

# 五商刊 THE Bulletin

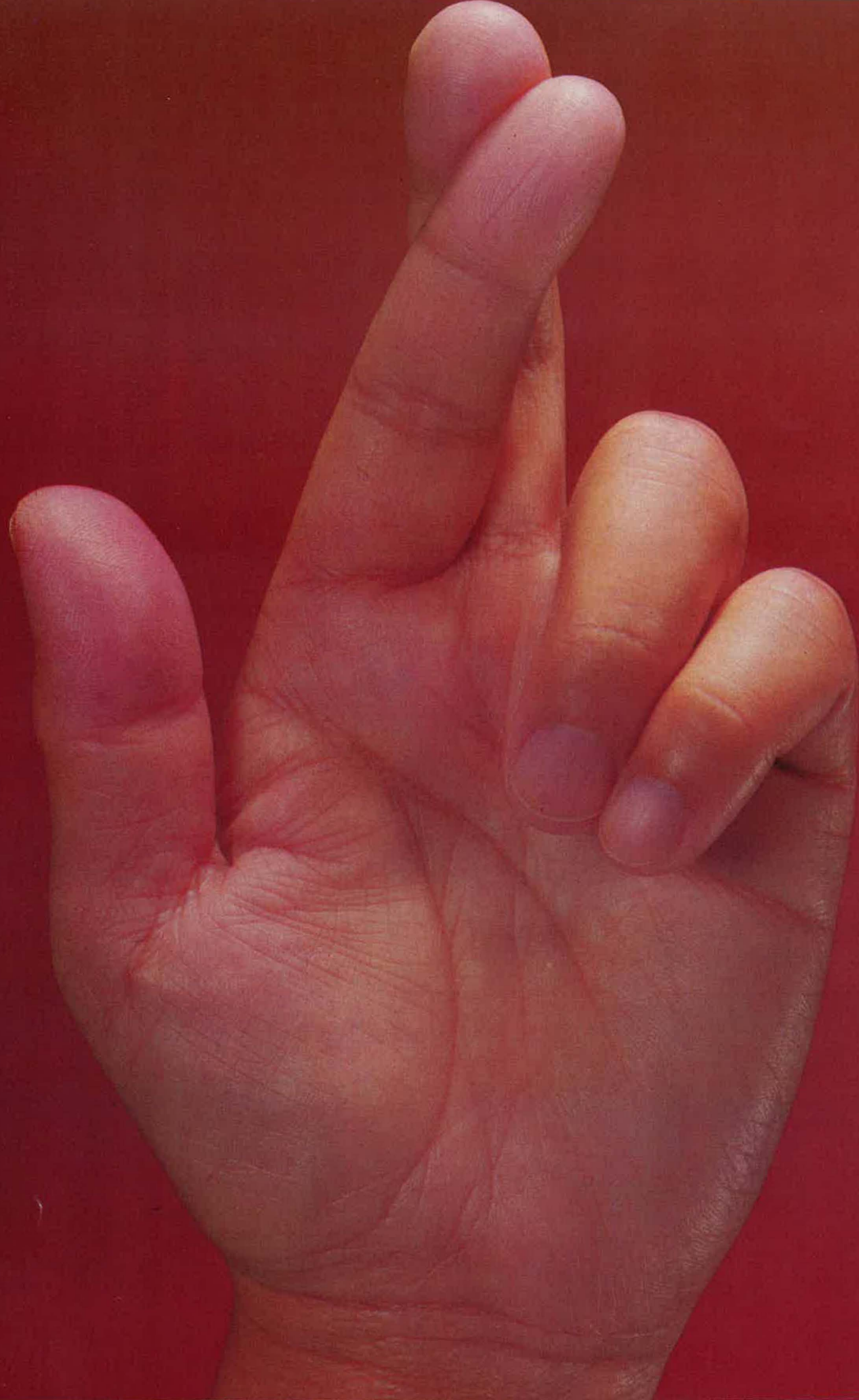
A Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce Magazine 香港總商會月刊



特具發展潛力的香港印刷出版業

Hong Kong — A particular niche in Printing and Publishing





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### St. George and the dragon

Director's Viewpoint

3

### “Hong Kong — a particular niche in Printing and Publishing”

Developing hand in hand with publishing, the local printing industry has become a technological leader.

6

### A book from start to finish

An outline of all the stages a book goes through.

10

### ‘Our objective is a complete drug-free Hong Kong . . .’

Report on the encouraging progress in the battle against narcotics in Hong Kong.

12

### ‘Beware of the watchdog — it bites’

The Consumer Council has gradually built up the confidence of many citizens.

15

### 聖佐治與毒龍

執行董事麥理覺專欄

23

### 特具發展潛力的香港出版印刷業

25

### “我們的目標是要禁絕香港的毒品問題……”

28

### 維護私人消費利益的消費者委員會

30

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## St. George and the Dragon



DRUGS trafficking and corruption go hand in hand and cast a fearsome shadow over any society in which they gain a foothold. Drug addiction is a dreadful blight on any human being and has a particularly pernicious effect on family life and love. During my twenty two years of Government service, and particularly during my final three years as Deputy Commissioner of the Preventive Service (Now Customs and Excise), I was aware at first hand of the huge problem of illegal drugs importation, distribution and addiction in Hong Kong.

In a virtually free port and with huge profits to be made from such traffic, drugs importation was relatively easy; so easy in fact that the addict always had a ready supply at a manageable price. The hard life suffered by many people in Hong Kong through the 1950's and early 1960's contributed inevitably to the drugs problem. The law enforcement agencies were not geared to fight this kind of crime and society had not the means to fight the drugs problem through education and rehabilitation.

Corruption was an ever present evil that could quite easily upset and negate months and even years of patient effort. At one stage some years ago, if my memory serves me correctly, it was estimated that street level purchases of narcotics were valued at over \$500 million per annum and that a significant proportion of that figure represented pay-offs. By the early 70's narcotics were perhaps the biggest single threat to our society with corruption a willing and massive partner.

Slowly however this terrible threat to the fabric of our life began to be recognised in both the public and private sectors. The means by which the drugs problem could be successfully challenged were marshalled and organised and given motivation and the power to retaliate. The formation of the Action Committee Against Narcotics, the appointment of a Commissioner for Narcotics, the establishment and revision of the legal means to strike hard at the traffickers and those who finance them, the formation of a joint command which

brought the Police and the Customs together in a common effort, the vastly improved international liaison through Interpol, and with other anti-narcotics agencies, the appointment of a special liaison office in Bangkok, wider and more effective publicity and an expansion in the manpower and training of those who had to fight this dreadful category of crime — all these and many other aspects of organisation were gradually moulded together to provide Hong Kong with a coordinated and effective anti-narcotics machine. Battles began to be won and the enemy was finally on the run.

But, in my view, the greatest single contributor to the encouraging situation described elsewhere in this *Bulletin* has been the highly effective work of the Independent Commission Against Corruption. Without this, all the other effort must have failed. I have always been a firm believer in the deterrent effect of the death penalty for certain classes of crime. Narcotic drugs traffickers and financiers, in my view, are the worst kind of murderers. But in the absence of the death penalty, prison for life and the stripping of all ill-gotten wealth are the next best things. But those who take corrupt payments to aid the passage of narcotics to the addicts are equally guilty and should continue to be rooted out and punished with all the severity of the law.

So the fight against narcotics is a many sided battle and the forces for good are not yet sufficiently superior over the forces of evil that victory is assured. This struggle is one for society as a whole. If we win this war, it will be a victory for the people and society. St. George did not face a greater task with his dragon.

And before I forget, Kung Hei Fat Choy to all of you and to those of you to whom it applies (which does not include me) Tim Ding Fat Choy!





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## Hong Kong — a particular niche in Printing and Publishing

With the establishment here of big names such as Readers Digest, Newsweek, Longmans and Oxford, Hong Kong is recognised as the region's leading publishing centre. And developing hand in hand with publishing, the local printing industry, despite the number of small scale units, has become a technological leader.

Last year, the amount of printed material Hong Kong exported topped \$300 million, compared to less than \$100 million in the early 'seventies. To set this in perspective, the figure represents a higher value than exports of electronic calculating machines. Over 66 per cent of exports are books and periodicals, mainly to Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States. The remainder are commercial items, such as packaging and display material.

All publishers *The Bulletin* spoke to agreed that the most important reason why regional offices have been opened here, is because Hong Kong can produce top quality products at competitive prices within a relatively short period.

"Hong Kong can produce as high a

quality standard as printers anywhere in the world, although some outside opinion still has a feeling that printers here are a little cheap and nasty," said Ken Derrick, Director of Asian Production Services Division, Peninsula Publishers Ltd., a subsidiary of the UK Macmillan group of companies.

A crucial point is that Hong Kong can produce medium size orders for overseas companies in a way that cannot be met elsewhere. Some types of printing equipment are geared only to large quantity production, but Hong Kong is able to produce printed material at prices which are impossible for the same quantity elsewhere. Hong Kong has thus made a particular niche for itself in the publications market.

UK-owned publishers in Hong Kong — which includes names such as

Longman, Oxford, Macmillan, and Heinemann — are in a sense distribution centres for their parent companies. They edit manuscripts and make sure that printers produce the right quality at competitive prices. Decisions regarding which books to publish are made by head office management. Most of the output is textbooks, and similar educational material.

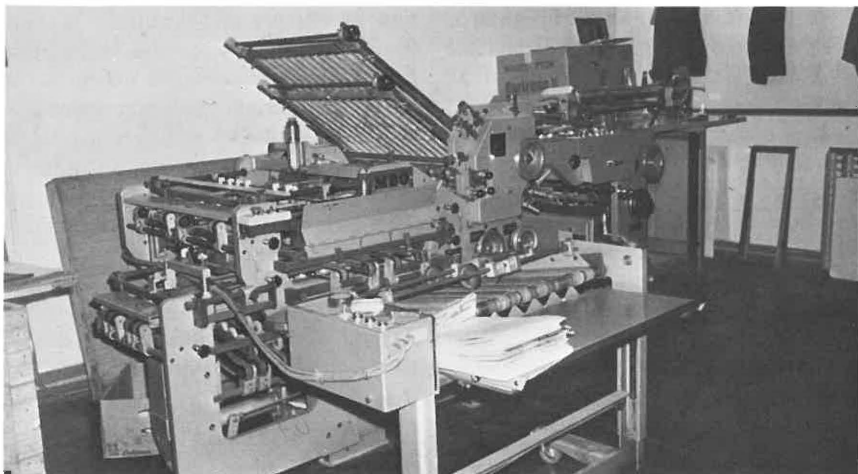
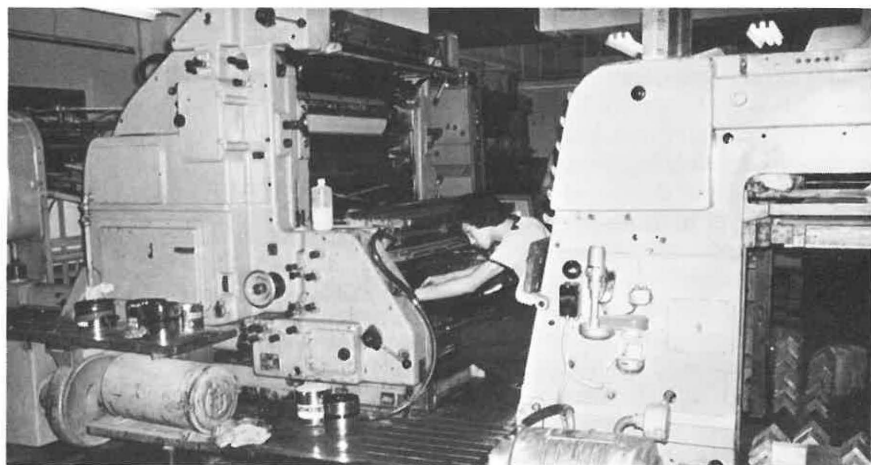
As far as regional markets are concerned, Hong Kong is a centre of supply for textbooks for schools in the region. For example, Longmans and Thomas Nelson have had a very strong historical background in the supply of school textbooks.

Convenient shipping and air transport has therefore added to Hong Kong's attraction as a printing centre.





# Publishing



*Pictures show standard equipment of a medium-size Hong Kong printing company.*



*"Judging from the fact that the most discerning buyers are still coming to Hong Kong, I am optimistic about the growth of the Printing Industry."*

Alex. Wu.

Even when shipment time adds many weeks to printing time, Hong Kong can still manage to deliver books and magazines very quickly, publishers say.

Apart from efficient transportation, Hong Kong's commercial infrastructure also helps the publishing industry. The banking and borrowing facilities are good, and exchange of currency is easy.

The ability of local printers to obtain paper and ink also favours the growth of the publishing business. Vice Chairman of Dai Nippon Printing Co. (HK) Ltd. and Chairman of the Printing Industry Training Board, Alex Wu told *The Bulletin* that dealers are well able to supply Hong Kong printers because they have in-depth experience of local printers' requirements.

The printing and publishing industries have thus developed hand in hand. It is difficult to trace exactly how many printers Hong Kong has, but the number is estimated to be between 2,000 and 2,500, most of them being medium and small scale companies. The industry, with some 22,000 workers, today ranks among the top six employers of industrial labour in Hong Kong.

With help from Japanese concerns including Dai Nippon and Toppan, the industry is expanding at a rapid rate in terms of craft skill and machinery sophistication. Last year, Hong Kong imported more advanced printing machinery than in any other previous year, mainly from Germany. The East Asiatic Company, for example, one of the leading machinery importers, brought in printing machinery worth more than \$25 million, a 20 per cent increase over 1977.

Educational publishing apart, Hong Kong produces a growing variety of international and local magazines. Time, Newsweek and Readers Digest have established regional offices here.

The number of local market magazines — mainly women's interest and gossip magazines — has increased considerably. Many in the trade



*The Honourable Alex S.C. Wu, OBE, JP  
Vice-chairman, Dai Nippon Printing;  
Chairman Printing Industry Training Board;  
Vice-chairman Hong Kong Training Council.*

believe that this growth is due to the increasing popularity of television, and the rise in educational standards. Some even say that people read more periodicals because they have to travel longer hours to and from work, as more people move away from the centres of population density into new areas.

The sharp increase in local publishing has been matched by a proportional increase in the number of printers. Many small-scale printers have set up shop since the removal in February 1977 of the Printing Presses Regulations, which required all printers to obtain a licence from Government. The number of registered printing firms rose from 1,578 in 1976 to 2,062 last year, an increase of 31 per cent.

In a broad sense, the Government's move is a blessing to the printing industry because it allows Hong Kong to cope better with overseas orders. When demand is high, large companies can subcontract their work to small printers. This however has created fiercer competition among smaller printers.

The increase in the number of printers has aggravated the already existing labour shortage problem. On

one hand, many workers have been attracted to the booming construction industry which pays more attractive salaries. On the other hand, some former employes of big companies have opened their own printing shops.

The printing industry is one of the more labour intensive industries, particularly in the preparation stage such as colour separation, stripping and layout. Therefore, the industry has been much affected by labour shortages.

Labour shortages have inevitably pushed up wages. To reduce labour content and to improve the flow of work, many printers have turned to more sophisticated machinery, such as electronic scanners which accelerate colour separation procedures.

Advanced technology has helped the industry by shortening production time and ensuring accuracy in, for instance, process colour printing. But in other areas, such as in proving presses and in layout designing, there has not been any significant reduction in labour content through improvement in machinery. In these areas, the improvement will come from better training of craftsmen.

### **Better Training Facilities Provided**

Government has improved its training facilities in order to cope with the new machinery and methods. A training Board was appointed in 1975 to determine the manpower needs of the industry, and to make recommendations on planning and training facilities. An Apprentice Scheme was introduced the following year, to enable workers to study theory and practice their skills at the same time.

The scheme however has not been greeted with enthusiasm by employers, especially when labour is so difficult to find. Most printers prefer to use their workers for production rather than sending them to training institutions. And printers also object to



limitation of overtime work for their apprentices under 18.

"I would be the last person to be a slave driver," J. McGrath, Director of Lever Printing Factory Ltd. said. "But we are always handicapped because there are restrictions on overtime for apprentices. This means that we have to take somebody from other machines after regular working hours. And this disrupts our operation."

"The time to train a printing craftsman is longer than is needed in any other field, and therefore young people who do not have the determination to become a first class printing craftsman or technician would probably find the other industries more attractive," Dai Nippon Hong Kong's Vice Chairman, Alex Wu says.

R. Harper, Head of the Department of Printing of the Kwun Tong Technical Institute insists that reluctance to take advantage of training facilities is short-sighted. A manpower survey published last month by the Hong Kong Training Council stresses that "good training will not only be a cost-effective investment but also ensure that the industry will have a supply of well trained workers and prevent cost spiralling and deterioration in workmanship.

The report warned that if employers are reluctant to send their employees for training, the supply of trained manpower will seriously lag behind demand in the immediate future. According to the survey there were only five trainees in the technician level, and 528 in the craftsman level receiving practical training, out of some 1,830 technicians and 15,078 craftsmen presently employed in the industry.

The report concluded that the printing industry will continue to grow despite rising costs of materials and labour, and that local printers will continue to modernize their plant and operation in order to improve quality standards and to increase productivity.

This optimism is shared by people in the industry. "Judging from the fact that the most discerning buyers are still coming to Hong Kong, I am strongly optimistic about the growth of the printing industry," Mr. Wu said.

As with other industries, Taiwan and Korea are however fast catching up. But the investment climate and the Hong Kong Government's attitude towards industry has proved an attraction for publishers in spite of strong competition in price.

"Life is a little bit more difficult

for us, but we'll not be wiped out," Mr. Wu added. "The industry is becoming specialised. It will not be as easy as before to have a vertical set up, and the tendency abroad is already to move towards specialisation. As long as Hong Kong can maintain its free enterprise system and offer convenience to the publishing production managers, and as long as we can keep up with our education and training facilities, the industry will continue to grow. So far, I have not seen any sign of slackening."

Publishers also believe that Hong Kong will remain attractive to overseas companies. Like their counterparts in textiles and electronics, printers here are using more sophisticated machinery. They have been buying more automated equipment to improve the quality of their products. And Peninsula Publishers' Director Ken Derrick sums-up: "Hong Kong is becoming more of a logistic centre than simply a printing centre. With China opening up, Hong Kong could be an ideal place for sending books to China."

AT

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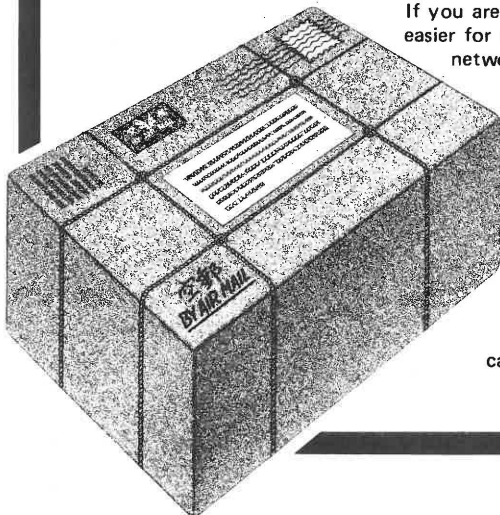
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We will start the process with the arrival of the complete manuscript which the publisher has agreed to publish, a stage which can in itself take considerable time. When the manuscript arrives it will usually be sent out to an independent reviewer who will be asked to read through it and make any suggestions for improvement. Once the report is returned and the author and publisher have agreed on the changes necessary, the manuscript will be ready for editing.

The editor's task is to prepare the manuscript for typesetting, paying particular attention to the readability of the manuscript and a range of related topics — consistency, accuracy, and clear presentation among them. To guide editors, most publishers have a house style to ensure that books from the same publisher treat particular problems in the same way. Many of the rules cover points general readers would probably take for granted, like how to spell organize (organize or organise) or how to express numbers (14.5 or 14-15) or how to make scientific equations clear ( $F = 20N$  means something completely different from  $F = 20 N$ ).

The editor's task is really to remove any problems that might obstruct the flow of information between the author and reader — even if John Clare remarked that if doctors were like editors, we would be a nation of cripples.

The next stage is for the book to be designed and it is at this stage that the production department of a publisher becomes actively involved. The purpose of book design is again to facilitate communication between the author and the reader and not be overtly intrusive for mere graphic effect. The range of options open to a designer are bewildering in an ideal situation — what format to use, what typeface to use, what typesize to use, what width of text to use and so on. What is more all these decisions are interdependent as a particular width of type will only be suitable for a certain format in one typesize but not in another.

However practical considerations do limit the scope of the designer. A publisher, like Penguin for instance, may use only two formats (although they do instead use a very wide range of typefaces, the typeface always being mentioned on the back of the

title page). In Hong Kong, regardless of the setting method, which we will cover later, there is a limited range of typefaces available and further restrictions as a result of the sizes of paper available and the sizes of printing machines.

Once the design has been settled and a sample approved, the book can go ahead for setting. At present there are three different methods of typesetting, hot-metal, filmsetting and direct impression. Hot-metal setting derives its name from the fact that each individual letter (or line depending on the system) is specially cast from molten metal. The mechanical process was developed in the 1880s and has remained relatively unchanged ever since. It is no longer used for book production in Hong Kong but it is still the most economic way of setting certain types of books — specialised academic books and mass market paperbacks being two examples (for very different reasons). For the remainder of this article we will not consider hot-metal setting and its related printing process, letter press printing.

Filmsetting was the second to be developed. By the 1930s it was commercially practical but it was not until the 1960s that it became widely adopted — by nature many printers are conservative, none more so than a printer in Jena who, in 1721, complained of “the damned hellish friend” who tried to disturb “the well-established state of repose of the printers”. Filmsetting dispenses with the need for metal type so that, instead of each letter being individually cast, each letter is exposed onto a piece of film, much more suited to modern printing developments. It is also possible for filmsetting machines to be controlled by computer, some of which can set 2,500 characters a minute — but they still, of course, have to be fed the manuscript from a series of complex typewriter keyboards.

The third and most recent method is direct impression where an image of the letter is typed directly on to a coated paper. It was a system developed by IBM and is usually referred to as IBM setting. The quality of setting is not always as good as the other two methods, although it is improving, but it is often the quickest and most convenient form of setting in Hong Kong. The system uses a sophisticated

typewriter and a range of golfballs for different faces, sizes, and characters.

The decision on what method is to be used is affected by a number of facts — type of book, whether the publisher has his own IBM machines, or the setting capacity of the industry for example.

When the method of setting has been decided, the manuscript is sent for setting. When the job is completed, “galley” proofs will be returned to the publisher. First these will be read by proof-readers and the author, both for printing errors and for any changes



*BOOK production is a much more complicated process than many outside the trade realise — it often comes as a surprise that it can easily take a year to produce a book from the receipt of a manuscript.*

that the author thinks are essential. This is the last chance that it is economically practical to make changes to the content of the book.

While this is going on, the editor will also be busy preparing the illustrations of the book. In schoolbooks there are frequently three different types of illustrations, all of which have to be obtained from different sources. Firstly there are diagrams which will be based on rough sketches provided by the author. These have to be carefully drawn, labelled and checked to ensure that they are accurate. Second-



ly, there will usually be some freelance artist's drawings to provide illustrations for stories, for example. Thirdly photographs are frequently required. In a geography book, for example, photographs will have to be obtained from at least 50 different sources (photographic libraries, government departments and private companies being the usual sources). If the author wants a picture of hill farming in the Andes, it will obviously take some time to find a source and obtain the photograph.

Once the editor has all the illustra-

## A book from start to finish

by Christopher Riches  
Editor, Oxford University Press

tions required and the corrected galleys, then the "paste-up" can begin. On layout sheets the editor, or designer, will arrange the exact positioning of the text, the various types of diagrams and the captions. In educational books it is often essential that a piece of text and a diagram appear together, and this can make a paste-up particularly complex.

When the paste-up is finished, it will be passed back to the production department along with all the illustrations, complete with instructions on the size that they should be. At this

point all the material is filmed, including the setting if the book has been produced by IBM. To reproduce illustrations the material has to be sent to an engraver who will make film. The easiest to engrave (the term coming from letterpress printing where illustrations have to be engraved) are single colour diagrams. Black-and-white photographs have to be screened to give a piece of film composed of a pattern of dots, while full-colour illustrations have to be separated into four colours (black, magenta, process blue and yellow) which, when recombined will give the effect of full colour. This is an expensive and skilled job (one separation can cost from \$200 upwards) and so publishers will only use full colour after careful consideration.

Once everything has been filmed, the film is made up into pages following the paste-up. When this is done, page proofs are produced and checked. At this point it is difficult and expensive to make major changes — for instance adding one sentence on the first page of a chapter will mean that every other page in the chapter will have to be adjusted.

While the page proofs are being checked the cover will be designed as the thickness of the book will now be known. A designer will prepare the cover design which, when approved will go to the engraver who will produce proofs of the cover. Once this is checked, printing of the cover can proceed, frequently followed by lamination with a plastic coating. All these operations are usually done by separate companies.

When the page proofs have been checked and corrected and the index set, the pages of film are sent to the printer who will make contact film from them (a special type of film from which printing plates can be made). The publisher will have a last chance to check the book when the printers submit blueprints or ozalids for final approval before the printing begins.

Before the film is actually sent to the printers, the production department has to decide on the printer, a decision which will be based on a number of factors — the price of the printer's quote, the time in which the printer can do the job, and the type of machinery the printer has. Paper also has to be obtained and again there is a wide range to choose from, the type of paper used very much depending on

the book. In many cases the publisher will buy paper direct from a paper merchant while sometimes they will use paper that the printer has bought. Once estimates and paper samples have been approved and official orders have been issued, the printer will wait for the approval of the blueprint before he begins to print.

It is easy to say "and then the book was printed", but of course it's not really as easy as that. However, there are other writers more qualified to explain the technicalities of printing. Very briefly, the printer prints on flat sheets of paper which will usually contain 16 printed pages on each side (sometimes 8 and sometimes 32). Obviously when printing plates are made from the contact film, the pages have to be correctly positioned so that they can be folded to appear in the right order (and this imposition will again depend on the type of folding machines and the type of binding to be used).

When all the flat sheets have been printed they are taken to a bindery, which might be a separate department within the printers but more often a separate company. The first process in binding is to fold the sheets. The folded sheets are then collated to give complete books. At this point they will be sewn (in preparation for hardback or sewn paperbacks) or trimmed and glued to a cover to give a perfect bound paperback — an increasingly popular (and now reliable) way of binding paperbacks cheaply. Sewn paperbacks differ only in that the sections are sewn together. They are then glued to a paper cover. Hardcover books go through a number of process which I will not elaborate on.

Once the binder has finished binding, the books will be packed in packets of 10 or 20 copies which will then be delivered to the publisher's warehouse.

It may all seem a long winded operation to produce a book, but even with all the many technological improvements, the quality of a book will always depend on the quality of the material put into it — and quality material cannot be turned into a book without much time and energy being expended by the author, publisher and printing trade.

(reprinted from Hongkong Standard)

□



**'Our objective  
is a completely  
drug-free  
Hong Kong...'**



IN the last few years, encouraging signs have emerged that Hong Kong is now winning the battle against drugs. Moreover, it is winning on two fronts — both in the treatment and curtailment of addiction, and in smashing the drug trade.

The objectives of Government's anti-drug programme allow for no compromise. These are, quite simply, to establish a drug-free Hong Kong. The trend of recent figures shows that this is now a real possibility.

In 1969, 25 per cent of addicts treated in prisons were under the age of 21. Last year this figure had dropped to five per cent. In 1969, there were 14,000 arrests for drug offences. By 1978, the figure was only 6,500. And in the two year period between 1977 and 1978, the number of addicts admitted into prisons for any offence had dropped from about 4,700 to 2,800. The number of addicts charged with non-drug related offences had also dropped.

Sceptics will retort that these figures might simply indicate no more than a relaxation by the authorities. However, considerable evidence suggests that the reverse is true.

Firstly, it is claimed that the Narcotics Bureau of the Police, working in conjunction with the customs and other enforcement bodies, have succeeded in breaking the major drug syndicates. While such a claim is always diffi-

cult to prove, the fact remains that the price of heroin on Hong Kong's streets has escalated in recent years, and despite minor fluctuations, now stands at about \$30 per day for the average addict's needs. This reflects the increasing problems drug traders have encountered in obtaining supplies.

Secondly, the number of those availing themselves of methadone treatment has grown dramatically. At present, about 5,500 addicts are receiving such treatment daily.

But perhaps most convincing of all has been the drop in the number of addicts in the younger age groups. In this, Hong Kong appears to compare favourably with other countries facing a drug problem.

In Hong Kong, the various stages of the war against drugs is co-ordinated by the Action Committee Against Narcotics (ACAN). As well as over-seeing the activities of Government branches in the police, customs and Medical & Health Department, the Committee also helps to direct voluntary agencies such as the Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

ACAN admits that there is no absolutely reliable estimate of the size of the local addict population. The most reliable information suggests that in 1959, there were some 250,000 addicts in Hong Kong. By 1975, the number had dropped to 80,000 and

may now be less than 50,000.

The truth of the matter is — Hong Kong and the USA are about the only territories able to quantify the extent of their problems. Indeed, some countries prefer to ignore the problem, since it causes embarrassment to the authorities. And even in relatively sophisticated societies such as France, no more than rough estimates are available of the size and composition of the addict population.

During the last few years however, Hong Kong has built up a comprehensive information system, making use of computers, with the aim of getting to know the addict. Data from this system shows that the average addict is male, comes from the lower income groups and has little education. He is probably single or separated from his family. He usually started on hard drugs, which in Hong Kong means heroin. There is not much evidence to show a graduation from soft to hard drugs. Indeed soft drugs are not a Hong Kong problem. After heroin, opium is the preferred narcotic.

Motives for first turning to drugs are varied — relief of pain and stress, either physical or mental, is common. Often, it is a case of going along with the others, taking up drugs because one has fallen in with the wrong group. Other motives include the use of the drug as a sort of sexual





*Hong Kong is slowly winning the battle against narcotics addiction, both in dealing with addicts, and by breaking the organised criminals who prey on them. The Chamber's Home Affairs Committee recently discussed the drug problem with Commissioner for Narcotics, E.I. Lee. This article reports the encouraging progress being made.*

stimulant (which in the long run is a self-defeating objective) and simple curiosity.

As is widely known, all drugs used in Hong Kong have to be imported in one form or another. For many years, Hong Kong's principal supplier was Thailand, using drugs originating in the infamous Golden Triangle. More recently, this has changed and increasingly supplies are emanating from other Asian countries, including Pakistan.

In this, Hong Kong is part of a world-wide trend. Up to 1976, seizures of drug cargoes suggested that the world's number one supplier was South-east Asia. It is now estimated that some 75 per cent of Europe's supplies come via Western Asia, including Pakistan and Iran. Much of this is shipped into Western Europe via Germany.

Drug importing is big business. The value of Hong Kong's trade has been conservatively estimated at over \$500 million per year. For purposes of comparison, this is greater than our imports of tea and coffee. So undoubtedly profits — big profits — can be made.

The majority of these profits until recently were finding their way into the hands of the Mr. Big's who lead the large, well organised syndicates. The first breakthrough came with the arrest of Ng Sik-ho. But this in turn was the culmination of months of patient work by enforcement officers.

The Narcotics Bureau of the RHKPF had been re-organised in 1972. It is staffed with officers

of high calibre, against whom no charge of corrupt practices has ever been made. At the same time as the Narcotics Bureau was given sharper teeth, the work of the ICAC led to a withdrawal by corrupt officers elsewhere in the Police, of the practice of lending protection to the drug traders, which in turn made the work of the Bureau and other enforcement officers easier.

The breakthrough in the case of Ng Sik-ho led to further successful detection and arrests, and it is now claimed that Hong Kong's trade lies in the hands of small, somewhat disorganised 'freelancers'.

One extremely valuable tool for the detection of drug traders is the considerable work that has been pioneered in the USA in the tracing of drug trade cash flows. Since drugs give rise to large profits, the successful trader is faced with the problem of re-investing these profits in other assets. This is what allegedly happened in Hong Kong in the case of the Ma brothers, who 'diversified' into publishing and property, among other activities. By patient research, enforcement officers can use the existence of accumulated wealth as evidence against an alleged trader.

Hong Kong's Commissioner for Narcotics, E.I. Lee, sees cash as the nub of the problem. Since traders enter the game for the wealth it brings, the only certain way to eliminate this incentive is to remove the profit. Accumulated wealth can be used as evidence in the detection of a trader,



*Pictures show members of the Customs Service intercepting drug consignments*

but even when this leads to successful prosecution, the trader can still serve his sentence, while his family, and perhaps ultimately he himself, can enjoy the proceeds of his illegal activity.

'I should like to see the courts fine convicted traders, and fine them heavily, as well as jailing them,' Mr. Lee says.

It has been suggested that there could be advantages in a presumptive law that places the onus on the convicted trader to show that his assets, and those of his immediate family, were not derived from drugs, much as the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance places the onus on the accused to explain what seems to be disproportionate wealth. If the convicted trader is not able to give a satisfactory explanation of his assets, they would then become liable to confiscation.

Although it perhaps attracts most public attention, enforcement is only part of the battle against drugs. Withdrawal and rehabilitation are equally important. About 14,000 addicts or ex-addicts currently receive treatment, either for withdrawal, maintenance or aftercare. About half this total are receiving methadone maintenance or some other form of aftercare. But in both groups, the majority receive methadone based treatment.

Methadone treatment has been the cause of some controversy, and Government does not attempt to deny that methadone is addictive. However, it is less destructive than heroin, and it does enable the addict to lead a reasonably normal life, including the taking up of proper employment.

'Employment is in itself a great incentive to the ex-addict to stay clean,' Mr. Lee remarks. 'Chamber members can make a positive contribution here by being prepared to offer work to ex-addicts, keeping in mind that the majority of addicts are unskilled.'

While withdrawal is difficult,

it can be achieved, but medical authorities recognise that the real problem is to persuade the ex-addict to stay clear of drugs. Studies of male addicts who have undergone withdrawal and some form of rehabilitation training while in prison show that within a year, 40 per cent are back on drugs, while within three years 60 per cent have reverted to their old habits.

With all its drawbacks, no convincing, wide scale alternative has been found to the methadone maintenance approach. Acupuncture has been investigated but the results have been at best unproven. Small, religiously-oriented groups have tried various types of therapy, but again the evidence of success is too flimsy to suggest that wide scale application of these methods is practical.

Practicality is the principal virtue of the methadone maintenance programme. Government policy is to make available clinics within easy reach of the addict so that he does not have to lose earnings or disrupt his other affairs in order to attend. Methadone is also inexpensive and simple to administer — a small gulp of orange juice and the addict is able to get through the day without undue stress, and with the ability to play a useful part in society.

The sad figures showing the slide back into addiction of 'cured' addicts shows that prevention must be better than cure. This is why Government in its publicity and in other ways places great emphasis on youth, particularly the vulnerable 15-24 year old group. Yet the answer cannot come only from publicity and campaigns, but must involve the offering of a positive alternative to the sort of environment that leads to addiction.

Part of this will come about through a general improvement in the living standards of society, but much can also be done that is specific in the organisation of

spare time activities for Hong Kong's youth. This again, Mr. Lee points out, is a way in which Chamber members can help. 'Organise outings for your younger employees, assist them to form sports teams, or if this is not appropriate contribute funds to others doing these things,' he urges.

Ultimately, however, our efforts to secure a completely drug free Hong Kong must depend on internationally co-ordinated action, since Hong Kong itself is not a drug-producing region. Here considerable difficulties arise, not the least of which is the fact that some public figures in developing nations have been involved in the trade, while corrupt officials have sheltered them.

At the opposite end of the scale from the self-seeking politician is the plight of the villagers in the notorious Golden Triangle on the borders of Laos, Burma and Thailand. Thirty villages in Northern Thailand have been the subject of a crop substitution scheme which has worked well but has touched only the surface of the problem. There are a further 700 opium growing villages in Thailand and the number in Burma is vastly in excess of this. Opium is the easiest means of offering these villagers a subsistence living.

The Golden Triangle is outside the control of any competent authority, and as a result an autonomous mini-state has sprung up, with a flourishing economy. This economy is not only drug-based, but also trades in precious stones and works of art. The return from these exports is cash that is used to purchase a range of consumer and durable goods.

The Governments of Thailand, Burma and Laos are taking increasing action in this area, but in view of its size, remoteness and the scattered location of the population, the problems do not allow an easy solution. H.G.



# 'Beware of the Watchdog — it Bites'

*In less than five years, the work of the Consumer Council has progressed considerably. It has gradually built up the confidence of many customers.*

SOME time ago, the Consumer Council was called the 'toothless dog' of Government agencies. 'It may bark away,' critics remarked, 'but until it can bite no one will listen.'

Be that as it may, this 'toothless dog' has managed to mark up a higher comparative rate of success in dealing with complaints than many Government departments.

So far some 25,000 complaints have been made to the Council, rising from 4,872 when it opened in 1974 to over 6,000 last year. This figure is about 40 per cent higher than those recorded by Umelco, where members of the public often air their grievances.

These complaints do not just go on the Council's file. Ninety per cent of the cases excluding those that were found groundless or unsubstantiated — were redressed in one form or another, it is claimed.

It is important to understand what the Council sets out to achieve. It cannot for example control the general rise in prices that occurs as a result of inflation — although it can make sure that merchants or retailers do not take advantage of 'mock inflation'. And it can take steps to see that other sharp practices are eliminated.

In some cases, prosecutions have been brought against unscrupulous merchants with the aid of Government bodies, including the Education, the Urban Services and the Trade, Industry and Customs Departments. Many merchants who sold for instance, water-injected beef, fake jewellery and other spurious products have been prosecuted and penalised.

The Council has also provided guidance to consumers for the selection of goods and services, and has recommended amendments to legislation with glaring loopholes.



*'... many business malpractices have been exposed by the media.'*

*Ms Ophelia Cheung  
Executive Director  
Consumer Council*

Last year, the Government promised to revise several anomalous ordinances during 1979. Among them are the much criticised Weights and Measures Ordinance and the Merchandise Marks Ordinance.

The Weights and Measures Ordinance, enacted in 1885, has been described as 'archaic and confused', even though it has been revised many times.

'Amendments cannot protect consumers if the legislation is not enforced and if there is no way of properly checking instruments for weighing and measuring,' the Executive Director of the Consumer Council, Ophelia Cheung told *The Bulletin*.

A great many consumers are cheated every day at local markets because, it is believed, retailers give short weights and measures to compensate for increases in retail prices. And since the current legislation cannot adequately deter these merchants, the Council has proposed a new ordinance in order that consumers' complaints may be better dealt with.

In implementing the new ordinance, the Government will appoint a Chief Trading Standards Officer to enforce it, and will set up a Standards and Calibration Centre to ensure safe custody for a set of standards against which individual weighing and measuring devices may be checked.

To guard against traders selling inferior and imitation products, the Council has proposed replacement of the present Merchandise Marks Ordinance by a Trade Description Bill which, if approved, will penalise merchants not only for describing goods incorrectly, but for failing to describe goods. At present, a gold seller can bypass the law by not accurately marking the gold content in his products, and a handbag retailer may tell his customer verbally that a bag is made by Gucci, sell it, and escape action against him because the present law does not establish an appropriate offence and penalty.

Apart from pushing for more effective legislation, the Council has, over the past years, put in a great effort in educating consumers. In 1975, the Council persuaded the Education Department to include consumer education as part of the school curriculum, and has since produced, with the cooperation of the Education Department, a teaching kit on the subject.

In order to reach people from a wide spectrum of society, the Council works closely with the media. In conjunction with a number of leading newspapers, both English and Chinese, the Council runs a series of weekly columns to highlight consumer problems. The Council has also participated in many public affairs television and radio programmes, for example, Viewpoint. And while journalists in

# Good training costs little.... Tomorrow's printers learn their craft



“GOOD training costs are negligible. It is lack of training that is costly to industries,” Assistant Commissioner for Labour, Horace Knight says. With this principle in mind, Government built the Kwun Tong Technical Institute in 1975 and introduced an Apprentice Scheme the following year.

Under the terms of the scheme, apprentices are given one day off per week to attend courses in training institutions and in addition devote two evenings of their own time to the programme. This allotment of 10 hours study time per week is divided equally to provide the two necessary elements of industrial training — practical and theoretical.

In the printing industry, as in other industries, practical work is planned to simulate on-the-job training. With similar equipment at school and at work, apprentices have a double chance to discover the problems and to find the answers.

The theoretical content of the training programme is referred to as “complementary related technical education”. Such courses as Mathematics and Science, English and General Studies and Engineering Drawing are offered to students in their first year of study.

Demonstration of a wide variety of types of printing machinery together with general-

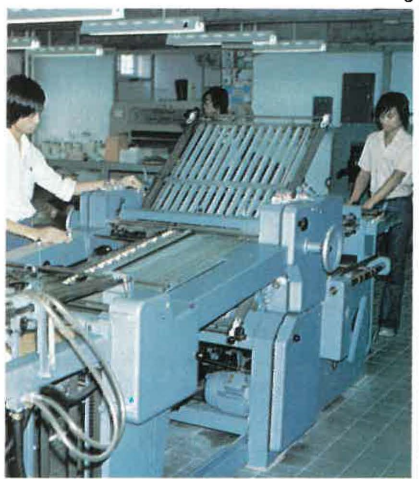
ised technical studies provide apprentices with a broadly based understanding of their industry. On the recommendation of the Training Board, Government has spent over \$3 million to equip the Printing Department of the Kwun Tong Technical Institute with the latest in printing machinery.

The department currently teaches some 600 apprentices and students different aspects of printing, including compositing, process camera operating, lithographic plate-making, and letterpress and lithographic machine printing.





2



5



3



Students of the Printing Department learning how to operate 1/ the electronic scanner, 2/ the offset litho-press, 3/ the process camera, 4/ the Chinese typesetting machine, and 5/ the folding machine. Above: R. Harper, Head of the Department and bottom left: other printing equipment.



4

# How to keep money in fashion

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and Merchants.

**For others**  
such as packers, delivery  
service, insurance brokers  
and agents, bankers etc.,  
just look in the Yellow Pages.



**Where a small investment means big business**



developed countries are paying increasing attention to consumerism, reporters here have realised the role the media can play in consumer protection. 'Many reporters are taking the initiative to approach us, and many business malpractices have been exposed by the media,' Miss Cheung says.

To guide consumers in the selection of goods and services, the Council has since 1976 produced a magazine, *Choice*, modelled on *Which*, the monthly publication of the British Consumers' Association. *Choice* provides independent and technically-based guidance on a wide range of goods and services.

One way to provide guidance is to test and compare products and services, and to report on their quality and performance.

The Council's comparative product testing was strengthened considerably after the visit by an American consultant, Irving Michelson, who came to Hong Kong in 1977 to study the Council's laboratories.

Mr. Michelson suggested that improvements were necessary, and emphasised that consumer questions on the safety of products, comparative performance and price, etc. should be fully answered by the results of detailed and scientifically conducted testing procedures which would meet international standards.

Subsequently testing facilities and procedures were improved substantially, according to the Council's Executive Director. Professional advice has always been sought on the establishment of suitable standards, and manufacturers are given the opportunity to comment on the results of tests. 'If they do not agree with our findings and if they can convince us there is a case for doing so, we retest the product to make sure that we have been absolutely fair and accurate,' Miss Cheung points out.

But however fair and objective the tests may be, there is bound to be opposition from manufacturers whose products rate uncomplimentary assessments by the Council, especially as sales of tested products are often considerably influenced by Council reports. A peanut oil manufacturer, for



*'The law cannot protect consumers if the legislation is not enforced and if there is no way of properly checking instruments for weighing and measuring.'*

example, was forced to cease business as a result of unfavourable test results on his product.

Reports on product testing are only one feature of the Council's publication. *Choice* publishes research and survey reports on a wide variety of subjects of interest to the consumers. These have included articles on the reliability of television sets; the comparative fuel consumption of electric, Towngas, and LPG water heaters; and the effectiveness of different safety seat belts. There have also been articles alerting consumers to current malpractices.

With growing awareness by consumers, not only is an increasing number of complaints being received, but the nature of these complaints has altered. People now do not object to the high cost of a product as long as they feel they are receiving value for money. They are concerned about quality as well as quantity, and many are eager to know their rights and responsibilities.

So far, the Council has dealt with these complaints successfully despite its lack of direct legal power. When existing laws appear to have been broken the Council refers the complaints to the appropriate Government department for action. And in cases where there does not appear to have been infringement of the law, the Council

exposes the malpractice by publishing names in the press.

Many members of the public still consider that the Council does not have sufficient power. The Council however prefers to stick to its persuasive approach rather than adopt the militant policy of, for example, the ICAC. 'We feel we have sufficient power to meet our present needs, but we are rather short of staff,' Miss Cheung said. 'And this has hampered our operation. For instance, many investigations have been delayed because of insufficient manpower.'

In spite of this, the Council believes that its work will continue to improve as long as it can obtain support from the Government and the public, as well as business and professional bodies.

'Perhaps the Chamber can help by providing us with more information on the commercial sector. If the Chamber can warn us in advance for example in cases of shortages in the supply of certain foodstuffs or commodities, we can help to avoid the substantial price increases that very often result from hoarding,' Miss Cheung concluded.

*The Bulletin* believes that the Consumer Council has carried out a valuable public service since its inception and that it will continue to do so with increasing efficiency and scope.





## Chamber to Sell in Latin America Once Again . . .

Twenty two businessmen representing member companies of the Chamber and the Chinese Manufacturers Association take off on February 25th for Panama, Venezuela, Chile and Argentina. They will take part in the fourth trade mission to Latin America organised by the Chamber in the past five years.

The Chamber, guided by its Central & South America Area Committee, has helped pioneer Hong Kong's selling effort in this area.

"Before 1974, the volume of trade between Hong Kong and this part of the world was very small," said Chamber Trade Division Manager, Ernest Leong, who will act as mission manager. "Our visits have helped members locate new outlets for their products in these relatively untapped markets, and many contacts have been established."

Hong Kong's exports including photographic and optical instruments, clocks and watches, electrical machinery, toys, apparel, metal products, and telecommunications and sound equipment, rose from \$128.4 million in 1973 to \$476 million in 1977. Last year's exports are expected to exceed \$500 million.

Locally-made products, including clocks and watches, electronics equipment, garments, toys, and household articles will be displayed at leading hotels in Caracas, Port of Spain, Panama City, Colon, Santiago and Buenos Aires between February 26 and March 20.

## Chamber Receives British Politicians

British former-MP and publisher Woodrow Wyatt called on the Chamber during January while on a visit to

Hong Kong, and took part in a series of visits to local printers, organised for him by Industry Division. Assistant Manager Alexander Au accompanied Mr. Wyatt to several companies including Dai Nippon, South China Morning Post, and Paramount Printing Company.

The British publisher reported that he was impressed by the scale and standard of Hong Kong printing works.

Earlier, on 9th January two visiting British MPs. Nigel Lawson (Conservative) and Alfred Morris (Labour), called on the Chamber for discussion with the Vice Chairman, General Committee member Dennis Ting and the Director. The two MPs were in Hong Kong at the invitation of Government.

## . . . And in Papua-New Guinea for First Time

Chairman of the S. Asia/Pacific Area Committee, A. Gopi, leads a small group of local businessmen on

the Chamber's first buying and selling mission to Papua New Guinea between February 17th — March 11th. The group will visit Port Moresby, Lae, Goroka, Madang, and Kieta.

"The Papua-New Guinea mission is in the nature of an experiment," says Assistant Manager Francis Y.T. Lo, who will accompany the Group. "We hope to be able to build up contacts with this developing country. It is important that Hong Kong should not overlook some of its newer neighbours in the Region."

Mission members will sell a cross section of Hong Kong Products, including garments, footwear, plastic goods, electrical appliances, light engineering products and industrial raw materials. The group is also interested in import possibilities for veneer and timber.



*A delegation led by Vice President of the Dubai Chamber, Sheikh Lootah, (in Arab dress) discussed trade with Chairman Herbert Lee (2nd L.) and members of the Arab Area Committee.*



*Mission leader A. Gopi (centre) and members of the Chamber's group to Papua New Guinea.*





Deputy Commissioner of Government's London Office, S.A. Webb-Johnson visited the Chamber on 23rd January for discussion with the Director.

The suggestion was put to the Chamber by one of the senior accounting staff at Hong Kong Polytechnic, and certainly the idea that Hong Kong should attempt to set and administer its own standards in this widely sought qualification has considerable attractions. Assistant Director Harry Garlick researched the matter and while in the U.K. discussed the idea with the London Chamber of Commerce, who at present are the recognised authority both in Hong Kong and throughout much of the world.

Reasons for not taking the idea ahead were principally the risk of taking on considerable extra expense with no guarantee of an immediate return. Subsidiary reasons include the fact that LCC certificates are at present recognised overseas, whereas it seems unlikely that any Hong Kong certificate would be so recognised.

### S.H. Sung Joins the Stars for Good Citizen Presentation

General Committee member S.H. Sung joined RTV stars including Michael Lai and Stella Chee for a special live variety show transmitted on 12th January, when he presented Good Citizen awards to people who had helped in the fight against crime. Part of the show dramatised events that had lead to some of the Awards being made.

The next large scale presentation of Good Citizen awards takes place during an entertainment held at Mongkok Kai Fong Centre on March 9th.

### Chamber to Set Book-Keeping Exams? Home Affairs Committee Says 'No'.

The Chamber's Home Affairs Committee during recent months has been considering whether the Chamber should seek to establish itself as the Hong Kong authority for the issue of qualifications in book-keeping and junior accounting. However, they have reached the conclusion that this would not be in the Chamber's best interests.



## In-Tray

### Chamber News

#### Chamber Welcomes 16 New Members

The following companies joined the Chamber in January:

- Australia-Japan International Finance Limited
- Cear's International Co., Ltd.
- Chan's Trading Co.
- Components (Eastern) Ltd.
- The Ditto (Industrial & Trader)
- Elba Enterprise Company
- Flamia Company Limited
- George & Sau King Hong Kong Oriental Co., Ltd.
- Golf Centres International Ltd.
- Liebermann Oversea Trading Ltd.
- Lister Enterprise Corp.
- Melitta Pacific Ltd.
- Michigan Enterprises
- Overseas Representatives Ltd.
- Qualisell Industries Ltd.
- Unison International Enterprise



A member of the Chamber's General Committee, S.H. Sung, (middle) presenting a Good Citizen certificate. Looking on are (from left to right) Chung King-fai, RTV's Deputy General Manager, and artists Michael Lai and P.C. Cheung.

## Economic Outlook 'Quite Good' Governor Tells Committee Members, VIP Guests

A large turnout of Committee members, accompanied by their VIP guests, heard HE the Governor forecast an encouraging future for the Hong Kong economy, at the Chamber's annual dinner held on 19th January.

In a speech already widely reported by the media, HE told members that this year's growth in GDP would exceed the previous forecast, and that the future prospects for Hong Kong compared favourably with those facing many other countries.

Adjustments in domestic demand were however necessary, and a resumption of export-led growth is imperative if the economy is to remain on a stable course, Sir Murray said.

HE also spoke on recent developments in China and encouraged member companies to co-operate with China in its drive to achieve modernisation.



Six overseas marketing officers from the Trade Development Council were briefed by Assistant Director Harry Garlick (4th From R) and other Chamber staff during a familiarisation visit on 23rd January.

In his address welcoming the Governor, Chairman Nigel Rigg reminded members that this was probably the last occasion when the Chamber would be able to receive Sir Murray at its annual dinner. Mr. Rigg went on to say that Sir Murray's administration had achieved much

during his seven years of office, both in the field of material progress and in the setting of social ideals. He was sure all members would join him in wishing Sir Murray and Lady MacLehose every good wish for their retirement.



## Committee Members Dinner

- A. Sir Murray talks informally with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- B. Sir Lawrence Kadoorie in conversation with H.E. and Financial Secretary Philip Haddon-Cave.
- C. At table, Chairman of the North America Area Committee Geoffrey Archer talks with H.E. and Sir Y.K. Kan.





# 聖佐治 與 毒龍



販毒和貪污同是社會的禍害。這兩個罪惡在任何社會上立足，都會使該處蒙上可怕的陰影。吸毒是毀滅人類前途的可怕禍根，而且，對家庭生活和天倫樂的破壞性影響尤大。在本人任職港府的二十二年間，特別是最後三年在緝私隊（現稱為香港海關）擔任副總監之時，我切身體會到香港大批毒品非法入口、拆分販賣和吸毒等問題的嚴重性。鑒於香港是個自由港和販毒可以謀取暴利的誘惑，私運毒品入口較為容易；而事實上，吸毒者通常總能以可負擔的價錢買到吸食毒品。五十年和六十年代初，香港有不少人生活困苦，這難免是引起毒品問題的其中主要原因之一。當時的執法機關並未有正視和致力消滅這種罪惡，而社會方面亦沒有能力透過教育和治療康復的方法，來對抗毒品問題。

貪污是慣常性的社會罪惡，可輕易磨滅積年累月的拒誘耐力。數年前，如果我記憶正確的話，據估計街頭購買毒品總值曾一度超過五百萬元（每年），其中大部份是屬於分贓。在七十年代初，毒品大概已成為了為禍香港社會的唯一最強大威脅，而貪污則是它的罪惡夥伴。

然而，這個對社會組織產生重大威脅的問題，已日漸受到港府和私人團體的重視和承認。當局已積極推行禁毒有效措施、組織和集合各方力量對抗毒品問題，擬定明確禁毒工作目標、成立禁毒常務委員會、委任禁毒專員、制定和修訂禁毒法例、嚴懲毒販及主腦人、成立

聯合司令部，聯結警方與海關部的力量、與國際刑警及其他反毒機構合作，加強國際性禁毒工作的聯繫、在曼谷委任特別聯絡辦事處、加強有效宣傳、勸諭市民提高警覺、擴充人力、訓練反毒人員專門對抗這種毒禍——上述種種，再加上其他方面的組織力量，皆為香港配備了全面協調和有效的反毒設施。目前，香港的掃毒運動已漸見成效，而敵人終須敗走。

今期「工商月刊」另有專文撰述香港掃毒工作的成就。但我個人認為：廉政公署的工作是唯一對掃毒運動作出最大貢獻的機關。如果沒有廉政公署，相信其他緝毒行動亦難望成功。本人一向相信對若干罪行施行死刑懲罰是具有威懾作用。我認為毒販和販毒首腦同是極惡的殺人犯。但如果沒有死刑，終身監禁和剝去不依正途獲得的財富亦為其次最佳的懲罰。此外，那些收黑錢協助販賣毒品與吸毒者的不法之徒，亦同樣有罪；而且必須繼續根除和予以嚴懲。

禁毒是個多面的爭鬥。而目前，向善的力量尚未能超越罪惡的力量，因此無法確保去惡存善的勝利。這是整個社會都必須參與的鬥爭，倘若我們戰勝，就等於是全港市民和社會的勝利。這樣，聖佐治面對毒龍的戰鬥也不致更加艱巨。

最後，在此新春期間，本人謹向全體會員和讀者拜年——恭喜發財。那些適宜添丁的（不包括筆者在內），就恭祝他們添丁發財。



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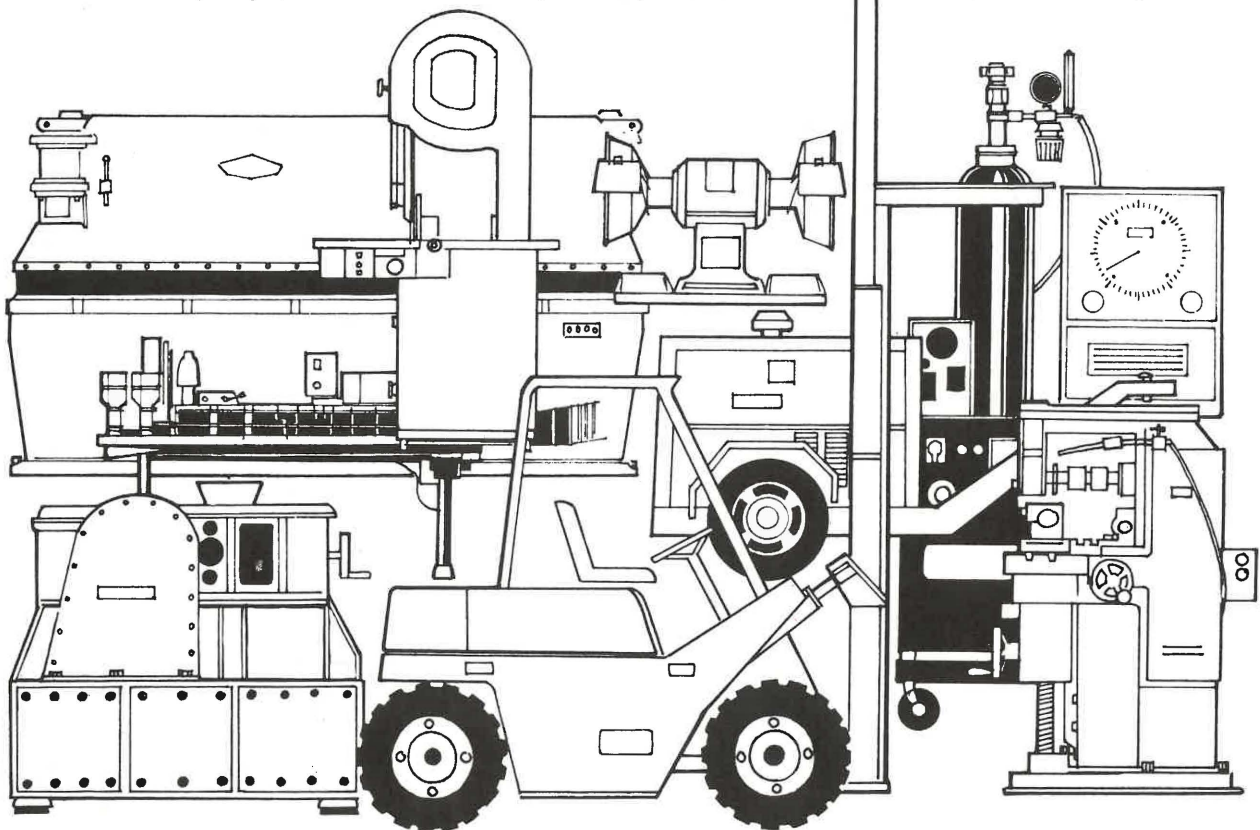
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## 特具發展潛力的香港出版印刷業

隨着讀者文摘、新聞週刊、朗文及牛津等大出版社在港設立，香港已被公認為東南亞具領導地位的出版中心。而與出版業攜手發展的本港印刷業，亦已成為一個技術領袖。

去年，香港出口的印刷材料總值達三億元；與七十年代初期比較，出口總值不足一億元。從正確的觀點看，這個數字所代表的價值比電子計算機出口值還高。超過百分六十六的印刷出口為書籍及雜誌，（主要輸往澳洲、英國及美國），其餘則是商業物品，如包裝及陳列用的材料等。

接受本刊訪問的出版商一致認為：外國出版商選擇在香港開設地區性辦事處的最重要原因，是因為香港能以競爭性價格和較短期間內，印製高質產品。

半島出版社（英國麥美倫集團附屬機構之一）亞洲出產服務部董事德里克稱：「雖然，仍有若干外界人士認為本港印刷商的手法略為卑鄙，但香港印刷的優良品質實可與世界各國相比。」

關鍵點是香港可為海外公司承製中額印刷訂單，這種做法是其他印刷商所不能辦到的。若干類型的印刷機只適合操作大量印製過程，但不論以任何相等的印刷量比較，香港都能以最低廉的價格製造印刷材料。因此，在出版業市場中，香港確有獨特一套的賺錢本能。

在某種意義上來說，英資香港出版社——包括朗文、牛津、麥美倫及海涅曼等——都是它們母公司的分銷中心。它們負責原稿編輯工作，並確保印刷品

質符合規定，價格具競爭性。有關出版那類書籍的決定則是由總公司管理層人士作出。大多數印刷的書籍皆為教科書和教學材料。

就東南亞區市場而言，香港仍為區內學校課本的供應中心，例如朗文及納爾遜兩大出版社就是一向以出版教科書籍著稱。

海空交通便利亦加強了香港作為印刷中心的吸引力。據出版界人士指出，即使付運期使印刷期加長數週，但香港仍能快捷地將書籍和雜誌運抵目的地。

除運輸設施快捷外，香港的商業基礎結構亦有助出版業的發展——本港銀行及貸款透支服務良好，貨幣兌換亦方便。

本港印刷商能容易取得紙張及油墨供應亦有利出版業的增長。大日本印刷（香港）有限公司副主席及香港印刷訓練局主席吳樹熾向本刊表示：由於批發商對本港印刷商的需求有深刻認識，因此他們可以隨時給予供應。

如是，印刷及出版業就一直攜手發展。香港印刷商的確實數字甚難索查，但一般估計約在二千至二千五百之間，其中大多數為中小型的印刷公司。目前印刷業僱用的勞工人數約二萬二千人，成為香港工業勞工的第六大僱主。

在日本機構的協助下，（包括大日本及凸版印刷公司），香港印刷業的技術和機器精密程度均有急劇進展。去年，本港入口的先進印刷儀器數量遠超往年紀錄，供應主要來自德國。舉例而言，寶隆洋行（主要機器進口商之一）去年進口的印刷儀器總值逾二億五千萬美元，較七七年增加了百分二十。

不計教科書出版，香港刊印的國際性及本港雜誌種類亦日益增多。著名的大雜誌如時代週刊、新聞週刊及讀者文摘，均已在香港開設了地區性辦事處。

本港出版的雜誌數目——主要為婦女及娛樂雜誌——亦有可觀增長。一般業內人士相信雜誌出版增加是因電視日趨普遍及教育程度提高使然。有些甚至認為目前香港人多閱雜誌，是因為遷往新區居住的人增多，上下班需要的乘車、船時間加長，因而在途中閱讀雜誌消磨時間。

隨着本港出版業急劇發展，印刷商數目亦有比例上的增加。自一九七七年二月取消印刷出版業條例後，（該條例規定所有印刷商需向政府領取牌照），不少小規模印刷商已先後開業。登記的印刷公司數目已由七六年的一千五百七十八間增至去年的二千零六十二間，增幅達百分之三十一。

廣義來說，港府此舉實為印刷業的一件幸事，因為它使香港更能應接海外印刷訂單。遇需求量大之時，大公司可以將工作轉包給小印刷商，但另一方面，

## 第一期店舖單位 全部售罄

第一期店舖預售時，高級單位出現求過於供之現象，第二期店舖定於本年二月八日開始預售，請從速申請預購，預購按金，每單位美金三千元。

# 美國之香港

# 美國之香港亞洲商場 赴美經商之 理想橋樑

建築工程發展次序圖



### 優點傲視同群， 前途無可限量。

購買美國之香港店舖單位，閣下可：

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屋崙市及其市郊的高級產品銷售額每年高達十四億美元。根據一項市場調查，美國之香港祇要吸取該額渺渺的百份之三點五，經營者在1981年開業時便可達到有利可圖的生意水平，市場之巨，可想而知。

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美國之香港，概念獨一無二，計劃雄心萬丈，將興建於三藩市隔鄰屋崙市之中區。總面積約一百四十萬平方呎，有六層高的商場四座，互相連系，共約有店舖單位一千個，大小均備，適合經營任何門市生意，規模之大，可謂城市中之城市，明日之華埠。

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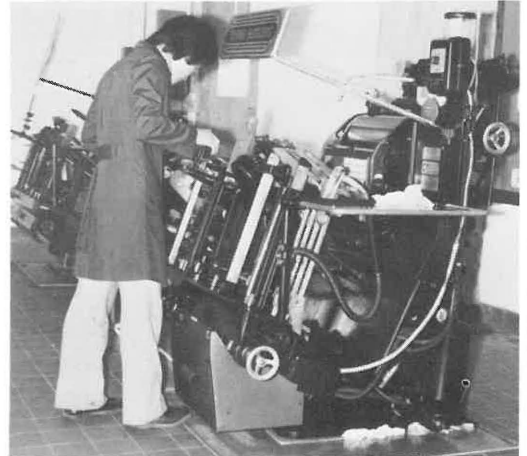
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這樣做卻使較小型印刷商之間的競爭加劇。

印刷商增加亦使現有的勞工短缺問題更形惡化。一方面，不少工人已被高薪吸引，轉向蓬勃發展的建築業工作。另一方面，大公司的僱員中亦有一些已離職自行開業。

印刷業是一門較勞工密集的工業，尤指分色、拼版和版面設計等準備階段的工作而言。因此，印刷業頗受工源短缺問題影響。

勞工短缺終難免導致工資上漲。為着減少勞動工作成份及改善工作程序，很多印刷商已轉向採用更精密的印刷儀器，如電子分色機以加速分色工作過程。

先進技術亦協助印刷業縮短付印時間及提高準確性（如在四色印刷方面）。但在其他方面，諸如試印或版面設計，則仍未能透過機械改進使勞動工作成份顯著減少。這幾方面，應從工藝人員訓練中謀求改善。

### 提供良好訓練設備

為着應付新印刷儀器和方法，港府已加強了訓練設備。一九七五年成立訓練局的主要職務是決定印刷業的人手需要，並就計劃及訓練設備方面向當局提出建議。次年推行的學徒訓練計劃，使工人能同時學習理論和實踐技術。

然而，僱主對此項計劃的反應並不十分熱烈，尤其現今是勞工極度短缺的時候。一般印刷商寧願將工人用於實際生產，而不願派員進入訓練機構。此外，印刷商亦反對當局禁止學徒逾時工作。

利華印刷廠有限公司董事麥基末稱：「我不想做一個使員工工作過度的老板，但本廠的工作總是因學徒不得加班

而受到障礙。換言之，在正常的工作時間過後，我們就要將負責操作其他機器的部份工人調派別的工作。這自必破壞我們的工作效率。」

大日本印刷（香港）有限公司副主席吳樹熾表示：「訓練印刷工藝人員所需要的時間，通常比其他行業較長，因此，年青人如果沒有決心成為一流的印刷藝工或技術人員，則可能會覺得其他行業更具吸引力。」

觀塘工業學校印刷系主任哈柏堅決認為，不願利用訓練設備是目光短淺的做法。香港訓練局上月發表之人力調查報告強調指出：「良好訓練不單只是成本有效的投資，還可確保印刷業有受過良好訓練的工人供應，和防止成本加劇上升及工人技術退化。」

該報告又提出警告謂：倘若僱主不願派僱員接受訓練，在不久的未來，受訓人手的供應就會比需求落後。據調查報告指出，在印刷業現時僱用的一千八百三十名技工及一萬五千零七十八名藝工當中，只有五名技術練習生，和五百二十八名工藝練習生接受實習訓練。

該報告總結指出：雖則材料和勞工成本不斷高漲，印刷業仍將繼續發展。本港印刷商將繼續改進其廠房和操作技能，以提高質素及生產力。

業內人士的看法亦同樣樂觀。吳氏稱：「由大多數有限力買家仍前來香港的事實觀點看，本人對印刷業的增長極表樂觀。」

至於其他地區，台灣和韓國亦追得上得頗快。雖則要面對強烈價格競爭，但香港投資氣候及港府對印刷業的態度已足以證明是對出版商的吸引力。吳氏稱：「我們所面臨的競爭或會較為激烈，但我們並未被擊敗，我們是不會被擊敗的。」

- A. 中文排字工訓練
- B. 活版印刷操作訓練
- C. 切紙機操作訓練

吳氏補充說：「印刷業正在日趨專門化。現在，已不再容易找到統營生產和銷售全部過程的印刷廠，一般廣泛的趨勢是走向專門化。只要香港能維持自由企業制度，和為出版印刷經理提供方便；再者，只要我們能跟上教育訓練設施，印刷業必會繼續增長。直至目前，我並未發現有任何放緩的跡象。」

出版商亦相信香港仍可保持對外國公司的吸引力。正如紡織及電子業的廠商一樣，本港印刷商亦加強採用精密儀器。他們已增加購置自動化機器，務求改善產品質素。半島出版社董事德里克總結表示：「香港不僅是印刷中心，同時，更日益成為一個基礎結構中心——鑒於中國採取開放政策，香港可能成為運送書籍進入中國大陸的理想地點。」



## “我們的目標是 要禁絕香港的 毒品問題……”



香港的禁毒工作，不論是在戒毒或破獲販毒組織方面，已逐漸取得顯著的成就。最近，本會民政事務委員會會與禁毒專員利尚志討論香港的毒品問題。本文對香港各項禁毒計劃的良好進展情況，有詳細報導。

過去數年間，事實不斷證明香港積極推行的禁毒政策已有龐大進展，成績斐然。本港的禁毒成就主要包括兩方面——(i) 戒毒及防範吸毒，(ii) 旨在粉碎販毒活動的緝毒執法工作。

港府的禁毒計劃是不容妥協的。簡言之，計劃的目標就是要禁絕香港的毒品問題。主要計劃的紀錄數字顯示：前已有實際可能實現這個目標。

一九六九年，監獄署屬下各戒毒所所收容的戒毒者年齡在二十一歲以下的佔了百分廿五。去年，此數字已下降至百分之五。一九六九年，被警方和緝私隊逮捕的毒犯有一萬八千人。而在一九七八年，此數字下降至六千五百人。而在七七、七八兩年間，因觸犯罪行而被判入獄的吸毒者人數亦由四千七百降至二千八百人。而非毒品刑事案被檢控的吸毒者人數亦同告減少。

懷疑論者或會反駁，指這些數字只足以表示執法機關對掃毒工作採鬆懈態度而已。但種種實據皆顯示事實恰恰相反。

第一，據稱警方毒品調查科、海關及其他緝毒執法機關聯合行動，已成功破獲多個主要販毒集團。雖然，這種據說通常甚難獲得證實，但近年來香港海洛英零售價格暴漲卻是不容否認的事實。現時，吸毒者平均每日需要吸食的海洛英價值約為五十元。由此可見，一連串的搜捕行動使毒品供應來源大受打擊。

第二，在各中心登記接受美沙酮解毒治療的吸毒者人數亦有劇烈增長。目前，每日約有五千五百個吸毒者接受這種治療。

或者，最令人信服的是青少年吸毒人數不斷下降的現象。由此可見，與其他面對毒品問題的海外國家比較，香港防範青少年吸毒的工作已有卓越成效。

在香港，禁毒常務委員會是統籌本港一切禁毒計劃的團體。除監督參與禁毒工作的其他政府部門（如警方、海關及醫務衛生處）活動外，該委員會亦協助輔導志願團體如香港戒毒會的工作進行。

禁毒常務委員會承認，香港吸毒者的實際數目無法取得絕對可靠估計。據最可靠的資料顯示：一九五九年，香港吸毒者人數約達廿五萬人。而在一九七五年，吸毒人數降至八萬人。目前的實際吸毒人數估計約為五萬名。

事實上，香港和美國是唯可用數量表示毒品問題程度的兩個地方。若干國家寧願忽視這個問題，因為它會引起當局的尷尬。即使是較世故的社會（如法國），對於本國吸毒者的實際數目和組成情況亦只有粗略估計。

過去數年間，香港已訂立了一個全面性新資料體系，利用電腦處理所有吸毒者統計資料，其目的旨在了解吸毒者的個人和一般背景。由新體系所得出的資料顯示：一般吸毒者為男子——入息低微、教育水平較低、未婚或離開家庭的人士。他們通常是開始吸食烈性強的毒品先，（在香港即指海洛英）。除海洛英外，鴉片就是其次普遍吸食的毒品。

吸毒者對於當初嘗試毒品的解釋——通常提出的理由是利用毒品減輕疾病痛苦和消除身心疲勞。另外，則是因為受朋友影響，誤交損友而被誘至吸食毒

品。其他動機包括利用毒品來尋求性刺激或純粹出於好奇心。

衆所周知，香港毒品全部都是由外地偷運入本港。多年來，泰國一向是香港的非法毒品來源地，來自聲名狼藉的「金三角地帶」。較近期，香港毒品供應來源趨勢已漸有改變——其他亞洲國家（包括巴基斯坦）的毒品入口正在日漸增加。

在這方面，香港是屬於世界性趨勢的一部份。直至一九七六年，檢獲大批毒品的紀錄顯示東南亞是全球第一大毒品供應來源地。目前在歐洲毒品供應中，估計約有百分之七十五是來自亞洲西部，包括巴基斯坦及伊朗，其中大部份是經德國運入西歐國家。

毒品入口是大宗交易。一般保守估計顯示：每年香港毒品入口總值約達四億元。此數字比茶葉和咖啡入口貿易還大。故毫無疑問，毒品入口確可以謀取暴利。

直至最近，大部份販毒暴利都是落在大販毒集團首腦「大毒梟」的手中。逮捕吳錫豪是緝毒工作的第一個大突破；但同時，亦是執法官員積月堅毅工作的成果。

警方毒品調查科於一九七二年進行重組，配備高度工作能力、全無貪污紀錄的人員。一方面，毒品調查科增強武裝實力；另一方面，廉政專員公署的肅貪工作對於減少警務人員貪污事件亦日見成效，大大打擊包庇毒販的不法行爲。這亦間接便利了毒品調查科及其他執法機構禁毒工作的進行。

繼逮捕吳錫豪案件的突破後，本港的緝毒機構對偵查逮捕販毒集團再度取得突破性的成功。目前，據稱香港的毒品黑市已化整為零，主要販毒活動來自遭瓦解的散戶販毒份子。

追查販毒利金流動的工作（由美國





香港緝私處人員工作過程

圖示香港警務處掃毒情形



倡導推行)，是偵查毒販的一個非常有效工具。由於販毒可獲暴利，成功的毒販通常都要考慮如何將利潤再投資於其他資產的問題。香港馬氏兄弟販毒案就是其中一個例証——將大部份販毒利潤分散投資於出版及地產業方面。透過耐心研究，執法機構更可利用涉嫌毒販所擁有的財富作為檢控的証據。

香港禁毒專員利尚志認為金錢是毒品問題的癥結。由於一般毒販都是因為禁不住利誘而從事販毒，因此，去除暴利就是唯一根除誘惑的必然方法。積累的財富雖可作為偵查毒販的証據，然而，縱使檢控勝訴，毒販在服刑期間，其家人或當事人本身最終還是可以享用由非法販毒活動得來的收入。

李氏稱：「我希望法庭方面嚴懲毒犯，重判入獄刑期。」

有人認為以下假定的法律可能有利：將毒犯提出証據的責任放在證明個人及直隸親屬的財產來源與販毒無關，就如防止賄賂條例一樣，將被告提出証據的責任放在解釋財富不相稱的來源。倘若毒犯未能對擁有的財富提出滿意合理解釋，該筆財富就應該被當局充公。

雖然，緝毒執法工作是最受大眾注目的禁毒計劃，但它只是對抗毒品問題的一部份而已。戒毒及康復工作同樣重要。現時，港內除有七千名吸毒者接受治療外，（其中三分二是在美沙酮解毒中心接受治療），另有七千人於戒毒出院後並獲得善後輔導。

美沙酮解毒治療法曾一度引起若干爭論，而港府方面亦不否認美沙酮本身是有毒癮性，但它的烈性較海洛英輕微。而且，這種治療法可讓戒毒者過正常生活，不致妨碍其工作職業。

利尚志表示：「職業本身是使戒除毒癮人士不再染上毒癮的最大一種鼓勵。在提供就業機會予戒除毒癮人士方面，貴會員公司一定可以作出積極貢獻，但大部份吸毒者都沒有專門技能。」

戒毒雖然痛苦，但仍可成功戒除毒癮。醫務處清楚認識戒毒工作的真正困難在於如何說服戒毒者不再染上毒癮。調查研究指出：曾在羈留期間接受戒毒治療和若干康復訓練的釋囚，通常不到一年時間都會再吸毒，而不及三年，其中約有百分六十人士再次回復毒癮。

美沙酮代用計劃雖則有種種的弊端，但它仍是可為大量戒毒者服務的方法。戒毒工作人士已對針灸戒毒法進行過試驗，但成績未符理想。小型教會機構亦嘗試過多種不同的治療方式，但結果證明其他戒毒法不宜大規模實際推行。

實際可行是美沙酮代用計劃的主要優點。港府政策是在各區設有解毒中心，使吸毒者能在不妨碍職業、家庭及其他的情況下，接受治療。美沙酮的成本費用較廉宜，而且劑量配給亦簡便——飲服一小劑橙汁，戒毒者就可以全日免受毒癮纏擾，並可照常工作。

戒毒康復者再次染上毒癮的可悲情況証明了：預防是勝於治療的。因此，政府將宣傳及其他新策略的主力集中在青年人身，尤其是年齡在十五至廿四歲之間，最有可能成為吸毒者的青少年。然而，構成毒品問題的多種因素，是非單靠宣傳工作及反吸毒運動所能解決的。當局必須改善造成吸毒的不良社會環境。

如要實踐上述目標，就必須普遍提

高香港社會的生活水平。此外，為青少年組織文娛康樂活動亦是必須加以積極推行的工作。在這方面，李氏又再指出本會會員可以提供協助。他促請：會員公司多為年青僱員舉辦戶外活動，組織體育球隊。如果不便組織，亦可撥出基金供他人負責籌組事宜。

最後，要禁絕香港的毒品問題，就必須依賴國際間的傾力合作，掃除毒禍，因為香港本身並非毒品生產地區。掃毒工作的困難就是由此而生——目前發展中國家的社會勢力人士中，有不少都涉嫌與販毒有關，並得到貪污官員的包庇。

與追求私利的政治勢力人物對立的另一面問題，是聲名狼藉「金三角地帶」（泰、緬、寮三國邊境交界地區）村民的困窘境況。泰國北部三十個鄉村現正推行改植計劃，雖然，計劃試驗期的結果尚成功，但這只能觸及問題的表面，並未徹底解決問題。泰國共有七百個種植鴉片的鄉村，而緬甸境內這類鄉村的數目則更多——鴉片就是這些村民維持生計的最重要經濟農作物。

「金三角」是不受任何一國政府管制的地區，結果一個自治的細小國家就由此興起，經濟日趨繁榮。該地區的經濟除以生產毒品為基礎外，亦有經營寶石和工藝品的生意。由這些物品出口所取得的現金收益，就是用以購買各樣消費及耐用物品的資金來源。

緬、泰、寮三國政府已在該區採取更積極的掃毒行動。但鑒於金三角面積龐大、地勢偏僻及土著散居，解決毒品問題實在並不容易。



# 維護私人消費利益的消費者委員會

在成立不足五年的時間，消費者委員會的工作已有長足進展，並已逐漸建立起一般消費者的信心。

直至現時，消費者委員會接獲的投訴總數約達二萬五千宗。在該會成立的七四年間，接獲投訴之數目為四千八百七十二宗，而去年的投訴數目已增逾六千宗。此數字較行政、立法兩局非官守議員辦事處（市民經常前往訴苦的機關）所接獲的投訴數目高出約百分四十。

這些投訴並非只是編入消委會的檔案就了事。據稱百分九十的投訴事件（毫無根據或過於空泛之投訴除外），都能獲得某種形式的調解或糾正。

我們必須明白消費者委員會的工作目標。舉例而言，它不能控制因通貨膨脹而引起的物價上升——但它可以查明商戶或零售商方面沒有藉着「假造通脹」來謀利。此外，消委會亦可採取措施制止和排除其他商人不擇手段的行為。

聯同政府部門（包括教育司署、市政事務署及工商署）的協助，消費者委員會亦有對若干無恥商人提出檢控——例如目前已有不少售賣吹水牛肉、假冒金飾及其他冒牌假貨的不法商人受檢舉和處罰。

在選擇商品及服務方面，消委會亦為消費者提供指導資料，並建議當局對現行售賣貨品條例中的漏洞予以修訂。

去年，港府曾答允於今年內修訂若干不規則條例，其中最受大眾批評的是度量衡條例和商品內容標註條例。

於一八八五年制定的度量衡條例雖已經過多次修訂，但其中條款仍被形容為「陳舊和混淆」。

消費者委員會總幹事張綠萍女士向本刊表示：「如果法例不予以執行，而度量衡儀器又沒有正確查核標準，單單修訂是不能保障消費者利益的。」

在港內市場每日都有不少消費者遭受商人欺騙，據稱一般是因零售商藉給量不足來補償零售價格的上升。鑒於現行法例並未足以制止這些商人的行為，消委會建議訂立新法例，以便更妥善處理消費者的投訴。為着貫徹實行新法例，港府將委任總交易標準主任負責法例執行，和成立度量衡標準校定中心，專門檢查個別商人使用的度量衡儀器，以保障消費者的利益。

為禁止商人售賣次貨及冒牌貨，消委會建議以商業說明法案來取代現行的商品內容標註條例。倘若此項建議獲當

局批准，則不單只對貨品說明不確實的商人會受處罰，那些對貨品說明不足夠的商人亦會受到處罰。目前，售金商人可以越過法律旁道，不明確標註售賣的金器成色。而手袋零售商亦可以口頭上隨意告訴顧客某手袋是外國名廠貨，賣掉後即無須負責任，因為現行法例並沒有明文規定有關的違例及處罰。

除力求制定提高消費者保障的法例外，消委會亦一直致力推行教育消費者的工作。一九七五年，該會得到教育司署的支持，正式在中學階段加入消費者教育課程。自此，該會更與教育司署合作，為教師編定了一套「教學套」。

為使社會人士對該會所擔負之工作有更深認識，消委會與大眾傳播媒介保持密切聯繫。在這方面，該會曾與若干大間中英文報社合作，撰寫每週專欄，集中對一切有關消費者的問題提出討論，發表意見。此外，該會亦經常參加電視和電台的公共事務節目如「觀點與角度」。一方面，先進國家的新聞界人士正在日益重視保護用戶利益主義；而本港記者亦意識到大眾傳播媒介在維護消費者利益方面所可以擔負的角色。張綠萍女士說：「目前，已有很多記者主動與我們接觸。而且，不少商業不法行為亦透過大眾傳播媒介揭露了出來。」

為着對消費者提供選擇商品和服務上的指導資料，消費者委員會自一九七六年開始出版「選擇」雜誌，形式模仿英國消費者協會的WHICH月刊。「選擇」對各種消費商品及服務，提供獨立而專門性的指導資料。

另一個提供指導資料的方法是將各項產品和服務進行試驗和比較，然後就其個別性能品質向消費者作公開報導。

繼美國產品試驗顧問歐文·米克遜訪港後，消委會的產品比較試驗工作大有進展。米克遜於一九七七年來港對該會的產品試驗實驗室進行研究後，建議有改善的必要，並強調採用符合國際標準的詳盡科學化試驗程序，以對產品安全性、比較性能和價格等消費者的一般問題，提供全面性的解答。

據該會總幹事指出：產品試驗設備和程序方面已有龐大改善。該會經常徵詢專業人士的意見，務求制定適當的試驗標準，而且，亦給予製造商對產品試驗結果提出批評的機會。張女士指出：「倘若他們對我們的試驗結果不表同意，而他們提出的意見又有確實理由時，

本會就會再度進行試驗，以確保試驗結果絕對公允準確。」

然而，不論試驗如何公正和客觀，其結果必定會遭遇某些廠家的反對，特別是受到貶抑評價的產品廠家，因為產品的銷售情況通常都頗受發表的試驗報告影響。舉例而言，某花生油廠商曾因其產品試驗結果欠理想，銷路大受影響而被迫停業。

刊登產品的比較試驗報告，只是「選擇」月刊的一部份內容而已。此外，「選擇」還登載各類為消費者關注的深入研究報，告其中包括的項目有：電視機之可靠性、電力、煤氣及液體氣熱水器等各種燃料之成本比較，法律規定汽車裝置座位安全帶問題等。還有專文報導商人的不法行為，以便消費者提高警惕。

隨着消費者提高警覺，不單只接獲的投訴數目遂有增加，投訴的性質亦有所轉變。只要消費者認為「物有所值」，他們不會對物品售價高昂提出反對。目前他們所關注的是商品的質量問題，很多還渴望知道本身的權益和責任範圍。

雖則消委會沒有直接法律權力，但直至目前，該會尚能成功地處理各種投訴事件，對於違例投訴，該會會將投訴交由有關政府部門依法辦理。至於沒有觸犯條例的事件，該會就會透過報章，揭露不法行為和商人的名字，以供市民參閱。

一般社會人士仍認為消委會未有足夠的權力。然而，該會則寧願按照現有的勸諭手法，而不欲採取如廉政公署一般的強硬政策。張女士稱：「我們認為本會享有足夠權力，可應付目前的需要。但人手缺乏的問題欲使我們的工作進行受到障礙。例如，由於人手不足，多項調查研究工作都被迫延遲舉行。」

雖則如此，消委會相信只要得到政府、社會人士與及工商專業機構的支持，其工作仍有望繼續改進。

張女士總結表示：「或者，貴會可在商業事務上向我們提供更多資料。譬如說，倘若貴會能在若干糧食或商品供應短缺方面，預先向我們提出警告，我們就可以協助避免有價格暴漲的情況發生，這通常總是因囤積所引起的。」

本刊認為自消費者委員會成立以來，已為大眾人士提供了寶貴有用的服務。展望將來，該會必可更進一步擴展其服務範圍和工作效率。 ■



# 本會與世界市場

## 本會接待英國議員

英國前任國會議員及出版人懷亞特，於一月訪港期間曾前來本會訪問。在工業部安排下，他前往參觀了香港數家印刷公司。本會副經理區永祥陪同懷氏參觀的印刷廠包括大日本印刷有限公司、南華早報有限公司及百樂門印刷有限公司。參觀後，懷氏表示對香港印刷業的規模及水準留下了深刻印象。

此外，兩位訪港的英國議員羅信（保守黨）和莫禮誠（工黨）亦於一月九日蒞臨本會訪問，與本會副主席紐璧堅、理事丁鶴壽及執行董事麥理覺進行討論。這兩位英國議員乃應港府邀請來港訪問。

## 再組推銷團訪問拉丁美洲

由本會與中華廠商會聯合主辦的「中南美洲貿易團」定於二月廿五日啓程，

七三年的一億二千八百四十萬元增至七四年的四億七千六百萬元。其中出口產品包括攝影及光學儀器、鐘錶、電器機械、玩具、成衣、金屬製品、電訊及音響器材等。而去年的出口總值則料會增逾五億元。

港製產品，包括鐘錶、電子儀器、成衣、玩具及家庭用品，將於二月廿六日至三月二十日期間，分別在加拉加斯

、波拉瑪、巴拿馬市、科倫市、聖地牙哥及布宜諾斯艾利斯的各大酒店展出。

## 首次組團訪問巴布亞新幾內亞

本會南亞太區貿易委員會主席高庇，將於二月十七日至三月十一日率團首次訪問巴布亞新幾內亞。該採購／推銷團的行程包括摩勒斯比港、來伊、哥洛加、瑪耶及幾亞達。



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訪問巴拿馬、委內瑞拉、智利及阿根廷。該團成員包括兩商會廿二位會員代表。此乃本會於近五年來第四次組織貿易團前赴中南美洲。

本會在屬下中南美洲貿易分區委員會的指引下，一直致力拓展當地市場，推銷港製產品。

本會貿易部經理及該團團長梁紹輝表示：「一九七四年以前，本港與拉丁美洲國家之貿易額並不大。組織貿易團的目的旨在協助會員推銷產品，拓展市場潛力。目前，本會會員在當地已建立了很多生意上的聯繫。」

香港輸往中南美洲的出口總值，由



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本會貿易部副經理老元泰稱：「巴布亞新幾內亞貿易團的主辦純屬試驗性質。我們希望能與這個發展中國家建立起商務聯繫。香港不應忽略區內若干新興隣國的市場潛力。」老氏將隨團訪問新幾內亞。

該團準備推銷的香港產品種類繁多，包括成衣、鞋類、塑膠製品、電器用品、輕工程產品及工業原料。此外，該團亦有意與當地賣家洽商輸入夾板和木材等原料的可能性。

- A. 香港政府駐倫敦辦事處副專員尊遜於一月廿三日蒞臨本會，與執行董事進行討論。
- B. 由地拜商會副會長路達（穿阿拉伯裝）率領之代表團，與本會阿拉伯區委員會主席李海拔（左邊第二位）及會員討論雙邊貿易。
- C. 本會巴布亞新幾內亞貿易團團長高庇（中）團員。

# 簡報匯編

## 本會簡訊

### 歡迎新會員

本刊歡迎十六間公司於一月份加入本會，成為香港總商會會員。(名單詳列本期英文版)。

### 港督對今年經濟表樂觀

本會委員會之週年晚餐會已於一月十九日假座文華酒店舉行。港督麥理浩爵士再次應邀蒞臨，並在席上縱論時局，對香港今年的經濟前景表示樂觀。

港督在晚宴席上致詞稱：「今年本港生產總值看來會超過預期的增長率。與若干其他國家所面對之困難比較，香港本身之困難亦不算太大。因此，香港的前景展望應較良佳。」

他又說：「如要維持經濟穩定，我們必須調整本銷需求，和保持一個健全的出口領導地位。」

此外，港督亦談及中國近期發展的

新局勢，並鼓勵本會會員公司與中國合作，實現它們四個現代化目標。

本會主席雷勵祖在致歡迎詞中指出：今年的週年晚餐會將是本會接待港督麥理浩爵士的最後一次聚會。雷氏又讚揚港督過去七年的政績，並稱不論在社會實際進展和堅立社會理想方面，港督都作出了很大貢獻。最後，他更代表本會謹祝督憲伉儷在退任後，有美好的前途。

### 宋常康理事頒發好市民獎

本會最近一次的好市民獎頒獎大會於一月十二日在麗的電視「週五狂歡」節目作現場直播。宋常康理事代表本會將「好市民獎」頒贈與二十位協助警方減罪的好市民。當晚的「週五狂歡」節目內容，全部以「好市民」為主題，以歌舞及趣劇兩種形式分別表演。參加演出的主要藝員有黎小田、奚秀蘭和張寶之等。

下次好市民獎公開頒獎大會將於三月九日假座旺角街坊會中心舉行。

### 民政委員會不贊成本會主辦簿記考試

近月來，本會民政委員會曾對主辦簿記考試，使本會成為簽發簿記及初級會計學資格考試證書的香港認可機構事宜，進行考慮。經過再三研審後，該委員會認為不宜實行此項計劃。

主辦簿記考試的建議乃由香港理工學院會計部一位高級職員向本會提出。香港自行制定考試標準，和主辦會計學資格考試的計劃相當具吸引力。本會助理董事葛立科對此進行探究；在英期間，他曾與倫敦商會討論此項建議。目前，倫敦商會主辦的會計學資格考試已獲得香港和世界多個國家承認。

此項建議未獲接受的主要原因是：它所牽涉的額外費用可能相當龐大，然而，直接收入方面卻沒有保障。其他附屬的顧慮因素包括：由於目前倫敦商會的會計資格考試證書已獲海外承認，因此，香港簽發的會計學證書能否獲得國際公認尚屬疑問。



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- A. 港督麥理浩爵士與本會主席及副主席暢談。
- B. 嘉道理爵士與港督及財政司夏鼎基談話。
- C. 貿易發展局六位海外市場推廣主任於一月廿三日前來本會訪問，由助理董事葛立科及數位職員向他們簡介本會工作情形。
- D. 本會理事宋常康(中)頒發予一位好市民。由右至左：張寶之、黎小田(麗視藝員)、宋常康、麗的副總經理鍾景輝。



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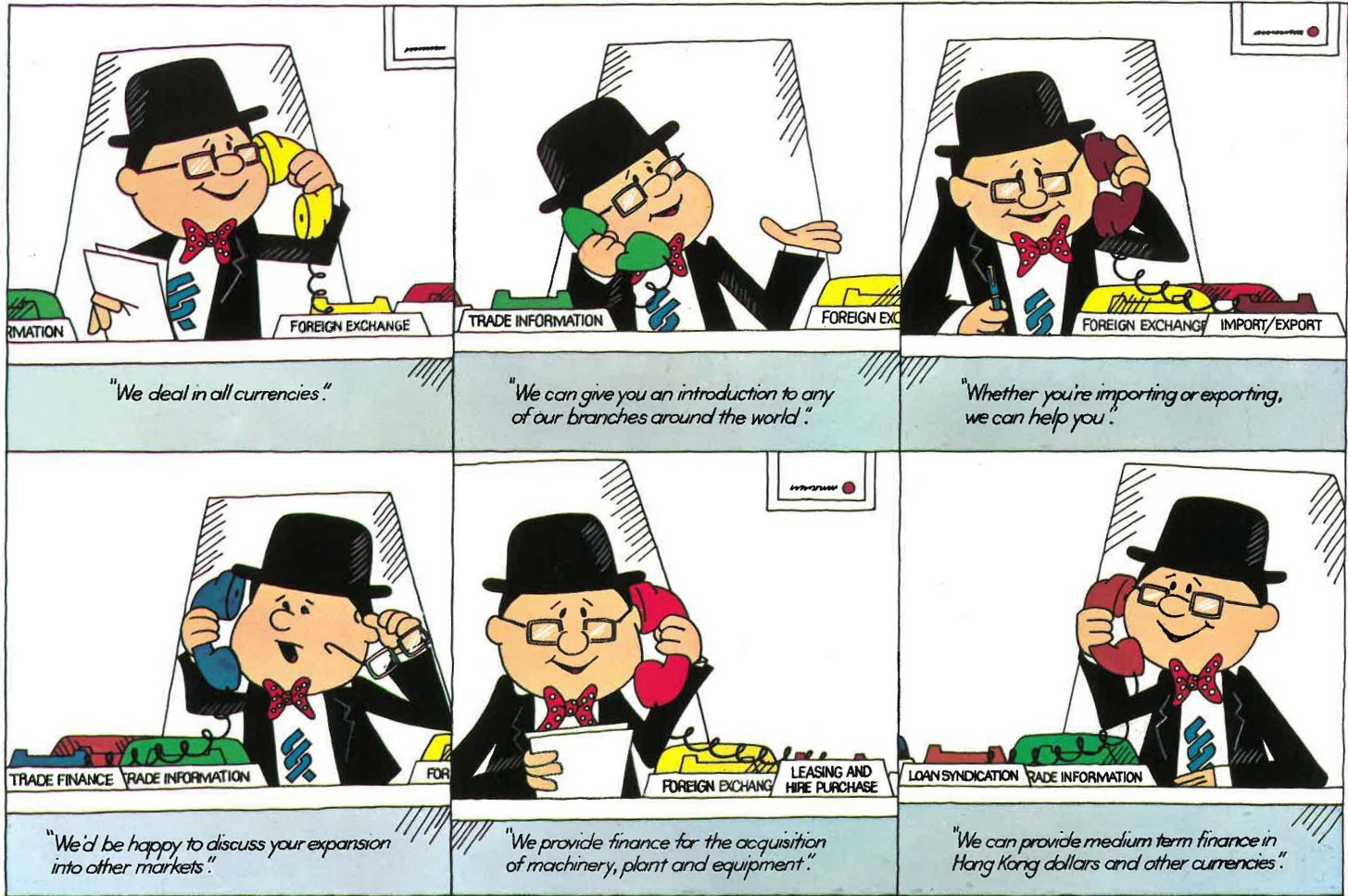
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