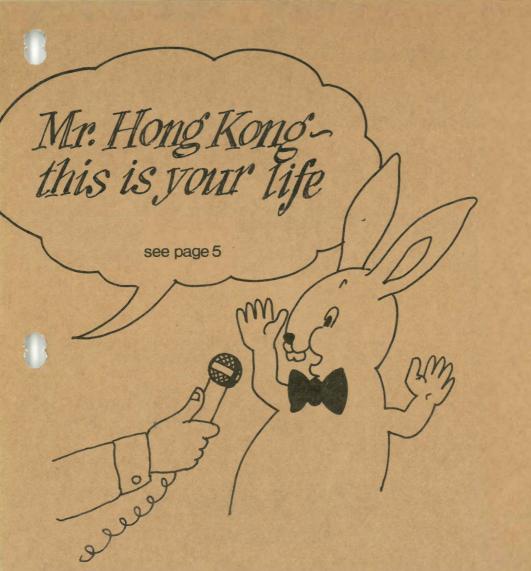


# The Bulletin



**MAY 1975** 



### 奇妙的巧合

中文多字,與流打線行的兩機法,不構影像相似,而且必義相同,流打分行多。人才多。 服務機關多,聯發機轉多,以多字像流術打銀行,最貼切价當。 私人或公司在治打銀行附戶口,佔確方便之利,需要任何服務,流打線時 附力幫助,合於加線以價,等平功倍。 調修主治打銀行,或機能活至23302個第五股傳流要與,本子人員隨時樂走為開下服務



# 渣打銀行

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## 本會週年大會報導

本會於四月三日(星期四) 曾假座香港會所舉行全體會員週年大會 , 約 共五十七間會員商號 派代表六十七名 學年會。

是次週年大會出席人數較往數年爲少, 而於其時,本會全體會員商號爲一千七百三 十四間,因此赴會人數之低使人失望。再者 ,出席人仕中,大部份爲商業、銀行及服務 公司等代表,廠家及小型公司代表只爲出席 人數一小撮。

誠然,全體會員週會大會並非爲最令人 興奮刺激之事項,繁忙之行政人員常因處理 要務而缺席,但我們總覺得在年會中之三項 議程是相當重要的。

首先,在年會中大家一致决定下一年度 會費若干。第二,由出席人仕選舉總商會董 事會董事。再者,於近年來,會後設鷄尾酒 招待赴會人仕,使各會友與董事會董事及各 委員會委員能共叙一堂,互相藉此作進一步 之認識及交談。

總商會主席及董事會董事平素甚少獲機 會與其他各會員會面,因此可藉會後酒會與 大家交談,可惜於是次年會中並無更多會友 出席參加。

使大家告慰的當是大會一致通過一九七 连度會費仍保持為一千元正(年中入會者 隨時日遞減)。換言之,自一九七四年來, 會員收費一成不變,雖然其間,通貨膨脹率 高升了不少。與世界各地同類之總商會比較 (本會爲與香港貿易之各國視爲一主要之國 際總商會),本會收費頗爲合理。

年會中,怡和有限公司之紐璧堅先生及 合衆五金廠有限公司之宋常康先生分別被選 任為董事會董事。除此之外,一九七五至七 六年度董事會成員爲:安子介議員、畢必治 議員、祈德尊爵士、霍沛德先生、高登先生 、嘉道理爵士、簡悅强爵士、馬登先生、包 華利先生、力嘉先生、羅斯先生、時雅先生 、丁鶴壽先生及章彼德先生。

於週年大會後之董事會會議中,霍沛德 先生及高登先生分別被選爲總商會正、副主 席。

### 以下為年會中, 主席霍沛德先生 之演辭:

敝會一九七四年度之董事局報告及收支 賬目概况已於日前呈交各位,諒早已察閣。

敝會一九七四年度「年報」之序言較往 年更廣泛談討在香港以外各地區所發生之事 情,及對我們社會之影响。由於香港為世界 之一員,因此,假若其他各國亦面臨我們所 遭遇之困難,我們當能如其他各國般設法解 决一切難題。

也許令人頗覺驚訝的就是,自「年報」 編備後,先後發生之事件計有:南越的新形勢、沙特阿拉伯國王費沙爾被刺、埃及宣佈 開放蘇彝士運河、新聞界開始作打擊基辛格 的行動等,在香港,貸款利息率再被低減至 六厘半,使港元能囘復較合理的水平。

在「年報」序言中,我談及歐洲共同市 場普遍特惠計劃予以香港之歧視。讓我向大 家報告約三星期前,我們有機會會見共同市 場之官員,磋商本會會員及工商各界人仕所 關注之更自由之對待。於次會談中,我們察 覺彼等也許能對香港之處境有更深入了解。

基於此,我們對美國政府因為不能决定 香港是一個「發展中」或「已發展」的國家 而將香港摒棄於一般特惠計劃之外而感到失 望。令人費解的是美國商人,尤其是美國的 「跨國」大公司察覺到香港在政治和經濟上 的穩定,而會考慮採取這歧視的行動,足以 危害香港對他們的價值的。有一點我們要記 着的是,香港實際上沒有農業的背景,在工 業衰退的時候,失業的工人是不可以囘到大 地去的。

一九七四年是世界性的國際貿易遲滯的 一年。我想在一九七五我們還要經過一段路 程然後可以看見曲綫回復向上昇的途徑。在 貿易鬆弛的時候正應該是我們出外積極推銷 的時候。因此我們很高興能夠和香港貿易發 展局合作組織商業團體,到港外去作促進貿 易的訪問,尤其是到中東和南非各地。國際 貿易部的曾錫權目下正在毛里求斯作貿易訪 問。

在過去六星期以來,我們正審慎仔細研究香港之財政預算案。去年,本會會向財政司夏鼎基先生提供多項與本港財政方面有關建議,於此之前,本會會就此向各委員會會員作一意見調查,隨後更由總商會諮詢董事局作詳細討論,其後將各項意見呈遞政府參攷。政府財政預算案中之一些建議乃屬本總商會所提供。

關於可能明年實施徵收「股息稅」一事需要十分慎重的考慮,因此措施對香港的公司稅收每一方面都有十分重要的關係,尤其是顧及這措施可能影响香港在爲一些機構從事在外營業而以香港爲基地的適合性。這問題正由「課稅委員會」研究。當這問題由董事會及本會諮詢董事局審慎考慮後,我們定將意見呈告政府。

本商會最近聯同其他團體向政府發表有關本港工商各界可獲致之國際郵務之聲明。 國際性之商業的進行速度比以前快得多,當 貨船的速度是每小時三十海里,而飛機的速 度是超過五百哩的時候,郵政服務一定要找 出在這種速度下服務的方法。香港直至目前 爲止有良好的通訊服務,這服務的繼續存在 對香港是很重要的。

於去年,本會各委員會委員會設宴款待 港督麥理浩爵士,歡宴席上彼又發表演詞, 該次盛會頗爲成功。我們希望今後每年能舉 辦同樣盛會,而每次又能邀請一政府要員蒞 臨盛典。

我本人對總商會之月刊「會訊」甚爲嗜 愛,主要爲其風格清新。目下,總商會之「 公共關係委員會」正研究如何擴大此刊物之 讀者範圍。

由本會主辦爲各新近抵步此間之工作 仕而設之特別課程頗受各界歡迎,負責計 課程之委員會樂意接受各方建議而予以合適 改善。

本會秘書長戈銳非斯先生一向以來致力 「貿易文件簡化」工作,不遺餘力,堪藉嘉 佩。年中,由 P.A.顧問管理公司所編備有 關本會之經濟及會務事宜報告書業已完竣。 本會亦相繼成立一完善之財政預算及管理系 統,察視開支問題。

讓我在這裏對董事會及諮詢董事局對我的支持表示感謝。特別要一提的是副主席哥頓先生。一九七四年並不是容易的一年,甚或跟上它的發展也並非容易。同僚們給我的帮助及根據他們比我有更長久經驗而作出的忠告,使我的工作進行比預期爲順利。商會各委員會的成員給予我很大的帮助。請原諒我在這裏特別對十二個貿易分區委員會的主席致謝。他們熱心和努力工作,並在本會接見蒞港訪問之友人和團體,對我們海外貿易的服務着實有不少功勞。

我相信所有會員都會為於兩週前去十 史乃廸先生而感到惋惜。他過去五十年 我們的會員商號捷成洋行工作,並且是我們 與中國貿易的專家之一。史乃廸先生過去二 十年服務於本會「中國貿易委員會」,他在 這一方面有如百科全書一樣的智識對我們很 有價值。

本年度即直至一九七四年底的賬目成績 比去年大會所預期的爲佳。簽證費用的收入 比我們所料想的超出很多,因此有十三萬元 的盈餘可以撥入貯備金。本年度的情况並不

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# The Way We Were in 'Seventy-Four'

THE appearance of the Government's Annual Report 'Hong Kong 1975' is almost an event in itself. The yearbook has been described by one of our more vocal critics as 'glossy and mendacious propaganda', yet it is required reading for critics and students of Hong Kong and tourists and locals alike. e latter, one suspects, probably buy the book mainly for its beautiful stographs, or else for the wealth of handy reference material provided in the appendices section, or even out of sheer habit, but rarely in order to read it from beginning to end.

The Appendices section in particular is not exactly everyone's idea of perfect bedtime reading material. But an imaginative browse through the more than 40 statistical tables and lists in the back can reveal interesting, surprising and sometimes even amusing details about trade, employment, housing, population and other vital areas.

The recent Annual Report is particularly interesting in this respect, for 1974 was no ordinary year. As economic boom turned rapidly into stagnation, and stagnation into slump, long-term growth trends in consumption, transportation, real estate, electricity and gas production, and so on a quick about-turn. In other as possibly affected by economic ...nds — for example crime, the size of the prison population and the suicide rate — there was a marked acceleration of the existing trend. This in itself would seem to bear out the argument that nearly all aspects of private and public behaviour are to some extent affected by changes in economic conditions. This year seems likely to continue to follow the pattern of the latter half of 1974. Hopefully though, next year we will

see the trends resume their upward (or

in the case of crime, prisons and sui-

The Appendices section in particular not exactly everyone's idea of percet bedtime reading material. But imaginative browse through the cides start a downward) path once more. Thus 1974 and 1975 might come to be viewed by future historians or statisticians as 'freakish' years.

One cannot of course draw too many conclusions concerning our society from the limited and often unexplained data in the Yearbook. But anything that throws light on what happens in HK is to be welcomed.

### Composite resident

What happened then to the average Mr. Hong Kong in 1974? Well, he lost his job, took to crime, spent a period in jail, ate less but saved more, sold his car, decreased his intake of opium but stepped up that of heroin, offered fewer bribes and flushed his WC more frequently. At least that is the experience of one composite HK resident, as revealed by the Report.

One example of trend-reversals was the fact that while Hong Kong's population last year grew by an estimated two per cent, it consumed 27 per cent less rice, 12 per cent fewer chickens, 2.5 per cent less cattle and pigs, but nine per cent more vegetables than in 1973. This apparent trend towards vegetarianism in Hong Kong is obviously a reflection of the higher cost of meat and the decline in purchasing power rather than of any large-scale



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conversion to Buddhism.

Similarly, we find that imports of coffee fell by nearly 44 per cent or over 11,000 metric tons last year — other victim of the recession, and ice coffee is not to the taste of all eninese, suggestive of hardship among what one might regard as the more affluent section of the community. And imports of tea fell by some 11 per cent. It would appear that we are simply drinking less these days, or else we are just making do with water.

Local egg production fell by 59,000 gross — that's 8,498,000 eggs. This makes sense, since we also find that local production of chickens was down by nearly 2,000 metric tons last year. (After all, it would be unfair to expect a smaller number of chickens to lay a larger number of eggs.)

The decline in local food consumption last year was also borne out by the results of a survey carried out recently by Radio Hong Kong, which showed that people were cutting down

food but continuing to buy vuries. Against the general downmend in local food production, however, was an almost 20 per cent increase in production of fresh, frozen, dried and salted crustaceans and molluscs, and similar increases in most other categories of seafood. But there was a corresponding decrease in the volume of imports in this category.

Last year saw a one point increase in the number of deaths per thousand of the population and a one point decrease in the number of births per thousand. The Causes of Death table throws light on the increase in the death rate. It shows that more of us are dying of cirrhosis of the liver, peptic ulcers, mental disorders, leprosy and suicides these days. Leprosy apart, this provides interesting fuel for the sociologist, since all the others may be regarded as stress-connected diseases.

The most common cause of death however remains failures of the circulatory system, in particular heart diseases.

If however you managed to survive, possibly it was because the number of doctors in HK increased, as did the numbers of dentists, pharmacists and midwives.

#### Fewer murders

One way in which the outsider might choose to judge us is by our crime figures. In this respect we still do fairly well in comparison with other cities of a similar size, although the increase in crime last year was alarming. Fewer of us were the victims of murder or manslaughter than in 1973, but the incidence of serious assault was up by 67 per cent and that of robberies by 46 per cent. Twenty per cent more of us were raped or indecently assaulted than during the previous year and 26 per cent more were guilty of 'other sexual offences'. The incidence of blackmail also increased by more than 200 per cent.

If by chance you decided to embark on a life of crime, your chances of getting away with it were rather high. The crime detection rate fell from just under 60 per cent in 1972 to 46 per cent last year.

Last year of course saw the formation of the ICAC (otherwise known

to some as 'I Caught A Cop'). It is interesting to note that the number of reported cases of bribery and corruption listed in the Yearbook was only 29 compared with 45 the previous year and 81 in 1972. The reason for this apparent anomaly is that the responsibility for investigating cases of bribery and corruption has been taken out of the hands of the police and placed under the 'Independent' ICAC. No figures relating to the ICAC are given in the Appendices, and this could result in misunderstanding.

In view of the crime figures it is hardly surprising that 42 per cent more of us were behind bars at the end of the year. Last year Hong Kong's prison population grew by 1,711 over 1973.

Ample evidence of the state of the economy comes in the table of employment. Here, a drop in numbers employed is recorded in every category covered except for 'professional and scientific, measuring and controlling equipment and photographic and optical goods' Closer examination of the category shows that most of the increase came within the watch industry.

In case you found time weighing heavily on your unemployed hands, you could have visited the four parks and gardens or played on the new basketball/volleyball/badminton courts—all provided of course by the Urban Council and Urban Services.

If having lost your job was not bad enough, you may also have found that the promises of well meaning people that the rate of inflation 'stabilised' during 1974 was not in fact borne out by movements in the consumer price index. The monthly average for 1974 was some 23 points higher than the average for 1973, which was turn only 25 points higher than the for 1972. On this evidence, the rate of inflation in any meaningful sense continued unabated during 1974, a view that many would confirm from their direct experience.

### Vehicles, accidents drop

The number of traffic accidents showed a heartening drop last year, and nearly 15 per cent fewer of us were accident casualties. When we look at the vehicle registration figures however we see the obvious reason for this drop. The total number of vehicles registered fell by nearly five per cent, and the number of private cars on the road dropped by nearly eight per cent. Rather surprisingly though, the number of goods vehicles showed a marginal increase. It is also interesting to note that, contrary to general decline, the number of G ernment vehicles increased by 6.4 per cent. While many people are being driven back to public transport by the sky-high cost of running their cars, this aspect of inflation does not seem to have had any affect on Government!

The number of fatal occupational accidents reported last year was 234—70 cases down on the previous year. However, the figure still represents almost one death for every working day and is not a record to be proud of. The number of injuries

cont'd on Pg. 26

# Annual General Meeting -But where were the Members?

THE Chamber's Annual General Meeting for 1975 was held at the Hong Kong Club on Thursday, 3rd April. Sixty-seven representatives m a total of fifty-seven Member as attended.

This attendance was somewhat lower than in recent years, and considering that total Chamber membership at the date of the meeting was 1734, we find the turnout disappointing. In particular, few of the manufacturer members or smaller company members were present, so that attendance was, by and large, restricted to trading, banker, service company etc. members.

It is appreciated that Annual General Meetings are not always the most exciting of events, and hard pressed executives can perhaps be forgiven for not attending if more urgent business requires their attention. Nonetheless, at least three events occur at the meeting which, we believe, ought to be of concern to the

rage member. Firstly, it is at the M that the level of subscription for the coming year is set. Secondly, it is the members assembled in General Meeting that elect the General Committee. Thirdly, — and this perhaps is where we feel ordinary members might most take greater advantage of the opportunities available — the AGM in recent years has been followed by an informal cocktail party, which presents an occasion for members to meet and talk to committee members (both General and other committees). It represents an opportunity to put over any points of view

they might have concerning either the Chamber itself or broader matters affecting HK in general.

The meeting does of course act as a 'platform' for the Chairman of the General Committee to share his views with members. Members can learn the gist of these remarks without actually attending the meeting but our Chairman and Committee members, on the other hand, have little opportunity to learn what ordinary members are themselves thinking. This is precisely why it was decided in 1970 that the AGM should be followed by an informal drinks session. In view of the number of important problems currently facing HK, it seems a shame that more members did not avail themselves of this opportunity.

However, those who did not attend will be relieved to hear that the meeting voted to maintain the annual subscription for 1976 at its present level of \$1000 per Member per annum (or pro rata for new Members joining during the course of the year). This in effect means that the subscription has been kept to the same level for three successive years, i.e. since the beginning of 1974. Given the fact that the average level of inflation during the first 16 months of this period has been of the order of 15 per cent, and that the future rate of inflation is largely unpredictable, we believe this is no mean achievement. Members may not appreciate that in comparison with chambers of commerce of equal standing around the world (and the HK General Chamber is looked upon as a leading international chamber in all major countries with whom we trade), this represents a very favourable level of subscription. Indeed, one member attending the meeting was heard to remark afterwards that the decision to keep to the same level of subscription was an 'act of heroism'.

Secondly, two new members were elected to the General Committee. They are D. K. Newbigging, managing director of Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd. and S. H. Sung, managing director of Union Metal Works. As well as these gentlemen, the general committee for 1975/76 therefore consists of the Hon. T. K. Ann, Hon. J. H. Bremridge, Hon Sir Douglas Clague, H. P. Foxon, L. W. Gordon, Sir Lawrence Kadoorie, Hon. Sir Yuet-keung Kan, J. L. Marden, H. W. L. Paul, N. A. Rigg, G. R. Ross, Hon. G. M. Sayer, Dennis H. S. Ting and Hon. P. G. Williams.

In the General Committee meeting held immediately after the AGM, Mr. Peter Foxon and Mr. Leslie Gordon were re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

In proposing the adoption of the Report & Accounts for 1974, the Chairman said:—It is perhaps surprising how out of date the printed Chairman's Statement seems today a few weeks after it went to print: the South Vietnam situation, the assassination of King Faisal, the announcement by Egypt of the opening of the Suez Canal, the start of a press campaign to knock Kissinger. Closer at home the further reduction of lending rates to 6½ per cent and the desired result in

that the HK\$ is now coming back to a more reasonable level.

Discrimination against Hong Kong in the EEC's Generalised Preferences Scheme is mentioned in my statem and I am glad to report that just the weeks ago we were given an opportunity to place before members of the permanent staff of the Commission the case for more liberal treatment as seen by businessmen, members of the Chamber, actually involved in the trade. One cannot be certain, but those of us who took part in the meeting got the impression that there might be greater understanding of our case.

### Undecided

In the light of this it is somewhat disappointing that the United States Administration should have picked Hong Kong out for exclusion meanwhile from its Generalised Preference Scheme on the grounds that it cannot be decided whether we are a developing or a developed country. It difficult to understand how the Uni States whose businessmen and paiticularly the US origin multinational corporations, have found the economic and political stability of Hong Kong to be so valuable to them, should even consider taking discriminatory action against us and placing these assets at risk. It is a point to bear in mind that HK has virtually no agricultural background — in times of industrial recession it is not possible for unemployed factory workers to go back to the land. The worldwide slow down that has occurred in international

trade has made 1974 one of the difficult years. I think that there will be quite a lot of 1975 that will have passed before we see the curves reme their upward path. Times of ck trade are the times to get out and uo some active selling. We have, therefore, been very glad that the Chamber has been able to cooperate with the Trade Development Council in the organisation of groups of businessmen going overseas on promotional visits, to the Middle East in particular and to South Africa and Mauritius where Clement Tsang of our International Trade Department is currently hard at work on such a visit.

Our thinking over the past six weeks has centred largely on the Budget. The Chamber was glad to take up Mr. Haddon-Cave's invitation last year to let him have views on the Colony's economic/fiscal future. The question was discussed in our Chamber Council after an opinion survey had been conducted amongst members serving

the various Chamber Committees 1 the views of the Council were passed on to Government. I feel it is not without significance that a substantial number of the measures included in the Budget proposals were among the suggestions put forward by the Chamber.

The prospect of a Dividend Withholding Tax next year is one that must be very carefully considered indeed, having, as it does, a most important bearing on all aspects of corporate taxation in Hong Kong. In particular its possible effect on Hong Kong's suitability as a base for companies engaged in offshore operations must be borne in mind. This question is being examined by our Taxation Committee and, after the matter has been fully considered by the General Committee and Chamber Council, our views will be made available to Government.

The Chamber has recently joined with other bodies in making representations to Government about the international postal services available to the Hong Kong business community. International commerce moves very much faster now than used to be the case, with cargo ships travelling at up to 30 knots and aircraft at over 500 miles per hour and postal services must, one way or another, find ways of servicing trade which moves at this pace, and it is important that HK should not be denied efficient services in communications that have been available up to

### **Annual dinner**

The Dinner for members of Committees was an innovation and we were honoured to have HE the Governor as our Guest and Speaker. I believe that this was an enjoyable and successful evening and we intend to make this Dinner an Annual event and hope to be able to welcome an important Government speaker on each occasion.

I personally like the Bulletin with its freshness of approach and the Public Relations Committee are examining its present rather limited distribution to see if this should be widened.

The Hong Kong for New Arrivals Courses initiated by the Chamber during my predecessor's term of office continue to attract full lists of subscribers and many members have commented on the value derived from them in the settling in of new members of their staff. The Organising Committee keeps close touch with the situation and is always ready to receive suggestions for improvement of the arrangements, should members have suggestions to make.

### Credits

I should not like to leave this section of my comments without particular reference to the great deal of work, much of it of a backroom nature, carried out by our Secretary, R. T. Griffiths. Trade facilitation is the name given to all the detailed and surely tedious work that goes into sorting out of documentation for international trade and Tudor Griffiths has applied to this work considerable skill and dedicated industry. On subjects of this nature he can take his place and fully represent the Chamber in the most expert company and is due a very hearty vote of thanks from all of us.

During the year, we have received the final report from PA Management Consultants Ltd on the results of their survey of the Chamber's organisation and financial position. A fully developed budgetary control system has been set up in consultation with our Treasurers and we are now able to keep a much closer eve than heretofore on how the Chamber's finances are going.

I should like to place on record my great appreciation of the support I have invariably received from all colleagues on the General Commit and Council with particular mention of Leslie Gordon, the Vice Chairman. 1974 has not been the easiest of years to read, or even keep track of and the readiness with which help and advice based on experience longer than mine has been available, has made life a great deal easier than it might otherwise have been. Great help has been given by the members of all Chamber Committees and I am sure the others will forgive me if I single out for special thanks those who have served as Chairmen of the twelve Area Committees. Their interest and hard work, often entailing attendance at the Chamber to meet visiting individuals or delegations has been a very great service to the cause of our overseas trade.

I am sure all members will wish join me in expressing the regret of t Chamber at the death, just two weeks ago, of Hans Schneider, who had for 50 years been associated with our member firm Jebsen & Company and was one of the great experts on the China Trade. Mr. Schneider served for more than twenty years on the China Trade Committee where his encyclopaedic knowledge was invaluable.

The Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1974 show a rather better result than was anticipated at the time of last year's Annual

Meeting. Income from certification fees held up well for quite a lot longer than we expected and the final result shows a useful surplus of \$130,000 ailable for carrying forward to serve. The position for the curtent year is not, however, too encouraging. A number of firms have gone out of business or for other reasons, have decided not to continue their membership of the Chamber so that our Membership Department will have to work very hard indeed to approach last year's revenue from this source, whilst income from certification fees is unpromisingly low for the first few months.

### Well within budget

On the other side of the account, there is the ever-rising bill for rent (which we must meet if we wish to remain in suitable accommodation in the Central area) and staff costs also continue to rise. Irrespective of these increases, expenditure has, during the st three months, been kept well hin budget. Your Committee does not feel, however, that the situation vet calls for a further increase in subscription and at a later stage in the meeting, I will be proposing the appropriate resolution. The situation will, however, need careful watching, as deficit financing for Chambers of Commerce is not to be recommended.

Seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts, the Hon. Q. W. Lee OBE, JP said: In his annual statement carried in the Chamber's Report, the Chairman has presented a

very clear picture of the world's political and economic situation and I could not agree more with his points of view. The world at large has indeed experienced, in the past year or so, the most severe economic dislocation since the 1930's. We should consider ourselves fortunate that business conditions in Hong Kong have not been too unsatisfactory compared with those in other parts of the world.

Despite problems brought about by exchange uncertainties, interest fluctuations, rising costs and disruption of orders from overseas buyers on the local business community, it is gratifying to note, however, that the Chamber, under the leadership of our Chairman, managed to function as effectively and successfully as before not only in promoting the interests of the members, but also in serving the public in social, economic and other respects. I am particularly impressed by the part it played in helping to penetrate the so-called secondary but potentially rich markets.

I believe fellow members would share my view that the Chamber's success last year was made possible by the combined efforts of our Chairman, the Honorary officers and committee members. We should thank them all, especially Mr. Henry Keswick who will be leaving Hong Kong shortly and Mr. Kite who will be retiring around mid-year. We are sorry to hear the passing away of Mr. Hans Schneider, an old hand in China trade, whose record of service to the Chamber for more than twenty years will long be remembered.

## **Picture Briefing**

- A. A mission from Halifax, Canada, visited the Chamber in early March and held discussions with members of the North America Area Committee. Leader of the mission was Mr. A. T. Ball (centre) who presented Colonel I. G. Daniel, MBE, ED, Chairman of the Committee, (third from left) with a sourvenir of Halifax.
- B. Also from Canada came the Minister of Industry and Tourism for the Government of Ontario, the Honourable Claude F. Bennett (left) Mr. Bennett held discussions with Mr. C. D. Beale, Vice Chairman of the North America Area Committee.
- C. The North America Area Committee met on March 14th representatives from the Port of Portland in the US, including (from left) Mr. Vernon W. Chase, Mr. Lloyd Robinson, Mr. Lloyd Anderson and Mr. Jim Thayer.
- D. The presentation of certificates to this year's recipients of Chamber Scholarships was held on March 20th. The Chairman, Mr. Peter Foxon presented certificates to students from Hong Kong University, the Chinese University, the Hong Kong Polytechnic and Morrison Hill Technical Institute. The students are seen here with the Chairman (centre) and Mr. Nigel Rigg, Chairman of and Chamber Representative on the HK University Appointments Board.
- E. The Chamber's AGM was held at the Hong Kong Club on April 3rd. Picture shows the Chairman, Mr. Peter Foxon, giving his speech to members. (See page 9).
- F. Mr. Mohammed El-Saket, First Secretary at the Consulate-General of the Arab Republic of Egypt, is the subject of this month's Pen Profile. (See page 17).













# You have to trya little harder



# Pen Profile Mohammed A. El-Saket

THIS month we profile a man whose country — or, in this case, countries — is at present riding high in the power sweepstakes.

Mohammed A. El-Saket is in charge commercial affairs for the Arab Republic of Egypt in Hong Kong. And since Egypt is the only member of the League of Arab States to have official representation in Hong Kong, Mr. El-Saket's title of First Secretary not only covers his native Egypt but also other countries in the League. All 20 of them.

'They are, in Africa: Somalia, Sudan, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Morrocco, Algeria and Mauritania, and in Asia: Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Northern Yemen, Southern Yemen, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. In fact Arab unity is the first experience of such union between African and Asian countries'.

Mohammed El-Saket is familiar with all these countries. He was a orking member of staff of the cague of Arab States for four years between 1966 and 1970.

He speaks of that period with a certain excitement. 'I was seconded to the League which has its head-quarters in Cairo, and worked in the economic section. I benefitted from my work there because it opened my eyes to the potential that lay in the Arab countries if they were one entity. It gave me more national Arab spirit.'

What is the League of Arab States? It is an inter-governmental organisation formed between the Arab countries. The League, one might say, is the

admission of fact that Arab countries are one nation. The Charter of the League allows Arab countries to represent each other, as Egypt is doing in Hong Kong for the other states. This representation covers all certificates of origin and all other commercial certificates and affairs.'

Mohammed El-Saket was born in Cairo in 1941. He received what he terms his 'first' university degree from the Faculty of Commerce at the University of Cairo in 1959. 'I was the youngest student to have ever acquired the degree. I was 19 then.' In 1960 he joined the Foreign Service of his country.

### Sanctions =

Mohammed El-Saket went on to get his masters degree in Political Science from the same university and did this in 1970, just before he was posted to Hong Kong. He is now in the process of preparing for his doctorate in political science. His thesis is, aptly: Sanctions in international politics. He explained, 'This will be concerned mainly with economic elements. After all, sanctions cannot be implemented without economic elements.'

Hong Kong is Mr. El-Saket's first posting outside the Arab world. He spent five years in Damascus, Syria, from 1961 to 1966. After Damascus, he returned to Cairo to begin work at the League and also to get married 'for the first time and the last!'

Mr. and Mrs. El-Saket now have four children, three sons, all born in Cairo and one daughter, born last month here in Hong Kong, and who Mohammed El-Saket refers to as his major productive effort here. 'Produced by me and directed by Hong Kong doctors.' The boys' ages range from nine to six and all three attend school here.

Mohammed El-Saket, as chief of the economic section in his consulate oversees Hong Kong's trade with the Arab countries. No doubt in recent months his work has increased manifold. Hong Kong manufacturers and exporters are busily looking at the Arab area as a major source of trade. The Chamber/TDC Business Group to the Middle East has just returned, hopeful of future prospects. And in May, another group will continue the hard sell approach by knocking at Arab importers' doors. And Hong Kong has of course keen competition from not only our neighbouring rivals but also the developed countries, which hope to share in the oilfed revenues and new developments of the Arab world.

Mr. El-Saket describes his job now. 'I deal with economic matters between Hong Kong and the Arab world. But in many cases, you can't always define your job as one thing without being involved in other areas. In order to serve your job, you find yourself involved with the press, with cultural and information activities and you find yourself involved in seminars, lectures, and writing articles and statements. But then this is also connected with the new role of the diplomat.'

'This is a good thing because then

I have a vehicle by which I can clear a lot of misunderstanding about the Arab nation. Some people still regard us as nothing more than a nation of camel riders. The image mechange.

'In fact we are and always have been much more. From the Arab lands emerged three great religions, the Jewish religion, Christianity and Islam. We have one of the oldest civilizations in the world and helped to construct modern civilization as it stands today.

'We have always been great traders. It must be remembered that we were trading in this part of the world over a thousand years ago.'

### What really matters

'Development is not a matter of money although that does help. It is more a matter of re-development, or re-changing Arab society to its old greatness. We are at present undergoing a rapid construction and development programme in indust building, education and medical a social services. We are ready to have joint ventures which will be of mutual benefit to us and other countries, and which will increase the role of the Arabs in trading.'

However, Mr. El-Saket warns, 'Hong Kong traders will face problems with the Arab traders unless your image improves. There have been cases where Hong Kong exporters do not keep to the agreed quality and quantity when they ship to the Arab world. Some chambers of commerce, especially in Libya and Saudi Arabia,

have had to warn their members about dealing with Hong Kong.'

'I have already discussed this problem with the trade organisations and ve suggested that the Federation of ong Kong Industries extend their testing standard service to all goods being shipped to the Arab world. Also all certificates of origin should contain the name of the manufacturer.'

When asked what the Arab role in Hong Kong was at the moment, Mr. El-Saket answered that it was a relatively small one. 'At the moment the Arab community here numbers about 50, and this includes my four children! However there is no doubt that the community will increase substantially within the next five years.'

### An inflow

'With more business between the two areas and with more joint ventures, we expect an inflow of Arab businessmen here. I would not be 'prised if an Arab Chamber of 'mmerce in Hong Kong was formed. In the are plans for an Arab Cultural Centre to be established here. We already have such centres in the US, the UK, France and Japan. And Caritas, the Catholic organisation here, is planning to introduce Arabic classes soon.

Business-wise, Arab interests here include three airlines, one shipping line, two financial institutions, some export and import firms and substantial amounts of money deposits in HK-based banks & their branches in the Arab world.

The current trade figures already bear witness to the fact that the Arab world and Hong Kong are on the way to becoming close trading partners. In 1974 domestic exports to Arab countries amounted to HK\$741 million, a 50 per cent increase on the figure for 1973. Re-exports were valued at HK\$146 million, 42 per cent more than the previous year. And trade growth has not been in one direction. Imports from the Arab countries doubled to reach HK\$427 million by the end of 1974.

'Hong Kong exports to the Arab countries almost everything it manufactures, of course mainly textiles and garments. On the other side of the coin, Hong Kong imports from the Arab countries first and foremost oil and petroleum products, fish and fish preparations, crude animal and vegetable items, some handicrafts, cotton, aluminium sheets, precious stones and some semi-manufactured items.

'We at the Consulate are working hard to increase trade between Hong Kong and the Arab world, to build a bridge between them. We have been greatly aided by the Chamber and other trade organisations. We were glad to learn that the Arab Area Committee has been set up and that you have established a link between the Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce and yourselves'.

Mr. El-Saket concluded, 'There is great potential for trade in the Arab countries. Some of these countries have to import everything but even so, quality must not be overlooked."

### Pick of the Press Reprinted from the Wall Street Journal Challenging the US Customs

THE following article by G. Christian Hill, which appeared in the Wall Street Journal recently, describes the growing pressure from importers and industrial groups in the US to limit the fiscal penalty powers of the US Customs Service. Immense power has been concentrated in the hands of individual Customs officials and judgements have been left to their discretion. If the struggle of the US importers is successful it could result in a reduction of the powers, and an end to arbitrary decisions which have from time to time affected imports from Hong Kong.

corporate importers, having been gunned down by the US Customs Service in disputes over duties, are fighting back with weapons of their own: the

lobby and the lawsuit.

Through various industry groups, including the American Importers Association (AIA), the Electronic Industries Association (EIA) and the US Chamber of Commerce, the importers are trying to get Congress and the Ford administration to limit, for the first time in more than 100 years, the Customs Service's potent penalty powers.

For the first time, too, a major importer, BSR (USA) Ltd., is attacking the constitutionality of the penalty provisions of the Tariff Act. In a suit filed in federal court in New York. BSR has charged that the Customs Service has abused its penalty powers, denying importers such due process as adequate notice of charges, fair hearing, listings of specific allegations and judicial review.

The Customs Service collected US\$15.3 million in fines for duty violations in fiscal 1974. The amount is expected to rise greatly in this and the next few fiscal years, judging by the number of new penalty cases started. In fiscal 1974, the agency

Some of the nation's largest opened 4,237 fraud or negligence cases, double the number in fiscal 1973 and fiscal 1972.

> Under Section 592 of the Tariff Act of 1930, the Customs Service can fine an importer suspected of making false or fraudulent entry statements an amount equal to the entire value of the questioned shipment, even though the alleged loss of duty may be — and usually is — a small fraction of the entire value. BSR, for example, was notified of a US\$1.9 million penalty, the value of a shipment of phonographrecord changers, for allegedly evading duty of only \$27,000.

> Such huge forfeiture fines, or 'original penalties', nearly always and reduced by the service to an amount equal to between two and 15 times the duty owed. But the seemingly promiscuous use of the penalty threat enrages importers. They say that the service uses huge original penalties to club them into submission to final. 'mitigated' penalties in secret administrative actions that amount to starchamber proceedings. The importers say that unless they agree to the mitigated penalties, the Justice Department may prosecute them for the entire amount of the original penalties.

The importers also are unhappy

over the service's practice of invoking its penalty powers against importers whose false statements result from clerical error or negligence rather than ud. Usually, the importers are used of understating or concealing the value of parts made abroad or the value added to goods in assembly operations abroad. The importers say that publicly held companies must report the huge penalty actions to shareholders as if the companies were criminal simply because of mistakes made during complicated import paperwork.

Expanding trade between subsidiaries of multinational corporations and a stepped-up enforcement campaign by the Customs Service have made many companies vulnerable.

Several groups are drafting proposed bills to relieve the Customs Service of its biggest guns. A draft bill by the AIA would limit the original penalties the service can impose on a suspect porter to the present range of tigated penalties — that is, in a range roughly two to 15 times the loss of duty. This draft bill would impose certain due-process requirements on the service too, such as requiring the agency to disclose more of its evidence against suspect importers.

A bill prepared by the Western Electronic Manufacturers Association would limit the penalty on importers whose violations occur because of negligence or error to the value of the imported product added in overseas manufacture or assembly; as it stands now, the Customs Service can assess a

penalty equal to the value of the entire product.

The EIA, unpersuaded that Congress will give such bills a sympathetic hearing, plans to seek administrative reforms within the Customs Service. And the US Chamber of Commerce has prepared a plea for policy changes to be sent directly to Secretary of the Treasury, William Simon.

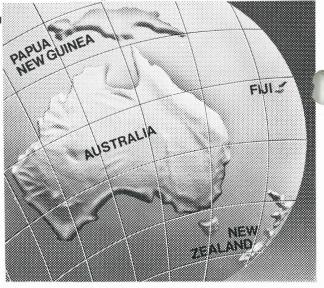
### Act unconstitutional

BSR (USA), meanwhile, is pursuing its own case in court. It has asked the court to rule that Section 592 of the Tariff Act is unconstitutional because the Customs Service applies it without due process and in a way that makes it untenable to contest Customs Service fines. The suit seeks to prevent the Justice Department from demanding the full original penalty when an importer, after paying a mitigated penalty, tries to recover it in court. In the BSR case, the company paid a mitigated penalty of \$140,000 and then appealed it. The Justice Department responded by demanding the original \$1.9 million penalty against the company.

'The risk of receiving the original penalty is so severe that presently no importer can afford to go to court to fight Customs,' says Robert E. Goldman, BSR's attorney. But BSR considered its mitigated penalty so unfair, he says, that it insisted on a suit anyway. He expects the case to go to trial late this spring.

Mainly in response to protests by the AIA, the Customs Service has made some administrative changes in The bank that knows **Australian business** 

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the handling of penalty cases. Where there are no criminal implications, district Customs Service directors must now give importers a pre-penalty ice, a detailed statement of the facts which a proposed penalty will be based, and 30 days to respond. The service also now allows importers to disclose violations voluntarily; for stepping forward, an importer's penalty, after making restitution, is limited to an amount equal to the loss of duty.

The service says it will continue to develop procedures to minimize original penalties in cases of negligence. But it adamantly opposes any action to take away its statutory penalty powers. For several sessions, it has fended off legislation sponsored by Democratic Rep. Edward Roybal of California that would limit the negligence penalty to 5 per cent of unpaid duties and the penalty for willful evasion to 50 per cent.

'Legislative tampering with the alty process, making it such a pertage, would be deadly to the deter-I c effect we need,' says Leonard Lehman, assistant commissioner for regulations and rulings for the Customs Service. 'In effect, it would make violations just a calculated risk.' Mr. Lehman concedes that the current penalty procedure 'is intended to be harsh'. But, it also is 'intended to be offset by a liberal mitigation process for importers who are not defrauding the government.'

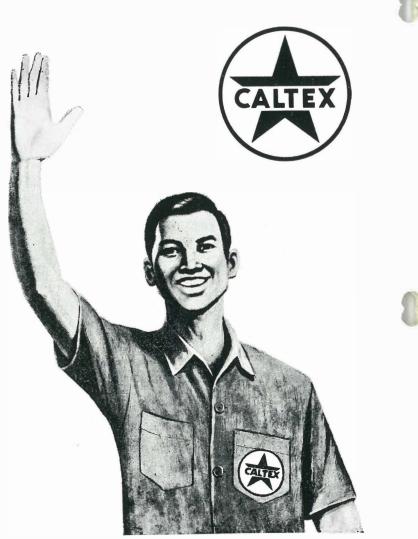
Treasury officials who oversee the Customs Service also think the agency needs its existing penalty powers. But

they do express sympathy for importers caught up in penalty actions. Assistant Treasury Secretary David MacDonald, in a recent speech, told importers that the penalty power made a weapon 'with the combined qualities of a Gatling gun and a 10pound smooth-bore cannon. only problem,' he said, '. . . is that sometimes it's difficult to identify the victim afterwards.'

Design Depository: The article in the April Bulletin entitled How To Protect Your Designs concerning the design depository run by the Federation of HK Industries contained a small but misleading printing error. The error occurs on p. 23 of the article, near the top of the right hand column. Here we said: 'The FHKI has legal powers as regards copyright, or registration under the UK Registered Designs Act.' This should have read: 'The FHKI has no legal powers as regards copyright, or registration under the UK Registered Designs Act.' We believe readers will have understood this to be the case from the context in which the sentence occurred, but we should like to take this opportunity to clear up any confusion that may have been caused.

Several readers have also phoned the Chamber with questions about the Design Depository. May we suggest that the best people to answer queries on its use are the FHKI?

# Think car care, think Cattex



## Top of the Export Pops

HONG KONG is the 17th largest exporter in the world. However very few know just how Hong Kong stands in individual export perforance. The Trade Development nuncil recently produced an analysis Hong Kong's position as a world exporter of leading export items for 1973.

To begin with, Hong Kong's largest manufacture. Hong Kong became leader as an exporter of clothing when it overtook Italy in 1973. In that year clothing exports from HK were worth \$7,425 million. Italy sold \$6,604 million worth and was followed by France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Taiwan which was estimated to have produced \$4,011 million worth of garments that year and South Korea with \$3,919 million, a figure which also included fur clothing.

Earlier in 1972 Hong Kong had overtaken Japan as the world's leading exporter of toys. In 1973 it continued as top exporter and sold toys orth \$1,647 million. Japan managed export \$996 million, 35 per cent than Hong Kong. Germany was third, followed by the USA and Taiwan. However these countries were considered top five because figures for some other leading toy exporters were not available. These included Italy which was a substantial exporter and might have been one of the top five in that year as well as South Korea and Mexico.

Hong Kong also ranked first as an exporter of plastic flowers. In 1973 the Colony exported \$478 million worth of plastic flowers, an industry

which had meant the beginning of Hong Kong as a leading exporter. Taiwan and Singapore ranked second and third, producing \$32 million and \$7 million worth respectively. These however included flowers made from all materials, not only plastic.

In 1973 Hong Kong was also leader of torch exports and managed to sell \$81 million worth while Japan was second with \$12 million. In terms of quantity the Colony exported 56.3 million compared with the 2.2 million Japan had exported.

### HK's time-keepers

Watches in 1973 made \$209 million for HK and put the Colony in third position. However it was recently announced that Hong Kong has done better than that in 1974 and has overtaken Japan to be second only to Switzerland in the watch trade. Hong Kong was said to have sold more than 11 million watches last year.

Japan and Hong Kong once again led the rest of the world as the leading makers of transistor radios, Japan exporting \$2,132 million worth in 1973 while Hong Kong exported \$1,159 million. The figure for Japan includes other types of radios. Both these countries were by far larger exporters than all the major European and American countries as well as Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea.

In the jewellery trade, Hong Kong reached fourth position after Italy, Germany and the US. In 1973 it had exported \$422 million worth, a little more than France. There may be a slight discrepancy here because statis-

### TOP EXPORTS—cont'd.

tics for South Korea and South Africa were not available.

As a maker of travel goods, Hong Kong took second position after Italy. In 1973 it sold \$405 million worth of travel goods. Germany held third place, followed by Japan and Taiwan. At that time, South Korea and Singapore were not very large exporters. Also figures for another leading exporter of mainly leather travel goods, Argentina, were not available.

Other industries where Hong Kong was among the top five exporters in 1973 were wigs, umbrellas and candles. Wigs still managed to make for HK \$104 million in 1973. However it had dropped to second position, South Korea having overtaken it in 1972 as the world's leading exporter of wigs. Hong Kong ranked third when it came to umbrellas in 1973, selling \$80 million worth. As a candle-maker, Hong Kong was second with exports worth \$38 million. It was outranked by its strongest competitor for top position in many items, Japan, which had exported \$41 million worth.

Finally, and perhaps most significantly of all, a fact not in the TDC report. During 1974, it has been reported, China's total trade overtook that of HK and Taiwan, to become for the first time in recent history the third largest trading nation in the Asian/Pacific Area, second only to Japan and Australia. The Chamber has not yet had a chance to confirm these reports, but if verified, they would corroborate what many believe to be an inevitable trend.

### MR. HONG KONG—cont'd.

registered a slight increase. The most common cause of injury listed was 'power-driven machinery', which was responsible for more than 6,000 injuries last year. This was close followed by 'stepping on or strik against objects'. There were nearry twenty per cent more injuries last year as a result of 'falls of persons', but fewer casualties through 'falls of grounds'.

Less electricity was consumed by industry and commerce last year the result of decreased demand due to production cut-backs as well as to a more economical use of electricity. Industrial gas consumption was also down, but commercial gas consumption was considerably higher than in 1973. Fresh water consumption also fell slightly — a result probably of a period of water rationing rather than the economic slowdown. However, consumption of 'salt water for flushing purposes' was up by 223 million gallons (this is rather surprising since we appear to have been drink and eating less last year).

In 1973, 49 more ocean-going vessels left Hong Kong than arrived. This suggests that there were 49 ships launched in Hong Kong in 1974. But perhaps there is another explanation. On the other hand, while 33,857 river steamers, hydrofoils, launches and junks arrived in our port, only 33,652 left. What happened to the extra 205 vessels? Were all these vessels taken to the scrapyards? Or did last year's typhoons take a heavier toll of shipping in the harbour than was reported?

令人鼓舞,有些會員商行因結束營業或其他 原因而退會,因此本會會員部要特別努力, 才可使今年在這方面的收入可以和去年相等 ,而首幾個月簽證費的收入則甚爲低降。在 另一方面租金不斷上漲(如果我們的會址仍 然在中區的話,這項上漲是一定要支付的)

可職員薪酬的增加。雖然這些費用增加了 1支方面還沒有超出預算。本董事會認為 在日下情形還不應增加會費。在本會議稍後 時間,我將提出這個動議。但我們對情况需 要細心觀察,對各總商會而言,赤字之經濟 預算是不敢恭維。

### 以下爲利國偉議員於週年會議中 和議主席之報告書時之發言。

「主席先生在其週年報告中曾對世界政 治與經濟形勢闡釋透闢,本人對其觀點深表 同意。誠然,在過去一年間世界各國確會經 歷了自一九三零年代以來最嚴重之經濟衰退 , 猶幸香港工商業境况與其他地區相較, 仍 不致太差,尚足欣慰。

本港工商界面臨困難頗多,包括:外匯 不安、利率波動、成本增高及海外定單不繼 等,幸而本會在主席領導下,仍能貫澈以往 之努力,爲會員謀求福利,成效卓越,兼且 更向本港市民提供社會、經濟及其他種種服 務。本人對會方不遺力地協助工商界拓展富 力之新市場,印象尤深。

本會去年的成就,實賴主席、各位名譽 會董及各委員共同努所致,相信各位會員都 有此同感,我們應向彼等,特別是行將離港 的凱瑟克先生及在年中退休的祈德先生致以 衷心謝意。史乃廸先生乃一位中國貿易的老 手,對商會服務超過二十年之久,一旦溘然 而逝,實在令人深深悼念。

最後本人對主席先生所提報告書及截至 一九七四十二月卅一日止的賬目,表示和議 0

### 介紹「香港年報 |

由香港政府每年 編彙之「香港年 報」業已出版 , 各界人士對此年刊之 意見,譭譽參半,但本港學生及遊客 等均視之爲不可多得之讀物,「年報」 內附有統計圖表四十多張, 展示有關 貿易、職業、房屋、 人口及其他主要 門類之詳盡數字。

是期「年報」之內容尤爲充實,因一九 七四年爲頗爲奇特的一年——其間經濟由繁 榮趨於呆滯,又由呆滯而至衰退;在消費, 交通、物業、電力及煤氣生產上之一向增長 轉走下坡。在另一方面,罪案、監獄人數及 自殺事件則有顯著之增加。這一切顯示出人 們動態皆受經濟情况轉變所影响。

一九七五年似乎與去年下半年之形勢相 同,惟望於明年,一切有良好轉機。

於去年,本港人口增加了二成,但食米 消耗却减了百份之二十七,鷄隻百份之十二 ,猪牛百份之二點五。但蔬菜方面則較一九 七三年增了百份之九,這也就反映出肉食昂 貴,人們之購買力亦隨之減弱。

同樣地,去年咖啡入口下跌了百份之四 十四,茶葉則爲百份之十一。本地鷄蛋產量 亦告下跌約五萬九千籮,或从百多萬隻鷄蛋

由香港電台最近舉辦之一次調查所得亦 顯示本港食物消量方面下降了不少,但奢侈 品銷路却增加了。該項調查所得顯示在本港 出產之食物雖然下降,但貝殼類(新鮮的和 乾晒)及海鮮等方面却增加了百份之二十。 同類之入口數量則減少。

去年,每一千人中之死亡數字增加了一 點,但出生率則減少了一點。

從罪案事件看來,雖然去年之數字頗爲 該人,但却較其他同類地方爲佳。一九七四 年之謀殺及誤殺兇案數字較一九七三年爲低 ,但嚴重傷人事件却增加百份之六十七,而 倉刦事件之增加爲百份之四十六。

自「廉正公署」於去年成立以來,貪汚 及行賄事件有所遞減,如「香港年報」所利 載,去年只爲二十九宗,前年則四十五宗, 而於一九七二年却達八十一宗。

在勞工就業方面,除却「科學器材、照相及光學儀器」行業外,其他各門各類之工業之勞工數字均告下跌。

至於消費指數,去年平均均較一九七二 年高約二十三點。

去年之交通意外意件有顯著下降跡象。 而實際上,車輛登記數字下跌約百份之八, 但貨車一類似有增加。

在職勞工傷亡數字去年爲二百三十四宗 ,較七三年減少了七十宗,但此數字乃代表 平均每一工作天發生一宗此類事件。

由於生產量削減,工商各界所耗之電力 亦因而減少。煤氣及食水等耗量亦相繼減少 ,但冲厠用之鹹水則增加了二百二十多萬加 金。

「香港年報」第二百零二頁及其他各處 ,對本會均畧有提及。

### 剖視香港之貿易

香港貿易發展局於最近編備一刊物詳盡分析香港在世界貿易上之位置。目下,香港佔世界出口國家中之第十七位。

自一九七三年以來,本港對外貿易形勢 大同小異。於一九七三年,香港取替意大利 而成爲成衣出口之首要地位,於該年,本港 成衣出口總值七十四億二千五百萬元,法國 、德國及台灣隨其後。

於一九七三年初,香港已遠超日本,爲 世界首要玩具出口地,隨之爲日本、德國、 美國及台灣。

香港亦爲塑膠花方面之首屈一指出口地 •於一九七三年,從香港出口之塑膠花器 約四億七千八百萬。台灣及星加坡則佔 及第三位。

於一九七三年,在電筒出口方面,香港遙遙領先,出口總值為八千一百萬元,日本佔第二位,其電筒出口總值只為一千二百萬元。同一期間,由香港出口之手錶總值為二億九百萬元,佔世界第三位。近日據悉香港在手錶業上已躍升第二位置,取替日本而隨瑞士之後。

日本及香港目下仍為原子粒收音機之主 要製造地,遠超歐洲各主要國家,美國、台 灣、星加坡及南韓。

在珠寳業而言,香港佔世界第四位,緊 隨意大利、德國及美國之後。但南韓及南非 在此方面之數字却甚難獲得。

香港在旅行用具出品中則隨意大利之後 ,於一九七三年,此類之出口總值爲四億五 百萬元。德國佔第三位,隨之爲日本及台灣 。南韓及星加坡於此方面則不大重要。

在一九七三年出口成績不俗之其他工業包括假髮、雨傘及洋燭等。尤其假髮, 九六〇年代末期蓬勃一時,而於三年後】 即衰退。但在一九七三年,其出口總值仍爲 一億四百萬。自一九七二年,南韓已成爲世 界假髮之首要出口國,香港則次之。

香港在雨傘出口佔第三位(一九七三年 出口總值八千萬),洋燭方面則佔第二位。 (三千八百萬)。

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