



THE Governor Sir Murray and Sir Lawrence Kadoorie at the opening of the Tsing Yi Bridge.

Governor opens vital \$21 million link to Tsing Yi

THE Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose and his wife, Lady MacLehose were the first people to drive over the newly opened Tsing Yi bridge yesterday.

The Governor was driven over the 2,000 ft link by Sir Lawrence Kadoorie, chairman of China Light and Power.

The \$21 million bridge, joining Tsing Yi Island and the Kwachung Reclamation land was built by a consortium of six local companies of which China Power and Light holds a 46 per cent interest. Other contributors were Mobil Oil, Esso Oil, Gulf Oil, International Containers and the Hongkong Cement Manufacturing Company.

The bridge, built by Gammon Ltd, took two years and nine months to complete.

There will be two and a quarter miles of approach roads on both sides of the bridge which will be finished after by the Public Works Department.

The management and maintenance of the bridge was formally handed over to the Government after yesterday's official opening.

In his speech, Sir Murray

stressed the importance of the bridge as a means of developing the island.

"The land for industry is there," he said. "The provision of access has been one of our most urgent priorities and this is the underlying reason behind the new tunnel to Shatin, the motor road to Castle Peak, the project to double track the railway, and to build a tunnel to Aberdeen.

The Governor said that the Tsing Yi bridge led the way in a field that is vital to Hongkong.

"Companies setting up on the Island and Islanders are to be allowed use of the bridge free of charge, but private visitors will have to apply to the New Territories Administration for permission, a member of the Heung Yee Kuk said.

Later a government official said that the administration would have to consider the category of people who will be allowed to use the bridge.