



The Bulletin

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce



APRIL 1970

In Brief

News and announcements from Hong Kong and abroad

□ **The Shippers' Council** has once again urged that shippers and exporters make greater use of the Council to solve any problems relating to transportation of freight, whether by sea or air.

The Council would like to be informed of freight rate increases which result in hardship to shippers in individual items, or which shippers consider may inhibit the development of trade.

Members are requested to submit specific details through the Chamber to the Council so that it may take up the case with the Shipping Conference concerned. It is essential that the case should be fully documented and should include details of the manner in which the rate is adversely affecting trade.

Mrs. Susan Yuen, Hon. Secretary of the Hong Kong Shippers' Council, pointed out in our January Bulletin article on the Council:—"We can take our problems to the Conferences, and as a result of their understanding, we have obtained a number of improvements which are beneficial to shippers".

□ Members are reminded that the next series of the **Chamber's Chinese Language examinations**, in all three levels of Colloquial Cantonese, will be held on Saturday, 25th April, 1970 at 9.00 a.m. at the offices of the Chamber, Union House.

□ **Annual Reports for 1969** have been mailed to all members. Any

member who has failed to receive a copy, please apply to the Chamber.

□ A new **membership list** is now available. Any members who have not yet received a copy, please contact the Chamber.

□ The **44th World Trade Week** in the Los Angeles — Long Beach area will be held from May 17 — 23, 1970. No traditional Trade Fairs are planned, but the Committee's program is geared to bringing together foreign and local businessmen. Interested members should direct their enquiries to the World Trade Department of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, 404 South Bixel St., Los Angeles, California 90054.

□ In April 1971 a major series of engineering exhibitions will be held in London under the collective title **Engineering 71**. International in scope, Engineering 71 will include exhibits from a dozen countries and is expected to attract a trade attendance of over 100,000. Members interested in this event are asked to contact Mr. R. C. Saunders, Overseas Division, Industrial & Trade Fairs Ltd., Commonwealth House, New Oxford Street, London. A leaflet about the exhibition is available for inspection in the Chamber library.

□ Members of the Chamber are offered a 10 per cent discount on the purchase of the **1970 international Business Directory** published by the Reuben H. Donnelley Corp. of New York. The directory classifies over

Cover: Hong Kong exported more than \$26 million worth of Jade, cut and polished, in 1969 — a rise of over \$5 million compared with 1968. This industry's chief markets are the US and Japan, which taken together account for approximately 81 per cent of the total export.

Continued

200,000 business firms in 150 countries throughout the world and can be used as a source to locate customers and suppliers. Those interested are asked to call K-300353.

□ **Pre-arrival clearance of cargo vessels** carrying only bona-fide crews will be introduced by the Immigration Department from April 1.

These new experimental arrangements are connected with containerisation, and are aimed at speeding up the processing of ships' companies.

Applications for this pre-arrival clearance must be sent to the Chief Immigration Inspector, Harbour Control Section, at least 48 hours before arrival of vessels in Hong Kong. Full details of application procedures may be obtained from the Immigration Department.

□ The Chinese University of Hong Kong has compiled a booklet describing the academic attainments of 287 of its **graduates**. Members who wish to avail themselves of this information for recruitment purposes can obtain a copy of the booklet from the Chamber library.

□ The **Engineering Report** on the container terminal at Kwai Chung, prepared by the Port Works Division of the Public Works Department, has been reprinted because of popular demand.

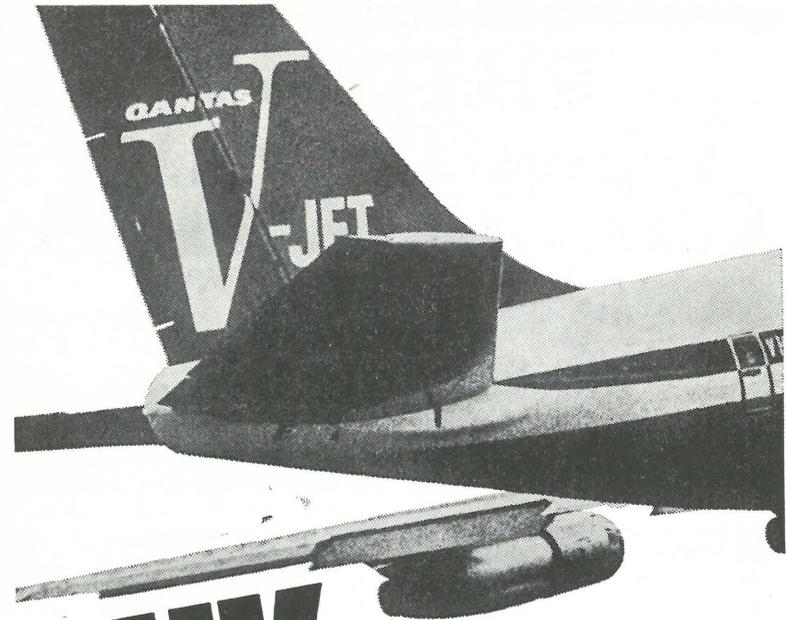
Copies are obtainable at the Printing Department in Java Road, and the Government Publications

Centre in the Star Ferry concourse, Hong Kong Island. Members wishing to see the Chamber's copy please contact Mr. R. T. Griffiths.

□ A printed report in Chinese and English of the **Transport Packaging Survey** carried out by Mr. Hideo Shimashita between 16th November and 20th December, 1969 in Hong Kong is now on sale. Members interested please apply to the Federation of Hong Kong Industries. A copy may also be seen in the Chamber's library.

□ A limited number of copies of survey reports on Hong Kong **Toys** and **Footwear** in Norway and Sweden published by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council is available to members at the Chamber on a first-come-first-served basis. Members interested please apply in writing to Mr. W.S. Chan, Business Promotion Department, Room 936, Union House, Hong Kong.

□ **Hong Kong trade statistics** for the period of January — February, 1970 analysed from the published figures of the Census and Statistics Department are now available to members. These include H.K. Overall Trade, H.K. trade with U.K., U.S.A., Canada, West Germany, Australia and all other significant markets.



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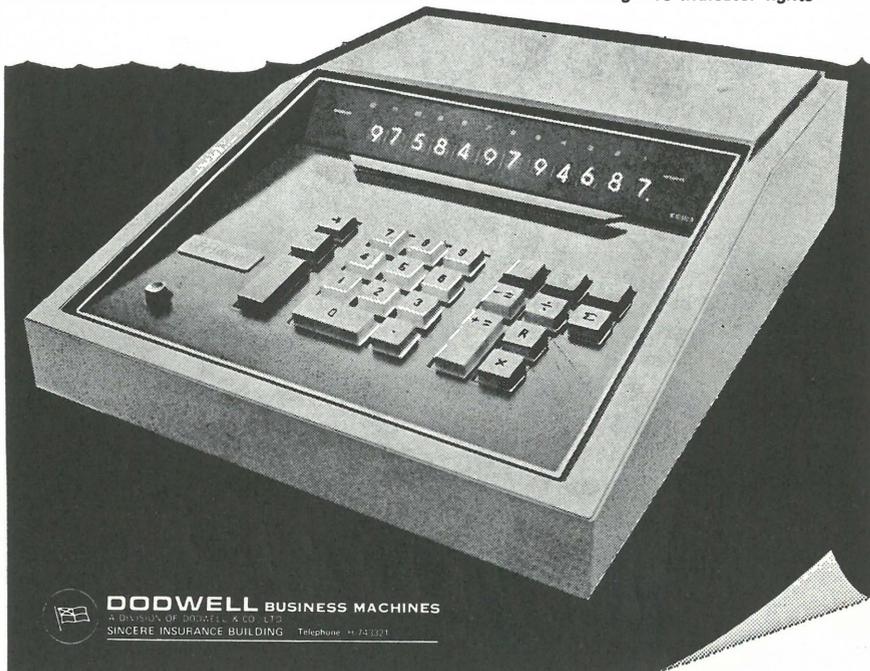
1113 ELECTRONIC CALCULATOR

FEATURES

addition
subtraction
multiplication
division

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operations in any order)

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automatic accumulation of quotients
retention of intermediate answers
constant multiplier
constant divisor
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The Bulletin

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Union House, April

It is our honest pleasure to congratulate Mr. Gerry Salmon on his election to the post of Chairman of the General Committee.

A popular man with Chamber staff, Mr. Salmon has of course passed through his baptism of fire during his two years as Vice-Chairman of the Chamber. Those who have worked with him know him to be an individual personality, who brings a firm and logical point-of-view to the problems put before him.

He is also a man of impressive energy, and in this he resembles the retiring Chairman, the Hon. Michael Herries. Chamber staff who have come to know Mr. Herries during the last four years, first as Vice-Chairman and then as Chairman, have frequently remarked on the amount of productive work he manages to pack into the day. His speed of decision and incisiveness of mind have made his Chairmanship one that will not be forgotten.

Congratulations are also offered to Mr. Peter Williams of Dodwells, on his election as Vice-Chairman, and to Mr. H.P. Foxon of Gilman's, newly elected to the General Committee. He replaces Mr. D.J.R. Blaker, who has resigned from the Committee as a result of his leaving Hong Kong.

Mr. Blaker has served on the Committee for three years, and his advice and service have been always appreciated by his colleagues.

One of the major tasks to confront our new Chairman coincides with his election. This is the 24th Congress of the Federation of Commonwealth Chambers of Commerce, to take place at City Hall between 4th — 8th May. Although the Congress is an international event organised by the Federation, the Chamber has a key role to play as host organisation.

May we take this opportunity on behalf of the Chamber to welcome our overseas colleagues to Hong Kong.

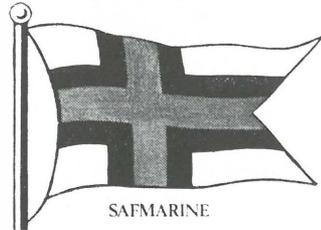
Hong Kong is pleased that it should be chosen for the first FCCC Congress held in Asia. We may perhaps be forgiven if we think of this as a compliment. Although large and important Asian states remain members of the Commonwealth, Hong Kong is virtually the only area to retain colonial status, and yet to have developed a prosperity that many regard as a pacesetter.

We should like to think that the way shown by Hong Kong contains somewhere a lesson for the rest of the world. The Congress, we hope, may provide an occasion to share this.

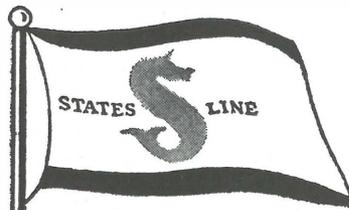
Chairman: G. M. B. Salmon; Vice Chairman: P. J. Williams; Secretary: J. B. Kite; Assistant Secretary: R. T. Griffiths; Business Promotion: S. L. Chung, W. S. Chan, P. Choy, Miss C. Fung; Certification: A. C. C. Stewart, F. M. Castro, H. Cheng, W. K. F. Wang, C. T. Wu; Public Relations: Harry Garlick, Lee Sherard; Membership: C. Tsang; Office Supervisor: V. Wong.



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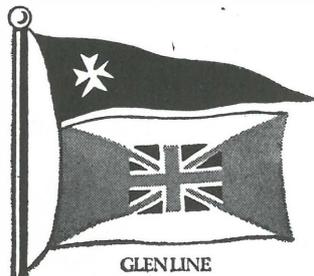
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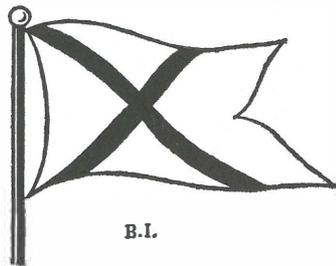
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Annual General Meeting

A shortened version of the speech made by the Chairman in proposing the adoption of the Report of the Committee and Accounts of the Chamber for 1969, at the AGM held on 7th April 1970.

The Accounts show a continuing satisfactory position with a balance of some \$241,000 being available for transfer to General Reserve. The buoyant income position, particularly from Certification Fees, is a clear indication of the increasing use members make of the facilities which the Chamber provides; and your Committee deemed it wise to accept the offer of additional space adjoining our offices in Union House, so that a thorough reorganisation of our office lay-out could be undertaken.

The full effect on costs of this additional space and of extra staff engaged to cope with the ever growing volume of our work will be reflected in next year's accounts; but, even after taking this into account, your Committee is fully confident that the time has come for the Chamber to expand its trade promotion activities, and, in consultation with the Trade Development Council, we are seeking ways for applying an increasing proportion of Chamber Funds to the furthering of members' interests.

Special Relief Fund

The arrangements mentioned at last year's annual meeting, for turn-

ing the former Dependents Fund into a Charitable Trust, were completed on 3rd July. I should like to thank the Hon. Attorney General for all the personal interest he took in placing of the Fund on its present less restrictive basis.

The Trustees have been able to give some assistance to members of the forces of law and order who were injured in 1967, or since, and to dependents of any who have lost their lives on duty since the close of that emergency.

I should like to emphasize what I have said in my printed Statement on the subject of technical education and the urgency of expanding facilities for it. It is essential that there be no delay in the implementation of the programme designed to meet a shortage which exists now.

Poor English

I think it appropriate to refer to the question of teaching standards of languages, particularly English. Some 64 per cent of our direct exports are shipped annually to English speaking markets. I am afraid that the standards of English achieved by a great majority of the secondary school leavers who seek employment in commerce, are just not up to what is required for the conduct of correspondence in this trade.

I would urge the Director of Education to re-examine syllabuses with a view to giving school leavers a greater comprehension and facility

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AIR-INDIA

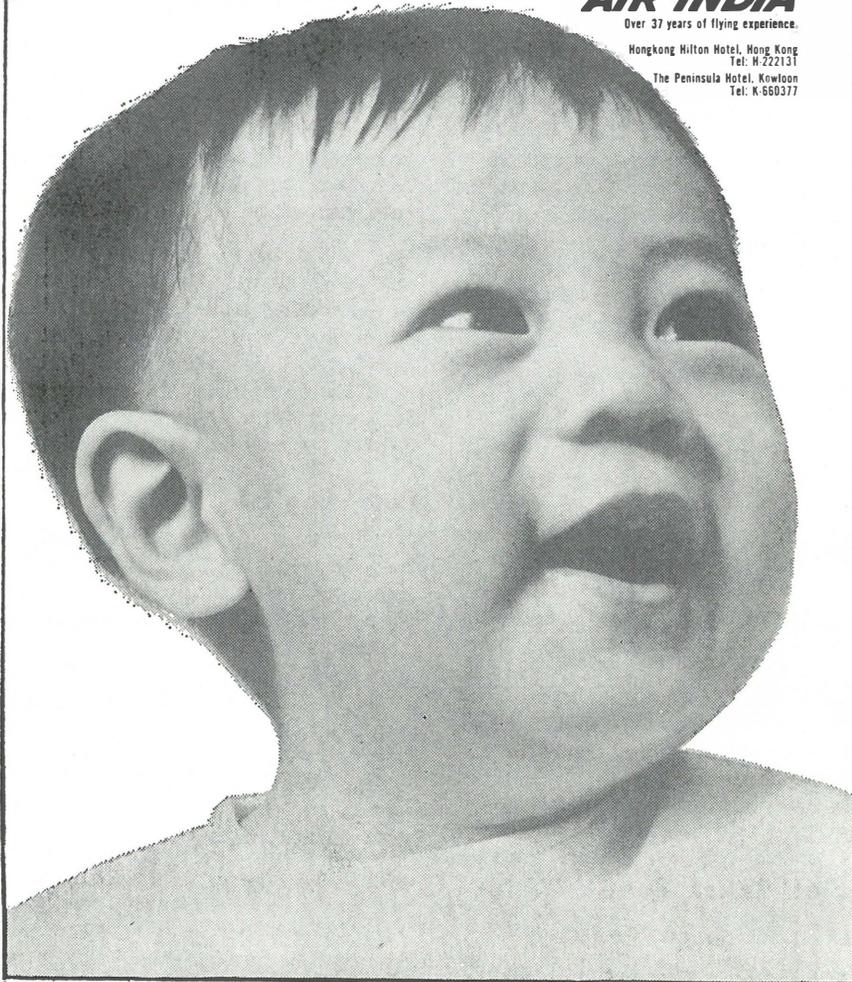
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in the everyday use of this language.

It is surely not entirely a coincidence that in the three and a half years since the Trade Development Council was formally established on 1st October, 1966, the annual total value of direct exports of Hong Kong goods has increased by some 83 per cent.

We can count ourselves lucky that the coincidence of time and need has made it possible for Mr. Terence Sorby to take over the duties of Executive Director. Mr. Sorby comes to the T. D. C. with a wealth of successful experience in the administrative side of our industrial and commercial development; and he can take over his new duties confident of the full support and cooperation of the Chamber.

GIS success

I am sure our many friends in government will not take it amiss if I single out the Information Services Department for particular congratulation on its successful coordination of Hong Kong's first ever participation in a World Exposition.

The Hong Kong Pavilion at EXPO '70 in Osaka, sails and all, has gained acclaim from all corners of the World.

Busy year

It has been another busy year in the Chamber and this has been particularly so in the Certification Depart-

ment. The coordinated certification system is operating smoothly and I should like to express the Chamber's thanks to the Commerce and Industry Department for cooperation and support in further investigation and action on the cases where our own inspectorate staff find some irregularity.

Our Business Promotion Department has also been a hive of activity and achieved a notable success in its handling of the programme for the London Chamber of Commerce Trade Mission. Similar arrangements, sometimes in conjunction with Trade Commissions or Consular offices, have been made for other visiting missions and a heavy programme is in train this year when we are collecting the spin-off of groups en route to or from Japan for Expo '70.

Pick of the Press

Reprinted from the Wall St. Journal

The US Economy - Now

What happens to the US economy of major importance for world trade, and for Hong Kong in particular. Is the USA heading for a recession? Alfred L. Malabre Jr., staff writer of the Wall Street Journal, reports:—

In their appraisals of the months just ahead, reputable economists have forecast everything from a major recession to a renewed boom.

All the contradictory predictions tend to obscure what actually is happening in today's economy. The latest statistical evidence shows something like this: Business activity, taken as a whole, certainly is not collapsing, but neither is it any longer bounding from record to new record.

The broadest measure of business activity is gross national product, the total value at market prices of all goods and services produced by the economy. In the fourth quarter of last year, it reached a record annual rate of US\$952.2 billion. This was nearly US\$10 billion above the third-quarter rate, and a further gain is generally anticipated in the current quarter.

Smallest climb

Such statistics hardly suggest a slowing of business growth, much less a recession. But a closer look at the figures provides a different picture. The \$10 billion rise of GNP in the fourth quarter was barely half as large as the third-quarter increase. In fact, it was the smallest quarterly climb in two and a half years. And most analysts estimate that the increase in the current quarter will be less than the fourth quarter gain.

The picture becomes still less cheerful when the statistics are adjusted to eliminate "growth" due simply to rising prices. When this is done, the fourth-quarter GNP increase of \$1.6 billion turns out to be no increase at all. In fact, "real" GNP declined a minuscule 0.4 per cent in the quarter. Most analysts guess that this decline will widen to about 1 per cent or slightly more in the current quarter.

No recession now

The National Bureau of Economic Research, a private nonprofit making organisation, undertakes the job of determining the exact months when recessions begin and end. Rather than using any rigid formula tied to real GNP, NBER economists examine scores of business indicators before they decide whether a recession is under way.

NBER economists do not believe that a recession is under way now, according to F. Thomas Juster, vice president-research. However, Mr. Juster adds, "We generally agree that economic conditions exist today that could lead to a recession".

An NBER analyst who keeps close tabs on GNP and other key business indicators estimates that real GNP, while down slightly since the third quarter of 1969, remains "roughly US\$10 billion higher than a year ago". That amount exceeds the gross national product of Norway, the economist notes.

Other broad business indications also show that economic activity remains at a very high level. Civilian

employment in February stood at 78,822,000, after adjustment for seasonal factors. The total was a tiny 0.2 per cent below the January total, which was a record for any month in US history.

Unemployment rising

This growth in jobs, however, is considerably smaller than the rise in the working-age population. The rate of unemployment, accordingly, has been on the rise. In February, 4.2 per cent of the labour force said it wanted work but couldn't find any. This was up from 3.9 per cent in January and up sharply from 3.3 per cent in February 1969.

But February's jobless rate is much lower than rates that have prevailed in past recessions. In 13 of the 24 years since the end of World War II, in fact, joblessness averaged about 4.2 per cent.

With employment at a near-record level, it is not surprising that personal income is also high. The February level of US\$777.6 billion, at a seasonally adjusted annual rate, was a record US\$3.3 billion higher than the January rate, the previous record. The February rate was nearly US\$54 billion, or 8 per cent higher than a year earlier. This gain exceeds the rate at which the cost of living has recently been rising.

Spending up

Still another area of record-level economic activity is business spending. In the fourth quarter, business expenditure for new facilities reached a re-

cord annual rate of nearly US\$78 billion, a hefty 13 per cent above the corresponding 1968 period. Moreover, a Government survey released early in March found that such expenditures in 1970 would climb nearly 11 per cent with the sharpest gains coming in the last two quarters of the year.

In the past, there has never been a recession unaccompanied by a major drop in such expenditures. It is possible, of course, that the recent survey will prove to be wide of the mark, and that actual business spending will indeed fall in 1970. For this to happen, however, the March survey would have to be far less accurate than any such survey previously taken.

Production down

Economists who doubt that business spending will rise at anything like the projected 11 per cent rate often point to the long decline in industrial production — the physical output of America's factories, mines and power stations. Industrial production in February, after seasonal adjustment stood at 169.4 per cent of the 1957-59 average of 100. As recently as last July, the output index was at 174.6. It has been falling ever since. As a result, U.S. industry is using less than 80 per cent of its plant capacity, far less than the rate of about 90 per cent that businesses generally consider most efficient.

No early warning

Economists who claim a recession

continued p. 14

Chamber News



- A — * Mr. G.M.B. Salmon was elected the Chairman of the Chamber's General Committee at the Annual General Meeting on the 7th of April.
- B — 'Management Time' was the topic of the most recent management training session for the Chamber staff.
- C — The immediate past Chairman, the Hon. Michael Herries presented a \$1,500 cheque from the Chamber's Special Relief Fund to P. C. Wong Ying Yee who was wounded while on duty on the Peak last November.
- D — The Pakistan Trade Mission, led by Mr. Mahiur Rahman (second from left) visited the Chamber as part of its one week business promotion trip to Hong Kong.
- E — Members of the West Australian Chamber of Manufacturers, seen here with the Secretary, Mr. Kite, visited the Chamber in late March.
- F — Hon. Michael Herries was interviewed by Radio Hong Kong at a press conference held at the Chamber to introduce the 1969 Annual Report.
- G — Mr. J.S. Foote of the Hong Kong Hotels Association was one of the guest speakers at a series of Career Guidance Seminars, organised by Central and Kowloon City C.D.O.s with help from the Chamber.
- H — New recruits from the Department of Commerce & Industry were shown around the Chamber as part of their training program.

Continued

definitely looms, and possibly a major one, put little stock in the record or near-record levels of such key yardsticks as GNP, personal income and business spending. Such indicators in the past have usually provided no early warning of bad business ahead. Indeed, business spending has normally been most sharply on the rise just before recessions have developed.

Rather, economists who claim that a recession is upon us, or could develop in coming months, stress the recent performance of the so-called leading indicators of business activity — economic gauges that historically have tended to move up or down well in advance of such broad business indicators as, say, GNP.

Indicators down

These indicators include such things as stock prices, the average workweek of production employees, new orders received by durable goods producers, building permits for new private housing and the after-tax profits of corporations. In recent months, all have been pointing down toward a recession. In fact, of the dozen leading indicators that economists generally watch most closely for early signs of a change in the general course of business, only one — a price index for industrial materials — has recently pointed consistently upward.

Less pessimistic

Analysts who are less pessimistic, on the other hand, take several considerations into account. For one thing, they note that the leading indicators

in the past have often given a false signal. In 1966-67, most leading indicators declined more sharply and for a longer period than in recent months — and no full-fledged recession developed.

Chamber News

□ At the Chamber's Annual General Meeting on April 7th, Mr. G. M. B. Salmon was elected Chairman, and Mr. P. G. Williams was elected Vice-Chairman, of the General Committee. Mr. H. P. Foxon of Gilman & Co. Ltd. was newly elected to the Committee to replace Mr. D. J. R. Blaker who has resigned. The meeting also agreed that the 1971 subscription will be \$400.

□ The Chamber and the FHKI assisted Caritas and the Hong Kong and Kowloon CDO in organising another Career Guidance Seminar. The Seminar took place from April 1st — 3rd. Over 1,200 Fifth-Form graduates attended talks on career prospects in various fields given by representatives of Hong Kong's leading firms and factories.

□ A total of 281 applicants for employment were registered with the Chamber during March, and details were published in the Employment Register.

□ Fifteen new companies joined the Chamber in March. Twenty-five firms ceased to be members. Present membership is 1689 as compared to 1571 last year at this time.

□ The Certification Department reports that a total of 15,117 applications for certificates of origin were received in March. This is an increase of 6.17 per cent over the same period last year. Spot checks on 19 per cent of all consignments were carried out.

□ The Credit Information Bureau reported that the Consolidated Monthly Statement for February, 1970, the first issue of the simplified statements, was prepared and sent out to subscribers on 4th April 1970. A total overdue of HK\$7.97 million was reported.

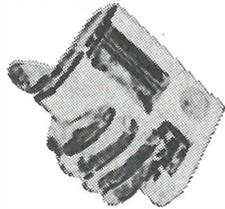
□ During March, the Business Promotion Department dealt with 1,277 overseas enquiries for importers or exporters, and handled 49 trade complaints. Three Trade Missions were received at the Chamber and over 30 business appointments were made for members to meet the delegates of these missions. The department also issued or endorsed 186 letters of introduction for members to various overseas trade organisations.

□ The Chamber has been in the limelight several times of late. In early March, Mr. Harry Garlick was on the Committee for the Hong Kong Ready-to-Wear Festival. Later in the month the Hon. Michael Herries presented a cash grant from the Chamber's Special Relief Fund to a P.C. who was wounded while on duty last November, and the Secretary, Mr. Kite was asked by TVB to take part in a discussion about Hong Kong's Budget for 1970. Still more recently, the Public Relations Department arranged a Press Conference at which the immediate past Chairman introduced the 1969 Annual Report.

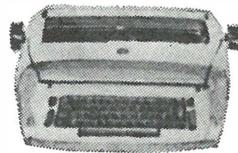
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View from the top The Employers Federation

It is not easy to be an employer today. Everyone has a place in his heart for the underdog, the employee after all, 95 per cent of us are employees.

In a port like Hong Kong the labour relation scene is particularly complicated. The economic growth and stability of the colony is contingent on its many markets, and this in turn affects the labour picture. For example, demand from Hong Kong's expanding markets has resulted in a shortage of skilled labourers in the colony. This in turn means that employers must work hard in order to woo and keep the trained personnel they need.

Similarly there is also the problem of the large turnover of labour. With so many industries competing with one another, it is difficult to keep even unskilled workers from moving from one job to another in search of higher wages. The wigs industry, for example, pays its women workers more than the electronic industry. Hence, many women have shifted employment. These are just two of the many difficult situations that employers must face constantly.

Good relations

An intelligent employer is aware that a good working relation between himself and his employees is essential to the continued well-being of his business. He also has many responsibilities toward his employees, which he must constantly bear in mind. In order to discharge these

responsibilities, he must be both well-intended and well-informed.

This is why the Employers' Federation of Hong Kong exists. The organisation avails employers in all kinds of businesses, large and small, of the three prime requirements for ensuring harmonious and well-balanced employee relations — representation, consultation and information.

Non-specialist

The Federation had its start as a sub-committee of the General Chamber in 1945. In 1947, it became an independent organisation. Unlike some of the more specialised employers groups, the Employers' Federation serves to bring together employers in every kind of business.

The ruling body of the Federation is the Council, which is composed of the Chairmen of 13 separate groups. These groups represent virtually all the different commercial, industrial and financial interests operating in Hong Kong. It includes, for example, the dockyards group, the cotton-spinners group, the shipping group, the banking group, etc. Provision is also made for extra groups to be formed when required. In addition there are six elected members to the council.

The present Chairman of the Federation is Mr. H.M.G. Forsgate, who is also Chairman of the Port Working Group. Mr. H. E. Aiers has

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been the Secretary and Treasurer of the Federation for the past 18 years.

Mr. Aiers is not only Secretary of Federation, he is also a representative of the Employers on this year's Hong Kong Government Labour Advisory Board.

Joint associations

The Federation is also represented on an important Committee, which it originated, the Joint Associations Committee Employer/Employee Relations. This Committee is composed of the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Employers' Federation, the General Chamber, the CMA and the FHKI. It is a consultative body only, the authority remains with the various constituent organisations. It meets regularly during the year and consults on all employer/employee relations including new legislation which has been and is to be promulgated.

The Employers' Federation not only keeps up to date on labour activities and legislation in Hong Kong, but overseas also. It is represented at all the Asian Conferences of the International Labour Organisation as well as on the committee of the Organisation of Employers' Federations and Employers in Developing Countries.

Forum

One of the main functions of the Federation is to provide a forum for joint consultative action. Three important benefits arise from such con-

sultation. Firstly, members have a chance to foresee and plan in advance for any industrial and commercial employee problems which may arise.

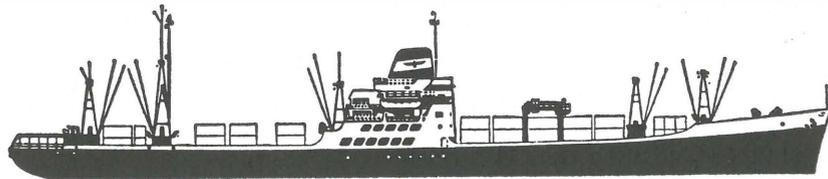
Secondly, it helps to secure mutual support and cooperation in dealing with demands made, or action taken by employees or trade unions. Thirdly, it enables members to coordinate their attitudes on labour questions and thereby present a united body for consultation with other interests.

Another important service which the Federation renders to members is disseminating information. A new business coming into Hong Kong may well make use of this service in order to ascertain how much it should pay its employees, what benefits or bonuses are expected and so forth. An older more established business may decide to set up a provident fund for its employees and ask the Federation how to go about setting one up. Whatever the problem may be, the secretariat has available a great fund of information and experience it can draw upon to help employers.

Labour disputes

The Federation's normal policy on labour disputes is to give only background advice and leave actual negotiations with employees to individual employers. However, if necessary, it can enter into direct negotiation with unions. Similarly, due to its close liaison with Government, on occasions it also acts in the role of intermediary in clearing up any petty misunderstandings which may arise between

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members and Government Departments.

According to the Federation's annual report labour relations were successful during the last year. Several wage demands were made by right wing unions, but all were successfully negotiated. When two medium sized enterprises, one a building contractor and the other a knitting factory, failed, the public was very concerned over the resulting inability of the employers to pay arrears in wages. Demands were made that claims for arrears of wages be given a higher priority than at present in bankruptcy and winding up proceedings. Appropriate legislation has now been drafted by Government.

Considerable progress

In the area of new and improved legislation, the Federation was gratified that considerable progress has been made. The major piece of legislation enacted in 1969 has to do with amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance. Briefly, the Ordinance was extended in scope from all manual workers and other employees receiving up to \$700 a month, to all manual workers and all other employees receiving less than \$1,500 a month. Domestic servants previously excluded are now included. Moreover, compensation payments in various categories were raised — some by over 100 per cent.

Another piece of legislation which came into effect in January 1970 was an amendment to the Employment Ordinance which provides for ma-

ternity leave without pay, for all female employees covered under the Ordinance.

Pipe-line

Still in the pipe-line is proposed legislation which would further improve general working conditions. These deal with holidays with pay, sick leave, sickness allowance and rest days. The Joint Associations Committee has been consulted by the Labour Department concerning these pieces of legislation.

The Federation is very keen on increasing its representation. Any employer interested in membership or further details about the Federation should contact the Secretary. (Tel. 222434).

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中文簡摘

香港僱主聯會簡介

由於香港市場的擴充，便產生了技工缺乏的現象。這即是說，僱主必須盡力挽留有技術訓練的職員。另一問題是勞工流動性很大。因為工廠互相競爭勞工，他們甚至難以阻止非技術性工人去尋求高薪酬的工作。

聰明的僱主明白到良好的勞資關係對他的業務有好處。他須記着他對僱員負起很多責任。爲了完成這些責任，他要有完善的計劃和資料。這就是香港僱主聯會存在的原因。

一九四五年該聯會成立時，只是本會一個小組委員會。到一九四七年始成獨立機構。該聯會的行政組織是董事局，該局成員包括代表各行業的十三名小組主席和六名選舉會員。若有需要，小組的數目可以增加。

該聯會的現任主席是霍仕傑先生，他也是港口工作小組主席，秘書兼司庫是艾爾先生，過去十八年，該兩職都是他擔任的。今年艾氏並且代表僱主方面出席香港政府勞工諮詢委員會。

聯會又有代表參加勞資關係聯合委員會。此委員會包括僱主聯會、廠商會、工業總會及本會之主席和主要行政人員。委員會只具諮詢性質，權力仍在各成員機構。委員會不時開會討論一切影響勞資關係事宜，包括已公佈或將會公佈的新法例。

除本港事務外，聯會也派代表參加國際勞工組織與僱主聯會組織及發展中國家僱主組織之委員會等所有亞洲區會議。

香港僱主聯會一項重要任務是促進聯合談判工作。此項工作有三種益處：第一、會員可以預見及預早計劃解決任何可能發生之工商僱員問題。第二、協助會員互相支持及合作，以應付勞方或工會提出之要求和採取

的行動。第三、使學員在討論勞工問題時可以交換意見，並且得以聯合一致與其他有關方面談判。

聯會另一項任務是向會員提供資料。新設的商業機構在釐定僱員薪津花紅時，或者舊機構在籌設公積金制度時，會覺得這種服務有用。

當勞工爭端發生時，聯會通常的政策是在幕後提供諮詢服務，真正是磋商留待勞資雙方解決。但遇到需要時，它會直接與工會磋商。同樣，當政府與僱主間發生誤會時，它會從中作調停，澄清誤會。

沙文榮膺本會新主席

韋林士當選副車

霍克遜出代白力加

本會同人衷心高興獲悉沙文先生當選本會總幹事會主席。沙氏前曾任該幹事會副主席達兩年。沙氏有感人的力量，此點與卸任主席夏理士議員相似。在過去四年，夏氏先任副主席，後當選主席。他迅速的決斷和敏銳的頭腦，使他成爲本會戰後出色主席之一。

吾人並祝賀天祥洋行董事經理韋林士先生當選副主席，與及太平洋行之霍克遜先生獲選幹事會委員以代替白力加先生離港後之空缺。

本會應屆常年大會主席演辭(摘要)

據財政報告，本會續有良好財政狀況；可撥充總儲備金之數，約二十四萬一千元。收入之增加，顯示會員會充份利用本會提供之服務。為使本會職員、會員及其他蒞臨本會之客人感到更舒適和方便，本會辦事處於去年八月完成擴充工程。比項擴充工程及增聘職員之費用雖然龐大，但本會仍然願意花錢去做更多的貿易促進工作，例如本會正與貿易發展局商討辦法以增加本會基金對促進會員利益之運用。

去年年會中提及將以前的「家屬基金」改為「慈善信託基金」之安排，經於去年七月三日立法局通過「香港總商會特別救援基金法案」時完成。據此，任何在一九六七年或以後為維護法紀和秩序而受傷之服務隊人員或殉職者之家屬，均可獲得援助。

本會現重申在報告書中所言工業教育及其設施之急需。目前工業人才供應已成問題，工業教育計劃實不能再拖延。至於中學畢業生英語水準，多未達商業所需程度。教育司應重訂中學課程，使彼等有足夠程度以從事商業工作。

自貿易發展局於一九六六年十月一日成立以來，本港每年直接輸出額即增加百份之八十三；此絕非全屬偶然，部份乃該局之力也。祁達先生任滿後，其執行幹事一職，將由富有工商行政經驗之蘇弼先生出任。

政府各部門一年來予本會之合作，至感銘心。更值得讚揚的是政府新聞處，它協助本港參加大阪博覽會，獲得各方面的稱讚。本會亦多謝工商處的合作和協助處理各種證書的申請。

本會的商業促進部也在幕後活躍，它負責安排訪港貿易團，例如倫敦商會貿易代表團，與本地工商人士之叙會。今年由於日本博覽會的影響，該等叙會將會更多。

短 訊

△ 面臨本會新主席重要工作之一便是將於五月四至八日在大會堂舉行之第廿四屆英聯

邦商會總會會議。本會忝為地主機構，任務固然重要。而香港亦感到很榮幸，因該項會議是首次在亞洲地區舉行。

△ 香港船運商聯會一再促請船運商與出口商遇到貨運（不論是海運或空運）發生問題時，要盡量利用該聯會之服務。本會會員如有此方面之問題，例如運費增加以致妨礙貿易發展等，請將有關詳情逕交本會以轉達該聯，俾能在船運會議中提出討論。

△ 本會下一次粵語會話各級考試，將於本年四月廿五日星期六上午九時在本會於仁行會所舉行。

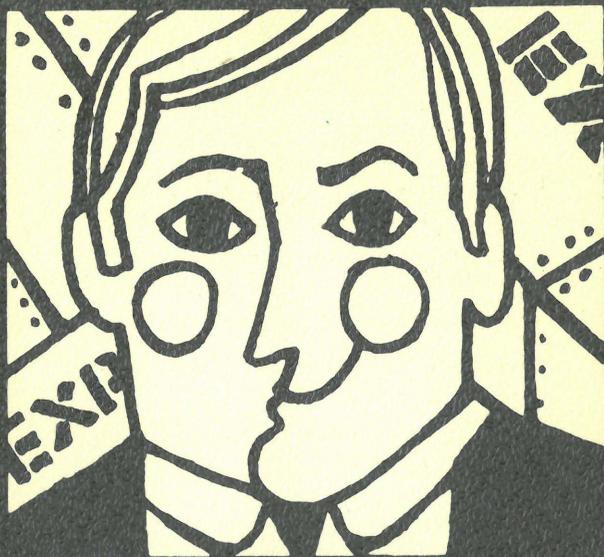
△ 本會一九六九年度年報已經郵寄予各會員，如尚未收到者，請向本會查詢。

△ 第四十四屆世界貿易週將於本年五月十七至廿三日在洛杉磯長堤舉行。

△ 移民局在四月一日開始實施船隻入前預先清貨計劃。此種試驗性安排，係與標貨箱運輸制度有關，目的在使輪船公司工作更趨迅速。欲參與該項計劃者，應在船隻入港至少四十八小時前，向港口管理部總督察申請。

△ 一連串之工程展覽將於一九七一年四月在倫敦舉行。有意者請去函：Mr. R. C. Saunders, Overseas Division, Industrial & Trade Fairs Ltd., Commonwealth House, New Oxford Street London。

△ 美國出版之一九七〇年國際商業引得，經開始發售，本會會員可獲九折優待，有意購買者可電 K-309353。



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