



# THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## BULLETIN

15th September, 1968

A CHAMBER DIARY

FOR 1969



**HONG KONG  
GENERAL CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

(Established 1861)

9th Floor, Union House,  
Hong Kong

Tel: 237177 Cables: Chambercom

**THE BULLETIN**

**Sept. 15th**

*Chairman:*

Hon. M.A.R. HERRIES, O.B.E., M.C.

*Vice-Chairman:*

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*Secretary:*

J. B. KITE

*Assistant Secretary:*

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C. TSANG

*Certification:*

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*Public Relations & Advertising:*

R. P. WOOD

Miss B. CHIU

*Membership Executive:*

P. M. LAM

*Office Supervisor:*

Miss C. W. LI

**THIS ISSUE**

*Our cover picture for this issue shows specimens of the Chamber Diary offered to members. With the Chamber crest embossed on the cover, it is available in four different colours. Cost of the diary is \$1.10.*

3. Overseas Report. News from TDC offices in Britain, the United States and Australia.
- 4 - 5. People and Places. A digest of Chamber news and visitors.
6. Overseas Report. Contd.
7. The New Employment Bill.
- 8 - 10. News from D. C. & I.
11. Tenders, Trade Fairs and Membership information.
12. Summary of news in Chinese.

*Members are reminded that the contents of the Bulletin are confidential and not for publication.*

News from TDC offices in Britain, the United States and Australia

## OVERSEAS REPORT



Mr. K. T. Woo, Resident Representative in the U.S.



Mr. F. J. McKeller, Resident Representative in London.



Mr. W. E. Manson, Resident Representative in Australia.

**Good trading prospects are reported from the Trade Development Council's overseas representatives, although from the United States comes a prediction of a mild recession.**

### London

July has been a busy month for London.

A total of 1,246 trade enquiries have been received. The T.D.C. also helped in arranging for Hong Kong clothes to be made available for dressing a show held on board the P. & O. vessel. This was on the request from "K Shoes" for help with the presentation of their 1969 Spring collection in October attended by 2,000 buyers and guests.

An exhibition of ladies' knitwear was held at the TDC's London Display Centre. Twelve importers showed a range of knitwear including dresses, suits and knitted sweaters and cardigans. The general standard of goods shown was of a satisfactorily high quality. Attendance figures for the exhibition were

exceptionally good and represent a record number of visitors for any exhibition since the Display Centre opened, with a large number of *bona fide* trade enquiries recorded.

Drawings for the layout of the Exporters Association Selling Mission in October were sent to Hong Kong. A proposed advertising schedule was prepared and sent to Hong Kong together with a mailing list of British firms to be used for direct mail purposes.

Arrangements were finalised with Dustapex of Falkirk, representatives of Dustaflex Limited in Hong Kong, for a demonstration of their new dust extraction unit and other products to be given to the Press and buyers in the TDC Exhibition Hall on August 8th.

A meeting was held with T.A. Sales, garment importers, to discuss a proposed individual

exhibition to be put on by this firm in the Exhibition Hall in September.

Chinese foodstuffs were displayed in the window and reception area.

For the Festival of Fashions, preliminary investigations were started on the possibility of organising a special flight from the U.K. to Hong Kong which would offer a package deal at reduced rates to buyers and other visitors wishing to attend the Festival of Fashions in 1969. The possibility of a Continental stop-over to pick up buyers from the Continent recruited by the Brussels Office was also considered. Work was started on advertising proposals for the Festival in the U.K.

### United States

Most business analysts predict that the country's record-smashing economic expansion, which began in February 1961, will finally halt at the end of this year. A recession, probably a

*Cont'd. on P.6*

# PEOPLE AND PLACES

*A digest of Chamber news  
and visitors.*

## IPCCIOS Conference



**Mr. F.M. Castro, Executive Assistant of the Chamber, will act as rapporteur at the IPCCIOS III Conference to be held in Hong Kong in October, 1968.**

IPCCIOS is the Indo-Pacific Committee of CIOS (the International Council for Scientific Management). A total of 42 countries including Hong Kong are represented by their national management committees on CIOS.

It is a non-political, non-governmental and non-profit organisation and has, as its basic aim, the promotion internationally of the principles and methods of scientific management in order to improve standards of living in all nations through the more effective utilisation of human and material resources.

The theme of this conference will be "Asia — The Challenge to Management". This theme has been chosen with considerable thought to the tremendous development which are shaping the destinies of more than half of humanity and there can be no doubt but that Asia is at present the outstanding challenge to management both within the region and outside it. This challenge is a challenge to all levels of management at the prise level, in both the public international, national, and enter- and private sectors.

## One Point Up

The General Consumer Price Index for July was 116, one point higher than the index for the previous month.

This small rise was the result of the increases in the indices of foodstuffs and services which more than offset the fall in the indices of fuel and light, and clothing and footwear.

## Off to Berlin



**Mr. R. P. Wood, Assistant Secretary of the Chamber, has left for West Berlin to make final preparations for Hong Kong's participation in the Import Exhibition "Partners for Progress" Fair.**

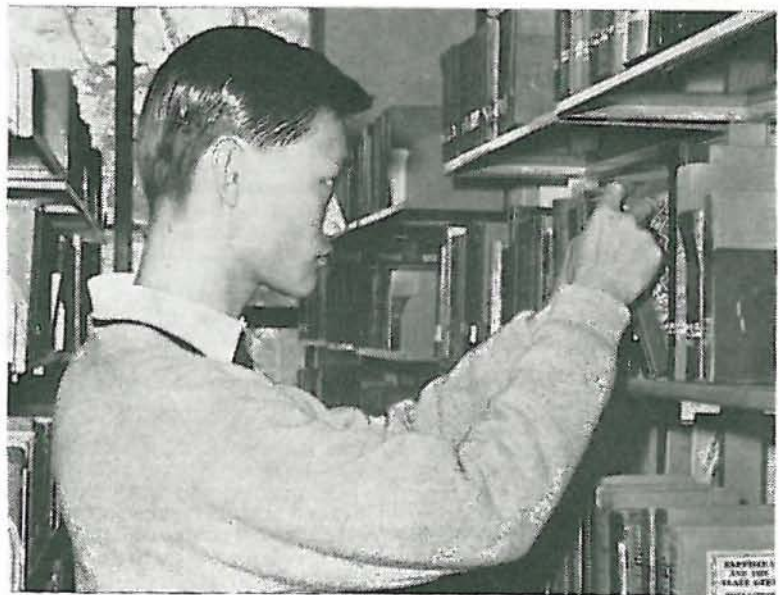
Hong Kong will be represented by a delegation of 37 manufacturers and traders who will be leaving by a charter flight on September 21, 1968.

Miss Wong Shuk-bun, one of the Chamber's scholars at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, has been awarded a degree Bachelor of Commerce, Magna Cum Laude (1st class honours) recently at the Chinese University Congregation.

Miss Wong, a bright and diligent student of the United College, specialised in Business' Administration for her degree examination. She was awarded a Chamber scholarship last year.

Other Chamber's scholars are Mr. Leung Kai-cheung, who obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree Cum Laude, and Mr. Leung Shun-sang, who obtained a degree Bachelor of Commerce.

Mr. Leung Shun-sang, pictured below, has left for the States to further his studies in Business Administration.



## METRICATION — What the Members Think

**Britain will go metric in 1972. Should Hong Kong follow the British lead in converting to the metric system?**

According to an opinion survey carried out by the Chamber among its members, it is found that the majority — 84 per cent — favours the conversion, only four per cent is against it.

Many members think the change should be completed by 1971. However, an equal number of members think the change should be completed by 1972.

On the question of whether metrication will create any difficulties, 69 per cent considered that it would not create any difficulties for their staff, customers and suppliers, with a short period of adjustment: only a small minority think that it is sure to create difficulty.

It is felt that when Britain converted to the metric system, there would not be any major adverse effects on importers, exporters, manufacturers, shipping companies, banking offices, public utilities, wholesale and retail merchants.

Should Hong Kong go metric, the problems in view would be such as revising labels, catalogues, price lists, freight tariffs etc. which are but minor ones.

Some of the comments from members are:—

### **Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.**

"Once the U.K. has changed to the metric system there should be relatively few problems, with the exception of U.S. trade."

### **Novelknit Manufacturing Ltd.**

"By virtue of its uniformity and easy conversion the metric system is undoubtedly better than the British system. The change is therefore welcomed. There are many difficulties in the changeover since the British system has been in use for so long."

### **Lepack Co. (1955) Ltd.**

"After completing the conversion from English system to the metric system it will save a lot of time and labour in calculation. There will be no difficulty in conversion and no error in execution of an order as it will be metric throughout."

## A CHAMBER DIARY FOR 1969

For the first time the Chamber is offering a special Chamber diary to members. The diary will have the Chamber crest embossed on the cover and can display members' names and their firms on the inside page. The diary will be available in two versions: one containing general information in English and the other with Hong Kong information in both English and Chinese. Cost of the diary is \$1.10 per copy.

Since our circular advising members of this special offer we have been inundated with requests. One company has ordered six hundred copies and arrangements have been made for another prominent member for a special good wish message to be printed.

A Chamber diary will remind your overseas customers about you every day of the week.

### **Christmas Card**

The Chamber will once again be printing a special Christmas card for members. Several possible illustrations are now being considered and it is hoped to announce details of the card before the end of this month.

I wish to purchase ..... copies of the Chamber's 1969 English or English/Chinese Diary (please delete version not required.) I would like my name and address printed as follows:

.....

.....

.....

## Overseas Report —

*Contd.*

mild one, is in fact forecast by some economists.

One of the analysts is of the opinion that by the fourth quarter of this year, the dollar statistics will still be rising but only because of continuing inflation. Another one believes that the severity of a recession in early 1969 will depend greatly on the next President of the United States.

"If he is a spender", the same source continues "the downturn should be short lived but there will be other problems later, like more inflation. If the new President is more conservative, the recession will be somewhat more severe, but in the long run the economy will be better off."

Most analysts base their prediction of slowing business on the fact that the Congress has finally enacted the new fiscal restraints — the tax surcharge and the reduction in Federal spending. Forecasts of a slow-down also reflect the view that business has been tapering off even before the enactment of the new fiscal measures this month.

### Industries: Shoes

Hong Kong is one of the two principal markets for U.S.-made non-rubber footwear, according to the statistics published by the Commerce Department.

The 10 principal markets accounted for 62.6 per cent of footwear exports by value in 1967. The markets in order of their importance were: Canada, Mexico, Bahamas, the Netherlands, Antilles, Sweden, Hong Kong, Bermuda, Panama, Switzerland and Japan.

### Textiles

Most American women prefer cotton as the fibre for summer clothing, except slips. In the latter case, nylon holds the edge, according to a study made by the U.S. Agricultural Department to provide cotton producers and manufacturers with an insight into changing consumer attitudes.

The nation-wide survey covered six items of women's apparel primarily worn during the warm weather and two underwear items. Rayon and nylon emerged as the most disliked fibres for most of the items. But the study concluded that cotton blended with synthetics

has shown gains over recent years.

For summer dresses, comfort characteristics, such as coolness, light weight and washing and ironing ease, were the most important considerations. The report said wrinkle resistance and shape retention also were of interest to women but to a lesser degree.

The study was conducted towards the end of 1965 but the results have just been analysed and made available by the department researchers.

U.S. mill sources report that most customers have adopted a "wait and see" attitude towards the purchase of cotton yarn for the fourth quarter. The level of business has remained the same and there has been little fluctuation in prices.

The International Fashion Council predicts that the recent trend towards textured fabrics will reach its full realisation in 1969. Twills, corduroy, the linen look, duck and a "sophisticated canvas" are seen as pace-setters for outerwear.

The International Fashion Council emphasises the use of subtle colour combinations for terry cloth. In the wool category, Donegal tweeds hold the high fashion interest as the homespun look is becoming popular.

In shirtings, batistes and voiles are considered for the more expensive markets while oxford is cited as a strong "outsider". Stripes are the best pattern for 1969 shirtings but they must be inconspicuous and always on colour grounds, the council claims.

### Durable Goods

New orders for durable goods, an important official leading business indicator declined sharply to \$24,500 million in June, as compared with \$25,500 million in May and \$24,300 million in June, 1967.

The trend of new durable goods orders has been irregularly downward since they attained the record figure of \$26,500 million last December. It has been responsible to a certain extent for the belief among some economists and business analysts that at least, a temporary contraction in business activity is a possibility that can not be ignored.

Shipments of durable goods by manufacturers were maintained in June at the May level of

\$25,500 million as against \$23,100 million in the corresponding month last year. With shipments exceeding new orders, the backlog of unfilled orders of durable goods was reduced.

## Australia

Sustained growth of the domestic economy in the financial year, which started on July 1st, was forecast in a Treasury White Paper on the economy published on July 21st. The review said that the spectacular development of the mining industry should continue unabated for several years even if no further big projects emerge and farm output is expected to regain the ground lost through drought in 1967-68.

"Consumer spending is now very buoyant," the survey reports, "and a recovery of farm incomes should help to sustain it."

Investment expenditure, on the rise in the past year, is seen as likely to continue running strongly. Continued growth is forecast for housing with a rising level of expenditure on factories, hospitals, schools and offices.

"So long as a substantial amount of overseas capital flows in investment spending in this country can be expected to remain high", the survey adds.

In its review of the year past the survey pointed out that there were more than the usual number of disruptive economic events, drought, devaluation and other international monetary stresses. While at home costs rose disquietingly fast, the growth performance of the economy was seen as good, apart from the rural sector.

### Tariff Board

The Colony's trade with Australia continued to expand, the value of domestic exports for the January to May period rising to \$94.09 million, compared with \$70.37 million during the same period in 1967, an increase of 33.7 per cent.

It was intimated that the Tariff Board would commence their enquiry concerning imports of wheel trims on 6th August.

In a pending Tariff Board enquiry concerning wood screws, the Australian industry have requested protective general rates of duty of 40 per cent plus 15¢ per gross, as against the present rate of 20 per cent ad val.

*Contd. on P.7*

## Employment Bill

# THE NEW EMPLOYMENT BILL

The Labour Advisory Board, which includes representatives of workers from trade unions and of employers, has unanimously approved in principle the Employment Bill 1968, said the Commissioner of Labour, the Hon. R.M. Hetherington when he moved the first reading of the Bill in Legislative Council.

Mr. Hetherington said the Board had also examined and discussed the provisions of the Bill at length and in considerable detail.

He said: "The principles underlying the Bill have received the general support of the four major employers' associations, the Chinese Manufacturers Association of Hong Kong, the Employers' Federation of Hong Kong Industries, and the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, although they have not found it possible to endorse completely every detailed provision."

The Commissioner said it was his intention to prepare a guide to the Bill if it became law. Before that happens, there is time for members of the general public to examine the text of the Bill.

### Not Easy to Explain

Mr. Hetherington said he would welcome any constructive criticism which would improve a measure which would affect the security of employment of a considerable number of employed persons in Hong Kong.

"The Bill is neither easy to explain nor simple to understand. Employers, workers, and officers of the Labour Department will require time to digest the provisions and to ensure that they are observed. The process of adjustment will inevitably take time and I appeal to all concerned to show patience and mutual understanding," he said.

### Principal Aims

The Bill, a major piece of labour legislation, has three principal aims.

"The first is to lay down general provisions on the duration and termination of certain contracts of employment. The second is to provide for the protection of wages of employees. The third is to regulate the operation of fee-charging employment agencies.

"Some aspects of these subjects are at present dealt with by the Employers and Servants Ordinance, Chapter 57. Consequently, the Bill repeals and re-enacts in an amended and expanded form the provisions of that Ordinance," Mr. Hetherington said.

The Bill provides for wider coverage than the existing Employers and Servants Ordinance which is limited to contracts of service where the cash remuneration does not exceed \$700 a month. It will extend protection to all contracts of service for manual workers without any wage limit and for non-manual workers whose wages do not exceed \$1,500 a month.

The Bill specifically excludes from its provisions employees who are members of the family of the proprietor of a business in which they are employed and who live in the same dwelling as the proprietor, seamen serving under articles, workers covered by the Contracts for Overseas Employment Ordinance, Chapter 78, and apprentices serving under contracts attested by the Commissioner of Labour on or after April 1, 1965.

### Government Excluded

Mr. Hetherington said the provisions of the Bill do not apply to Government as an employer and to Government officers.

He continued: "The current practices of Government are

such that its employees already receive all the benefits conferred by the Bill with a few minor exceptions and are provided with additional advantages not covered by the Bill.

"It is intended to review all relevant Government regulations to determine to what extent, if any, such regulations can be amended bearing in mind that Government must maintain a strict control over the conduct of its servants."

In conclusion, Mr. Hetherington made one important point. He said: "The Bill seeks to lay down minimum standards only. There is nothing to prevent employers from giving their employees better conditions of service and I know that there are many who do so.

"It is my sincere wish that none of these will now consider that they must reduce their standards to minimum now prescribed in this Bill."

## Overseas Report —

*Contd.*

The printing and Allied Trades Employers' Federation of Australia, representing about 1,600 printing firms, reported that the industry is concerned regarding a 500 per cent increase in the value of books imported from Hong Kong over the past two years. Books worth more than A\$770,000 were said to have been imported from Hong Kong during the nine months ended May, 1968, as against A\$182,000 for the 1965/66 year. Australian books, mainly novels and textbooks, can be printed in Hong Kong about 30 per cent cheaper than in Australia. A request for protection is being prepared by the industry for submission to the Australian Department of Trade and Industry.

Following consultation with the Australian Government and on advice of the Cotton Advisory Board, the Commerce & Industry Department arranged on 24th July that exports to Australia of cotton jeans, denims, dungarees and drills, would require export authorisations from 1st August.

### Trade Enquiries

44 trade enquiries from Australian importers and 48 from Hong Kong manufacturers were dealt with in July.

## NEWS FROM D. C. & I.

### Republic of South Africa

The Board of Trade and Industries of South Africa has announced the receipt of an application to increase the duty on the following items:—

Description	Old Rate	Duty Proposed New Rate
Printed woven fabrics of cotton and man-made fibres (excluding indigo blue discharge print fabrics and poplin) of a free-on-board price per lb. not exceeding HK\$9.35 .....	HK\$0.51 per sq. yd. to HK\$0.70 per sq. yd. less 10%	HK\$1.27 per sq. yd.
Printed woven fabrics of cotton and man-made fibres (excluding indigo blue discharge print fabrics and poplin) of a free-on-board price exceeding HK\$9.35 per lb. but not exceeding HK\$2.55 per sq. yd. ....	10% or HK\$0.127 per sq. yd.	HK\$1.27 per sq. yd.

Hong Kong's domestic exports of cotton woven fabric other than grey to South Africa were valued at HK\$14,499,892 in 1967.

(Mr. A.S.N. Cheung, Tel. No. H-229777)

### Trinidad and Tobago

An amendment to the list of Exceptions to the Trinidad and Tobago Open General Licence has the effect of placing imports of the following item under specific licensing control:—

Tariff Item No.	Description	H.K.'s domestic exports to Trinidad and Tobago in 1967 (HK\$ '000)
831-01	Plastic shopping bags	162 (of all materials)

(Mr. A.S.N. Cheung, Tel. No. H-247316)

### Singapore

Further to O.T.R. Circular No. 11/68 dated 10th February 1968, the Department received information that the Singapore Government has announced the following import quota for the period 1st July, 1968 to 31st December, 1968:—

Description	Quota	H.K.'s domestic exports to Singapore in 1967 (HK\$ '000)
Undergarments of cotton, not elastic nor rubberised, knitted or crocheted ....	15% of 1964 imports	2,272
Undergarments, not elastic nor rubberised except of cotton, knitted or crocheted .....	15% of 1964 imports	588
Wheat Flour .....	1% of 1962 imports	103

(Mr. M.P.C. Chan, Tel. No. H-453939)

### U.S.A.

A new Administration bill S.3015, entitled the "Recreational Boat Safety Act of 1968" has been introduced to the U.S. Congress for enactment.

The declared purpose of the bill is to reduce boating accidents, and deaths and injuries resulting from such accidents, through the creation of a working partnership between the Federal Government and various States by authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to establish safety standard applicable to the manufacture of recreational boats, whether or not mechanically propelled, not more than sixty-five feet in length, and associated equipment. A copy of this bill is available for inspection at the Department's Commercial Relations (General) Registry, Room No. 14, Fire Brigade Building, 2nd floor, Hong Kong.

### United Kingdom

Further to Commercial Information Circular No. 37/68 concerning U.K. import duties for textile manufactures containing silk and man-made fibre, the option open to the importer to pay duty either on a *weight* or *value* basis is applicable only to garments and made-up articles and does not apply to piecegoods.

(Mr. J.K.H. Yue, Tel. H-451919)



## Tanzania

Further to Circular in this series No. 4/68 dated 10th January 1968, the Government of Tanzania has promulgated a revised list of items, the importation of which require to be covered by specific licences. Of the items listed, the following are of interest to Hong Kong:—

BTN No.	Description	H.K.'s Domestic
		Exports to Tanzania in 1967 (HK\$ '000)
32.09	Paints, enamels, lacquers, varnishes and distempers, but not including artists colours .....	274
42.02	Suitcases and handbags of vulcanized fibre .....	70 (all materials)
48.16	Boxes, bags and other packing containers of paper or paperboard	40
55.07/09	Woven fabrics of cotton .....	3,228
60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted .....	346
61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments .....	692
61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments .....	776
61.03	Men's and boys' under garments, including collars, shirt fronts or cuff .....	457
64.01/04	Footwear .....	232
73.38A	Enamel hollow-ware .....	94
85.03	Cells, dry, for torches, transistor radios, etc. ....	37
85.15A	Radio receiving sets and radiograms .....	89

## Republic of South Africa

The Government of South Africa has announced certain amendments to its customs tariff and the following items are of interest to Hong Kong:—

South Africa Tariff Heading	Description	Rate of Duty		H.K.'s domestic exports to S. Africa in 1967 (HK\$ '000)
		New	Old	
69.11.10	Toiletware or tableware (excluding sweet dishes and ash trays) of porcelain or china			52
	.10 Cups .....	HK\$0.34	) HK\$49.73	
	.20 Saucers .....	each or	) per 100	
		25%	) lb. with	
	.90 Other .....	HK\$49.73	) a maximum	
		per 100lb.	) of 30%	
		or 25%	)	
69.12.10	Toiletware or tableware (excluding sweet dishes and ash trays) of other kinds of pottery			12
	.10 Cups .....	HK\$0.34	) HK\$49.73	
	.20 Saucers .....	each or	) per 100	
		25%	) lb. with	
	.90 Other .....	HK\$49.73	) a maximum	
		per 100lb.	) of 30%	
		or 25%	)	

(Mr. A.S.N. Cheung, Tel. No. H-247316)

## Cyprus

The Government of Cyprus has announced that with effect from 24th May, 1968, a range of goods will be subject to specific import licensing. The following items are of interest to Hong Kong:—

Description	H.K.'s domestic exports to Cyprus in 1967
	HK\$ '000
Woven fabrics of cotton .....	1,193
Undergarments, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized, including shirts .....	189
Outer-garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized ....	167
Footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or artificial plastic material .....	250

(Mr. T.H. Chau, Tel. No. H-431233)

## Australia

### Tariff Preference to Less-Developed Countries

C.I. Circular No. 48/68 dated 6th July, 1968 gave a consolidated list of all items included in the Australian preference scheme for imports from less-developed countries. The Australian government has now extended the scheme to cover nine additional items, of which Hong Kong is excluded from preferential treatment on one item (70.12.000: glass inners for vacuum flasks). Details of the new preference quotas, the new preferential rates of duty and Australian imports from Hong Kong of the relevant items in the Australian financial year 1966/67 are set out in Enclosure I, which is available at the Chamber.

In addition, the Australian Government has announced certain tariff changes, some of which have affected certain items and their related quotas set out in the list attached to C.I. Circular No. 48/68. The quotas affected and the manner in which they are affected are indicated in Enclosure II which is available at the Chamber. In this connection, a point worthy of special note is that, following representations, the Australian authorities have agreed to reinstate Hong Kong on Tariff Item 62.05.190 (other textile articles) which is now included within a new half-annual quota of HK\$544,000 to cover the whole of Tariff Item 62.05 (i.e. it would also include cotton shoe and corset laces, sweat rags, dorset

cloths, etc. now in 62.05.110 and 62.05.900).

Since quotas are allocated only to importers in Australia, exporters wishing to benefit from the preference scheme should contact their Australian importers. The closing date for the latter to lodge their applications with the Australian Customs authorities for allocation of quotas for the six-month period commencing 1st July, 1968 in respect of the goods specified in Enclosures I and II is 30th August, 1968.

(Mr. T.H. Chau, Tel. No. H-431233)

## Indonesia

Further to Commercial Information Circulars numbers 61/68 and 62/68, the Department has learned that the Indonesian authorities have, with effect from 28th August, 1968, removed the restriction on Indonesian banks opening letters of credit on Hong Kong and Singapore; but Foreign Exchange Banks will continue to authorise payment only after receipt of the goods in Indonesia.

All letters of credit opened in favour of Hong Kong business concerns are henceforth to contain the following clause:—

"Sight draft on us accompanied by shipping documents to be sent to us for collection. We shall authorise you to pay the amount involved upon receipt of the documents as well as a surveyor's certificate to be supplied in Indonesia showing the goods have arrived at port destination

and conform to terms of letter of credit."

Shipping marks are to include the relevant Letter of Credit number, the letters "B.E.", and the code number of the Indonesian Foreign Exchange Bank.

In addition, the Indonesian Government has revoked the requirement that survey reports should be issued in Hong Kong in respect of all consignments. New regulations published on 28th August state that cargo surveys will be carried out in Indonesia.

In a separate statement the Indonesian Ministry of Trade said that the Government appreciated the problems that had been created by the suspension of the opening of letters of credit on Hong Kong and Singapore but that the Government's aim was to promote bona fide trade. (Mr. M.P.C. Chan, Tel. No. H-453939)

## Mexico

Further to Commercial Information Circulars numbers 43/68 and 63/68 the Government of Mexico has, in a recent announcement, clarified that the new regulation on shipping document is applicable only to goods arriving Mexico by land or by sea and not consignments which arrive by post or by air.

(Mr. A.S.N. Cheung, Tel. No. H-229777)

## TENDERS

### Hong Kong

Tenders are invited for the supply of:—

Tender Reference	Subject
PT/84/68	Glass paper and emery cloth sheets
PT/85/68	PVC ball valves
PT/86/68	Animal feed
PT/87/68	Milk powder
PT/88/68	Domestic 4-plate electric cookers
PT/89/68	Plastic water closet cisterns
PT/90/68	Urinal stalls and fittings

Tender forms and further details are available from the Procurement Division, Stores Department, Oil Street, North Point.

## TRADE FAIRS

### France

The 55th Motor Show will be held from October 3 to 13, 1968 in Paris. The Chamber has available to members one complimentary ticket which will be given to members on a first come first served basis.

### Belgium

The Textirama International Textile and Clothing Fair will be held in Ghent from 31st January to 4th February 1969.

### Italy

The 24th Clothing Trade Fair and the 3rd Trade Fair for Home & Furnishing Fabrics will be held jointly in Milan from 17th to 20th October 1968.

### France

The 3rd International Food Products Exhibition — SIAL — will take place at Puteaux from 27th October to 4th November 1968. For further information write to:

SIAL—Commissariat General,  
121 Boulevard  
Hausmann,  
75 Paris 8eme.

## MEMBERSHIP

### New Members

Andrew Evans & Company, 202B Victory House, 5-7 Wyndham Street, Hong Kong.

Asher & Co. (Hong Kong) Ltd. Godown "A" Taikoo Sugar Refinery Co. Ltd. 3rd floor, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong.

Bhanabhai & Co. (H.K.) Ltd. 28 Hollywood Road, Winning House, 2/F, Hong Kong.

Chatams Investment & Trading Corp. 603-605 Mohan's House, 75-77 Wyndham Street, Hong Kong.

Cheang Yeok Kee Garment Fty. 27-29 Hollywood Road, 1/F, Hong Kong.

Columbia Agencies 701-703 Yat Fat Bldg 44-46 Des Voeux Road C, Hong Kong.

Concord Yang Corporation 903 Kwong On Bank Bldg. Hong Kong.

Durham Industries of Hong Kong Ltd. 608 Holland House, Hong Kong.

Fook Cheong Trading Co. 509 Marina House, 5/F, Hong Kong.

Hondar & Company 901 Regent House 84 Queen's Road C, 9/F, Hong Kong.

Hongkong Africa Trading Co., Ltd. 1403 Bank of Canton Bldg. Hong Kong.

Kin Fung Company 403 Des Voeux Bldg. Des Voeux Road W, Hong Kong.

S. Motiram 505 Yip Fung Bldg. d'Aguilar Street, Hong Kong.

Rauniar Overseas Company 5-6 Glenealy, 1st floor, Block "B", Hong Kong.

Sum Yuen Chong 161 Des Voeux Road West, 3rd floor, Hong Kong.

Survey Research Hong Kong 6th floor, Wing House, 23 Connaught Road C, Hong Kong.

Tokyo Trading (H.K.) Ltd. 1104 Metropole Bldg. 57 Peking Road, Kowloon.

The Trading Corporation Ltd. 805/6 Shell House Hong Kong.

Wah Ying Textile Corporation 1203-4 Che San Bldg. 54-58 Des Voeux Road C, Hong Kong.

Yuen Hing Knitting & Garment Fty. Ltd. 1 Walnut Street, 10/F, Taikoktsui, Kowloon, Yardley Company 209 Tak-shing House, Hong Kong.

### Change of Title &

### Change of Address

The First Trading & Tours Co., Ltd. 1304 Connaught Bldg. 54-56 Connaught Road C, Hong Kong.

(Formerly Hanson Mercantile Co. 605 Hing Wai Bldg.)

### Change of Address

Atjeh Trading-Shipping Co. Block A, 4/F. Room 402 Oriental Garden, 236-238 Prince Edward Road, Kowloon.

(Formerly 204 Cheong K. Bldg.)

Ernest Trading Corporation, Room 1030, Star House, Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.

(Former address: 250 Alexandra House, Hong Kong.)

Hong Heng, 97 New Henry House, 10 Ice House Street, Hong Kong.

(Formerly 616A Central Bldg.)

Kin Fung Company. Room 601, Yip Fung Building, D'Aguilar Street, Hong Kong.

(Former address: 403 Des Voeux Bldg., Des Voeux Road W., Hong Kong.)

Lee On & Company, Wing Lok Mansion, 162 Wing Lok Street, West, 7th floor, Hong Kong.

(Formerly 63 Des Voeux Road W.)

Magnet Trading Corporation, 501 Canton House 54-56 Queen's Road C, Hong Kong.

(Formerly 75 Wyndham Street).

Regina Knitting & Dyeing Mills Ltd., Room 97, New Henry House, 10, Ice House Street, Hong Kong.

(Former address: 616 Central Bldg., Hong Kong.)

Tsiens & Associates Ltd. 1508 Star House, 3 Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

(Formerly 902 Loke Yew Bldg.)

### Bankers at the Fair

The Chartered Bank and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will each be represented at the Berlin Fair "Partners for Progress" by senior officials from their respective Hamburg offices.

Their wealth of experience of European business and banking practice as well as their expertise on trading both in and to the Far East will be invaluable help to delegates at the Fair.

### Just Fancy That

What is the difference between a handbag and a basket?

A basket is a container which is taken out of the house empty and brought back full, while a handbag is a container taken out full and brought back empty.

On this definition, the Lord Justice Salmon ruled that rattan handbags from Hong Kong could not be classified as baskets for the purpose of charging import duty.

### Export Week

A National Export Week, sponsored by the Export Development Council, will be held in Australia from October 14 to 19, 1968. This week, to be launched by the Prime Minister, Mr. John Gorton, will aim at encouraging expansion of Australian manufactured exports.

# 香港總商會

雙週刊

一九六八年八月五日

## 根據調查顯示 香港應採用米突制

英國將於一九七二年採用「米突制」，香港是否應該追隨呢？根據總商會在一千五百名會員中，所作的意見調查顯示：百分之八十四同意追隨改制，只有百分之

### 四反對。

許多會員認為這項改制應在一九七一年進行，而另一些會員則認為應在一九七二年。

在答覆「米突制」是否會產生任何困難的問題時，佔百分之六十九會員認為它不致使其職員、顧客及供應者產生困難，當經過一短暫的調和。只有極少會員深信它會產生困難。

一般認為，當英國改用「米突制」後，對出口商、入口商、廠商、運輸公司、銀行、公共事業及批發商、零售商，都無任何較大的不利影響。怡和有限公司認為：一旦英國改用「米突制」，除了對美貿易外，只會引致極少困難而已。

諾華製造有限公司表示：由於有系統、及易於改變，毫無疑問的，「米突制」是較英國制為佳。但在改制

你 知道香港在海外貿易的活動情況嗎？你又知道香港在海外人士的心目中的看法嗎？根據所接獲的海外報導，在倫敦、雪梨及美國各地，七月份是活躍的！

過程中，將會有許多困難存在。

利百有限公司則認為：當採用「米突制」後，在賬目計算上將節省許多人工及時間。在進行改制上，是不會有任何困難的。

### 香港四人代表

#### 出席勞工會議

出席國際勞工組織第六屆亞洲區會議的香港四人代表團，在助理輔政司莫根率領下，已於月初啓程。

其他三名代表是：勞工署高級勞工事務主任蘇美秀霞、香港僱主聯合會秘書文利斯、港九自由文員協會副主席李成威。

該項亞洲區會議係於九月二日至十四日，在東京召開。出席代表來自廿六個國家及地區，大會將討論此一地區的社會保障、管理發展、以及人事政策等問題。

### 勞工署長表示

#### 歡迎就僱傭法案 提供建設性批評

勞工署長邦亮同在立法局會議席上，首讀「一九六八年僱傭法案」時指出：有來自工會代表及僱主代表的勞工顧問委員會，均一致同意該項新法案。

他又指出：該委員會對新法案的條款，業已詳細審核及討論。

邦氏說：「中華廠商聯合會、香港僱主聯合會、香港工業總會及香港總商會等四個單位，雖然仍未達到對每一條款完全認可的可能，但對該法案的要點，已表示支持。」

這位勞工署長希望在該法未正式成為法律前，讓普羅大眾有時間去審核其內文，因而提出建議。他說：「我本人十分歡迎任何有建設性的批評，好讓這關係每一勞工的僱傭保障的法案，能有所改善。」

該法案將有三個主要目標：其一，就僱用合約中的中止期，訂下一般條款；其二，保障僱工的薪金；其三，管制免費職業介紹所的經營。

#### 玩具及假髮外銷

##### 六月份又創紀錄

本年六月份，香港共銷出價值五千四百〇八萬元的港產塑膠玩具及公仔與海外買家，使到本年為首六個月的總值達到二億八千三百七十三萬元，比較去年同期超出八千五百廿七萬元。致於人造假髮，則達到二千五百五十二萬元，使到本年為首六個月的價值達到一億五千三百七十八萬元，比較去年同期超出六千六百六十七萬元

日本一九七〇年國際博覽會協會將在未來數月內，派遣八組訪問團分赴五十個國家，邀請這些國家參加第一次在東方舉行的世界性博覽會。

截至目前，已有卅八個國家決定參加，但博覽會協會則希望最少有七十個國家。

現時已有兩個訪問團，正分赴義大利、西班牙、盧森堡、冰島、梵蒂岡、尼泊爾、印度、阿富汗、巴基斯坦及錫蘭等國家訪問。

據稱，一九七〇年國際博覽會，日本需耗資八百二十億日元，以應付各項必須設備。一項廣大的中心冷氣系統，及一座行政大廈，刻在施工作中。

博覽會主管人員曾明令指出博覽會不能過份廣告化，因此私人工業及商業組織的計劃，必須經博覽會當局審核批准。當局已印發嚴格規例，對個別參展者均有顯著說明。

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### 總商會出版

#### 袋形記事簿

香港總商會將出版一九六九年袋形記事簿，每本港幣一元一角，以供會員採用。

會員訂購五十本以上者，可加印會員名字，不另收費。

該記事簿有兩種，其一附中英文對照的一般參攷資料，其二只附英文資料。請會員逕與助理秘書活特洽商訂購事宜。