Tuesday, 25th May, 1971.

Types of Cases:

Judged from ward offices, and no doubt EMELCO and CDO: (Material needs)

Housing - 60%
Social Welfare - 10%
Hawkers: 10%
Legal Aid Cases: 10%

Remainder various: employment, education, PWD, immigration, etc.

There are other problems that do not come to us - will mention them later.

Above problems in a little more detail:

1. Housing:

   (a) Overcrowding: very little being done:

   Shek Kip Mei: nearly 7000 families
                 below 24 sq. ft. (2554 less than 16)

   Tai Hang Tung - 3056 less than minimum.
   Lei Shang Uk - 3291 " families "

   On these three estates alone, 13,296 live at below minimum.

Four central estates, Wong Tai Sin, Lo Fu Ngam, Tung Tau, Wang Tau Hom - 12,442 live below minimum.

Decentralisation policy last year covers up shortage of housing. Latest policy - younger generation going OUT of resettlement to huts. Apply every week for about five like that.

(b) Eviction, Rising Rent, Dangerous Development
(c) The Myth about (visits from journalists).

1. Outlying estates available
2. Low cost housing at Kwai Chung. - 24th out of date.

**ACTION** - only according to policy. (e.g. rental replacement)


Assistance still too limited: try to eliminate cases - review every three months should only apply to temporary cases.

Also depends on worker dealing with case. Some case workers try to find all facts and help; many do not care and omit details:

* e.g. Hawker with TB, three children with TB - should not have to work.
  * Widow - said to be supported by husband.
  * Destitute woman seeking help to build hut - did not notice how ill she was, needed relief.

**ACTION** - often successful in getting relief.

3. Hawkers: Impossible to go into the whole ridiculous policy on hawkers.

Very complicated.

Thugs operate more easily than honest, needy people.

Policy - to set up markets and bazaars off-street, but

NO land, NO money, NO personnel to do it.

Negative policy - make life hard for them and they will be glad to go into industry.

**ACTION** - Difficult because of corruption involved.
4. **Legal Aid:**

Fairly easy to obtain, especially through ward, but almost impossible to get action - delay gives defendant time to sell out - frequently happens. Pitiful accident cases - most wait 2 - 3 years.

**Action - Always delayed.**

5. **Other Problems**

1. **Youth:** two directions: gangster, civic-minded. Social conditions produce both types, many in-between.

   (a) **Anti-social** in many reasons:
   
   home conditions; bad education; inequalities; influence of bars, TV, films etc.

   (b) **Civic Conscious** - demonstrators over Tiao Yu Tai Islands (Senkakus) Vietnam War Teachers' wages, nurses;

2. **Attitude of Authorities:**

   easier for the gangster to escape than the civic conscious.

   e.g. boy who nearly had another killed last year arrest of peaceful demonstrators.

1. Attempt at framing me in 1966 (charges have been successfully found)

2. A great deal of framing in 1967 - peaceful demonstrators at first
   Captured do not threaten the system.