

**HONG KONG
GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
SERVICES**

**DAILY
INFORMATION
BULLETIN**

Monday, May 8, 1972

INTRINSIC MERIT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Government's Task To Provide Facilities

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, said today that parents and young people in Hong Kong must be persuaded of "the intrinsic merit and social acceptability" of a technical education.

Sir Murray was speaking at the Kei Heep Secondary Modern School in Wong Tai Sin where he opened the Vocational Training Exhibition this morning.

The Governor said the government's task in the field of technical education was to provide the facilities.

"This we are determined to do at all levels from pre-vocational schools, through technical institutes right up to polytechnic," he said.

"But," he continued, "there is another task which Government alone cannot perform. That is to persuade parents and young people alike of the intrinsic merit and social acceptability of education which has a technical rather than an academic bias".

Sir Murray said that they should see this form of education as "highly desirable in itself and not as a second best."

/He called

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He called on both industry and society to encourage young people and their parents to make this mental adjustment, which had proved so beneficial in most industrially advanced countries.

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Note to Editors: The full text of the Governor's speech is contained in a supplement to today's Daily Information Bulletin.

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NEW KWAI CHUNG INCINERATOR

Site Formation To Be Completed By End Of 1973

Planning of the new Kwai Chung incinerator is now at an advanced stage.

The incinerator, capable of disposing refuse at a rate of about 900 tons per day, is expected to be operational by 1976.

Tenders are being invited for the formation of a site for the new incinerator, immediately to the north of Pillar Island in the Rambler Channel.

A large part of the site is to be reclaimed from the sea and about 900 feet of seawall has to be constructed to contain the fill.

In conjunction with the site formation, about 300 feet of cargo handling strip will be formed at the southern end of the Rambler Channel Typhoon Shelter.

Work will begin in July and should be completed towards the end of next year.

Construction of the incinerator proper will start as soon as the site has been formed.

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SITE FORMATION FOR DESALTING PLANT

All Works Expected To Be Completed Next Year

Site formation works for Hong Kong's desalting plant, the largest of its kind in the world, will begin next month.

The \$450 million desalter, which will have a daily output of 40 million gallons, will be sited at Star Quarry near the 17 milestone on Castle Peak Road.

The works include cutting back the existing cliff faces and reclaiming an area of the seabed.

In addition, two miles of roadworks will be built. About a quarter of a mile of pipeline will be laid to feed the desalted water from the plant into Tai Lam Chung Reservoir. This will form part of the supply system.

Intake works will be constructed to draw in fresh sea water to the plant. The heavy brine will be discharged through an outfall stretching about a mile on the seabed.

Marine works will involve putting up a fuel jetty to enable oil tankers of up to 3,000 tons to berth alongside. A dock will be erected for unloading the heavy plant.

"It is expected that all these works will be completed by the end of 1973 so that the first of the desalter's six units can start production by mid-1974," a spokesman for the Public Works Department said.

He added that all the units should be fully operative by the end of 1975.

/"The site

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"The site for the plant has been determined on technical grounds," the spokesman explained. "It is near clean sea water and Tai Lam Chung Reservoir, making both obtaining raw water and distributing the product water economical."

He recalled that Government announced in May last year it had embarked on a 20-million-per-day desalting plant to add to Hong Kong's water resources.

In January this year, however, Government decided to double the capacity of the desalter when it became clear that demand for water was continuing to grow at such a rate that conventional reservoir sources alone were no longer adequate.

The spokesman pointed out that site formation works were to start only shortly after the Board of Directors of the Asian Development Bank had formally approved last month a loan of HK\$120 million (US\$21.50 million) to the Hong Kong Government to help bring forward this colossal water project.

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BRITISH TROUPE TO PERFORM AT CITY HALL

Arranged By The Urban Council

The Royal Lyceum Theatre Company of Edinburgh, under the auspices of the Urban Council and the British Council, will give four performances at the City Hall Concert Hall during their coming tour to the East.

The Company, which was first opened in 1883, will present two plays from their repertory.

The first play, to be performed at 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, and Friday, May 12, is John Barton's adaptation of scenes from three historical plays of Shakespeare - Henry IV Parts 1 and 2, and Henry V.

This adaptation, entitled "WHEN THOU ART KING", depicts Shakespeare's most famous comic character, that "fat rogue" Falstaff, and his hilarious escapades with his drinking companion the young Prince Hal (Prince of Wales, and the future King Henry V) in the taverns of Cheapside.

The second play, a modern one, "THE BIRTHDAY PARTY" by Harold Pinter, will be performed on Saturday, May 13, and Sunday, May 14, at 8 p.m.

Britain's young proletarian dramatist, Pinter writes moving allegories about the underprivileged.

He began as an actor, and is a product of the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Central School of Speech and Drama. Both Shakespeare and Pinter represent, therefore, the actor-dramatist tradition of the English stage.

/"The Birthday

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"The Birthday Party", produced in 1964, was Pinter's first London success. It started that series of baffling and ambiguous situation plays which critics have now labelled the "Comedy of Menace".

The performances should be of special interest to students and the upper forms of schools. Tickets at \$1 (students only), \$5, \$10 and \$15 are available daily at the City Hall Box Office from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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NEW WATER SUPPLY SCHEME AT TAI O

Inauguration Ceremony On Wednesday

Mr. Kan Chung-hing, Chairman of the Tai O Rural Committee, and Mr. A.S. Robertson, Director of Water Supplies will start up the pumps to inaugurate the new \$1.5 million water supply scheme to Tai O on Lantau Island. The opening ceremony takes place at Shek Pik Reservoir on Wednesday, May 10.

The scheme is the latest step in Government plans to bring water supply to rural communities to the same high standards of reliability and quality as is enjoyed in the urban areas.

With the completion of the scheme, Tai O will get a fully treated water supply and will be able to draw on the resources of the main Shek Pik Reservoir as well as the small dam at Yi O.

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Note to Editors: You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to cover the ceremony, which starts at 11 a.m. Transport will be provided. A Marine launch will leave Queen's Pier in Central at 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 10. On arrival at Silver Mine Bay, motor transport will be available to take press representatives to the Shek Pik Reservoir. After the ceremony, the Marine launch will leave Silver Mine Bay at about 12.15 p.m. and arrive back in Hong Kong around 1.30 p.m. Officers of the Waterworks Office will be on hand to assist the press.

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RETIRING COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE

Due To Leave On Wednesday

The retiring Commissioner of Inland Revenue, Mr. A.D. Duffy, is due to leave Hong Kong on Wednesday, May 10, after more than 23 years of service in Hong Kong.

Mr. Duffy joined the Hong Kong Government in 1948 as an Assessor in the Inland Revenue Department. He acted on a number of occasions as Chief Assessor and Assistant Commissioner.

He was appointed Assistant Commissioner in 1959, and became Commissioner in 1963.

As previously announced, Mr. Duffy will be succeeded by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. F.E. Rainbow.

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Note to Editors: A photograph of Mr. Duffy is distributed separately in your press boxes this evening.

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Release time: 6.30 p.m.



HONG KONG GOVERNMENT

INFORMATION SERVICES

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN SUPPLEMENT

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OPENING OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING EXHIBITION

Speech by H.E. Governor

The following is the full text of a speech given by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, at the opening of the Vocational Training Exhibition at the Kei Heep Secondary Modern School, Wong Tai Sin, today (Monday, May 8):

"Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have heard from Mrs. Wong of the progress made since the first exhibition three years ago.

"In these years Hong Kong's industrial activities have diversified and fresh demands for trained personnel and fresh opportunities for those with the necessary training have been created.

"I wonder how many parents have registered this new development. I wonder how many still plan the education of their children as if our community and its economic needs and opportunities had remained unchanged over the past 50 years.

"The facts are that one-quarter of a million students are in grammar schools and only about 10,000 in technical and vocational programmes. I am sure that all of us here are in agreement that this imbalance must be corrected.

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"Government's task is to provide the facilities. This we are determined to do at all levels from pre-vocational schools, through technical institutes right up to the polytechnic.

"To achieve this the Education Department must build schools and institutes, train and recruit the teachers and plan the curricula; the Polytechnic Board must bring that institution into commission as soon as possible. The Labour Department must organise more apprenticeship training schemes. All this must of course be done in the closest collaboration with industry in which the future of our young people lies."

Task

"But there is another task which Government alone cannot perform. That is to persuade parents and young people alike of the intrinsic merit and social acceptability of education which has a technical rather than an academic bias. They should see this form of education as highly desirable in itself and not as a second best.

"It is not only that we need young people trained in practical skills - though Hong Kong would greatly benefit from this. But I think many young people would develop more quickly and with greater satisfaction if they adopted the disciplines of the skilled craftsman as technician rather than those of a scholar, and saw this as a respectable and desirable vocation in life.

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"Both industry and society must encourage young people and their parents to make this mental adjustment, which has proved so beneficial in most industrially advanced countries.

"I am sure that all of us here today are aware of the need for this mental adjustment to go hand in hand with the development of the quality and quantity of our technical training and education to which they are now committed. This exhibition plays a valuable part in this process, and I hope that your efforts will stimulate interest among industrialists, teachers, parents and students.

"I now have great pleasure in declaring open the Vocational Training Exhibition 1972"

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Release time: 12.00 NOON