



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1976.

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GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE BUILDING MORE SCHOOLS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO BUILD MORE SCHOOLS WHEN THE CURRENT BUILDING PROGRAMME OF A TOTAL OF 83 SECONDARY SCHOOLS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED BY 1981, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (DEVELOPMENT), MR. DEREK HOGAN, SAID THIS AFTERNOON.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING AT THE SPEECH DAY OF HO LAP COLLEGE IN SAN PO KONG, MR. HOGAN SAID THERE WOULD BE A SUBSIDISED PLACE IN A THREE-YEAR SECONDARY SCHOOL COURSE FOR EVERY PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAVER BY SEPTEMBER 1978.

+HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE SUBSIDISED PLACES IN FORMS 4 AND 5 FOR ONLY 29 PER CENT OF THE 15-16 AGE GROUP. OUR NEXT TARGET, THEREFORE, WILL BE TO BRING THIS FIGURE UP TO THE WHITE PAPER TARGET OF 40 PER CENT,+ HE SAID.

+THIS WILL BE DONE BY ADDING STILL MORE SCHOOLS TO THE BUILDING PROGRAMME.+

HO LAP COLLEGE WAS ONE OF MANY SCHOOLS WHICH HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF SPONSORING BODIES AND THE GOVERNMENT IN THEIR EFFORTS TO MEET HONG KONG'S EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

+HONG KONG HAS INDEED SOME VERY GREAT PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION. AS YOU KNOW, THE POPULATION OF HONG KONG HAS GROWN VERY RAPIDLY SINCE THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR,+ MR. HOGAN POINTED OUT.

+THIS HAS CREATED A VERY GREAT DEMAND FOR EDUCATION OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS, PARTICULARLY AS IT IS A VERY YOUNG POPULATION, AS YOU CAN SEE IF YOU LOOK AROUND YOU IN THE STREETS,+ HE ADDED.

THE GOVERNMENT'S FIRST PRIORITY IN DEALING WITH THIS PROBLEM, HE CONTINUED, WAS TO AIM AT PROVIDING PRIMARY EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN.

+THIS AIM,+ MR. HOGAN SAID, +HAS NOW BEEN ACHIEVED AND SINCE 1971 WE HAVE HAD FREE, AIDED PRIMARY EDUCATION IN HONG KONG. AFTER THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS AIM THE GOVERNMENT WAS ABLE TO DEVOTE MORE RESOURCES TO SECONDARY EDUCATION.+

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT HO LAP COLLEGE, A RELATIVELY YOUNG SCHOOL, REGARDED EDUCATION AS SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST THE PURSUIT OF EXAMINATION RESULTS.

IT WAS MOST ENCOURAGING TO LEARN THAT THE PUPILS OF THE SCHOOL HAD TAKEN AN INTEREST IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES TO WHICH THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES ATTACHED IMPORTANCE.

+I REGARD SUCH ACTIVITIES AS BEING VERY IMPORTANT IN THE LIFE OF A SCHOOL SINCE THEY HELP TO DEVELOP PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER AND HELP THE PUPILS TO UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AROUND THEM,+ MR. HOGAN ADDED.

DURING THE CEREMONY, MRS. HOGAN DISTRIBUTED CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES.

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PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI

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TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO AN ATTRACTIVE CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE WITH LARGE GARDENS AND PUBLIC PROMENADES, IF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE AREA ARE ACCEPTED.

ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, MR. DAVID MCDONALD, PLANNING WAS EITHER IN HAND OR UNDERWAY ON A SERIES OF NEW FACILITIES FOR THE AREA, INCLUDING A CULTURAL COMPLEX, SCHOOLS, CLINICS, CARPARKS, MARKETS, A SWIMMING POOL, A MULTI-PURPOSE GOVERNMENT CENTRE, AS WELL AS IMPROVED ROAD COMMUNICATIONS.

MR. MCDONALD SAID THE SITE AT KOWLOON POINT WAS ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT AND IMPORTANT IN HONG KONG AND CALLED FOR A PARTICULARLY HIGH STANDARD OF DESIGN.

+THE SCHEME PRODUCED BY THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE HOLDS PROMISE OF MEETING SUCH A STANDARD,+ HE TOLD A DINNER OF THE EXCHANGE BANKS ASSOCIATION LAST NIGHT.

MR. MCDONALD SAID ONE FEATURE BEING CONSIDERED WAS A LARGE PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT ON THE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY THE BUS TERMINUS BETWEEN THE STAR FERRY AND STAR HOUSE.

+THE IDEA IS TO RELOCATE THE BUS AND COACH TERMINI INTO A TWO-TIERED TERMINUS ON THE SITE NOW OCCUPIED BY THE TSIM SHA TSUI POLICE STATION WITH A MULTI-STOREY COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OVER IT, AND TURN THE EXISTING BUS TERMINUS SITE INTO A GARDEN-TYPE PEDESTRIAN PRECINCT,+ HE SAID.

SUCH A SCHEME, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD BLEND IN VERY WELL WITH THE PROPOSED CULTURAL COMPLEX ON THE FORMER K.C.R. SITE, HE SAID.

MR. MCDONALD SAID THE CULTURAL COMPLEX WOULD CONSIST OF THREE MAIN ELEMENTS -- AN AUDITORIA BUILDING, A MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY, AND THE PLANETARIUM.

PILING WORK FOR THE PLANETARIUM, WHICH WILL BE SITUATED IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF THE PENINSULA HOTEL, WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY AND THE BUILDING SHOULD BE IN FULL PUBLIC USE EARLY IN 1979, HE SAID.

MR. MCDONALD SAID THE P.W.D.'S ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE HAD PRODUCED A HIGHLY IMAGINATIVE DESIGN FOR THE PLANETARIUM AND THE BUILDING WAS MOST INTERESTING BOTH IN ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPT AND IN CONTENT.

THE PLANETARIUM, WHICH IS FINANCED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL, WOULD RANK AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST IN TERMS OF EQUIPMENT, HE ADDED.

BUT THE DOMINATING FEATURE OF THE CULTURAL COMPLEX, HE SAID, WOULD BE THE AUDITORIA BUILDING HOUSING THE CONCERT HALL AND THEATRE.

/+THIS

+THIS LARGE STRUCTURE WILL RUN ON A CURVED ALIGNMENT FORMING AN IMPOSING FACADE FACING THE SOUTH-WEST OVER THE HARBOUR.

+THE ROOF LINE WILL RISE IN CURVES SWEEPING OUTWARDS AND UPWARDS FROM A CENTRAL POINT IN ITS FACADE TO THE WEST FACING STAR FERRY CONCOURSE AND TO THE SOUTH FACING THE HARBOUR, AND WILL INTRODUCE A SPECTACULAR LANDMARK IN THE AREA,+ HE SAID.

CONSTRUCTION OF THIS AUDITORIA BLOCK, HE SAID, WOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN TWO STAGES AND SHOULD BE FULLY COMPLETED IN EARLY 1982.

APART FROM THE CONCERT HALL AND THEATRE, IT WOULD ALSO CONTAIN LECTURE HALLS, CONFERENCE ROOMS, A CHINESE RESTAURANT, A SMALLER EUROPEAN RESTAURANT, AS WELL AS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND REHEARSAL AREAS.

THE COMBINED MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY BUILDING PLANNED TO THE SOUTH-EAST OF THE SITE WOULD PROVIDE PERMANENT DISPLAY AND EXHIBITION AREAS, AUDITORIA WITH CLASSROOMS, A RESEARCH ROOM AND LIBRARY, CONSERVATION LABORATORIES AND OFFICES, WORKSHOPS AND STORES.

MR. MCDONALD SAID THAT SINCE THE REVISED TSIM SHA TSUI OUTLINE ZONING PLAN WAS GAZETTED IN JULY THIS YEAR, NINETEEN VALID OBJECTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND THESE WERE NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

THE PLAN WAS DESIGNED TO ILLUSTRATE THE BROAD PRINCIPLES OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE TSIM SHA TSUI AREA WHICH WAS TO BE PROVIDED WITH A SYSTEM OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRECINCTS INTEGRATED BY A NETWORK OF TRANSPORT FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE, HE SAID.

DEVELOPMENT PLANS, ENVISAGED THREE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, A MULTI-PURPOSE GOVERNMENT CENTRE AND A MULTI-STOREY CARPARK ON THE RECLAMATION EAST OF CHATHAM ROAD, AS WELL AS A NEW POLICE STATION, A SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX AND A KAIFONG HALL AND SCHOOL IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE OLD WHITFIELD BARRACKS.

IN ADDITION, IT WAS PROPOSED TO REDEVELOP THE EXISTING MARKET SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF CANTON ROAD AND PEKING ROAD FOR A MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING INCORPORATING SUCH FACILITIES AS CLINICS, OFFICES, PARKING, A YOUTH CENTRE, LIBRARY AND READING ROOMS.

ONE OF THE MAIN AIMS OF TOWN PLANNING IN HONG KONG, HE SAID, WAS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE COMMUNITY -- NOT AN EASY TASK CONSIDERING THE LIMITED LAND AREA AND THE VERY REAL PROBLEM OF PEOPLE.

ALTHOUGH THE TOTAL LAND SIZE OF HONG KONG WAS ABOUT 1,036 SQUARE KILOMETRES, ONLY 30 PER CENT COULD BE UTILISED FOR INTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID.

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+THE BUILT-UP AREA IS MERELY 11-1/2 PER CENT OF THE WHOLE. THEREFORE, THE AREA IS SMALL, THE POPULATION LARGE, AND THE PROBLEM TREMENDOUS.+

HE NOTED THAT THE POPULATION IN 1974 WAS 4.3 MILLION AND WAS EXPECTED TO RISE TO 4.8 MILLION BY 1981 AND TO 5.8 MILLION BY 1991. +THIS IS AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE A YEAR AND THE RESULTING DEMANDS ON LAND ARE ENORMOUS,+ SAID MR. MCDONALD.

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CERTIFICATE FOR FIRST REGISTERED CHILD CARE CENTRE
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THE BISHOP FORD NURSERY, THE FIRST CHILD CARE CENTRE REGISTERED IN HONG KONG, WAS PRESENTED WITH A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON.

IN PRESENTING THE CERTIFICATE TO REV. FATHER THOMAS LAU, OPERATOR OF THE NURSERY, MR. LEE URGED OTHER CHILD CARE CENTRES TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION WITHOUT DELAY.

HE NOTED THAT SINCE THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 1 THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 192 CHILD CARE CENTRES HAD OBTAINED APPLICATION FORMS FOR REGISTRATION.

+OF THESE, 126 HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE FORMS AND FORWARDED THEM TO THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AND THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OR THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO SEE WHETHER OR NOT STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS OF THEIR PREMISES ARE NECESSARY FOR SAFETY, HEALTH AND SANITATION REASONS,+ HE SAID.

BEFORE A CENTRE IS REGISTERED, ITS PREMISES HAS TO BE CERTIFIED SUITABLE FOR USE AS A CHILD CARE CENTRE AND THAT IT HAS TO COMPLY WITH ALL THE OTHER NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS LAID DOWN IN THE CODE OF PRACTICE.

+THE CHILD CARE CENTRES ORDINANCE WAS INTRODUCED TO CONTROL THEM WITH THE INTENTION OF IMPROVING THEIR SAFETY AND STANDARD OF THEIR SERVICES, AND TO MAKE QUALITY CHILD CARE A REALITY IN HONG KONG,+ MR. LEE ADDED.

THE BISHOP FORD NURSERY, LOCATED AT LOK FU ESTATE, WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1965 BY THE MARYKNOLL FATHERS. IT CATERS FOR 180 CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX OF WORKING PARENTS FROM THE LOW INCOME GROUP LIVING IN HOUSING ESTATES. THE NURSERY RECEIVES GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION AND ITS CHARGE IS \$40 PER CHILD PER MONTH.

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TOPLEY OPENS \$7 MILLION COLLEGE IN TSUEN WAN

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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY THIS AFTERNOON OPENED THE \$7 MILLION TUNG WAH CHEN ZAO-MEN COLLEGE, AN AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TSUEN WAN.

THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS CONTRIBUTED JUST OVER \$1-1/4 MILLION OF WHICH OVER \$400,000 WAS DONATED BY MR. CHEN ZAO-MEN.

THE COLLEGE OCCUPIES A SITE OF OVER 68,000 SQUARE FEET WHICH WAS GRANTED FREE OF PREMIUM BY THE GOVERNMENT.

MR. TOPLEY SAID: +TSUEN WAN NEW TOWN IS A RAPIDLY DEVELOPING COMMUNITY. IN THE FIVE YEARS SINCE 1971 THE POPULATION HAS GROWN FROM 266,000 TO TODAY'S FIGURE OF 449,000 AND BY 1986 IT IS EXPECTED TO APPROACH 900,000.

+THE COLLEGE WILL HELP TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THIS COMMUNITY BUT MANY MORE SCHOOLS WILL BE NEEDED IN TSUEN WAN AND THE OTHER NEW TOWNS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE EDUCATION FOR THE PEOPLE LIVING THERE.+

MAKING A FEW REMARKS ON THE FUNCTION OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE DIRECTOR SAID: +AS I SEE IT, THE SECONDARY SCHOOL HAS FOR ITS GENERAL AIM THE HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF PUPILS IN KEEPING WITH THEIR AGE, ABILITY AND APTITUDE.+

HE SAID IT WAS THE TEACHER'S DUTY TO SEARCH OUT THE TALENTS, NEEDS, AMBITIONS AND PROBLEMS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL PUPIL AND TO HELP HIM TO MAKE THE MOST OF HIMSELF.

+ON THE OTHER HAND,+ HE SAID, +IT MUST BE RECOGNISED THAT THE MODERN SCHOOL CANNOT LIVE APART FROM ITS COMMUNITY. THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL WILL, IN MANY OF ITS ASPECTS, HAVE FULL MEANING FOR THE CHILD ONLY WHEN IT IS RELATED TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF THAT COMMUNITY.

+IT IS EXPECTED THAT, IN SEEKING TO ACHIEVE THE AIMS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION, TEACHERS WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF THE COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN TERMS OF PHYSICAL FACILITIES, AND THE GOODWILL AND CO-OPERATION OF THE PARENTS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.+

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EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR ON +YOUTH AND SOCIETY+
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ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR EXPANDING TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG IS TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PLACES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN JULY, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. LI FOOK-KOW, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE YUEN LONG MIDDLE SCHOOL'S EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR ON +YOUTH AND SOCIETY+, HE EXPLAINED THAT EMPLOYERS IN ANY TRADE THAT WAS DESIGNATED UNDER THE ORDINANCE MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO ALLOW THEIR APPRENTICES TO ATTEND A PART-TIME COURSE AT THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN THE TRADE FOR WHICH THEY WERE APPRENTICED.

HE SAID THAT FROM SEPTEMBER 20 THIS YEAR, 23 TRADES HAD BEEN DESIGNATED UNDER THE APPRENTICESHIP ORDINANCE ON THE ADVICE OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL.

MR. LI ALSO SPOKE ABOUT THE IMPROVED PROSPECTS FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION AND TO FIND WORTHWHILE JOBS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT NEXT YEAR THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PUBLISH A GREEN PAPER THAT WOULD +TAKE A FRESH LOOK ON WHAT WE SHOULD BE PROVIDING AT ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION BEYOND THE BASIC THREE YEARS JUNIOR SECONDARY COURSE+.

ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION, HE ADDED THAT WHEN THE FIFTH TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN KOWLOON TONG WAS OPENED IN 1979, THERE WOULD BE ABOUT 6,650 FULL-TIME AND EQUIVALENT PART-TIME DAY PLACES IN ALL THE FIVE INSTITUTES. THEY WOULD ALSO PROVIDE PLACES FOR 20,000 EVENING STUDENTS, HE INDICATED.

ON HIGHER EDUCATION, MR. LI SAID THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PLACES AT THE TWO UNIVERSITIES FROM THE PRESENT 8,500 TO MORE THAN 10,300 BY OCTOBER 1980.

+THE POLYTECHNIC WILL ALSO INCREASE ITS FULL-TIME AND EQUIVALENT PART-TIME PLACES FROM 7,300 AT PRESENT TO 11,400 BY OCTOBER 1980,+ HE SAID. +IN THAT YEAR THERE WILL BE MORE THAN 30,000 STUDENTS ATTENDING THE POLYTECHNIC ON A FULL OR PART-TIME COURSE.+

HE CONTINUED: +WHAT THESE FIGURES MEAN IS THAT THERE ARE ALREADY FAR BETTER OPPORTUNITIES THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL, AND THESE OPPORTUNITIES WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE AS THE GROWTH IN PLACES RISES FASTER THAN THE INCREASE IN THE POPULATION.+

HOWEVER, MR. LI SAID THAT THE GROWTH IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SHOULD BE KEPT IN BALANCE WITH THE ABILITY OF OUR ECONOMY TO ABSORB QUALIFIED PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS INTO APPROPRIATE WORK THAT WOULD OFFER THEM A SATISFYING CAREER.

/IF EXPANSION

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IF EXPANSION WERE TO TAKE PLACE TOO RAPIDLY, HE WARNED, QUALIFIED GRADUATES WOULD FIND THAT THEY COULD NOT OBTAIN WORK OF A KIND AND AT A LEVEL THAT THEY WOULD HOPE FOR.

+GOVERNMENT KEEPS WATCH ON THE GROWTH IN VACANCIES IN TECHNICALLY-BASED POSTS THROUGH THE SURVEYS WHICH THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL CONDUCT ON A REGULAR BASIS, AND CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO EXTENDING THESE SURVEYS TO COVER OTHER AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT,+ HE ADDED.

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PASSING-OUT PARADE OF FIREMEN AND AMBULANCEMEN
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THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, LT.-GEN. SIR JOHN ARCHER, WILL TAKE THE SALUTE AT A PASSING-OUT PARADE OF OVER 100 FIREMEN AND AMBULANCEMEN AT THE FIRE SERVICES TRAINING SCHOOL, PAT HEUNG, NEW TERRITORIES, ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 4).

ALTOGETHER, FIVE SQUADS OF FIREMEN AND ONE SQUAD OF AMBULANCEMEN WILL PASS OUT AFTER COMPLETION OF SIX MONTHS' BASIC TRAINING. ALSO ON PARADE WILL BE ONE SQUAD OF FIRE OFFICERS AND ONE SQUAD OF SENIOR AMBULANCEMEN WHO ARE STILL UNDER TRAINING.

AT THE END OF THE PARADE, THERE WILL BE A FIRE FIGHTING DEMONSTRATION.

THE COMBINED PIPES AND DRUMS OF THE GURKHA ENGINEERS AND GURKHA SIGNAL WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL COMMENCE AT 10.30 A.M. A NINE-SEATER VAN HAS BEEN ARRANGED TO TAKE PRESS REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SCHOOL, LEAVING THE NORTH POINT FIRE STATION AT 8.30 A.M. SHARP AND RETURNING THERE AFTER THE CEREMONY. MR. H.F. CHUI WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIST THE PRESS.

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SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN
MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT A FULL-SCALE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES ON ALL ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES.

THE SURVEY, WHICH IS CARRIED OUT IN DECEMBER EVERY YEAR, WILL PROVIDE NOT ONLY DETAILED STATISTICS ON EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE AND TRENDS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, BUT ALSO A COMPREHENSIVE AND UP-TO-DATE DIRECTORY OF ESTABLISHMENTS FOR SUBSEQUENT SAMPLE ENQUIRIES.

SURVEY CARDS HAVE BEEN SENT TO SOME 38,000 MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS. MANAGERMENTS ARE ASKED TO COMPLETE THE CARDS WITH THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES AS AT DECEMBER 3, AND RETURN THEM PROMPTLY IN THE ACCOMPANIED POSTAGE-PAID REPLY ENVELOPE BEFORE DECEMBER 10.

CONCURRENT WITH THIS SURVEY, ENQUIRIES ARE ALSO BEING MADE OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES IN SOME 32,000 ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THE IMPORT/EXPORT, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES= RESTAURANT AND HOTEL BUSINESSES= AND A VARIETY OF OTHER TRADES AND SERVICES.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS APPEALED TO MANAGERMENTS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE AND CO-OPERATION IN THE SURVEY.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE PROMPT RETURN OF SURVEY CARDS TO THE DEPARTMENT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR EARLY RELEASE OF SURVEY RESULTS.

THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR COMPILING STATISTICAL TABLES.

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WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN SAN PO KONG WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR FIVE HOURS FROM 1 A.M. ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 4) TO ALLOW THE WATERWORKS OFFICE TO CARRY OUT A NIGHT LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, SZE MEI STREET, CHOI HUNG ROAD, TAI YAU STREET, TSUEK LUK STREET, KING FUK STREET, SAM CHUK STREET AND TSAT PO STREET, INCLUDING BLOCK NOS. 5 AND 6 OF THE SAN PO KONG FACTORY, PAT TAT STREET, LUK HOP STREET AND NG FONG STREET.

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SENIOR EXAMINATIONS OFFICER RETIRES

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THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS UNIT, MISS M.G. KNOWLES, WILL BE RETIRING SHORTLY AFTER 19 YEARS' PUBLIC SERVICE.

TO MARK HER RETIREMENT, MISS KNOWLES WAS PRESENTED WITH A FAREWELL GIFT, AN ELECTRIC CLOCK, BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, MR. A.J. SCOTT, ON BEHALF OF HER FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT A BRIEF CEREMONY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TODAY (THURSDAY).

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE MR. P.B. WILLIAMS, SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF OF THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH.

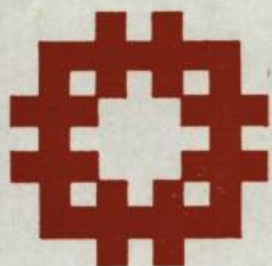
MISS KNOWLES WAS FIRST APPOINTED AN EDUCATION OFFICER IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1957. SHE WAS TWICE SECONDED TO THE SECRETARIAT TRAINING UNIT, ONCE IN 1963 AND AGAIN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

IN 1967, SHE WAS SECONDED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE (NOW CIVIL SERVICE) EXAMINATIONS UNIT TO WHICH SHE WAS PERMANENTLY TRANSFERRED AS AN EXAMINATIONS OFFICER IN MAY 1968. SHE WAS PROMOTED TO HER PRESENT RANK OF SENIOR EXAMINATIONS OFFICER IN DECEMBER 1972 TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS UNIT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING MISS KNOWLES AND MR. SCOTT AFTER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED SEPARATELY IN THE G.I.S. PRESS BOXES THIS EVENING.

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HONG KONG HOUSING AUTHORITY 香港房屋委員會

PRESS
RELEASE

新聞稿

Thursday, December 2, 1976

OLD ESTATES' POPULATION DECLINING;
NEW ESTATES' POPULATION INCREASING

The population of the Housing Authority's older (Group 'B') estates stood at 1,145,033 at the end of September, a decrease of 28,745 (or 2.4 per cent) compared with the number living in these estates on September 30, 1975.

During the same period, the population of the newer (Group 'A') estates went up from 638,657 to 695,476, a rise of 56,819 (or 8.9 per cent).

The number of Group 'A' flats rose during the period from 116,036 to 129,982, an increase of almost 14,000.

A Housing Authority spokesman, revealing these figures today, said they showed that progress was continuing to be made at relieving overcrowding in older estates. The number of families living in these estates had gone down by 3,637 to 193,630 between September, 1975, and September, 1976.

Other figures released by the Housing Authority show that the number of factory units let has increased from 8,287 to 8,752, an indicator of Hong Kong's improved economic climate.

The Housing Department forecasts that 17,322 new flats will be available between October, 1976, and October, 1978, providing homes for more than 129,000 people.



During this period the Authority will have eight estates under construction the first of which, the virtually completed Lai Yiu Estate, Tsuen Wan, is to take in tenants within the next few weeks. Eventually, close to 16,000 people will live there.

By March next year, part of the First Phase of Cheung Ching Estate on Tsing Yi Island will be completed, offering accommodation to about 23,300 people.

During the two-year period, the Public Works Department will build four estates to house approximately 79,000 people.

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