFFORT TO MEET ITS CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS TO +THE PROBLEM OF PEOPLE+.

+BY THE LATE 1960S, WE WERE ABLE TO AFFORD SOMETHING BIGGER AND BETTER THAN THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE, WHICH FORMERLY OCCUPIED THE SITE OF THIS CAMPUS,+ MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID.

+SO THE POLYTECHNIC PLANNING COMMITTEE DEVELOPED A BLUE-PRINT FOR AN INSTITUTION WHICH WOULD SUPPLY THE ECONOMY AND THE COMMUNITY WITH THE SKILLED MAN AND WOMAN POWER TO SUPPORT OUR INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.+

THE COMMITTEE BEGAN WORK IN MAY, 1969, AND SUBMITTED ITS FINAL REPORT TWO YEARS LATER. IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC HAD OPENED ITS DOORS TO STUDENTS.

/+A GREAT DEAL

+A GREAT DEAL HAS HAPPENED IN THE SIX YEARS SINCE 1972,+ MR. HADDON-CAVE CONTINUED. THE NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS HAD INCREASED FROM 3,500 TO 9,000. ANNUALLY, RECURRENT EXPENDITURE HAD INCREASED EIGHT TIMES FROM \$15.6 MILLION IN 1972-73 TO \$123 MILLION IN 1977-78.

CONCURRENTLY, AN AMBITIOUS BUILDING PROGRAMME HAD BEEN PUT IN TRAIN, IN THE FIRST STAGE OF WHICH A MULTI-PURPOSE TEACHING BLOCK AND A NEW LIBRARY WERE COMPLETED AND OCCUPIED IN 1976 AT A COST OF NEARLY \$100 MILLION.

WORK ON PHASE II, CONSISTING OF WORKSHOP ACCOMMODATION FOR THE TEXTILES DEPARTMENT, THE NAUTICAL STUDIES BUILDING ON DYERS AVENUE AND THE COMMUNITY CENTRE BEGAN TWO YEARS AGO AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$38 MILLION.

MR. HADDON-CAVE CONTINUED: +AS I JUST SAID, THERE ARE NOW ABOUT 9,000 FULL TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENTS ON THIS CAMPUS.

+THIS MEANS, OF COURSE, A MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF ACTUAL PEOPLE, PROBABLY AS MANY AS 25,000, ALMOST ALL OF WHOM WILL USE THIS FACILITY AT SOME TIME OR OTHER.

+IN ADDITION,+ HE SAID, +THERE ARE ABOUT 630 FULL-TIME ACADEMIC STAFF, ABOUT 300 DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT STAFF AND ABOUT 650 NON-ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, MAKING A TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT OF ABOUT 1,600, AND THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE PART TIME TEACHERS RUNNING EVENING COURSES.

+THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE MILLING ABOUT ON THIS CAMPUS, THEREFORE, IS GETTING ON FOR 27,000. BY 1980-81 IT WILL BE ABOUT 32,000,+ MR. HADDON-CAVE SAID.

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES
AND MP TO VISIT WELFARE INSTITUTIONS
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THE VISITING SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, THE RT. HON. DAVID ENNALS, M.P., AND MR. RODERICK MACFARQUHAR, M.P. WILL VISIT A NUMBER OF WELFARE INSTITUTIONS TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THEY WILL SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE WORK AND ACTIVITIES OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTRE AT SANDY BAY, THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE IN ABERDEEN AND THE WAH HONG HOSTEL FOR THE ELDERLY IN WAH FU ESTATE.

ACCOMPANYING THEM ON THE VISITS WILL BE MRS. ROSE GOODSTADT, HEAD OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION DIVISION.

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTRE, RUN BY THE HONG KONG RED CROSS WITH GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, IS A RESIDENTIAL-CUM-DAY CENTRE FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AGED FOUR TO 17 YEARS.

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WITH AN ENROLMENT OF 110 CHILDREN, THE CENTRE PROVIDES TWO YEARS OF PRE-SCHOOL TRAINING AND NINE YEARS OF PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY EDUCATION.

THIS IS COMPLEMENTED BY VARIOUS MEDICAL AND THERAPEUTIC CARE AIMED AT DEVELOPING THE CHILD'S PHYSICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL POTENTIAL AS WELL AS ACHIEVING MAXIMUM INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY.

THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE ARE BOTH GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE, WITH A CAPACITY OF 140, PROVIDES BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND DAY TRAINING FACILITIES TO MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN AGED FIVE TO 16 YEARS.

IT TRAINS THEM IN SELF-CARE SKILLS, SOCIALISATION, GENERAL KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING HABITS AND WORK TOLERANCE.

THE ABERDEEN REHABILITATION CENTRE PROVIDES FOR THE SOCIAL AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PERSONS.

THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY IS 255, OF WHOM THE ORTHOPAEDICALLY DISABLED AND THE MENTALLY RETARDED COMPRISE THE LARGEST GROUPS. OTHERS ARE THE BLIND, THE DEAF, DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS, EX-T.B. AND EX-LEPROSY PATIENTS AND ELDERLY INFIRM PERSONS.

THE WAH HONG HOSTEL AT WAH FU ESTATE, RUN BY THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE AS A GOVERNMENT SUBVENTED SERVICE, ACCOMMODATES 120 AMBULATORY AND INDEPENDENT PEOPLE AGED 60 YEARS AND OVER.

IT AIMS AT PROVIDING GROUP ACCOMMODATION FOR THE AGED WITH MINIMAL ATTENTION FROM STAFF WHO CAN BE SUMMONSED FOR HELP IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. THE ELDERLY RESIDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SHOPPING AND COOKING, AS WELL AS CLEANING OF THEIR OWN DORMITORIES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISITS TO VARIOUS WELFARE INSTITUTIONS BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND AN MP. GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT HAS BEEN ARRANGED TO TAKE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO THE KAI CHI CHILDREN'S CENTRE. IT LEAVES AT 2.30 P.M. TOMORROW (TUESDAY) FROM THE EASTERN ENTRANCE OF LEE GARDENS IN CAUSEWAY BAY. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MAKE THEIR OWN WAY TO THE CENTRE, AT WELFARE ROAD, WONG CHUK HANG, ARE REQUESTED TO BE AT THE CENTRE BEFORE 3.20 P.M.

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NEW AIRPORT HIRE CAR SERVICE STARTS FROM JUNE

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A NEW AIRPORT HIRE CAR SERVICE WILL START OPERATION AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FROM THURSDAY (JUNE 1).

IT WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING SERVICE OF THE AIRPORT PUBLIC HIRE CARS AS THEY ARE DUE TO BE DE-REGISTERED UNDER NEW LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

INITIALLY, THE OPERATOR WILL HAVE A FLEET OF 20 CARS IN THE NEW SERVICE, INCREASING THEM GRADUALLY TO 40.

ALL VEHICLES IN THE FLEET WILL BE AIR-CONDITIONED. THEY WILL BE WHITE IN COLOUR BEARING A LOGO FOR IDENTIFICATION.

THESE VEHICLES WILL BE STATIONED AT THE AIRPORT TO PROVIDE A 24-HOUR SERVICE TO PEOPLE WHO NEED THIS FORM OF TRANSPORT. SINCE THE VEHICLES ONLY PROVIDE A +ONE WAY+ SERVICE FROM THE AIRPORT, THEY WILL BE A LITTLE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN TAXIS.

CHARGES, WHICH MUST BE PRE-PAID BY TICKET, WILL BE ABOUT \$3.5 FOR THE FIRST MILE, \$2.5 FOR THE SECOND MILE AND \$2 FOR THE THIRD AND EACH MILE THEREAFTER.

FEES TO VARIOUS DESTINATIONS ARE SHOWN ON NOTICE BOARDS AT THE AIRPORT PICK-UP POINT AND AT THE HIRE CAR BOOKING COUNTER IN THE +BUFFER HALL+ OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL.

THE FOLLOWING ARE FEES FOR TYPICAL JOURNEYS :

KOWLOON : TSIM SHA TSUI - \$7, KWUN TONG AND LAI CHI KOK - \$9 AND LEI YUE MUN - \$14.

HONG KONG (TUNNEL FEES INCLUSIVE) : CENTRAL AND NORTH POINT - \$35, MID-LEVELS - \$40, THE PEAK AND ABERDEEN - \$50 AND SHEK O - \$60.

NEW TERRITORIES : SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN - \$20, SAI KUNG - \$35 AND FAN LING - \$60.

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SOCIAL SERVICES SECRETARY ADDRESSES
POPULATION AND INDUSTRY SEMINAR
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ANY FURTHER EXPANSION OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION WOULD ENGENDER A SERIOUS DECLINE IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE, MR. E.P. HO, SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES STATED TODAY.

MR. HO SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WOULD BE OVER-CROWDED LIVING CONDITIONS, INCREASED POLLUTION, LOWERING STANDARDS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND INEVITABLY LESS SOCIAL PROGRESS.

+A POPULATION POLICY IS THUS ESSENTIAL FOR HONG KONG AND IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WE HAVE MADE IMPRESSIVE STRIDES IN RESTRAINING OUR POPULATION, AS RECENT FIGURES ISSUED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ILLUSTRATE, BUT WE CANNOT AFFORD ANY COMPLACENCY,+ MR. HO SAID AT THE OPENING OF A SEMINAR ON POPULATION AND INDUSTRY AT THE MANDARIN HOTEL.

HE ADDED GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF THE NEED FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF FAMILY LIFE WAS REFLECTED IN ITS PROVISION OF FAMILY PLANNING CLINICS, ITS PROMOTION OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION AND ITS SUPPORT FOR THE VERY VALUABLE SERVICES RENDERED BY ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION.

+OF COURSE, THE GOVERNMENT ALSO CANNOT REALISE ITS SOCIAL PROGRAMMES WITHOUT STABILISING THE POPULATION, AND TO DO THIS IT REQUIRES THE SUPPORT OF BOTH INDUSTRY AND THE PUBLIC AT LARGE WORKING IN UNISON,+ MR. HO SAID.

+FORTUNATELY, THERE IS A GROWING AWARENESS THAT BOTH HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN IMPROVING WELFARE STANDARDS.+

GOVERNMENT WOULD, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO IMPROVE ITS RANGE OF SERVICES, INCLUDING GENERAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, WHILE INDUSTRY, FOR ITS PART, COULD IMPROVE THE PRODUCTIVITY AND MOTIVATION OF ITS WORK-FORCE BY INVESTMENT IN TRAINING AND WELFARE BENEFITS.

MR. HO SAID ONE OF THE SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF EMPLOYMENT IN HONG KONG IN RECENT YEARS HAD BEEN THE GROWTH OF OCCUPATIONAL BENEFITS PROVIDED BY EMPLOYERS, PARTLY THROUGH LEGISLATIVE COMPULSION AND PARTLY THROUGH VOLUNTARY PROVISIONS.

THESE INCLUDED SICKNESS ALLOWANCE, SEVERANCE PAYMENTS, PAID HOLIDAYS, COMPENSATION FOR INJURIES AND DEATH ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OTHER FINANCIAL BENEFITS INCLUDING RETIREMENT BENEFITS, AND HELP WITH MEDICAL AND OTHER EXPENSES.

OCCUPATIONAL BENEFITS WERE A VALUABLE SUPPLEMENT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES ADMINISTERED DIRECTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT. THESE WERE THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME, THE DISABILITY AND OLD AGE ALLOWANCES, THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION SCHEME AND THE EMERGENCY RELIEF SCHEME.

/+THESE SCHEMES

+THESE SCHEMES PROVIDE A SAFETY NET FOR THE VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO, BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THEIR CONTROL, ARE UNABLE TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES,+ MR. HO SAID. +THIS APPROACH TO SOCIAL SECURITY IS CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO BE RIGHT FOR HONG KONG AND IN THIS IT HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC.+

HOWEVER, THERE WAS SCOPE FOR THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL BENEFITS IN HONG KONG, AND MR. HO HOPED THAT EMPLOYERS WOULD RISE TO THE CHALLENGE AS SOCIAL ASPIRATIONS CHANGED.

EMPLOYEES MIGHT ALSO BE ENCOURAGED TO PLAY A MORE POSITIVE ROLE IN PROVIDING FOR THEIR OWN WELFARE AND IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD RECENTLY PROPOSED THAT A CONTRIBUTORY SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEME ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS MIGHT NOW BE EXPLORED.

+PUBLIC RESPONSE INDICATES A WIDE MEASURE OF SUPPORT FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS OF THE SORT PROPOSED IN THE GREEN PAPER, BUT THERE IS SOME DIVERGENCE OF VIEW ON THE BEST MEANS OF PROVIDING SUCH COVERAGE,+ MR. HO SAID. THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW EXAMINING THE VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER.

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VILLAGES IN DANGER OF BECOMING RURAL SLUMS,
SAYS DISTRICT OFFICER
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MANY OF THE TRADITIONAL PICTURESQUE VILLAGES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING INSALUBRIOUS RURAL SLUMS, THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR. MICHAEL CARTLAND, WARNED TODAY.

THERE WERE MANY FACTORS WHICH HAVE LED TO THIS SITUATION, HE SAID, NOT LEAST AMONG THEM WAS THE NATURAL DESIRE OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE -- THE LANDOWNERS -- TO MAKE THE BEST ECONOMIC USE OF THEIR LAND.

+AS AFFLUENCE GROWS IN THE URBAN AREAS, PEOPLE LOOK TO THE RURAL AREAS FOR COUNTRY HOUSES AND DEVELOPERS ARE PREPARED TO OFFER A BETTER RETURN THAN COULD BE OBTAINED FROM AGRICULTURE,+ HE SAID AT THE MEETING OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ROTARY CLUB.

+FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ARE BEING CLEARED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TOWNS AND THE OPERATORS ARE PREPARED TO PAY WELL TO RE-ESTABLISH ON AGRICULTURAL LAND.

+THESE FORCES ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO RESIST. TEMPORARY STRUCTURES ARE GOING UP AS FAST, IF NOT FASTER, THAN THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED.

+ONE HAS ONLY TO TAKE AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE SO-CALLED RURAL AREAS IN YUEN LONG DISTRICT TO SEE THAT MANY OF THEM ARE ALREADY ALMOST ENTIRELY COVERED OVER.+

MR. CARTLAND POINTED OUT THAT WHILE AGRICULTURE WOULD HAVE A PLACE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOR SOME YEARS TO COME, MUCH AGRICULTURAL LAND WAS NOW LYING FALLOW AND MUCH MORE WAS BEING PUT TO OTHER USES.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THERE WERE MORE THAN 1,000 INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONCERNS, MAINLY WORKSHOPS AND SMALL FACTORIES ON AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT ALONE.

MR. CARTLAND ADDED THAT THE 1976/77 SQUATTER CONTROL SURVEY REVEALED THAT THERE WERE 165,000 TEMPORARY STRUCTURES IN THE DISTRICT -- OF WHICH 25,000 WERE FOUND TO BE FOR DOMESTIC RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

ADDITIONALLY, ABOUT 1,500 HOUSES OF 700 SQUARE FEET HAD BEEN BUILT UNDER THE SMALL HOUSE POLICY SINCE 1972.

+ALL OF THIS REPRESENTS A MAJOR PLANNING HEADACHE,+ MR. CARTLAND SAID. +IT CREATES PRESSURES FOR ROADS, WATER SUPPLIES AND OTHER SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED EVERYWHERE AT ONCE ON A HAPHAZARD BASIS.

+THE RIVERS AND STREAMS ARE HEAVILY POLLUTED WITH PIG AND CHICKEN MANURE, NOT TO MENTION THE EFFLUENT OF TANNERIES AND OTHER OFFENSIVE TRADES.

+MANY OF THE TRADITIONAL PICTURESQUE VILLAGES ARE IN DANGER OF BECOMING INSALUBRIOUS RURAL SLUMS.+

MR. CARTLAND URGED A MORE CO-ORDINATED APPROACH TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT, SIMILAR TO THAT TAKEN IN THE NEW TOWNS.

HE SAID THAT MANY MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WERE TAKING PLACE IN YUEN LONG WHICH WILL DOUBLE THE TOWN'S POPULATION TO ABOUT 100,000 OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THESE DEVELOPMENTS WERE ADEQUATELY COMPENSATED.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPENSATION RULES ARE REGULARLY REVIEWED BOTH AS TO WHAT ITEMS QUALIFY FOR COMPENSATION AS WELL AS TO WHAT RATES SHOULD APPLY.

HE CITED THE CASE OF FISH PONDS, WHERE THE RATES HAD RECENTLY BEEN RE-EXAMINED AND SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IN A RECENT CASE IN YUEN LONG, THE OPERATOR OF ONE POND -- NOT THE OWNER WHO HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED LAND EXCHANGE ENTITLEMENT -- QUALIFIED FOR NEARLY A QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS AND WAS STILL ABLE TO HARVEST HIS FISH.

+CONSIDERING THAT THE POND WAS EMPTY LESS THAN A YEAR AGO THAT IS NOT A BAD RETURN FOR ONE YEAR'S WORK AND CERTAINLY SUFFICIENT TO RE-ESTABLISH HIMSELF ELSEWHERE,+ MR. CARTLAND NOTED.

+OF COURSE THERE WILL ALWAYS BE CASES WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL FEELS, PERHAPS RIGHTLY, THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN OFFERED ADEQUATE COMPENSATION, JUST AS THERE WILL ALWAYS BE CASES WHERE SOMEONE, TO WHOM A FAIR OFFER HAS BEEN MADE, DELIBERATELY HOLDS OUT IN THE HOPE OF SQUEEZING MORE.

+THE LATTER CASE SHOULD ATTRACT LITTLE SYMPATHY BUT IN PRACTICE IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH FROM THE FORMER WHEN A CLEARANCE IS RESISTED AND IN EITHER EVENT THE PROPER RECOURSE IS TO THE NEUTRAL THIRD PARTY, THE LANDS TRIBUNAL, FOR AN INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.+

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BOOKLET ON SERVICES BY RENT OFFICERS
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A NEW EXPLANATORY BOOKLET ON THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY RENT OFFICERS OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE.

THE BOOKLET, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, EXPLAINS THE DUTIES OF RENT OFFICERS AND HOW THEIR SERVICES MAY BE OBTAINED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT SAID THAT RENT OFFICERS ARE EMPLOYED IN THE RENT CONTROL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ARE READY TO ADVISE AND ASSIST THE PUBLIC IN LANDLORD AND TENANT MATTERS AS WELL AS ON OTHER RELATED ISSUES.

FREE COPIES OF THE BOOKLET ARE OBTAINABLE FROM CITY DISTRICT OFFICES, NEW TERRITORIES DISTRICT OFFICES/TOWN MANAGEMENT OFFICES AND OFFICES OF THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT.

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WATER MAINS LAYING WORK IN TUEN MUN
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT OF THE P.W.D. WILL LAY THOUSANDS OF METRES OF FRESH AND FLUSHING WATER MAINS IN TUEN MUN NEW TOWN IN THE NEXT TEN MONTHS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA

THE WORK, WHICH WILL BEGIN IN JULY, IS THE FIRST PHASE OF A SCHEME TO SUPPLY FRESH AND FLUSHING WATER TO THE NEW TOWN.

MR. LEUNG TAT-MING, CHIEF ENGINEER (CONSTRUCTION), SAID THAT WORK IN THIS PHASE WOULD INVOLVE THE LAYING OF SOME 3,400 METRES OF STEEL AND ASBESTOS CEMENT MAINS.

THEY WOULD INCLUDE INLET AND OUTLET MAINS TO BE LAID ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD FOR THE TUEN MUN EAST FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND OTHER PRINCIPAL DISTRIBUTION MAINS ALONG NEW ROADS BEING BUILT.

MR. LEUNG SAID THAT THE MAIN-LAYING HAD BEEN SO PROGRAMMED THAT IT WOULD ENABLE THE WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT MAINLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS IN THE AREAS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ENGINEERING DIRECTOR TO VISIT SITES
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MR. DAVID STEAD, P.W.D.'S DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT WILL INSPECT A NUMBER OF SITES ON HONG KONG ISLAND TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO SEE THE PROGRESS OF VARIOUS P.W.D. PROJECTS.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY CHIEF ENGINEERS OF VARIOUS OFFICES CONCERNED.

AMONG THE SITES TO BE VISITED WILL BE THE CHAI WAN COMPOSTING PLANT.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VISIT. MR. STEAD WILL ARRIVE AT THE COMPOSTING PLANT ON RECLAIMED LAND AT SUN YIP STREET OFF CHAI WAN ROAD AT 11 A.M. OFFICERS OF THE P.W.D.'S PUBLICITY UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESENTATION OF GOODWILL BANNERS
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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR. TED NICHOLS, WILL PRESENT ON WEDNESDAY (MAY 31) A GOODWILL BANNER TO A GROUP OF NEW TERRITORIES FARMERS WHO ARE GOING ON A STUDY TOUR OF THE UNITED KINGDOM NEXT MONTH.

THE PRESENTATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S CONFERENCE ROOM (ROOM 1404), CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 393 CANTON ROAD, AT NOON.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OCCASION.

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