

# BOON TIME FOR 'PRIVATE' SEX DENS

**"PRIVATE" single-girl brothels in Mongkok have now become more popular.**

This followed a series of raids by police and the District Office on other advertised single-girl vice dens in the red-light areas of the district.

During the raids the signboards of the brothels were pulled down.

The action has badly affected their business and it is believed that many of them are now struggling for survival.

A police source told The Star yesterday that "private" single-girl brothels had recently become more popular after the police launched a series of vice raids in red-light areas.

The District Officer of Yaumati and Mongkok, Wilfred Wong, earlier said that only nine apartments operated as brothels in the notorious Mansun Building in Mongkok compared with 29 such estab-

lishments and two recreation centres late last year.

Following constant police raids on the vice dens, business at "private" brothels has boomed.

The police source said the girls rented flats in a residential building in the red-light area. They then separated the flat into several rooms with independent entrances and washrooms.

These prostitutes, however, did not use signboards to advertise their trade. Most of their customers were introduced by a middle man.

Small potted trees in front of the doors would also indicate to

other customers that they had found the "right" place.

The women also did not fear being robbed by the strange men who posed as customers.

The police source said they had launched a series of raids against "private" brothels, but they did not have enough evidence to prosecute the girls.

A spokesman for the District Office said they had not received any complaints from the residents about the "private" brothels.

At least it was not an open business, she said.

She said the demolition of the sex signboards would have a effect on the trade.