



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1976

METHADONE TREATMENT FOR 6,000

SOME 6,300 DRUG ADDICTS HAVE BEEN ON THE METHADONE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME ADMINISTERED BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SINCE THE METHOD WAS INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG IN 1973.

A YEAR AGO, THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 3,600 ON THE REGISTER OF ADDICTS COMING FORWARD TO RECEIVE METHADONE TREATMENT.

COMMENTING ON THE FIGURES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ALTHOUGH THERE HAD BEEN A GRADUAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NEW ADMISSIONS TO THE PROGRAMME, THE RATE OF DROPOUTS FROM THE PROGRAMME REMAINED UNCHANGED.

OF THE 6,300 ADDICTS ON THE REGISTER, LESS THAN 40 PER CENT WERE RETURNING FOR THEIR DOSAGE OF METHADONE, HE SAID.

THE METHADONE TREATMENT METHOD CALLS FOR DISPENSING OF A CONSTANT DOSE OF METHADONE DAILY WITHOUT HOSPITALISATION TO AN ADDICT AND FOR AN INDETERMINATE PERIOD.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WERE AT PRESENT FOUR SUCH CLINICS FOR THOSE DRUG ADDICTS WHO WISHED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE METHADONE PROGRAMME — EASTERN STREET HEALTH CENTRE ON THE ISLAND, HOMANTIN HEALTH CENTRE IN PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, ROBERT BLACK HEALTH CENTRE IN SAN PO KONG AND LADY TRENCH POLYCLINIC IN TSUEN WAN.

HE EMPHASISED THAT DESPITE THE CONSTANT NUMBER OF DROPOUTS, THE EXISTING FOUR CLINICS WOULD BE MAINTAINED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THERE WERE VARIOUS FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DROPOUT RATE.

A MAJOR REASON WAS THAT THE REGIMEN ADOPTED IN ANY ONE TYPE OF TREATMENT SCHEME COULD NOT BE SUITABLE FOR ALL THOSE WHO WISHED TO UNDERGO TREATMENT, HE SAID.

THEREFORE, DIFFERENT TYPES OF TREATMENT PROGRAMMES MUST RUN CONCURRENTLY, HE ADDED.

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY SPORTS EVENTS ATTRACT 6,000 ENTRIES

SOME 6,000 HONG KONG RESIDENTS WILL COMPETE IN THE 29 SPORTS EVENTS ORGANISED BY THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 21).

THE MOST POPULAR EVENT IS THE +WALK FOR ALL+, WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE SHING MUN RESERVOIR AREA IN TSUEN WAN. COVERING A DISTANCE OF ABOUT FOUR MILES, IT HAS ATTRACTED NEARLY 1,000 ENTRIES.

THE +NEW TERRITORIES ROAD RACE+ FOR MEN AND WOMEN, TO BE HELD IN TAI PO, ALSO PROVED TO BE POPULAR WITH A TOTAL OF 500 PARTICIPANTS.

OTHER EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT MORSE PARK IN KOWLOON AND IN VICTORIA PARK ON HONG KONG ISLAND. THEY INCLUDE SOCCER, BASKETBALL, VOLLEYBALL, WATER-POLO AND TABLE TENNIS COMPETITIONS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE TAI CHI AND DIVING DEMONSTRATIONS.

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SEMINARS ON PHYSICS AND BIOLOGY

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SCIENCE SUBJECTS SECTION AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION ARE TO JOINTLY CONDUCT SEMINARS ON NEW SYLLABUSES FOR PHYSICS AND BIOLOGY (FORMS 4 AND 5) PREPARED BY THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

THE SEMINARS WILL BE HELD AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND THE DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL ON APRIL 20 AND 24 RESPECTIVELY.

THE AIM OF THE SEMINARS IS TO FAMILIARISE PARTICIPATING TEACHERS WITH THE APPROACH AND METHOD OF TEACHING THE NEW SYLLABUSES.

ABOUT 200 PHYSICS AND BIOLOGY TEACHERS FROM SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCIENCE SCHEME (FORMERLY KNOWN AS INTEGRATED SCIENCE) ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE SEMINARS.

THE DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MR. ALEC REEVE, WILL OPEN THE SEMINARS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ON APRIL 20 AT 9.15 A.M.

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