

**HONG KONG
GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICES**

**DAILY
INFORMATION
BULLETIN**

Wednesday, May 17, 1972

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

To Be Financed Direct From Government Revenue

The Community Relief Trust Fund is to be renamed the Emergency Relief Fund and will in future be financed direct from Government revenue.

On Friday, May 19, the terms of office of all members of the Fund Raising Committee of the Community Relief Trust Fund will expire, and it is not proposed to renew any of these appointments as the Fund Raising Committee will cease to exist.

These developments were announced today (Wednesday) by the Hon. G.T. Rowe, Director of Social Welfare, and ex-officio Trustee of the Community Relief Trust Fund and chairman of the Fund Raising Committee. Members of the Committee have been informed of these changes.

Mr. Rowe explained that the Fund had, in the past, been financed to a considerable extent from public donations, but a number of recent developments had led him to consider it necessary to have a more certain and readily available source of income.

Among the developments, he listed the introduction of the expanded public assistance scheme, with the Government's acceptance of one form of public assistance in case of need.

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He also referred to increasing standards and costs of living which necessitated an upward revision of relief payments, which in turn resulted in expanding the commitment of the Fund.

In his view, the extensive and expensive devastation caused by last year's Typhoon Rose made it essential for funds in very large amounts to be immediately available.

"After very careful consideration," Mr. Rowe said, "the Government has now accepted my recommendation that the Community Relief Trust Fund shall in future be financed as and when required direct from Government revenue."

In consequence, while public donations would continue at all times to be welcomed, it would in future be neither necessary nor appropriate to make public appeals for funds.

The official efforts of a Fund Raising Committee in the changed financial situation would no longer need to be provided.

Mr. Rowe recalled that in the past it had been a great relief to him to know that a Fund Raising Committee of high calibre had always been ready to move into action when required, and he thanked members for their willingness to serve the public on that committee.

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11TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Assistant Director Of SWD To Officiate At Tsan Yuk Social Centre

Miss Annie Chan, Assistant Director (Social Work), Social Welfare Department, will preside at a ceremony in the Tsan Yuk Social Centre on Friday, May 19, to mark the Centre's 11th anniversary.

She will be welcomed by Mrs. Henrietta Chen, Warden, and will distribute certificates of appreciation to volunteers assisting in the Centre's programmes of the last few months.

Also taking part in the ceremony will be Mrs. Soo Hung-nin, wife of the Medical Superintendent of Tsan Yuk Hospital. She will distribute prizes to the winners of a recent Baby-Care Contest. Mrs. Peter Choy, Executive Director of the Family Welfare Society, will then present souvenirs to the judges of the same contest.

The ceremony will conclude with a representative of the Centre's membership proposing a vote of thanks.

In connection with the anniversary, there will be a display of photographs and handicrafts by members.

The Tsan Yuk Social Centre is one of the community and social centres maintained by the Group and Community Work Division of the Social Welfare Department in Western Street, Sai Ying Pun.

It aims at helping groups and communities in the district to form themselves into cohesive units so as to stimulate a sense of civic and community responsibility. It encourages the active participation of district residents in the organisation and execution of projects designed to improve general life in the area.

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At present, there are 12 club groups attached to the Centre and 12 interest groups.

The Centre maintains a library stocked with more than 20,000 books aimed at youthful readership. There are rooms available for students to study and do their homework. The Centre also houses a blind welfare centre where instructions are provided in braille covering Chinese, English, arithmetic and general handicraft. Blind members also receive instructions in mobility, personal care, individual skills and take part in recreational activities.

Mentally-retarded children are looked after in a special training centre set up for them. This provides social training, academic work, pre-vocational training, and physical training.

The Centre is also concerned with family welfare, and to this end it has encouraged the setting up of a voluntary agency within its aegis entitled the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society, aimed at relieving distress among families in the district by providing case-work services, group counselling, and domestic help.

Note to editors: You are invited to have the anniversary celebration covered. It begins at 3 p.m. in the Centre on Friday, May 19.

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REGISTRATION TEAM TO VISIT SOUTH LAMMA ISLAND
Residents Urged To Make Use Of Facilities Provided

The Commissioner of Registration announced today that a team from the Registration of Persons Department will conduct registration at the South Lamma Rural Committee office on Tuesday, May 23, 1972.

Business hours will be from 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

The visits will enable (i) parents or guardians to register their children from six to seventeen years of age for juvenile Identity Cards (ii) young persons 17 years of age and over and holding juvenile Identity Cards, to register for adult Identity Cards.

All persons living in the area are reminded of their responsibility (i) to register themselves and their children for Identity Cards and (ii) to report to the Registration of Persons Department any changes of employments or residential addresses, nationality or marital status or any other particulars which have changed since registering for their Identity Cards.

Children between six and seventeen years of age who have Hong Kong Birth Certificates or valid travel documents need not attend for registration, but children who do not have Birth Certificates or valid travel documents, must accompany their parents or guardians when registering.

Parents or guardians must produce both their (i.e. husband and wife) Identity Cards for inspection when registering juveniles.

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On registering for adult cards, young persons 17 years of age and over must surrender their juvenile Identity Cards and produce (i) the Identity Cards of both their parents or guardians under whom they are registered, and (ii) a Hong Kong Birth Certificate or evidence of their residence in Hong Kong during the past two years.

Persons who do not possess any of the above mentioned documents must register at the Registration of Persons Branch Office in the Causeway Bay Magistracy, Electric Road, Hong Kong or at Canton Road Government Offices, Yaumati, Kowloon.

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LOCAL PIANIST TO PLAY AT CITY HALL

Miss Nancy Loo, a local pianist will give a recital, under the auspices of the Urban Council, at 8 p.m. tomorrow (Thursday, May 18) at the City Hall Concert Hall.

After this concert, she will leave Hong Kong for further studies in Paris.

Miss Loo studied with Mrs. Betty Drown in Hong Kong until 1965 when she left for the United States. She entered the Juilliard School as a scholarship student.

Before going to the United States, she was a frequent winner in the Hong Kong Schools Music Festivals.

While in the United States, she won the Piano Section of the Aspen Music Festival in 1965.

Then in 1966, she won the concerto competition in Juilliard in which she played Saint-Saens Second Concerto in G Minor with the Juilliard Orchestra. Moreover, she was a finalist in the Concert Artists Guild Auditions. She received her master degree in 1971.

Tomorrow night, Miss Loo will play four sonatas by Haydn, Beethoven, Prokofieff and Chopin.

Tickets at \$1 only are available at the City Hall Box Office daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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PREVENTION AGAINST FOOD POISONING

Good Eating Habits Suggested

Food poisoning, very common in the summer months, can be prevented by hygienic food handling and good eating habits, an Urban Services Department spokesman said today.

The spokesman was speaking in connection with the Prevention of Enteric Diseases Campaign, which is now in full swing.

He suggested the following points essential for prevention:

- a) Wash hands before preparing food and cover wounds with water-proof dressings. Do Not cough or sneeze near food.
- b) Wash and cook food thoroughly and serve while it is still hot. Cold dishes should be consumed immediately after preparation.
- c) Refrigeration retards growth of germs. Food pending service and left-overs should be refrigerated promptly.
- d) If a wire gauze cupboard is used for storage of cooked food or left-overs, the cupboard should be put in a well ventilated place away from heat to avoid unnecessary exposure of food to warm temperature. Never store left-overs in cooking pot placed in the kitchen.
- e) Re-cook all left-overs before eating.
- f) Tinned food, after opening, should be removed from the tin and consumed immediately. Never store left-over tinned food in its own tin and make sure to re-cook it before consumption.

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The spokesman said many agents like poisonous fish, metals and chemicals could cause food poisoning, but germs were the most common cause.

Food poisoning germs are found in the septic wounds of the human body and in the nose and throat of a person suffering from septic sore throat.

These germs are introduced into food through unhygienic handling methods.

Some food poisoning germs are present in the intestines of food animals and poultry, and meat may become infected during the process of slaughtering and dressing of the carcasses.

Food Poisoning Germs

Once introduced in food, the food poisoning germs grow very rapidly, particularly in warm temperature.

During their growth some germs may also secrete a toxin. Both the germs and their toxins can cause poisoning if swallowed with the infected food.

Food poisoning germs do not putrefy food and it is impossible to tell whether food is contaminated by food poisoning germs or not.

Moist and lukewarm cooked food stored in room temperature for a few hours is the usual responsible agent for most of the outbreaks of food poisoning in Hong Kong.

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Sudden abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea are the main symptoms.

Fever may sometimes develop. They may be of any severity from a slight gastric upset to a severe toxic prostrating illness.

This illness usually involves a large group of persons simultaneously though it is rarely a fatal disease.

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS

For Week Ended April 22

Statistics released by the Medical and Health Department for the week ended April 22 are as follows: -

Notifications of infectious cases (previous week's figures in brackets) - total 250 (200); amoebiasis - one (one); bacillary dysentery - five (eleven); chickenpox - 31 (32); enteric fever (typhoid) - nine (12); leprosy - two (nil); measles - 30 (27); ophthalmia neonatorum - two (nil); and tuberculosis - 170 (116).

Births - total registered 1,237; 280 on Hong Kong Island, 785 in Kowloon and 172 in the New Territories.

Deaths - 424 from all causes; 118 on Hong Kong Island, 296 in Kowloon and ten in the New Territories.

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