



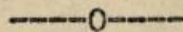
DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1975

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1975

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HOUSING PROGRAMME PUSHES AHEAD
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HONG KONG'S PUBLIC HOUSING BUILDING PROGRAMME IS FORGING AHEAD AND WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS NEW HOMES FOR SOME 400,000 SHOULD BE READY, ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, MR. IAN LIGHTBODY.

HE TOLD A LUNCHEON OF THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB OF HONG KONG TODAY THAT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY NOW HAD 14 ESTATE CONTRACTS RUNNING WHICH WILL PRODUCE HOMES FOR UP TO 300,000 PEOPLE BY 1978 AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF ABOUT \$1,000 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, THE AUTHORITY'S ARCHITECTS HAD REACHED AN ADVANCED STAGE IN THEIR DESIGN AND PLANNING WORK FOR A FURTHER SIX SCHEMES WHICH WOULD HOUSE ANOTHER 100,000. HOPEFULLY, HE ADDED, THESE PROJECTS WOULD BE COMPLETED BY 1979 AT THE LATEST AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$400 MILLION.

MR. LIGHTBODY SAID HE COULD NOT SAY EXACTLY HOW PLANS FOR LETTING NEW CONTRACTS WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE COMING BUDGET, +BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL RATE A HIGH PLACE IN ANY LIST OF PRIORITIES.+

HE NOTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE VAST SUMS OF MONEY SPENT BY THE AUTHORITY, FINANCE WAS ALWAYS A MAJOR PREOCCUPATION AND THE AUTHORITY MUST ALWAYS STRIVE TO GET MAXIMUM VALUE FOR MONEY IN ITS BUILDING PROGRAMMES.

+GIVEN THE MANY COMPETING DEMANDS ON PUBLIC HOUSING,+ HE SAID, +I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WOULD PREFER THAT WE SHOULD ACCEPT THE NEED TO CHARGE HIGHER RENTS THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST FOR THESE NEW ESTATES, RATHER THAN CONTEMPLATE ANY REDUCTION IN OUR HOUSING PROGRAMME.+

HE DESCRIBED AS +UNFOUNDED+ CRITICISM OF THE RENT CHARGED FOR NEWER HOUSING AUTHORITY ESTATES AND POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW LEVELS WERE STILL REASONABLE COMPARED WITH THOSE CHARGED FOR COMPARABLE ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR. +AND OF COURSE WE DO KEEP IN MIND THE FACT THAT WE ARE CATERING FOR PERSONS IN THE LOWER INCOME GROUPS.+

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS FACING THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, HE SAID, WAS WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT HOUSING SINGLE PERSONS AND TWO-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS.

WHILE THE AUTHORITY'S GENERAL WAITING LIST FOR PUBLIC HOUSING HAD NEVER BEEN OPEN TO FAMILIES WITH LESS THAN THREE PERSONS, SINGLE PERSON AND TWO-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS HAD FROM TIME TO TIME BEEN ALLOCATED FLATS ON A SHARED BASIS.

/+THIS IS

+THIS IS BASICALLY UNSATISFACTORY AND DOES NOT WORK AS WELL AS SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS DO IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WHERE THERE IS A PRINCIPAL TENANT TO HOLD THE RING, AS IT WERE,+ MR. LIGHTBODY SAID.

+IN TERMS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC GOOD, AND OF MAKING THE BEST USE OF HOUSING AUTHORITY FLATS, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE STRONG ARGUMENTS FOR ALLOCATING THEM TO LARGER FAMILIES RATHER THAN HAVING THEM SHARED IN THIS WAY.

+IT IS THE LARGER FAMILY WHICH FACES THE GREATEST PROBLEMS IN FINDING ACCOMMODATION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IT IS THE SMALL GROUP WHICH FINDS IT EASIEST TO MAKE ITS OWN WAY IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR,+ HE STRESSED.

MR. LIGHTBODY POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS NOT ECONOMIC TO BUILD FLATS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR SMALL HOUSEHOLDS +BECAUSE HAVING BUILT THE KITCHEN AND TOILET WHICH REPRESENT A LARGE PART OF THE TOTAL BUILDING COST, IT IS NOT SENSIBLE TO ATTACH THEM TO A VERY SMALL LIVING AREA DESIGNED FOR ONE OR TWO PERSONS.+

MORE ATTENTION, HE SAID, WAS BEING GIVEN TO FORMING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES IN ESTATES SO AS TO HELP HOUSING STAFF TO GET A BETTER PICTURE OF ESTATE PROBLEMS AND PRIORITIES, AS SEEN BY TENANTS, AND TO SECURE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF TENANTS IN IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT IN ESTATES.

HE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THEIR EFFORT IN PROMOTING WHAT PERHAPS IS HONG KONG'S BIGGEST SOCIAL PROGRAMME. THE AUTHORITY COSISTS OF 20 MEMBERS - 13 PRIVATE CITIZENS AND SEVEN OFFICIALS. THE AUTHORITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL PUBLIC HOUSING AND ADVISES THE GOVERNMENT ON HOUSING POLICIES GENERALLY.

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POLL CARDS ISSUED FOR URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION
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A TOTAL OF 34,078 POLL CARDS SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO FACILITATE THE SPEEDY ISSUE OF BALLOT PAPERS TO VOTERS ON URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION DAY ON MARCH 5 ARE BEING POSTED TO ELECTORS TODAY.

EACH CARD BEARS THE VOTER'S ELECTORAL NUMBER, HIS NAME AND THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE POLLING STATION AT WHICH HE IS REGISTERED TO VOTE.

THE REGISTRATION OFFICER TODAY EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE FOR INTENDING VOTERS TO PRODUCE THEIR POLL CARDS AS WELL AS THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AT THE PROPER POLLING STATION, IN ORDER TO VOTE WITH THE MINIMUM OF DELAY.

HE SAID THAT IF AN ELECTOR WAS UNABLE TO PRODUCE HIS POLL CARD ON ELECTION DAY, HE WAS NEVERTHELESS ENTITLED TO VOTE, PROVIDED HIS NAME APPEARED ON THE FINAL REGISTER AND HE WAS ABLE TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER.

IF A VOTER HAS CHANGED HIS ADDRESS SINCE THE FINAL REGISTER WAS COMPILED AND HAS NOT NOTIFIED THE REGISTRATION OFFICER, IT IS PROBABLE THAT HIS POLL CARD WILL BE RETURNED TO THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT AS +UNDELIVERABLE+.

ANY PERSON WHO HAS REGISTERED AS AN ELECTOR AND WHO DOES NOT RECEIVE HIS POLL CARD WITHIN THREE DAYS, IS ADVISED TO CONTACT MR. CHAN HON-YIU OF THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. NO. 5-765912 TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER HIS CARD HAS BEEN RETURNED BY THE POST OFFICE AS +UNDELIVERABLE+. IF DESIRED, ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY VISITING MR. CHAN, WHOSE OFFICE IS AT KA CHEONG BUILDING, NO. 4, SUNNING ROAD, 7TH FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO VISIT ANY OF THE POLLING STATIONS OR TO BE PRESENT AT THE COUNTING OF THE VOTES ON MARCH 5 (URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION DAY) MUST COMPLETE FORM 20 - DECLARATION OF SECRECY - BEFORE EITHER A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, A PRESIDING OFFICER OR THE RETURNING OFFICER.

THEY SHOULD HAVE THE FORMS WITH THEM WHEN THEY CALL AT ANY OF THE POLLING STATIONS.

COPIES OF THESE FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE PRESS ROOM, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES.

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATED BY YOU TO COVER THE ELECTION, THE DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICE, MR. DAVID FORD, JP, WILL BE PLEASED TO ADMINISTER THE DECLARATION BETWEEN 3.30 PM AND 5 PM ON MARCH 4.

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TANG CHI NGONG SPECIALIST CLINIC 'TOPPED OFF'
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SIR SHIU-KIN TANG, THE WELL-KNOWN PHILANTHROPIST, TODAY PRESIDED AT A TOPPING-OUT CEREMONY ON THE ROOF OF THE TANG CHI NGONG SPECIALIST CLINIC NEXT TO THE TANG SHIU KIN HOSPITAL IN WAN CHAI.

THE BUILDING, NAMED AFTER SIR SHIU-KIN'S FATHER, IS NEARING COMPLETION. THE \$6 MILLION COST IS BEING MET IN PART BY A SUBSTANTIAL DONATION BY SIR SHIU-KIN. THE GOVERNMENT WILL MEET RECURRING COSTS.

SIR SHIU-KIN WAS ACCOMPANIED TO THE ROOF BY DR. GERALD CHOA, DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES. BOTH HAD TO WALK EIGHT FLOORS, AS DID A SMALL NUMBER OF GUESTS, INCLUDING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

THE CLINIC WILL EVENTUALLY REPLACE SPECIALIST OUT-PATIENT FACILITIES NOW AVAILABLE IN THE VIOLET PEEL POLYCLINIC, BUT THE LATTER WILL CONTINUE TO ATTEND TO GENERAL OUT-PATIENTS.

THE TANG CHI NGONG SPECIALIST CLINIC IS BUILT ON A 12,000 SQ. FT. SITE. IT WILL PROVIDE SPECIALIST OUT-PATIENT FACILITIES FOR MEDICINE, SURGERY, EYE, EAR-NOSE-AND-THROAT, AMONG OTHERS.

THERE ARE TO BE 21 CONSULTING ROOMS, TWO OPERATING THEATRES FOR MINOR SURGICAL AND OPHTHALMIC CASES, VISUAL ACUITY AND TEST ROOMS, TREATMENT ROOMS, DISPENSARIES, LABORATORIES, SPEECH THERAPY OFFICES, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUITES.

EACH FLOOR HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ACCOMMODATE A PARTICULAR TYPE OF SPECIALIST SERVICE. THE OPENING DATE OF THE CLINIC HAS STILL NOT BEEN FIXED.

NOTE TO EDITORS: COPIES OF A PHOTOGRAPH OF SIR SHIU-KIN TANG PERFORMING THE TOPPING-OUT CEREMONY WILL BE BOXED FOR COLLECTION LATER TODAY.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1975.

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IN-SERVICE COURSE FOR TEACHERS
ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

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THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WILL RUN A 20-WEEK IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSE ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

THE COURSE, DESIGNED TO RE-ORIENTATE TEACHERS IN THE SUBJECTS TRADITIONALLY DESIGNATED AS PRACTICAL EDUCATION TOWARDS A NEW CREATIVE APPROACH, WILL BE OPENED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 22) AT 10 A.M. AT THE VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL, IN WOOD ROAD, WANCHAI.

SUBJECTS OF THIS COURSE WILL INCLUDE WOODWORK, METALWORK AND TECHNICAL DRAWING.

THE ULTIMATE AIM IS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGING THE PRESENT SKILL-ORIENTATED SYLLABUS TO A PROBLEM-SOLVING ONE, THUS ENCOURAGING THE PUPILS AS WELL AS THE TEACHERS TO DEVELOP A WIDER RANGE OF EXPERIENCES IN DECISION-MAKING.

+THIS DEMONSTRATES THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S DETERMINATION TO DEVELOP PRACTICAL EDUCATION AS ENVISAGED FOR THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL OUTLINED IN THE WHITE PAPER, + THE CONVENOR OF IN-SERVICE TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MR. JOHN HOWELL SAID TODAY.

MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, THE POLYTECHNIC AND THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE OPENING CEREMONY, HE SAID.

THEY WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE A SELECTION OF BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS ON DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORK DONE BY STUDENTS OF THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE AND PUPILS OF THE VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL WHO ARE ALREADY BEING TAUGHT THE TRADITIONAL SUBJECTS THROUGH A PHILOSOPHY OF DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY, MR. HOWELL SAID.

GIVING MORE INFORMATION ON THE COURSE, MR. HOWELL SAID IT WILL BE CONDUCTED AT TWO CENTRES - THE TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN WANCHAI AND THE KOWLOON TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN SIAM SHUI PO.

THE COURSE WILL CONSIST OF LECTURES, SEMINARS AND PRACTICAL WORK TO BE HELD TWICE A WEEK FOR 18 WEEKS. THE REMAINING TWO WEEKS WILL BE A FULL-TIME SUMMER SCHOOL TO BE FOLLOWED BY AN EXHIBITION OF WORK DONE BY PARTICIPANTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE THE OPENING CEREMONY ON SATURDAY COVERED.

MR. HOWELL, WHO IS SENIOR LECTURER (DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY), HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, CAN BE CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEWS AT THE COLLEGE, 373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, HONG KONG (TEL. 5-723459).

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FRINGE BENEFITS HELP KEEP WORKERS HAPPY

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FRINGE BENEFITS PROVIDED BY MANY COMPANIES FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES HAD MADE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG'S GENERALLY HARMONIOUS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR. IAN PRICE, SAID TODAY.

MR. PRICE MADE THE COMMENT AFTER VISITING THE PHILIPS HONG KONG LTD. (LIGHT FACTORY) AT KWAI CHUNG IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. THE \$6 MILLION COMPLEX - ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED AND HIGHLY-AUTOMATED IN HONG KONG - EMPLOYS ABOUT 62 PEOPLE BUT PRODUCES 25 MILLION TORCH BULBS A YEAR. PLANS FOR A FURTHER \$4 MILLION EXPANSION PROGRAMME ARE PRESENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION.

MR. PRICE VISITED THE FACTORY AS PART OF HIS REGULAR +KEEPING-UP-TO-DATE+ VISITS. AFTERWARDS, HE SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY SOME OF THE FRINGE BENEFITS PROVIDED FOR THE WORKERS BY THE COMPANY.

THESE INCLUDED GENEROUS HOLIDAY AND SICK LEAVE SCHEMES, MEAL AND TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES, YEAR-END BONUS AND A STAFF CLUB WITH RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

+I WAS ALSO IMPRESSED BY THE COMPANY'S MEDICAL BENEFITS SCHEME WHICH COVERS ALL MONTHLY-PAID EMPLOYEES,+ HE SAID.

+SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, THE COMPANY PAYS FOR ALL CHARGES INCURRED FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS, VISITS FROM MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS, PRESCRIBED MEDICINES AND HOSPITALISATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES AND THE DEPENDANTS OF MALE EMPLOYEES.

MR. PRICE SAID THAT IN RECENT YEARS A GROWING NUMBER OF FIRMS IN HONG KONG HAD PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL FRINGE BENEFITS TO EMPLOYEES. +THIS IS GOOD, AND SOMETHING THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS ALWAYS ENCOURAGED,+ HE SAID.

+I BELIEVE MORE EMPLOYERS ARE REALISING THAT FIRST-RATE WELFARE FACILITIES AND FRINGE BENEFITS CAN HELP TO REDUCE LABOUR TURN-OVER, FOSTER HARMONIOUS LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS AND EVENTUALLY HELP INCREASE PRODUCTION.+

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF PARTY

CHILDREN OF STAFF MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL BE TREATED TO A LUNAR NEW YEAR PARTY IN THE GROUNDS OF THE KOWLOON HOSPITAL ON SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 23).

AN ENTERTAINING AND COLOURFUL PROGRAMME HAS BEEN DRAWN UP, INCLUDING A BAND CONCERT, A MAGIC SHOW, A MERRY-GO-ROUND AND GAMES' STALLS. HIGHLIGHTS WILL BE A LUCKY DRAW AND A TUG-OF-WAR. DR. GERALD CHOA, DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, WILL DRAW THE WINNING NUMBERS.

THIS WILL BE THE FOURTH SUCH PARTY TO BE ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF SOCIETY BRINGING BOTH PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER.

MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE BAND OF THE AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE BAND IS MADE UP OF 50 MEMBERS, WHO HAVE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN MUSIC, AND WHO REHEARSE REGULARLY. THEY TAKE PART IN MANY CEREMONIAL OCCASIONS A YEAR, AND ARE ALWAYS IN DEMAND.

ON MARCH 9, THE AMS BAND WILL PERFORM IN THE COMPOUND OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IN OIL STREET AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF PARTY. THE CONCERT WILL BEGIN AT 1 P.M.

THE BAND WILL ALSO ENTERTAIN THE PUBLIC AT THE KOWLOON PARK AND THE BOTANICAL AND ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS BETWEEN 1 P.M. AND 3 P.M. ON MARCH 30 AND APRIL 6 RESPECTIVELY.

NOTE TO EDITORS : THE STAFF PARTY WILL BE HELD ON THE LAWN BY THE ENTRANCE TO THE WEST WING, KOWLOON HOSPITAL, ARGYLE STREET, BETWEEN 1 P.M. AND 5 P.M. YOU ARE INVITED TO HAVE IT COVERED.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE ALSO WELCOME TO COVER THE VARIOUS CONCERTS BY THE AMS BAND.

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FUN FAIR FOR N.T. CHILDREN

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ABOUT 4,000 CHILDREN IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL MEET FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN AND GAMES THIS WEEKEND (FEB. 22) AT THE YUEN LONG MINI-SOCCER PLAYGROUND.

THE FUN FAIR, ORGANISED BY A NUMBER OF N.T. ORGANISATIONS AS A LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN BELOW 14 YEARS OF AGE, WILL HAVE 22 STALLS OFFERING A WIDE CHOICE OF GAMES FOR YOUNGSTERS.

THE POLICE DOG UNIT WILL ALSO STAGE A DEMONSTRATION AND PARADE FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT OF THE CHILDREN.

THE FAIR WILL BEGIN AT 3 P.M. WITH A BRIEF OPENING CEREMONY TO BE OFFICIATED BY MADAM LEUNG SING-TAK, CHAIRWOMAN OF THE NEW TERRITORIES WOMEN AND JUVENILE WELFARE ASSOCIATION= MRS. CHAN YAT-SUN, WIFE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF HEUNG YEE KUK AND MRS. G.R. LLOYD, WIFE OF THE POLICE DIVISIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF YUEN LONG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FAIR ON SATURDAY AT THE YUEN LONG MINI-SOCCER PLAYGROUND.

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