



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1975

SCHOOL ENROLMENTS CONTINUE TO RISE

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THE NUMBER OF PUPILS ENROLLED AT ALL TYPES OF SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 1974 WAS 1,302,838, REPRESENTING ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF HONG KONG.

ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT THIS WAS AN INCREASE OF 0.7 PER CENT OVER THE SEPTEMBER 1973 FIGURE WHEN TOTAL ENROLMENT STOOD AT 1,294,053.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ENROLMENT TRENDS AT THE VARIOUS LEVELS OF EDUCATION -- KINDERGARTEN, SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS -- ALL SHOWED A GENERAL INCREASE, EXCEPT FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHERE ENROLMENT DROPPED FROM 723,579 IN SEPTEMBER 1973 TO 696,987 IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

IN FACT, TOTAL ENROLMENT IN PRIMARY DAY AND NIGHT SCHOOLS HAS BEEN FALLING STEADILY OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS -- FROM 764,313 IN SEPTEMBER 1971 TO 748,291 IN SEPTEMBER 1972 TO 723,579 IN SEPTEMBER 1973.

+THE FALL IN THE ENROLMENT OF EVENING AND SPECIAL AFTERNOON CLASSES HAS BEEN CONTINUING SINCE SEPTEMBER 1963, OWING TO A CONTINUOUS EXPANSION OF PRIMARY DAY SCHOOLS DURING THE 1960S,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+ENROLMENT IN DAY SCHOOLS,+ HE ADDED, +HAS ONLY STARTED TO FALL SINCE SEPTEMBER 1972, PROBABLY DUE TO THE DECREASING SIZE OF THE PRIMARY AGE GROUP RESULTING FROM A DECREASING NUMBER OF BIRTHS SINCE 1967.+

AS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1974, THERE WERE 1,190 PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN OPERATION, INCLUDING 744 GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SCHOOLS AND 446 PRIVATE.

IN THE CASE OF KINDERGARTENS, ENROLMENT CONTINUED TO INCREASE FROM 132,335 IN SEPTEMBER 1973 TO 137,117 IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR. ALL WERE ENROLLED IN THE 778 PRIVATE KINDERGARTENS.

IN SECONDARY EDUCATION, ENROLMENT IN GRAMMAR AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OFFERING COURSES LEADING TO THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION HAS STEADILY INCREASED OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS -- FROM 244,786 IN SEPTEMBER 1971 TO 291,203 IN SEPTEMBER 1973 AND TO 332,716 IN SEPTEMBER 1974.

IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS NOT PROVIDING CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION COURSES, TOTAL ENROLMENT IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR WAS 37,857 SPREAD OUT AS FOLLOWS: 3,349 IN PRE-VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, 3,949 IN SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS, 2,365 IN VOCATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL SCHOOLS, AND 28,194 IN EVENING AND TUTORIAL SCHOOLS.

IN MATRICULATION CLASSES, THE ENROLMENT FIGURE WAS 18,725 IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR. +ENROLMENT IN AIDED SCHOOLS IS INCREASING SLOWLY BUT STEADILY AS MORE AND MORE OF THESE SCHOOLS BECOME FULLY DEVELOPED AND ARE OPERATING MATRICULATION CLASSES,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AS TO POST-SECONDARY ENROLMENTS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN A STEADY RISE IN THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS TAKING IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSES AND IN THE NUMBER ENROLLING IN THE GOVERNMENT COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

THE NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS IN THE TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGES TOTALLED 1,594 IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, COMPARED WITH 1,360 IN SEPTEMBER 1973, WHILE THE NUMBER OF TEACHERS TAKING IN-SERVICE TRAINING IN THE COLLEGES ROSE FROM 1,706 IN SEPTEMBER 1973 TO 1,929 IN SEPTEMBER 1974.

ENROLMENT IN THE PRIVATE POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES OFFERING FULL-TIME COURSES AND EVENING CLASSES, WAS 8,248 COMPARED WITH 8,197 IN SEPTEMBER 1973.

IN ADULT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND ART COURSES THE ENROLMENT WAS 35,586 IN SEPTEMBER 1974.

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TEA PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE AND LADY MACLEHOSE HOSTED AN INFORMAL TEA PARTY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON TO ENTERTAIN 630 YOUNG PEOPLE FROM 15 DIFFERENT DISTRICTS IN HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES

THIS GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE, WHO INCLUDED STUDENTS AND OFFICE WORKERS, ARE ALL ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS.

AT THE PARTY, THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF CHATTING WITH SIR MURRAY AND LADY MACLEHOSE WHILE ENJOYING THE DELIGHTFUL MUSIC PROVIDED BY THE AUXILIARY POLICE BAND.

ALSO ATTENDING THE TEA PARTY WERE SOME 70 CITY DISTRICT OFFICERS, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OFFICERS, DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICERS AND POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICERS.

THE PARTY STARTED AT 4 P.M. AND LASTED FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR.

NOTE TO EDITORS: PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING THE GOVERNOR AND LADY MACLEHOSE CHATTING WITH SOME OF THEIR YOUNG GUESTS AT THE PARTY ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE G.I.S. PRESS ROOM ON THE 6TH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

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MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1975

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT REFUTES CRITICISM
OF +INACTION+ OVER CONTROLLING MEDICAL LABORATORIES

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COMMENTING ON RECENT PRESS REPORTS ABOUT THE OPERATION OF PRIVATE MEDICAL LABORATORIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT TODAY DESCRIBED AS +ILL-INFORMED+ CRITICISMS THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD, FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, IGNORED MEDICAL PROFESSION'S PLEAS FOR ACTION .

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT A WORKING PARTY WAS SET UP IN 1970 TO CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING IN HONG KONG LEGISLATION SIMILAR TO THE PROFESSIONS SUPPLEMENTARY TO MEDICINE ACT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS PARA-MEDICAL PROFESSIONS WERE INVITED TO FORM THIS WORKING PARTY, AND BASICALLY IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO INTRODUCE THIS TYPE OF LEGISLATION IN HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, TWO MAIN GROUPS, NAMELY LABORATORY TECHNICIANS AND X-RAY TECHNICIANS, PRESENTED THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO THIS LEGISLATION BY VIRTUE OF THE FACT THAT THERE WERE NO FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR TRAINING SUCH PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN PRIVATE LABORATORIES IN HONG KONG, AND THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION REQUIRING THEM TO HAVE REACHED A CERTAIN MINIMUM STANDARD WHEN IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ATTAIN THAT STANDARD.

IN 1972, TWO SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE WORKING PARTY WERE FORMED TO STUDY THE PROBLEMS OF SUITABLE TRAINING FOR LABORATORIES AND X-RAY TECHNICIANS, AND FOR THE DRAFTING OF APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION WITH THE ULTIMATE AIM OF CREATING THE PROPER CONDITIONS FOR EVENTUAL LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BRING MEDICAL (CLINICAL) LABORATORIES UNDER CONTROL.

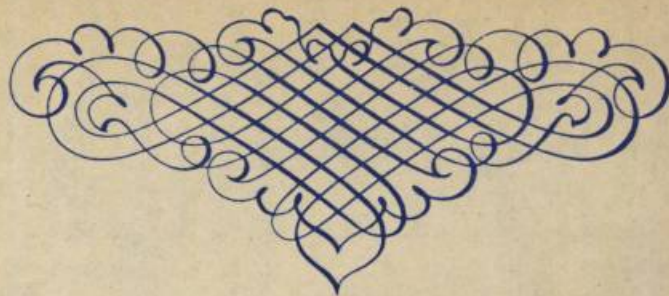
THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON LABORATORY TECHNICIANS HELD ITS FIRST MEETING IN AUGUST 1972 AND COMPLETED ITS REPORT IN MID-1974. THE REPORT, TOGETHER WITH A DRAFT BILL, WAS SUBMITTED TO THE COLONIAL SECRETARIAT FOR CONSIDERATION IN JULY LAST YEAR.

THE FINAL DRAFT OF THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

AT THE SAME TIME AS THE REPORT WAS SUBMITTED, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE, CONDUCTED AN EXTRA-MURAL COURSE TO CATER FOR PERSONS ALREADY EMPLOYED IN PRIVATE LABORATORIES. THIS WAS A ONE-YEAR COURSE WHICH BEGAN ON JULY 2, 1974 ON A PART-TIME BASIS. SOME 160 LABORATORY TECHNICIANS TOOK PART IN THE COURSE WHICH WAS CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE.

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ROYAL
VISIT
PRESS
RELEASE



Monday, April 21, 1975

HONG KONG'S CAPABILITY AS CONSUMER GOODS' PRODUCER

Queen To See Imposing Array At 'Progress Hong Kong' Exhibition

An imposing array of sophisticated Hong Kong-made consumer goods will be assembled for the Queen's inspection at the "Progress Hong Kong" exhibition in the Hung Hom railway terminal which she and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit on the afternoon of May 5.

This exhibition is now almost ready after months of careful planning. It is being mounted in honour of the Queen and the Duke, who will spend some time touring it.

The design is intended graciously to convey to the Royal visitors - and to the people of Hong Kong and the world - the message that this corner of the Queen's realm has achieved, by its own enterprise, determination and craftsmanship, a position of respect in the highly-competitive areas of quality manufacture and export.

The Queen and the Duke will be told, for example, that in the international watch market, in value terms, Hong Kong is third in the list of exporters, coming only behind Switzerland and Japan. In terms of numbers of watches exported, Hong Kong in 1973 reached 11 million timepieces, second only to Switzerland.

/Transistor radios

Transistor radios, a complex, high-technology industry, reflect another facet of Hong Kong's success. The Royal couple will learn that although Japan exports more transistor radios than Hong Kong, manufacturers here have forged ahead of all major European countries, and such regional rivals as Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea.

At a time when transistor radios are found even in remote regions of the world, and in developed countries where most families have several, the extent and range of this export item entitles Hong Kong to be justifiably proud.

But the same is also true with regard to toys, clothing, flashlights, and plastic flowers - except that, what is more, Hong Kong is the world's largest exporter of all four.

In the area of garment manufacture, Hong Kong's success is remarkable. In 1973, Hong Kong overtook Italy as leader when exports of clothing reached \$7,425 million.

Today, Hong Kong clothing is featured prominently and sells well in important stores in London, Paris and New York, three cities which make no secret of their discernment, their critical eye, and their fashion-setting trends.

Indeed, some of the world's most famous fashion designers have chosen Hong Kong for the manufacture of their garments. Pierre Balmain is one, and Hardy Amies another. Both have licensed local garment manufacturers to produce their named collections in Hong Kong.

/As the Royal couple

As the Royal couple pass stalls displaying toys, they will probably be interested to learn that in 1972, Hong Kong replaced Japan as the number-one exporter. They will see ranged before them superb examples of Hong Kong's toy manufacturing skill - a blend of ingenuity, quality, value, and the most stringent regard for safety.

It takes a highly specialised and dedicated industry to conform to such requirements, yet Hong Kong's toys are produced in massive quantities and are in demand everywhere.

What will stand out in the show is its diversity, and the zest with which the end product is sold. Recently, a group of Hong Kong manufacturers on a trade mission sponsored by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council returned from the Middle East with orders worth more than \$111 million, and projects still under negotiation are expected to yield at least another \$64 million.

The message is clear. Hong Kong, once an entrepot, is now a producer of consumer items which are doing well in a world growing daily more conscious of value, and consequently more exacting.