

THE Bulletin

A Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce Magazine 香港總商會月刊

Vietnamese Refugees— A Human Problem

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Published by
The Hong Kong General Chamber
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Swire House, 9th Floor, Hong Kong
Telephone: 5-237177

Chairman
N A Rigg, J.P.

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J D McGregor, OBE, ISO

Harry Garlick

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Production
Li York Ling

Printed by
South China Morning Post, Ltd., H.K.

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of Commerce.

工商月刊

出版人：香港總商會
香港太古大廈十樓
電話：五 - 二三七一七七

主席：雷勵祖

副主席：紐璧堅

執行董事：麥理覺

編輯部：麥理覺

葛立科

曾子修

譚國榮

李源柔

美術製作：李若稜

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The plight of the Vietnamese refugees is very similar to that of many other forced migrations of people throughout history. The circumstances causing the exodus are also depressingly familiar and only the numbers involved and the scale of the relief efforts required may be somewhat different to earlier refugee movements. I can recall personally quite clearly the shocking circumstances of famine and death in Bengal and Bihar in 1943 and 1944, when millions of people normally resident in the countryside in small towns and villages struggled to reach major cities with their families, believing that there would be some measure of relief there. Tragically there was none, and it was reliably reported at the time that over one million people died from the effects of the famine and forced migration. I have never forgotten the widespread distress and the utter hopelessness that the few relief agencies capable of assisting had to face. Entire families died of starvation and malnutrition en route to the cities. There was no lack of sympathy with the plight of the people who were moving and these were not of course refugees in the true sense of the word. Nevertheless the administrative systems then available were simply not adequate for the task, and sympathy does not fill stomachs. So the death toll mounted to horrific levels.

The situation of the Vietnamese refugees is in one sense not unlike that of the Bengalis and Bihar's so many years ago. They too are on the move in completely uncertain circumstances with little more than hope to sustain them in the dangerous passage towards safety and succour. The dangers cannot be overmagnified. The evidence available of completely unseaworthy vessels, crowded to the point of sinking, venturing on to the high seas in typhoon prone weather conditions provides eloquent testimony to the bravery of despair. It could hardly be supposed that the Hong Kong Government would fail to recognise this situation and the need to interpret it in humanitarian terms. It is simply inconceivable that the Hong Kong authorities should attempt to do what so many others have in fact done, that is, provide food and water and push the boats back out again to sea where their occupants would face an almost certain death. Hong Kong has become for many of

the Vietnamese not the first port of call but the last.

It cannot be said however that the Vietnamese are welcome here. They are most decidedly not, and the quicker that the United Nations relief arrangements can provide resettlement and reduce the enormous burden on the U.N. Relief Agencies and on Hong Kong, the better. But in the meantime, there is sense in ensuring that employable persons among the Vietnamese are given work in socially acceptable ways. There are three basic benefits. The first is that the refugees are human beings with the need for human dignity, based on the ability of the bread winner to work and to provide for his family. This is therefore fundamental to the social stability of each camp and each community unit within the camps. Secondly, earnings from constructive work by the refugees reduce the burden on the agencies and the Hong Kong authorities. Thirdly, and importantly, the contribution which Vietnamese workers can make to the Hong Kong economy may be quite substantial, bearing in mind the relative shortage of certain kinds of workers which we have experienced in Hong Kong during the last decade. Even with a possible recession in 1980 to consider, there is still a good deal of economic value to be obtained by ensuring the widest possible use of Vietnamese labour. Their contribution to the economy can be considered as a form of repayment for the haven and security which they have been given, and I am sure many of the Vietnamese themselves will not consider this view unreasonable.

Our main article in the *Bulletin* this month is devoted not to the problems of the Vietnamese nor the difficulties facing the authorities looking after them, but to their growing contribution to Hong Kong's manufacturing industries and therefore to the Hong Kong economy. It is my personal hope that this contribution will expand to the point where every employable Vietnamese is productively employed during his enforced stay in Hong Kong.



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Vietnamese Refugees — a Human Problem

"At the Shamshuipo camp, the air is rent with howls that recall the site's former use as a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp during the second world war. These come from the slaughter house just over the fence. There is anguished wailing inside the camp too — from the refugees who have had no response to the letters and telegrams they have sent to families left behind in Vietnam.

"Few people are however lying in the bunks inside the camp, because 60 per cent of the adults among the 7,000 residents of Shamshuipo are out during the day working in Hong Kong factories. Since August 1, when the United Nations cut off its food allowance as an incentive to work, most families in the camp have become self-supporting."

Extract from the *Economist* July 21, 1979.

For several years, Hong Kong's manufacturing industry has suffered from a shortage of labour. The arrival of the Vietnamese refugees — unwelcome though they were (and are) — has to some extent alleviated this situation. According to the count when this article was prepared, the number of refugees landed in Hong Kong totals 68,000. This represents a high proportion of the number of additional workers Hong Kong's manufacturing industry is said to require in order to bridge the labour gap. At the very least, the potential supply of labour can be considered significant.

Government statistics for March 1979 showed that the industrial sectors where labour shortage was most acute were:— electronics, with 13,668 vacancies, garments — 30,854, plastics — 6,328 and metal products — 5,112. Respectively, these industries were 16.5, 10.2, 7.0 and 6.1 per cent short of labour. Vacancies of course do not represent the total demand for labour which is normally much higher

than total reported vacancies.

If every one of the employable refugees was absorbed into local industry, there is no doubt that pressure on labour mobility and probably wages as well would be reduced. This effect, and the refugees contribution to our economy, because they are to be resettled elsewhere within a year or so, is only transitory and limited.

Since employment statistics for September are not available, it is impossible to indicate precisely the extent by which the labour shortage in industry has been reduced. Nonetheless, some 13,000 refugees are at present employed in local industries, concentrated in the neighbourhood of the various camps. Refugees from the Shamshuipo camp work in the Cheungshawan district, those from Kai Tak spread over Kwun Tong and San Po Kong, and refugees in Tuen Mun have been absorbed in the industries of this rapidly expanding area.

The refugee drama started last December when a Panamanian register-







ed vessel, Huey Fong, carrying 3,000 people, arrived in Hong Kong. Throughout spring and early summer, the influx continued to mount until it reached a peak in June, when a total of 19,650 refugees arrived. In July, when the special United Nations conference on refugees was held in Geneva, the number for the month fell to about 8,800.

About half of the refugees here were accommodated by the Hong Kong Government, and the other half by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). At August 1, the direct cost to the Hong Kong taxpayers had been \$50 million.

While critics blame the Government for spending large amounts of the taxpayer's money on the refugees, many manufacturers concede that the refugees have helped to ease the labour shortage problem, and maintain wage levels.

These manufacturers, particularly those in the electronics and garment industries — the two sectors where the labour shortage has been most acute — suggest that refugees who can match local workers in productivity and quality should be employed on a temporary basis, and thus contribute to the Hong Kong economy. They believe that this will help to reduce social tension in the camps, provide families with earnings, and directly help exports.

Fairchild Semiconductor's Managing Director, Donald Brettner, agrees that the refugees have helped in easing Hong Kong's labour problem. "Although these refugees are going to be resettled within a short period, manufacturers should be encouraged to employ them regardless," Mr. Brettner said. "This could take away



some of the burden from the Government, and help Hong Kong's industry."

Refugees are assimilated in local industry through different channels. They either approach employers directly by responding to newspaper advertisements and street posters, or register with voluntary employment agencies stationed in the refugee camps. Employers also from time to time seek out workers in the camps.

According to some refugee workers, Hong Kong employers have treated them unfairly. These refugees allege that they are given lower wages than those originally offered, and in some cases, they have been dismissed without sufficient notice, or severance pay in lieu of notice.

Associate Director of the Hong Kong Christian Industrial Committee Hans Lutz, told *The Bulletin* that many such complaints have been received by his Committee. "Whenever we meet the refugees, we receive a significant number of complaints," Mr. Lutz said.

Manufacturers explain that refugee workers are usually required to serve a probational period of between two to four weeks, during which they receive about \$5 per day less in wages than

their local counterparts. Their wages equal those of local workers upon satisfactory completion of the probation period. On the other hand, employment for unsuccessful probationers is terminated.

An officer who works in the Jubilee Camp said refugee workers who register with them are usually treated fairly because, "we ask employers who approach us to pay them fair wages, although we do not have power to enforce this. However, refugees who seek jobs themselves may risk the danger of being underpaid because they are unfamiliar with the rates in local factories."

Whilst alien workers grumble about unequal treatment, local employees point out that because of the presence of refugees, they have found it harder to bargain with their employers. "In the past, we could more easily negotiate for wage increases because our boss didn't want his competitors to lure us away. The situation is quite different now, because the attitudes of our employers have changed. Their attitude is: 'If you don't take the job, somebody else will take it' a local factory worker said.

Comments a Tuenmun manufacturer: "This is a question of supply



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and demand. Where there are adequate labour resources, wages tend to remain steady, regardless of where the resources come from."

Mr. Lutz says that the employment of refugee workers has created an atmosphere of insecurity among local workers, because they feel that their employers can always draw on other resources. In spite of this, the presence of the refugee workers has not really threatened the employment opportunities of local workers "The number of refugees seeking work is still insignificant compared with the immigrants from China," Mr. Lutz said. "There has not been any case where local people are unemployed because of the refugees."

Says the Acting Secretary for Security, Morris Morgan, "There is no sign that they (the refugees) have yet filled all the vacant jobs in Hong Kong,

and there is always the risk of a change of economic circumstances."

Regarding Government's attitude on the employment of refugees, Mr. Morgan said there is no restriction on employment other than usual legislative provisions governing employment in Hong Kong. He admitted that the refugee workers may be paid at slightly below normal rates, but however pointed out, "they are not subject to the same expenses, such as rents, which fall on Hong Kong residents, and they are of course only temporary and largely untrained employees with their sights fixed firmly on overseas employment."

Mr. Morgan said, "The effects of the refugees on Hong Kong have not been entirely negative and disruptive. However, any short term advantage for employers must be weighed against possible long term disadvantages and



increased pressure on social and community facilities."

The Geneva Conference, he said, has raised expectations for the refugees that they will all find new homes within two years or less. "And Hong Kong has begun to hope that it will soon be fully relieved of its burden."

Pollution Controls— a Pragmatic Approach

In 1978, the Pollution Control Unit of the Marine Department removed 547,500 tonnes of refuse from the waters of Hong Kong. The Air Pollution Unit of the Labour Department received and investigated 974 air pollution complaints, of which 48 resulted in prosecution with fines ranging from \$200 to \$2,000. The Urban Council disposed of a total of 1 million tonnes of solid waste at controlled tips, and burned a further 554,770 tonnes in incinerators.



Although in overall terms the volume of pollution in Hong Kong compares favourably with many other cities of a similar size, these staggering figures suggest that suitable measures have to be taken in order to prevent our environment from experiencing deterioration which could be, in some ways irreparable.

There is always debate, and sometimes dispute, between industrialists and environmentalists — the practical and the idealistic — whenever the latter advocates anti-pollution controls. In places where large areas of land can be set aside solely for industry, residence and recreation, the confrontation may be less severe. But in Hong Kong, where industries proliferate in residential districts, and intrude into scenic and recreational spots, the enforcement of such controls inevitably brings about controversies.

Although noise is apparently the worst type of pollution since it affects almost everybody, the contamination of air and water is more serious in the sense that it may take away people's lives and kill thousands of living creatures. Environmentalists have usually associated air and water pollution with industrial effluent, and have proposed legislation specifically against industry.

The enforcement of such environmental controls is however delicate in Hong Kong, as in many other industrialised countries such as Japan,

Singapore and Korea, since the viability of their economy depends to a great extent on the growth of industry. The Hong Kong Government is aware of this, and is extremely cautious in formulating control policies.

"The objective of the Government is, on one hand, to prevent deterioration of the environment by pollution, while on the other hand, avoiding the imposition of blanket controls which can have a detrimental effect on the economy," a Government spokesman said.

In view of this, major industrial organisations including the Chamber, Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI), the Chinese Manufacturers' Association (CMA), were invited to nominate representatives to sit on the Environmental Protection Advisory Committee (EPCOM), previously known as the Advisory Committee on Environmental Protection. This Committee, headed by the Secretary for the Environment, Derek Jones, advises Government on the implementation of environmental protection measures.

At present, Government is actively considering a package of anti-pollution laws in a bid to protect Hong Kong's environment from further deterioration. The draft legislation covers waste disposal, water pollution, air pollution and noise abatement. Legislation on environmental impact will be considered at a later stage.

The detailed draft laws are now making their way through EPCOM

vetting sessions. The draft waste disposal Bill was discussed in EPCOM's last term earlier this year, and is now before the Legislative Council. It is hoped that the water and air pollution drafts may be put to the Legco later this year with the noise abatement draft following in early 1980.

The concept behind the bills was formulated with the help of a firm of consultants from the United Kingdom during a series of consultative sessions with members of EPCOM two years ago.

In 1974, the Government appointed Environmental Resources Ltd to study the extent of the pollution problem in Hong Kong, and the effectiveness of existing legislation on environmental protection. ERL, in considering Hong Kong's social, economic and industrial trend, advised Government on the principles to be incorporated into a general Environmental Protection Ordinance. Subsequently in 1977, ERL recommended five new Ordinances covering the control of air, noise, water pollution, disposal of solid wastes and the preparation of environmental impact statements.

On the recommendation of ERL, Government set up the Environmental Protection Unit to act as a central coordinating body for the overall anti-pollution strategy, and to prepare an environmental protection programme.

Principal Assistant Secretary for the



Oil pollution on Lamma Island

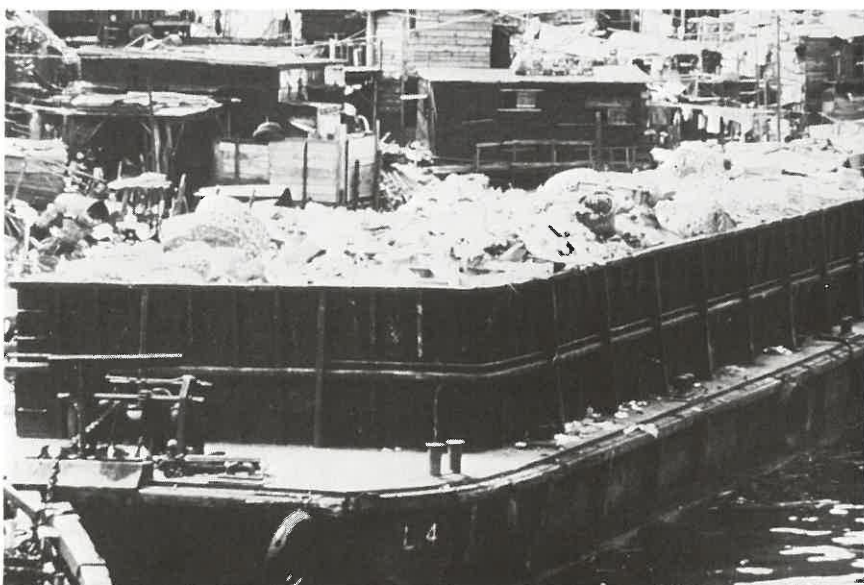
Environment, Anthony Bennett told *The Bulletin* that the new legislation aims to produce control measures which will match the emission of various kinds of pollutants to the ability of different areas to absorb them.

"In the case of water pollution, for example, because the strong tidal current along the western coast of the New Territories scours away liquid effluent, control might not have to be so stringent. On the other hand, tougher control is needed in the fairly enclosed area of Tolo Harbour where there is no tidal effect for natural scouring."

"Similarly for air, greater control has to be applied in areas where the air current is fairly stable, such as the Shatin Valley; and lesser control in places where a constant wind blows, such as Tap Sek Kok," Mr Bennett said.

"Apart from defining the different areas, we also measure the amount of emission created by each factory," he said. "Control is needed where the level of effluent reaches a maximum level. This means the installation of suitable treatment devices, and if necessary, a relocation of the industries."

Mr Bennett pointed out that for existing operations, control is required only if the amount of effluent exceeds 30 per cent of what was originally registered in the inventory check (a record that indicates the amount of



The USD is responsible for the collection and disposal of refuse



'Lap Sap Chung' on the beaches



Construction noise - a constant hazard

effluent produced by individual operators) — unless the emission poses any health hazard. Treatment devices may however be required for new plants which produce effluent, and which are located in areas where the absorption rate is low.

Some industrialists have alleged that the existing discharges or deposits into harbour areas or water control zones do not come from industry alone, but from domestic and other sources. They said Government should improve the present sewage system and provide them with brochures which lay down standard requirements since the average industrialist is not "technically competent" in identifying the prohibited discharges of effluent.

Government realises the introduction of controls will cost manufacturers money, and thus tries to minimise the impact of these controls. "Since Hong Kong depends very much on its industry we don't want to make life difficult for manufacturers by going to the extremes, and jeopardising the economy," Mr Bennett said. "We appreciate the potential difficulties, and we work with manufacturers to solve the problems."

Industrialists agree that the Govern-

ment has been generally sympathetic to their problems. "The Government has been very reasonable so far. I believe it will be realistic in dealing with environmental problems" says Managing Director of Union Metal Works Ltd. S.H. Sung, who represents the Chamber on EPCOM.

Nevertheless, industrialists warn that if anti-pollution regulations are too rigid, they could harm industry. "The power to be exercised by the Secretary under the proposed water pollution Bill appears too extensive," Mr Sung said. "We feel that the appeal systems or procedures should enable a person to appeal if he is aggrieved by a requirement of the Authority."

"If the Government were to order certain factories to relocate, or to change their production methods, it could seriously affect their economic viability," Executive Director of FHKI, Cecil Chan said. "Since this is a very sensitive topic, we have had to strike an appropriate balance. The public must be protected, but industry must not be hit too hard."

The Chairman of the Chamber's Industrial Affairs Committee, Dennis Ting said, "Changes are needed, but they should come gradually. We

should not simply follow slogans and apply measures which might have an immediate effect, but which might hurt industry."

According to EPCOM's secretary, Anthony Bennett, the new legislation is aimed at incorporating existing legislation, and where possible improving it; as well as defining a better framework for a comprehensive and long term approach.

The essence of the four anti-pollution Bills — water, air, waste disposal and noise abatement — are:

Water Pollution Control Ordinance. Licences indicating the existing level of effluent will be issued to individual emitters. Operators are allowed to exceed their existing level of emission by 30 per cent, but any change of process has to be reported. Treatment devices may be required for new plants.

Air Pollution Control Ordinance. This is an extension of the Clean Air Ordinance with several provisions covering the emission from fuel users, odour from existing and new industries, and effluent from industries which could pose a pollution hazard.

Solid Waste Control Ordinance. This will incorporate all existing regulations plus their modifications. The general idea is to cope with the future, to make sure industries producing particularly bad waste will have proper transport and disposal facilities.

Noise Abatement Ordinance. Planned laws on noise will bring together various existing pieces of legislation, including the Public Health and Urban Services Ordinance, which deals with noise from ventilation equipment and air-conditioners, and the Summary Offences Ordinance, which deals with neighbourhood and construction noise.

Secretary for Environment, Derek Jones pointed out that existing industries were not likely to be faced with rigorous additional standards, "but people setting up new factories will be expected to comply with certain regulations. It's always cheaper to put in an air-conditioning unit while you're building a house than wait until you've finished."

"We're aiming to catch up with the situation while it's still fairly easy to deal with. In Japan, they let the situation get really bad, resulting in a very sharp clampdown in some areas," Mr Jones said.

Chamber group enjoys memorable tour of China

Have you ever sat in an Illuyshin 18 aircraft parked on the tarmac prior to take-off in a temperature of 33°C?

This experience was shared by the twenty members of the latest group to visit China as part of the Chamber's on-going programme of tours arranged in conjunction with China Travel Service.

The air-conditioning system of this aircraft does not function until the cabin is pressurised at about 8,000 feet, and the group agreed that the heat was the nearest thing to hell they had yet experienced.

This however was one of the very few sticky — literally — moments in an otherwise highly enjoyable and interesting tour. The Group had the good fortune to be offered a somewhat unusual itinerary. Instead of concentrating on the familiar tourist centres — Shanghai, Kweilin, Hangchow etc. — this tour featured the less familiar Szechuan Province and the Yangtze river. Highlight of the trip was a relaxing three day boat journey down the Yangtze, taking in the three spectacular gorges close to the boundary between Szechuan and Hupei provinces.

The group also stayed in two cities not on many many tourist itineraries — Chengtu, capital of Szechuan Province, and Chungking, wartime capital of China.

An evening was spent looking around the city of Wanhsein, an important river port on the

Yangtze. According to the guide accompanying the group, the Chamber's Party was only the fifth or sixth party of foreigners to have visited this city. Certainly the local children lost no opportunity to study the group at close quarters. A film star or international sportsman could not have attracted a bigger crowd.

Most members found Szechuan cuisine — including a memorable 22 course meal — certainly challenged the Cantonese in quality, despite the protests of two loyal Cantonese wives in the group.

After a brief visit to Wuhan, the tour finished with three crowded days in Peking, with an opportunity to visit all the main places of historic interest — the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace — as well as a visit to the impressive Great Hall of the People, which has only recently been opened to tourists (at a charge of five yuan!) The group also paid its respects at the mausoleum of Chairman Mao.

Peking at this time of year is extremely crowded with tourists, many of them from other parts of China. One member of the group felt that he was in real danger of being pushed off the Great Wall, so congested has it become on days when the weather is good.

The group took it as a sign of the good relations between the

Chamber and the Chinese authorities to have assigned to it Mr Wang Kang of Head Office, China Travel Service. Mr Wang had been one of the party officially assigned to Sir Murray MacLehose during his visit to Peking, and he proved extremely helpful in making sure that all went well.

The group was led by past Chairman of the Chamber Leslie Gordon, and was accompanied by Assistant Director Harry Garlick as group manager. Most members of the group took along their families, including a teenage son and daughter.

Mr Gordon, during a reception held on the last evening in Peking, pointed out that although the group was described simply as 'expatriate' members of the Chamber, 11 different nationalities or races were in fact represented — a good indication of the Chamber's multi-national membership.

All in all, everyone agreed that it was a memorable fortnight, even those who had visited China previously.

A group of Chinese members of the Chamber leaves Hong Kong during October to follow a similar, though not quite identical itinerary, and the Chamber will continue to work with China Travel Service to arrange future visits for members, their wives and families.

PHOTOS 



Group Leader Mr. Leslie Gordon (right) presents a commemorative banner to Mr. Wang Kang of Head Office, China International Travel Service. Mr. Wang accompanied the group throughout its visit to China. Group Manager, Assistant Director, Mr. Harry Garlick is shown left.



Boating on the East Lake at Wuhan — Mr. and Mrs. Harry Garlick (centre) — Mr. Stephen Garlick and Mr. Wolfgang Roh (1st left).

Eight members of the group actually made it to the top of the Great Wall.



The group on board M

Mr. Robert E. B. dynasty bath



The children of Wanshan on the Yangtze River were amused by . . . The group's spontaneous performance of "The Monkey Opera".



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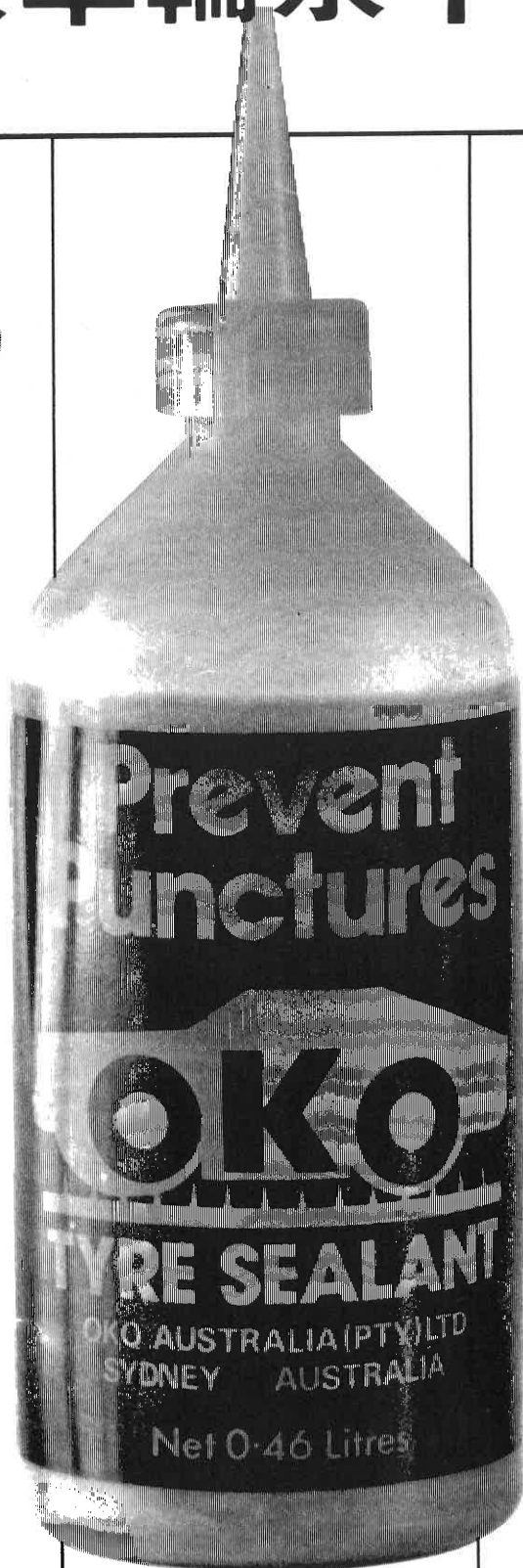
“「好路」防爆胎膠令車胎更持久，更耐用！重會減低車胎熱度。汽車、貨車同埋電單車都咁用㗎！”

「好路」防爆胎膠令車胎更持久更耐用，減少車胎內嘅熱度，汽車、貨車及電單車都咁用。

**「好路」防爆胎膠
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駕車人仕都知道汽車爆胎可能引致重大損失，有時甚至非常危險。

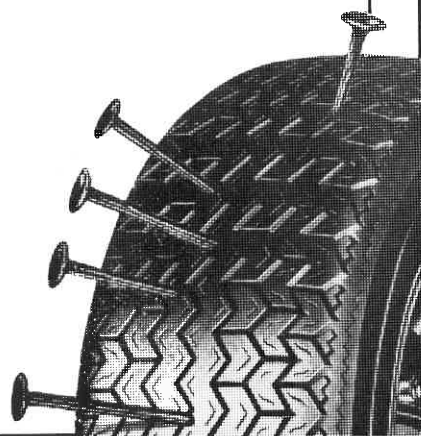
新產品「好路」防爆胎膠為你解決此項煩惱。如果你的汽車採用「好路」防爆胎膠，從此可安枕無憂。

「好路」防爆胎膠是一種液狀膠質，能滲入輪胎內具有保護輪胎功能。當你的輪胎被釘子扎破時，車胎內永久保持液狀的「好路」就會立即密封破口，不怕會有爆胎之虞。它可以填補面積達5毫米之輪胎破口，即使被13厘米(5吋)長的釘子刺穿也能立即補妥。

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VIP Mission from US and Canada Visits Chamber

A group of top level business executives from the United States and Canada visited the Chamber on September 12.

The VIP group, arranged by the Trade Development Council, came here to study the market situation, and the opportunity of expanding their involvement in trade. During their discussion with members of the North America Area Committee, the executives suggested that local businessmen might change their marketing thinking, and manufacturers should be prepared to take smaller orders for quality merchandise.



Chairman Geoffrey Archer (centre left) and members of the North America Area Committee discuss mutual trading problems with the US/Canada VIP mission.

In Order to be Successful in Japan, HK Must Upgrade Its Products

Japanese buyers are brand-name conscious, and Hong Kong manufacturers therefore must upgrade their products, and possibly establish their own brands, if they want to be successful in the Japanese market.

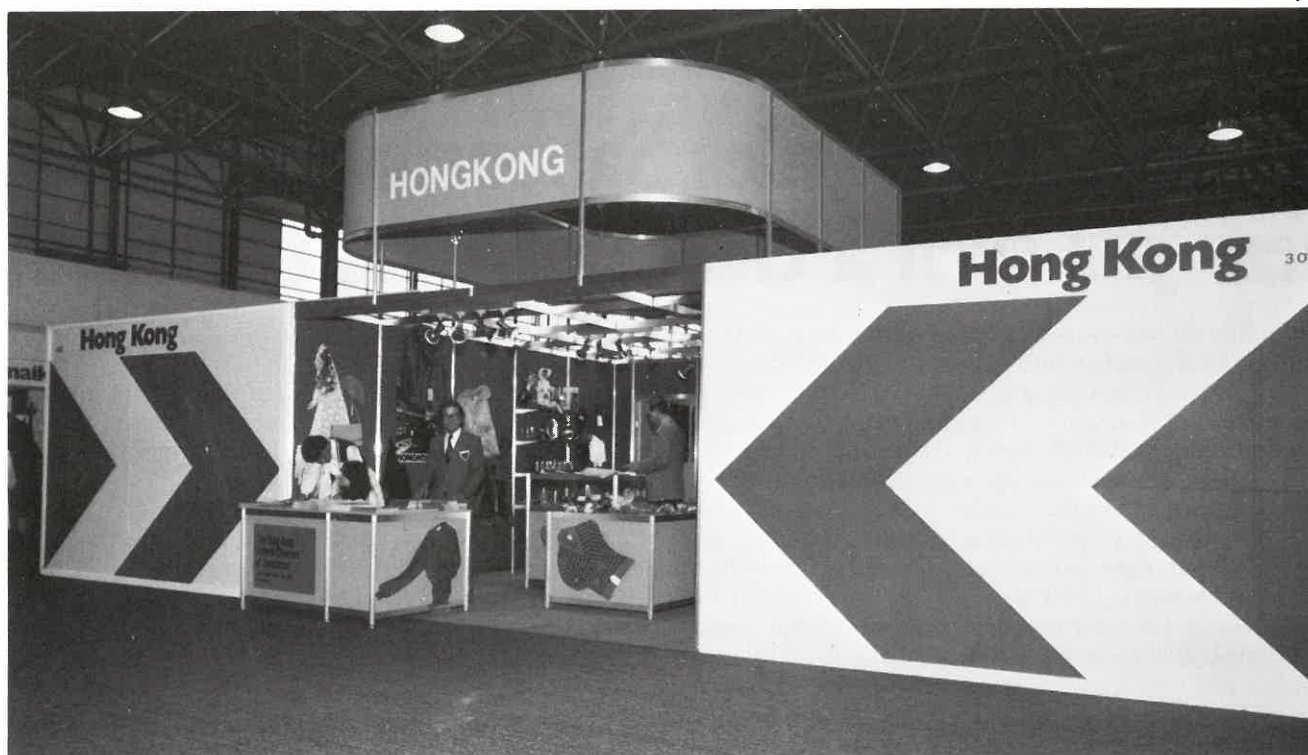
Trade Division Manager of the Chamber, Ernest Leong, who returned

from Kyushu on Sept. 21, reported that fur coats, expensive watches and jewellery are popular items among Japanese buyers.

Between Sept. 6 and 21, a 16-member selling mission of the Chamber, led by newly appointed Legislative Councillor Wong Po Yan, visited Oita, Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto and Kagoshima.

"Kyushu buyers want to buy sophisticated items of good quality."

→



Trade Manager W.S. Chan ready to greet visitors to the Hong Kong stand at the Berlin fair.

Jules Sabourin



Only Jules Sabourin offers you such a choice of quality wines.

Jules Sabourin has always been famous for offering a portfolio of quality wines with outstanding value for money.

It's a name to know and trust, whatever kind of wine you enjoy.

The Jules Sabourin French table wines are already a popular choice for everyday enjoyment. There's a selection of six wines (3 Whites, 2 Reds and a Rosé). Each embodies the best characteristics of French

wines, at a very palatable price.

If the occasion calls for a wine that's a bit more grand, then the Jules Sabourin range of fine, traditional French wines is perfect.

These carry the coveted "Appellation Controlee", which is your guarantee of consistent high quality. The wide variety reads like an honour roll of classic French wine — Saint Emilion, Medoc, Margaux (Bordeaux), Bourgogne

Rouge, Beaujolais (Burgundy) and Cotes du Rhone.

The delicate Whites are just as inviting — Graves, Premieres Cotes de Bordeaux and Bourgogne Aligote (Burgundy).

Whichever wine you like, always look for Jules Sabourin on the label, to be sure of satisfaction.

Only Jules Sabourin can offer you such a choice of quality wines in Hong Kong.

Jules Sabourin. Only the taste is expensive.

Caldbeck's. Only the best.

Mr. Leong said. "Fur coats, including mink, fox, leopard cat, and lamb skin are in great demand. Our fur coats are sold at one-third of the prices of those retailed in Kyushu."

Mr. Leong added that sophisticated toys, high-fashion garments, high quality handbags and shoes, Chinese rosewood furniture and hand-woven carpets are also marketable items.

"We believe that the high purchasing power of the Japanese in Kyushu, which has a total population of 14 million, will represent a profitable market for Hong Kong manufacturers," he said.

He said the Chamber may send further missions to Kyushu and to other prefectures in Japan in future, and is at present working closely with the Japan External Trade Centre and the trade association in Kyushu to determine precisely the type of products Japanese buyers want.

"The Japanese Government and Chambers of Commerce officials have been extremely helpful with our current visit, and they have promised further assistance in future", Mr. Leong said.

Japanese businessmen from Oita, Fukuoka and Nagasaki are planning to visit Hong Kong in October and November to take a broader look at the wide range of products here. Businessmen from Kagoshima are also planning similar visits for next year.

"With increased contacts between the two territories, I am sure Hong Kong can establish a stronger foothold in Japan, and enjoy a bigger share of the Japanese import market." Mr. Leong said.

Hong Kong Traders Secure Record Business at Berlin

Hong Kong companies at this year's Berlin Trade Fair, held between September 17 and 23, have secured orders worth more than \$9 million.

This is about three times as much as the business concluded last year, and is a record for Hong Kong attendance at the Fair since 1968.

In addition, the Hong Kong Pavilion has attracted a larger number of visitors than any other stand at the Fair.

Main items sold at the Fair included travel goods, attache cases, watches, toys, electronic products, household goods, imitation jewellery, silk flowers and gift items.



The Chamber's mission in action in Oita.

The Director of the Chamber, Jimmy McGregor, says that the spectacular growth is due to a very heavy and sustained demand in Western Europe across a wide range of consumer goods. "Demand in the United Kingdom and other West European countries is also strong despite fears of a recessionary trend next year. Hong Kong prices and qualities appear to be very attractive," he said.

The 17th Overseas Import Fair — Partners for Progress — is the largest

of its kind in Europe, and attracts thousands of buyers, importers, retailers and wholesalers from West Germany and other European countries.

So far this year, more than \$2,460 million worth of products, including garments, travel goods, toys, and watches have been exported to West Germany. This represents an increase of some 50% over the same period in 1978.



Chamber News

New Members

The following companies joined the Chamber during August:—
Che & Trading Co.

Foremost Textile Corporation
GKN international (S.E. Asia) Ltd.
Goodview Manufacturer Co.
Harbour Phoenix Limited
Hoi Shun Trading Co.
Maxpro International (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Marchwood Limited
Mee Sun Mfg. Co. Ltd.
Ngai Shing Engineering Mfy.
Orient Consolidation Service (HK) Ltd.
S & T Enterprises Ltd.
Sumber Asia Trading Company
Tolani & Associates
Tung Yick Industries Company
William E. Connor (H.K.) Ltd.

Standard Factory Buildings For New Industrial Ventures

The Hong Kong Industrial Estates Corporation is considering putting up standard factory premises on the estates to accommodate industries which qualify for sites and which may wish to get into production quickly.

These buildings, which will incorporate high ceilings and heavy floor loading, will be equipped with all the necessary infrastructural and related facilities for the industries which are being increasingly located on estate sites at Taipo.

The Executive Director of the Estates Corp., Victor Miller, told members of the Electronics Committee of the Chamber at a meeting on September 5 that such buildings are expected to be in demand. The likely

rent for these premises would be in the region of \$3 per sq. ft. per month.

In the meantime, Mr Miller said the Corporation may give consideration to industries, such as advanced electronics operation, which must locate in special buildings due to the need to use vibration-free machines of high technological quality. He stressed however that the normal selection criteria will remain the guiding principles in assessing applications for sites.

In regard to the new opportunities in China, Mr Miller said this has not reduced the number of applications for industrial estate sites. The Corporation receives an average of 40 applications a year.

Since its establishment in 1976, the Corporation has received a total of 137 applications, 38 of which have been approved, and 20 sites have been granted. A further five applications are under active negotiation.

Altogether, the 20 grantees will invest about \$461.3 million. Their industrial operations are expected to generate annual sales of over \$838 million.

300 Traders Attend Export Document Briefing

More than 300 businessmen and executives attended a briefing session on the latest developments in aligned export documents on September 6.

The briefing, arranged by the Hong Kong Trade Facilitation Committee (HKTFC) in conjunction with the Chamber, was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Hotel.

Principal Trade Officer of the Trade Industry and Customs Department and Chairman of the Documentation Subcommittee of the HKTFC, Jonathan Y.C. Ng said at the briefing that the "one run method" of producing aligned export documents is intended to ease the costs and time involved in the preparation of export documents.

Chamber Holds Luncheon For Blaker

The Chamber hosted a luncheon on September 25 for Mr. Peter Blaker, M.P., Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs in the United Kingdom Government, in the

Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Hotel.

The luncheon was attended by the Governor and a number of senior officials and businessmen as well as a large number of Chamber members.

Chinese Language Examination

The Chamber will hold its next Cantonese and Mandarin Examinations on November 3 in the Boardroom of the Chamber.

The examination will be conducted by qualified examiners from the two universities.

An examination fee of \$75 per candidate is required. Those who wish to take part should write to Miss Louise Wong of the Chamber.

Peter Blaker MP addresses Chamber members.



不安定、 不幸和不受歡迎的 越南難民



今日越南難民的遭遇與歷史上其他流亡民族的境況可謂極般相同。這次逃亡潮的成因亦是人所共知的，只是在人數及救援需要方面可能與早年流亡的難民略有不同。本人尚清楚記得一九四三／四四年間孟加拉及比哈發生飢荒及人民罹難的情況；當時，數百萬小鎮及鄉村居民皆帶同家人掙扎逃往大城市，他們以為在大城總會有些救援的辦法。但很不幸，他們全無一線生機，據報當時餓死及因逃亡罹難的人數超過一百萬名。我尚記得救濟機關面對滿目瘡痍，對救援感到無能為力的情景。雖然，他們並非真正的難民，但這些人民的流亡苦況仍得到各方的同情。然而，當時的行政制度實未足以應付救濟工作，單是同情並不能充飢；因此，飢民餓死的壞消息接踵傳來。

在某種意義上來說，越南難民的境況可謂與三十年前孟加拉及比哈的人民相似。他們同樣是在徬徨的境況下逃亡，脫難及得救是他們在怒海飄浮的唯一寄望。途中險象橫生，經不起風浪的船隻擠滿了難民。在風暴季節中冒險航行，是人們逃生意志的最有力証明。香港政府雖體諒越南難民的處境，並且以人道立場來看難民問題；但當局處理難民問題的做法簡直是不可思議。正如其他很多國家一樣，港府一方面供應糧食，另一方面又將難民船逐出香港水域，使他們在大海飄流

，遭逢不幸。對很多越南難民來說，香港並非第一港口，而是最後的停靠港。

越南難民湧來香港並未受到歡迎。聯合國方面能夠協助盡早安置這批難民，減輕聯合國救濟機關及港府目前所肩負的重担實在是最好不過。但就現況而言，僱用有工作能力的越南難民亦是個有意思的辦法。容納他們工作有三大基本優點。其一，難民亦需要有以供養能力為基礎的人性尊嚴，這對維持難民營及營內各羣體單位的穩定關係同屬重要。其二，難民加入工廠行列，賺取生活費用，亦可減輕難民救濟機關及港府的供給負擔。其三，更重要的是，鑒於近十年來本港若干行業一直出現勞工短缺現象，難民工源補充對香港經濟作出之貢獻可能甚大。即使考慮到一九八〇年之經濟放緩危機，我們仍可籍着越南難民勞動力，獲取可觀經濟利益。他們對香港經濟的貢獻可以視作留港求取安全庇護的一種補償方式。相信越南難民本身亦不會認為這個見解不合理。

本期「工商月刊」專文並非以越南難民問題或照顧難民機構所面臨的種種困難為主題，而是就他們對香港製造業及整個經濟的貢獻提出討論。本人希望此項貢獻會繼續擴展——使每個有工作能力的越南難民都獲得僱用，使他們在滯港期間盡量發揮勞動力。





探討越南難民 滯港問題

『深水埗難民營傳出混雜的哀號聲，使人回想起第二次世界大戰時期，這個營地曾經為日本的戰俘集中營。這些聲音有部份是從圍牆對開的屠房發出，而營中亦傳有陣陣的悲鳴——發自與越南家人音訊斷絕的難民。然而，日間只有少部份人仍留在營內，因為深水埗營的七千名難民中，已有百分六十的成人進入了香港的工廠工作。自八月一日聯合國中止對難民發給糧食津貼，鼓勵他們出外找尋工作以來，營中大多數的難民家庭已能自食其力。』

（節錄自「經濟學人」雜誌）

近年來，香港製造業一直遭遇勞工短缺困難。越南難民湧來香港雖則不受歡迎，但卻在某種程度上，緩和了本港的勞工荒。據撰文時之統計顯示：滯港的難民總人數約達六萬八千名。就本港現有的勞工空缺而言，此人數相當於本港工業所需額外勞工額的大部份。因此，這批難民對本港工源的補充應有一定的幫助。

政府一九七九年三月份統計數字顯示：出現龐大人力短缺的工業計有：電子（勞工空缺13,668個）、成衣（空缺30,854個）、塑膠業（空缺6,328個）及金屬製造業（空缺5,112個）。以比率計，上述工業缺乏人力之百分率分別為16.5%，10.2%，7.0%及6.1%。然而，勞工空缺並未足以代表總勞工需求，因為需求量通常是比報導的空缺數字為高。

香港廠商吸納全部有工作能力的難民，無疑可減低工人的流動性和有助穩定工資，但由於越南難民滯港只是暫時現象，（等待外地的收容安置），以上效果及難民對本港經濟的貢獻亦屬有限和過渡性質。

由於九月份就業人數統計尚未公佈，因此未能明確顯示出難民加入工作減輕勞工不足壓力的程度。雖則如此，目前本港廠商僱用的難民工人已達一萬三千名左右，他們大多數是在難民收容中心附近的工廠工作，例如深水埗營的難

民多在長沙灣區工作，啟德難民營的在觀塘及新蒲崗一帶工作，屯門難民則在屯門工業發展區找尋工作。

自去年十二月，巴拿馬註冊貨輪滙豐號乘載着三千名越南難民抵港後，即掀起了本港的難民潮。今年上半年，湧進香港的越南難民繼續劇增；直至六月間達到巔峯，（是月抵港難民的總數為19,650名）。七月，聯合國在日內瓦召開國際難民會議期間，月內的抵港難民人數曾一度下降至8,800名左右。

香港政府容納了一半的滯港越南難民，另一半是由聯合國駐港難民專員公署容納。於八月一日，香港納稅人負擔供給難民費用已達五千萬元。評論雖譴責政府將納稅人的金錢大量花費在難民身上，但很多廠商則承認利用越南難民勞動力，確有助於緩和勞工短缺問題及穩定工資水平。

這些廠商，尤其是電子及製衣業的廠商——勞工極度短缺的兩門工業——建議應暫時僱用生產能力及質素比得上本港工人的難民，使他們對香港經濟有所貢獻。此外，廠商又認為僱用難民可以緩和收容中心內的緊張社會關係，使難民維持家人生活，並可直接助長本港出口業務。

快捷半導體董事經理白德立同意利用越南難民勞動力對本港工源的補充確有幫助。白氏稱：「雖則這批難民將於短期內獲外國收容安置，但廠商方面仍



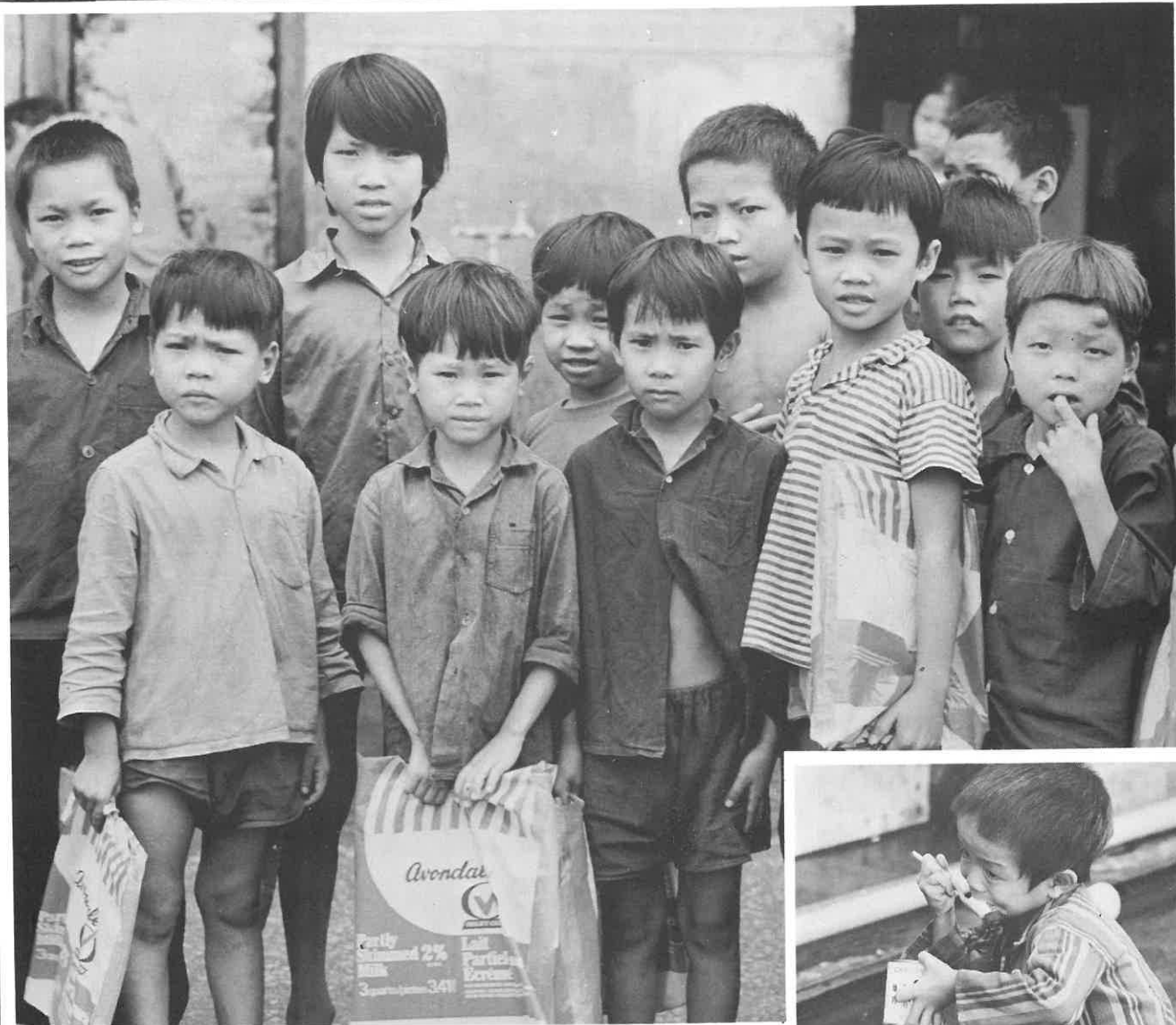
適宜多僱用難民，因為這樣既可稍減港府的負擔，又可協助香港工業解決勞工問題。」

本港廠商可從幾個途徑吸納難民勞動力。難民通常是看報章廣告及街招直接往工廠應徵，或向駐營的志願職業輔導機構登記。有時，廠商亦會主動地向難民收容中心負責人聯絡，徵求工人。

據若干難民工人表示，香港廠商並未給予他們公平的待遇。他們訴說，僱主發給的工資通常比原先議定的數額為低；而且，他們有時甚至會在未有足夠時間通知或沒有遣散費補給的情況下遭資方解僱。

香港基督教工業委員會副總幹事陸漢思向本刊表示，該會曾接獲多項關於這方面的投訴。他說：「每次當我們與





難民會晤時，我們都接獲大量的投訴。

廠商方面的解釋是，難民工人通常必須經過兩至四星期的試用期，故初期給予之每日工資總較本港熟練工人低五元左右。試用期間如工作表現良好，期滿後即可獲取與本港工人相同的待遇。另方面，試用期間如工作表現差劣，則會遭廠方解僱。

銀禧難民營一位負責人表示，在該中心登記的難民工人通常取得公平待遇，他說：「這是因為我們向徵求工人的廠家提出要求，請他們給予難民公平的工資；雖然我們在這方面並無執行的權力。由於難民對本港工資情況不熟悉，他們自己出外找尋工作，就會有被廠方給予低薪待遇的可能性。」

外來工人一方面抱怨未獲得公平待遇；另方面，本港工人則指出：由於僱用難民工人，他們與僱主進行工資談判已較以前困難。一位本港廠工表示：「過往，僱主為免同行廠家用高薪招去我

們這班工人，故此，我們提出加薪要求一般都能輕易獲得廠方批准。但現時情況則不同，因為僱主已改變了態度。他們的態度是“你若不願意接受這份工作，亦有其他人會接受”。」

屯門一位廠商稱：「這是供求的問題。不論工源何來，只要工源充足，工資就會漸趨穩定。」

陸漢思稱，難民加入勞工行列使本港工人產生一種不安全的感覺，他們感到僱主方面可以隨時利用其他工源。雖則如此，與中國移民來港的數字比較，找尋工作的難民人數仍屬微不足道。直至目前，仍未有因僱用越南難民而使本港工人失業的情況出現。

署理保安司穆勤稱：「現時並無跡象顯示越南難民補充了全港的勞工空缺，而且還經常存有經濟情況轉變的危機。」

關於政府對僱用難民的態度，穆勤表示：除本港一般性的僱用條例外，當

局對難民工作並無特別限制。他承認難民的工資可能會比普通水平略低，但他又指出：「難民無需負擔本港工人的一般生活開支（如租金）；況且，他們大多數是未受過訓練的，在港工作亦只屬暫時性。他們的志向是在海外謀職。」

穆勤稱：「越南難民對香港的影响並非全屬反面和破壞性。但難民勞動力為廠商帶來之短期利益必須與加重的社會壓力負擔互相權衡。」

他說，日內瓦國際難民會議為難民帶來的期望，是他們可在未來一兩年間獲批准移民前往外國。「而香港亦可以由此期望在不久的將來完全解除這項負擔。」

以實際方法管制環境污染



一九七八年內，海事處污染管制組從本港水域清除的垃圾約共五十四萬七千五百噸；勞工處空氣污染管制組接獲九百七十四宗有關空氣污染的投訴，並加以調查，其中此類檢控共有四十八宗，罰款由二百元至二千元不等。於一九七八年內，市政局以垃圾堆填方式共處理了一百多萬噸固體廢物，此外，又有五十五萬四千七百噸廢物經由焚化爐焚毀。

雖則總體而言，香港環境污染情況比起其他面積相若城市還不算嚴重；但上述驚人數字仍顯示，當局必須採取適當措施來防止本港環境因污染而趨惡化。

每當環境專家鼓吹管制污染時，實際的工業家與理想派環境專家之間經常都會發生衝突和激辯。在有大幅土地可撥作工業、住宅及康樂用途的地方，這種衝突的程度或不致那般嚴重；但在工業用地缺乏的香港，住宅、風景及康樂區內設立工業已成普遍現象。因此，執行污染管制引起爭論是在所難免的事情。

噪音雖是為害最大的一種污染，因為它幾乎影响到每一個人；但就危害人類及殺害千萬生物的流弊而言，空氣及

海水污染的影响更嚴重。環境學家通常把空氣及海水污染歸咎於工業排出之污染物質，故此，建議的保護環境法案亦特別針對工業。

在香港執行保護環境工作並不容易，因為正如其他工業國（例如日本、新加坡及韓國）一樣，香港經濟亟需依賴工業發展。港府體會到這一點，因而在制定管制政策方面採取了極審慎的態度。

政府發言人稱：「制定管制污染措施目的之一，是防止環境因污染而趨惡化，另一方面則避免採用可能對經濟產生不利的綜合性管制措施。」

有鑒於此，為方便與工商界磋商此等新保護環境法例，環境保護諮詢委員會的委員已有變更，加入多位工商業界代表，其中包括本會、香港工業總會及香港中華廠商聯合會等機構之代表。（舊委員會稱為防止環境污染委員會）。由環境司鍾信任主席的環境保護諮詢委員會工作，是以執行環境保護措施為主。

現時，港府正在積極考慮一系列保護環境法案，企圖防止環境因污染而趨惡化。草擬中的法例包括廢物處理、防止海水污染、防止空氣污染及減輕噪音

法案各一項。關於环境影响的法例，當局將於稍後作出考慮。

草擬法例之細則現正由環境保護諮詢委員會審核。該會已於本年較早，其上一度任期內商討有關廢物處理法案，現時正待立法局通過。委員會希望防止海水及空氣污染兩項法案能於本年底前提交立法局，而減輕噪音法案於明年上半年提交。

此等法案之概念來自兩年前環境保護諮詢委員會委員與英國環境顧問舉行之連串商討。

一九七四年，政府委聘了「環境資源有限公司」擔任顧問，專門研究香港環境污染問題的程度，及評估現行環境保護法例之效果。「環境資源有限公司」根據香港現在的社會、經濟和工業發展與未來趨勢，去確立一套適合我們的環境保護條例。後於一九七七年，該環境顧問公司建議制定五項新法例，執行全面性的法例以管制污染問題。新法例計有海水污染管制條例、空氣污染管制條例、減低噪音條例、廢物處理條例及環境影响聲明條例。

在「環境資源有限公司」建議下，港府成立了環境保護組。這是管制污染的中央協調機構，負責有關管制污染政



南丫島之燃油污染

策的全面發展，及制定長遠的污染管制計劃。

首席助理環境司彭東爾向本刊表示：正在草擬之新法例，旨在制訂管制污染之措施，而此等措施能夠配合個別地區在處理排出各類污染物方面之特性。

他稱：「就以海水污染為例，因為新界西面海岸線受着强有力的潮水沖洗，液體廢料無法聚集，管制尺度無需過嚴。另方面，在吐露港地區因為沒有潮水自然沖洗污染物，所以必須嚴厲執法管制。」

他續稱：「空氣污染的情況亦相同。在氣流不暢通的地區（如沙田谷），就必須加強執行管制措施；但在空氣暢通無阻的地區（如踏石角），管制尺度則可以略為放寬。」

彭東爾說：「法案除劃分受管制的地區外，（每區的管制程度有其特別的限制），亦測量各工廠所排出棄物的程度。假若一些工廠產品所造成的廢物超過最高規限，就會受到當局管制。換言之，該工廠需負責安裝特別儀器，以減低廢物的增加。如有需要，甚至可能將該行業的工廠遷徙至其他區域。」

彭氏又指出：「除非排出物質有損健康，否則一般只當工廠所排廢物超過註冊牌照系統登記數量達百分三十時，才有需要實施管制。但設於吸收污染程度低地區的新工廠，則可能需要裝置處理廢物的特別系統及設備。」

若干工業家指稱，水域及海水污染管制區內所排出的污染物質不單只來自工業生產，而且還有住宅及其他的來源

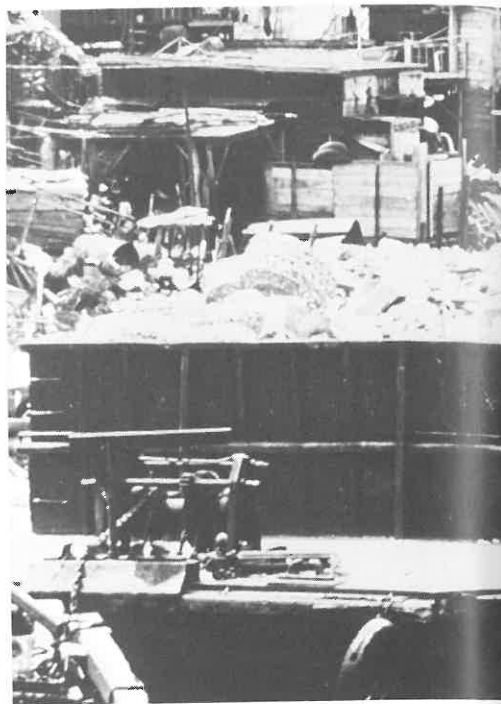
。他們認為政府應改善現有的污水處理系統，及印發列明污染限制標準的小冊子，以供參閱，因為一般廠商都未能鑒別受禁的污染排洩物種類。

港府體會到實施新管制法例，將使本港工業界增加開支；當局制訂政策的目的是要盡量減低管制法例對廠商所造成的影響。彭東爾稱：「由於香港亟需依賴工業發展，我們並無意走向極端使廠商經營受阻，及危及本港經濟。我們意識到新法例實行後可能引起之困難，因此，我們與工業界共同磋商問題，以確保現行提出的立法建議實際可行。」

工業界同意政府一般都能體諒廠商方面的困難。本會之環境保護諮詢委員會代表及合衆五金廠有限公司董事長宋常康稱：「一直以來，港府的污染管制措施都可算通情達理。相信當局在處理環境問題方面將會收取實際效果。」

然而，工業家又提出警告謂，過度嚴厲執行污染管制法例極可能妨礙本港工業發展。宋氏稱：「建議中海水污染法案賦予環境司之權力似乎略嫌廣泛。我們認為，倘廠商對管制規定憤憤不平時，申訴制度或程序應具實際作用，使有關人士能向當局上訴。」

香港工業總會執行幹事陳樹安稱：「政府如強迫若干工廠搬遷或改變生產方法，必然會嚴重影響到它們的經濟能力。由於這是一個非常敏感的論題，我們必須作出公平恰當的處理。一方面，我們必須保護香港的環境；但同時，我們亦要顧及工業方面所受到的影響，管制法例不應對工業打擊太大。」



市政局負責清理廢物



本會工業事務委員會主席丁鶴壽稱：「改變是需要的，但應該逐步進行改革。我們不應只按照宣傳標語行事，採取產生即時效果但損害工業發展的管制措施。」

據環境保護諮詢委員會秘書彭東爾指出：草擬新法案的目的旨在綜合及改善現行法例，制定一套更適合香港環境的長遠管制污染計劃。



有關海水、空氣、廢物處理及減輕噪音四項新污染管制法案的綱要如下：

海水污染管制法例——規定凡排出液體廢料的工廠均須領牌，列明工廠排出廢料的程度。工廠排出過量廢物如不超過註冊登記數量百分三十，將可獲得寬限；但如改變生產程序則必須向當局申報。新工廠可能被規定必須裝置處理廢物的特別系統及設備。



建築業之噪音

空氣污染管制法例——此乃保持空氣清潔法例之附加部份。附加管制條例包括燃料用戶排出之廢物、現有及新工廠生產引起之污染氣味及排洩污物。

固體廢物管制法例——綜合現行條例，修訂及增設特別條款。此條例之一般概念是設法應付未來需要，確保排出有害及危險廢物之工廠配置符合環境衛生的廢物運輸及處理設備。

減低噪音——草擬的噪音管制法例將綜合及修訂各項現有法律條文，其中包括管制通風設備及空氣調節器噪音的公共衛生及市政事務法例，及管制隣居及建築業噪音的簡易程序治罪條例。

環境司鍾信指出：現有工廠需面對嚴厲附加管制標準的可能性不大。他說：「但新工廠則必須遵守若干條例。在樓宇建築期間安裝空氣調節系統的成本總比落成後再安裝來得便宜。」他又說

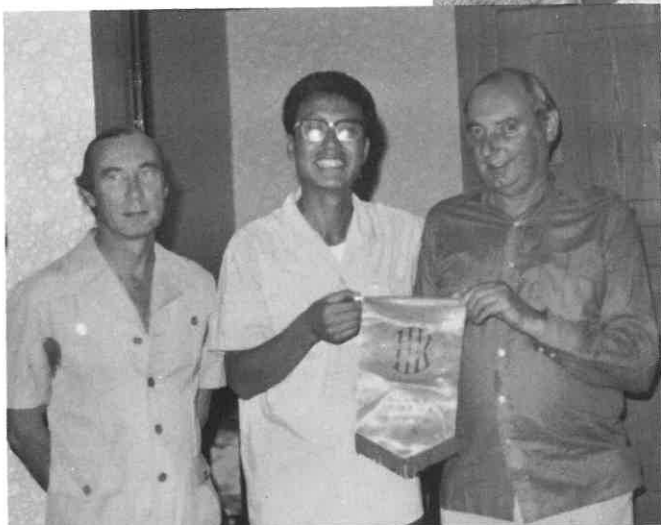
：「我們的目的旨在及早應付污染問題，防止環境因污染而趨惡化。日本方面，由於他們任由情況日趨惡化，結果，若干地區現已迫得採取壓制措施來處理污染問題。」



本會觀光團 暢遊中國大陸



本會中國觀光團團體照。



團長高登（右）致送紀念旗予中國國際旅行社總辦事處王剛先生，旁者為本會助理董事葛立科。



羣衆團觀團員之“面具馬騮戲”表演。

閣下可曾試過在攝氏三十三度的烈日下，坐在 Illuyshin 十八型客機上等候起飛的滋味？

最近前往中國訪問的二十人觀光團就有過這樣的經歷。本會與中國旅行社合辦之中國觀光團，乃本會為會員提供的旅遊活動之一。

這類型客機的空氣調節系統是要待飛機飛至八千呎上空，機艙逐漸增壓時才開始運行。機上團員認為當時那種酷熱滋味是他們從未有過的最難受經歷。

然而，這只是旅途中幾無僅有的不愉快時刻。總的來說，這是一次樂趣無窮的遊歷。本會中國觀光團這次獲編排的旅程頗為特別，所遊覽的地方並非大家熟悉的遊客中心區——如上海、桂林、杭州等——而是較為陌生的四川省及長江三峽地帶。泛舟漫遊長江的三天旅程要算是全程最精彩的部份，位於四川與湖北省交界的長江三峽，盡入眼簾；那洋洋大觀的景色實在令人陶醉。

此外，該團亦遊覽了四川首府成都及中國的戰時首都重慶。這兩個城市都並非遊人經常觀光的路綫。

該團曾在萬縣市（長江一個重要港市）逗留了一晚，在當地觀光一番。據該團的導遊員稱，本會中國旅行團只是前往該市訪問的第五、六團外籍人士。當然，當地的兒童亦不會錯過機會趨前觀看這班外國遊人。即使一個電影明星或馳譽國際的球星亦未必會吸引如此龐大的羣衆。

團員大都認為四川菜——包括一頓廿二道菜的豐富餐宴——的色香味皆可與粵菜媲美，團中只有兩位忠愛粵菜的太太持異議。

在武漢作過短暫觀光後，該團最後在北京逗留了三天，遍遊中國京城的主要名勝古跡——紫禁城、萬里長城、天壇、頤和園——並參觀了最近才開放的人民大會堂（入場費五元人民幣）。該團還到過已故毛主席的陵前致敬。

八九月間是北京遊客最多的時節，他們有很多是來自國內其他地區的。在天色晴朗的日子裏，萬里長城的遊人特多，其擠塞情況難以形容；一位團員表示他險些被人羣推倒，跌落長城之下。

中國旅行社國內總辦事處遣派王剛

先生款待本會觀光團，可算是本會與中國官方關係良好的象徵；因為港督麥理浩爵士訪問北京期間，王剛亦是官方遣派負責款接的成員之一。他招待周到，安排事事令人滿意。

該團乃由本會前任主席高登率領，並由助理董事葛立科隨團訪問，擔任該團經理人。團員大部份是携同家人前往。

高登先生在北京最後一晚舉行的款待會上指出：該團雖說是個「外籍會員中國觀光團」，但實際上，團員包括了十一個不同國籍的人士——這足以反映出本會會員的國際性。

總括而言，各團員一致同意這兩週的旅程實在令人懷念，即使是較早時曾訪問過中國的團員亦有同感。

本會為華籍會員組織的另一個中國觀光團將於十月間啓程，行程大致與此相同。本會將繼續與中國旅行社合作，為會員及其太太、家人組團訪問中國。



本會與世界市場

美加工商界領袖團訪問本會

一個由美加工商界行政人員組成的高級代表團於九月十二日訪問本會。

這個由貿易發展局組織的代表團是次來港訪問，旨在考察本港市場情況及探討在此間投資於工商業的機會。與本會北美洲貿易委員會進行討論時，該團建議港商可考慮改變銷售思想，和應準備承接數額較少之高級商品訂單。

如要成功拓展日本市場 香港必須提高產品質素

由於日本買家注重產品商標，因此如要成功拓展日本市場，港商必須提高產品質素，並盡可能樹立本身產品的牌字。

上月底剛從日本九州返港之本會貿易部經理梁紹輝報稱，暢銷日本市場的港製產品計有皮衣、名貴手錶及首飾。

在九月六日至廿一日期間，本會之十六人推銷團在立法局議員黃保欣率領下，訪問了大分、福岡、長崎、熊本及鹿兒島五個日本港市。

梁氏稱：「九州買家對高級產品尤感興趣。皮草包括貂皮、狐皮、貂皮及羊皮等的需求甚大。港製皮衣在當地的售價頗廉，約相當於九州零售價的三分之一。」

梁氏又稱，其他銷路佳的產品包括高級玩具、時髦服裝、高級手袋、皮鞋、中國花梨木傢俬及手織地毯等。

梁氏指出：本會今後將再組團訪問九州及日本其他縣市。

他續稱：「鑒於九州日本人的購買力極強，（擁有一千四百萬人口），相信

九州必將成為港商一個有利可圖的市場。」

他表示，本會將與日本外貿中心及九州工商組織保持緊密合作，以便能確定日本買家需要的產品類目。

他稱：「本團是次訪問，得到日本政府及當地商會負責人的龐大協助，他



貿易部經理陳煥榮在柏林展覽會香港攤位前，準備接待參觀人仕。



本會日本貿易團在大分展開推銷活動。

們並答允今後繼續給予本會援助。」

大分、福岡、長崎工商界人士現計劃於十月及十一月間來港訪問，實地觀察各類港製產品。鹿兒島商人亦有意於明年組團訪問香港。

梁氏稱：「港日兩地加強貿易聯繫，必可使香港在日本市場之地位更形穩定，並且，亦有助於擴大本港在日本進口市場的佔有率。」

港商參加柏林展覽會大有收獲 成交逾九百萬元

在九月十七日至廿三日舉行的今屆柏林貿易展覽會中，香港參展團共接獲價值逾九百萬元的訂單。此成交額比去年增加了三倍之多，而香港攤位參觀人數亦創下自一九六八年以來之最高紀錄，吸引觀眾比會場其他攤位為多。

展覽會期間最暢銷的港製產品包括旅行用品、公事包、手錶、玩具、電子

產品、家庭用品、人造首飾、絲帶花及禮品等。

本會執行董事麥理覺認為今年成交額有可觀增長，是因為西歐的消費需求持續強大。「明年雖可能呈現經濟衰退危機，但英國及其他西歐國家的需求依然穩定。港貨的售價及質素對西歐買家

極具吸引力。」他說。

第十七屆「攜手邁進」海外入口商展覽會是歐洲規模龐大的貿易展覽會之一，西德及歐洲各國的買家、入口商、零售商及批發商均應邀赴會，與來自世界各地的參展商交易落單。

本會自一九六八年以來，一直担任

柏林展覽會之香港名譽代表，年年組團參展。

今年直至目前為止，本港輸往西德的出口總值已逾廿四億六千萬元，較七八年同期增加約百分之五十。輸出的主要產品包括成衣、旅行用品、玩具及手錶等。

簡報滙編

歡迎新會員

本刊歡迎十六間公司於八月份加入本會，成為香港總商會會員。（新會員名單詳列本期英文版）。

為新技術工業興建標準廠房

香港工業邨公司現正考慮在大埔邨興建標準廠房計劃，以容納符合評選申請資格及希望盡快投入生產的廠商。

這些廠廈的建設特點是樓面較高、地板負荷較重，並設有大埔工業一般需要的製作基礎結構。

香港工業邨公司總裁苗立賢於九月五日應邀出席本會電子業委員會會議時表示：預料這類廠房的需求將甚龐大，而每月租金則估計約為每方呎三元。

苗氏說工業邨可能會對若干製造業（如需使用不受震盪機器操作的較高技術電子工業）廠商的申請，給予特別考慮。然而，他又強調指出，該邨仍將以

制定之一般性評選準則作為評選申請廠商資格的標準。

至於港商在國內投資設廠方面，苗氏表示工業邨所接獲的申請書並未因這些新投資機會而減少。該公司每年平均接獲的申請書約為四十份。

自一九七六年成立迄今，工業邨公司接獲申請書合共一百三十七份，而獲准在工業邨設廠的廠商共卅八家，目前已有二十間廠商經簽署批地契約。此外，尚有五份申請仍在積極進行磋商。

二十家簽署契約廠商之投資總額約達四億六千一百三十萬元，預期當這些工廠投入生產時，一年度營業總額可達八億三千八百萬元。

「出口文件劃一化」簡報會

由香港貿易協進委員會與本會聯合主辦之「出口文件劃一化」簡報會，於九月六日假希爾頓酒店大舞廳舉行。簡

報會旨在向本港工商界人士簡介出口文件劃一化之最新發展，共有三百多名工商業從業員到場聽講及參觀示範表演，情況熱烈。

工商署首席貿易主任及香港貿易協進會屬下文件小組委員會主席吳恩頌先生在簡報會上指出，使用「一次過」方法編製劃一出口文件的目的，是節省貿易文件成本，使有關手續之辦理省時省力。

本會舉行午餐會款待布力克議員

本會於九月廿五日假座希爾頓酒店大舞廳舉行午餐會，款待英國外交及聯邦事務部次官布力克先生。

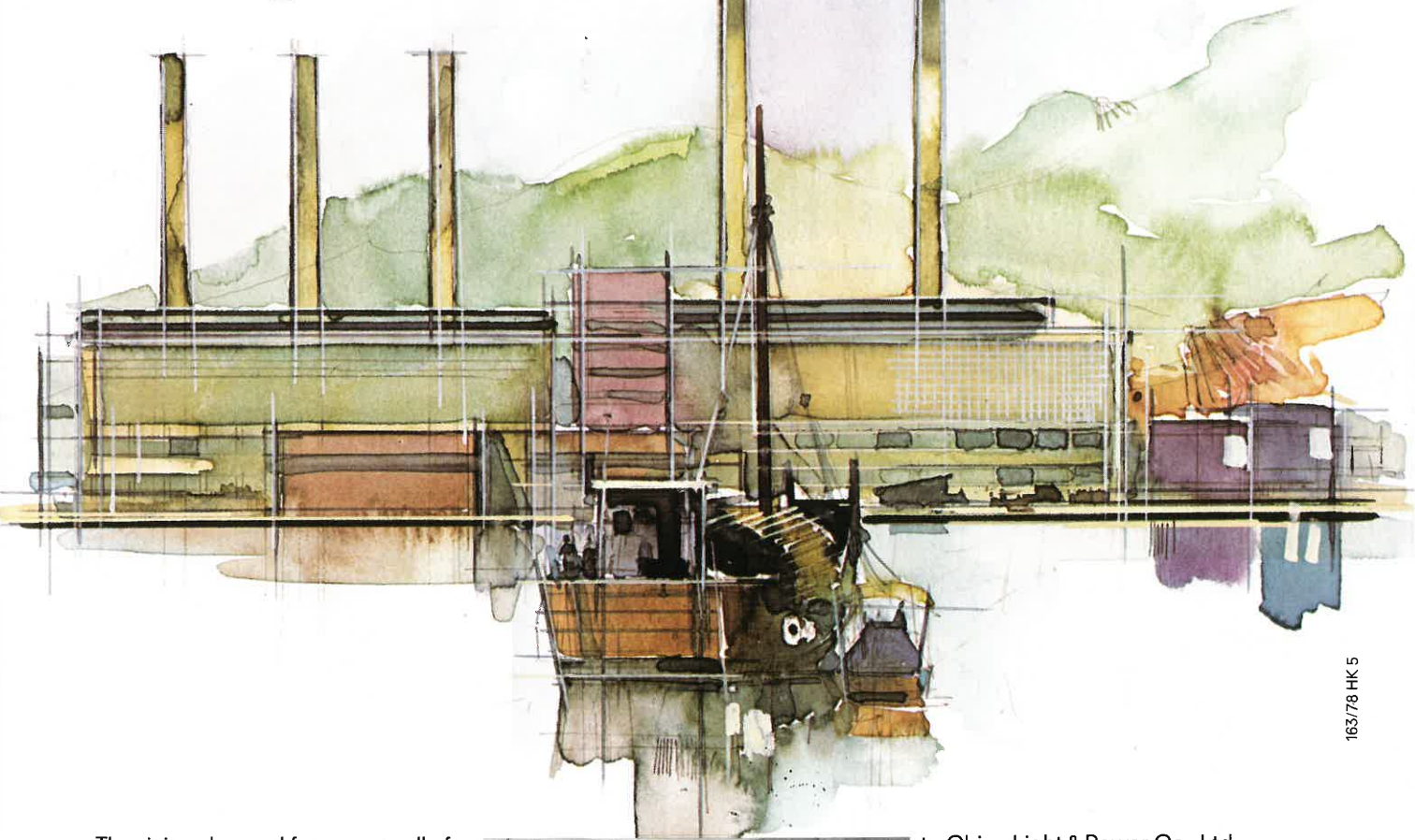
出席的嘉賓包括港督及多位官商名流。此外，本會會員出席人數亦甚踴躍，場面熱烈。



英國外交及聯邦事務部次官布力克在午餐會上致詞。

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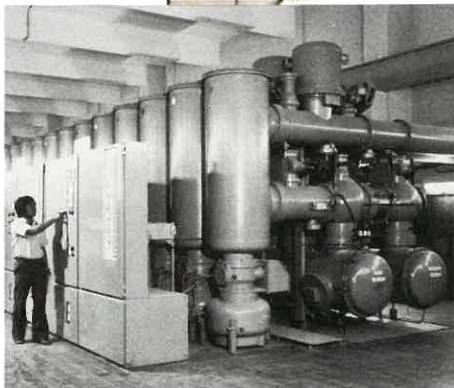
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