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南圍村的蛻變 Metamorphosis of Nam Wai

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Chamber in Action

Instead of the normal extracts from the Director's monthly report this month, we print the text of a letter we sent to Britain's Home Secretary regarding the proposed U.K. Nationality Bill.

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Portugal in the European Economic Community - Will it Cope?

Portugal's bid to join the EEC has already given rise to changes in its economy. Further changes are still to come. The country has high hopes but anticipates up-hill struggle.

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Nam Wai, like other New Territories' villages, has experienced a period of decline in recent years. The Bulletin shows how, with outside help, Nam Wai has become a flourishing community once again.

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本會動態

今期內容並非節錄執行董事之每月報告，而是登載本會就英國新國籍法問題向英國內務大臣提交之意見書全文。

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葡萄牙加入歐洲經濟共同體—能應付市場競爭嗎？

葡萄牙加入歐洲經濟共同體的企圖，已使該國經濟產生了轉變，今後的發展將更為顯著。葡國對此寄予厚望，但亦預料會是一項艱難的奮鬥。

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".....一個獲中央政府授權的城市管理機構"

鑒於當局最近發表了地方行政白皮書，本刊今期特訪問沙理士先生，請他就市政局過去的成就及未來計劃發表意見。

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英國經濟展望

英國經濟現正面臨困難，但由一九八二年起，經濟展望應會好轉。英國經濟學家及講師諾克斯先生，特為本刊撰寫專文，談論英國之經濟展望。

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南圍村的蛻變

正如新界其他鄉村一樣，南圍近年亦經歷了一段沒落時期。本文內容詳述南圍村如何在外來協助下，再度成爲一個欣欣向榮的鄉村社會。

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簡報匯編

Note for Bulletin Cover :

Picture showing stages of Nam Wai Village transformation - 1) old houses in front 2) on going construction at the middle 3) brand new buildings at the back

封面圖片展示南圍村的蛻變進展——(1)前面舊屋；(2)中部建設中的工程，(3)後面的新建樓宇。

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The Chamber in Action

The Chamber's Home Affairs Committee, under John Marden, recently considered the implications for Hong Kong people arising from the passage of the British Nationality Bill, now at the committee stage. As a result the following letter was sent to the British Home Secretary, the Right Hon. William Whitelaw and copied to various organisations and Government officials in Hong Kong and in Britain.

4th February, 1981

The Rt. Hon. William Whitelaw,
Home Secretary,
House of Commons,
London, SW1,
U.K.

Dear Mr. Whitelaw,

I am writing on behalf of the 2,500 member companies of the Chamber, and of the Hong Kong commercial and industrial communities in general, to voice our concern regarding some of the provisions of the Nationality Bill currently at committee stage in the House.

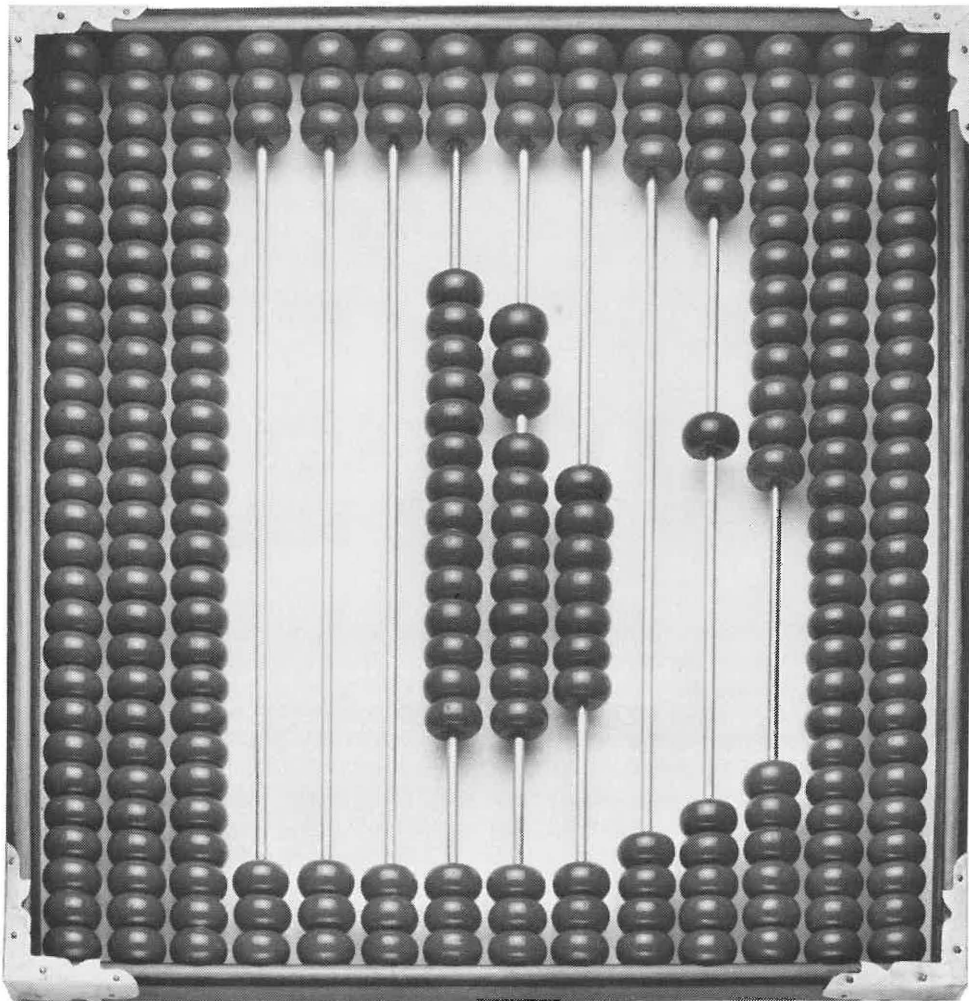
Perhaps I should begin by introducing the organization of which I am currently acting Chairman. We are the largest, most senior, and most broadly based of the organizations representing companies in the private sector in Hong Kong. Our membership covers the entire spectrum of commercial and industrial activities; the majority of our members, some 75 per cent, are Hong Kong companies, whether private or public, and owned predominantly by local Chinese businessmen, but including several large concerns where the board of directors is largely expatriate; the remaining 25 per cent of our members includes a broad range of international concerns, whose national origins cover some 30 different countries, and of whom the largest group are British companies.

We claim to be able to speak with some degree of authority for the private sector in Hong Kong, and this is reflected in the fact that the Unofficial Members of the Hong Kong Executive and Legislative Councils, in addition to a very wide variety of Government advisory committees and boards, have always been prominent on our senior bodies, the General Committee and Chamber Council. Our current Chairman, who recently visited Britain and had the opportunity of listening to debate on this issue in the House, is the Hon. David Newbigging, Chairman of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. and currently an Unofficial Member of Executive Council. The Chamber has a long tradition of working closely with the Hong Kong Government and is looked upon by Government as a source of authoritative advice on all matters affecting trade, industry and commerce as well as many other matters that affect the development of Hong Kong.

You will already be well aware that Hong Kong concern regarding the Nationality Bill has been voiced by a variety of organizations, both official and unofficial, and you will be familiar with the theme and detail of their arguments. The Chamber shares concern on most of the points that will already be known to you and in particular on the following points :-

1. We believe the proposed removal of the hitherto prevailing qualification related to place of birth will raise what will ultimately be an extremely embarrassing problem for Hong Kong, both administratively and politically. If we have understood the provision of the Bill properly, a child born in Hong Kong to Chinese or other non-British national parents (of whatever category) will in future run a risk of being deprived of citizenship and thus become stateless. As you will be well aware, much of the population of Hong Kong has retained Chinese nationality, although resident permanently in the Colony and this number continues to increase by means of legal immigration all the time. Although concern has been expressed to the Chinese Authorities regarding the level of immigration, it seems unlikely that Hong Kong will ever entirely close its borders to such immigrants. A sizable proportion of this immigrant population is within the marriageable and child-bearing age groups. The Hong Kong Authorities will thus be presented with a problem in respect of children born to parents in this group, since they will not qualify either as a British citizen or a citizen of a British Dependent Territory, or as a citizen of a British Overseas Territory. Although they may retain some form of nominal Chinese nationality, this to all intents and purposes will be meaningless whilst they choose to remain in Hong Kong. The only seeming solution would be for an enhanced degree of representation from the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong in the form perhaps of a consular office, and this is a development which the Hong Kong Government has steadfastly rejected over the years for reasons that will be very well known to H.M.G.

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The Chamber in Action

2. Considerable fear has been expressed in Hong Kong, and this has been substantiated by unofficial statements from consular offices of third countries, that the introduction of the concept of 'Citizen of a British Dependent Territory' could lead to restrictions and inconveniences on the movement of what have hitherto been the citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies. Although the introduction of the new concept may not affect movement between Britain and Hong Kong, we are concerned that third countries should not react to the new concept in such a way as to post limitations on the movement of Hong Kong citizens. It will be obvious to H.M.G. that whatever the attitude taken by the British Authorities in this respect, this in itself will not necessarily have an influence on third countries. As an organization concerned with the promotion of trade, we are well aware of the problems which already exist in respect of Hong Kong belongers who hold a Certificate of Identity rather than a Passport and who have to travel extensively for business reasons. We believe there is a real risk that these problems will be exacerbated by the introduction of the concept of Citizen of a British Dependent Territory.
3. Thirdly, we believe there is a real risk that the proposed move by which British nationals can transfer nationality for one generation only will lead to hardship for the children of many Britons currently and perhaps only temporarily working abroad. Many such people have a tradition of expatriate employment, although retaining strong links with Britain, and the Chamber is aware of many cases of people who are to all intents and purposes British, but were not born in the United Kingdom. It would now appear that there is a risk that their children and future generations will be deprived of British citizenship. We are aware that provision exists in the Bill to provide for the interests of those on Crown service or working in the private sector for British affiliated concerns. We nonetheless feel that the criteria which will be used to define 'British firms' have not been made sufficiently clear to allay the fears of many of those affected. There are, for instance, several large and substantial concerns in Hong Kong which are Hong Kong registered companies but which have a long tradition of employing British expatriates, and which undoubtedly make a real contribution, both direct and indirect, to the British economy. It is a fine point as to whether such companies would legally be called British. The position will be exacerbated in the case of British citizens working for a company that is manifestly non-British, such as an American oil company or a Japanese bank. We would earnestly request H.M.G. to consider the position of these people and to ensure that provision is made in the Bill for their children's inheriting a right of British citizenship, regardless of their place of birth.
4. Finally, regarding the period of residence in Britain required before a citizen of a British Dependent Territory could qualify as a British citizen, we would support the view which we believe has been expressed by the Hong Kong Government, that the qualifying period should be reduced from five to three years.

The above are the principal points of concern felt by the Chamber, but it is nonetheless worth remarking that the introduction of this Bill has caused wide-spread concern and suspicion in Hong Kong, whether unfounded or not, which the recent statements in the House regarding Britain's continued commitment to Hong Kong have done little to allay. The hitherto prevailing arrangements seem to have worked well and in view of H.M.G.'s declared intention of continuing its commitment to Hong Kong, to the benefit of Britain and Hong Kong, we see no reason to revise these. As far as Hong Kong is concerned, we believe the new Bill will create more problems than it solves, and indeed find it hard to see any advantage whatsoever in this piece of legislation.

We have copied this letter to Members of Parliament whom we know are particularly interested in Hong Kong affairs, to both the British and Hong Kong Branches of the Hong Kong Association, and to appropriate officers in the Hong Kong Government.

We trust that you will take note of our concern and that the views that have been expressed will be taken into consideration during the passage of this Bill.

Yours sincerely,

J.L. Marden
Acting Chairman

JLM:bl

Portugal in the European Economic Community — Will it cope?

by Josephine Martin

Portugal has been striving to attain political and economic stability, in the face of multiple problems that hinder its development. With entry to the EEC, Portugal is optimistic that its goal will finally be realised.

Portugal is about to make a great leap forward with its bid to join the European Economic Community. The move creates new challenges but will demand great efforts in order to comply with the EEC rules and requirements. Portugal hopes membership in the Community will help in developing a stabilised economy.

Relations between Portugal and the Community started with the country's agreements with the EEC and the European Coal and Steel Community. The agreements, concluded in July 1972, aimed to establish a free trade area for industrial products between Portugal and the Common Market.

Two years later, with the constitution of a democratic régime in Portugal, political hindrances against integration into the EEC under the Treaties of Paris and Rome disappeared. It was the genesis of an intensified alliance between Portugal and the Community. In September 1976, two protocols or agreements were signed in Brussels. First was the Additional Protocol in which improved customs tariffs concessions in the Common Market for certain Portuguese exports were agreed. Second was the Financial Protocol in which Portugal was granted an amount of 200 million units of account by the EEC to finance investment projects on a five-year term.

On March 28, 1977, the Portuguese government submitted an application for admission to the EEC. Admission

will have limited effects on the Community due to the comparatively small dimension of Portugal's economy. However, the European Commission accepts that Portugal can not be isolated from the European integration process without serious political effects on the country, and that Portugal's admission will inevitably reinforce the European ideal. The country is expected to become a full member of the EEC at the beginning of 1983.

Entry into the Community will give Portugal access to the world's largest free trade market. This will stimulate modernisation of both the industrial and the agricultural sectors of the economy. At the same time, Portugal will have to open its market to the Community, eventually without restrictions.

This raises the question of whether Portugal will be able to compete with the highly advanced industries of Europe. To what extent will its economic structure be able to adapt to the developments that will ensue with its membership in the EEC?

Agriculture - Stuck in the Past

Portugal is an agricultural country. About a third of its labour force is employed in this sector. Yet the country is not self-sufficient in food. For years, Portugal has been highly dependent on other countries for its food supply. More food is imported than is produc-

ed each year. In 1978, food amounted to about 13% of total imports.

Most of the country's food supply comes from non-EEC members because of higher prices in the Common Market. The Portuguese government manages to protect consumers from the soaring prices of food in the world market by placing subsidies on its imports of wheat, maize, sorghum, oil-seed and sugar.

Under the EEC rules, once Portugal becomes a full member, it has to put an end to subsidies and will either have to stop buying its food outside the Common Market or must pay a levy to the Community.

Agriculture in Portugal is tradition-bound and has low productivity. This is partly due to the geographical features of the area. Much of the land is rocky and of low fertility. There is a shortage of rainfall. Construction of dams, irrigations, canals and pumping stations has been a national priority for almost 15 years. New crops are being introduced but productivity, compared with other EEC members, is still low.

Industry - A Pygmy Amongst the Giants

Industrialisation is ever the driving force for economic development. Portugal needs access to technology in order to accelerate its economic growth.



Agriculture - still reliant on manual labour



Sheep are bred in the South for the textile industry and local meat consumption

Industry in Portugal is on a very small scale. A majority (eight out of ten) of industrial firms employ fewer than 50 workers and only about 1.5% of the total employ more than 500 workers. A company in Hong Kong, Novel Enterprises Ltd., has four subsidiary companies in Portugal that manufactures wool knitwear and garments with a total number of 1,200 workers.

Many Portuguese industries may have great difficulty of surviving when they enter the highly competitive market of Europe; some may disappear, and others may require support so they can be scaled up to serve a wider market.

The process of industrialisation will not be easy. It will require not only large amounts of capital but also highly qualified technocrats. Portugal can not meet these needs alone. It must rely on the assistance of the Community.

Trade - Successive Deficits

Portugal's balance of trade shows a net deficit although exports grew faster than imports in 1978 and 1979. Following the decrease recorded in 1975 and 1976, Portuguese exports picked up in 1977. They continued to swell at an increasing rate of 19.33% and 44.10% in 1978 and 1979 respectively, while imports went up by 5.77% and 24.60%. Despite these increases in exports, a total deficit of US\$3.05 billion was registered in 1979, an upswing of 8% against the US\$2.82 billion deficit in 1978. Imports from the EEC were also high-

er than exports to the Community. EEC accounted for 56.94% of the country's total exports in 1979. At the same time, 41.55% of the imports were from the Community members. Portugal's chief exports are textiles, clothing and footwear, cork and paper, agricultural products such as tomato paste, Port wine and table wine and non-metallic minerals. These account for over two-thirds of total export value. Main imports are oil products, machinery and transport equipment and agricultural crops such as wheat and maize.

Transition Period - Conquering Bottlenecks

If Portugal is to exploit the opportunities for economic development within the EEC, a transformation of the Portuguese economic structure must take place. A transition period is needed in order to prepare industries that will be capable of maintaining positive leverage when exposed to aggressive competition within the Common Market. There are many areas in which Portugal holds a comparative advantage. Vast tracts of land remain unexploited. Planned by the government in preparation for the EEC membership are the opening up of Portugal's remote north-eastern region of Tras-os-Montes, large-scale afforestation programmes and the rehabilitation of unused land.

The country possesses rich and unexcavated mineral deposits such as pyrites, rock salt and lime. Portugal also has a good reputation for quality tex-

tiles and clothing. Products such as wine, tomato paste, olive oil, paper pulp and cork have already established a good market in the EEC.

Labour is much cheaper in comparison with the Community wage levels. A problem of labour transfer is, however, foreseen if Portuguese wage levels do not rise to become comparable to those of the EEC.

The expected membership of Portugal in the EEC has opened new sources of financing to the country. Aside from the financial aid provided by the Community, there has been an increase in the flow of foreign investment.

In 1980, various investment projects were negotiated. Among these were:

- a contract signed between the Portuguese State and General Motors Corporation to set up an industrial unit in Portugal with approximately US\$56 million investment;
- an agreement between Portugal and DBA, a French company, to build a plant for the manufacturing and assembling of car accessories with an overall investment of around US\$150 million;
- a contract granting 'ESSO Prospeccao e Producao Algarve S.A.R.L.', an affiliate of EXXON group, oil exploration and drilling rights in the Algarve continental platform, with a total investment of around US\$13 million;
- establishment of 'Yoshida Portuguesa Lda', whose capital of approximately US\$6 million is totally held by the Yoshida Japanese group, to manufacture and market plastic zippers; and
- establishment of Billiton Portuguesa - Desenvolvimento Mineiro, Lda to



Industrial zone in the Province of Douro Litoral



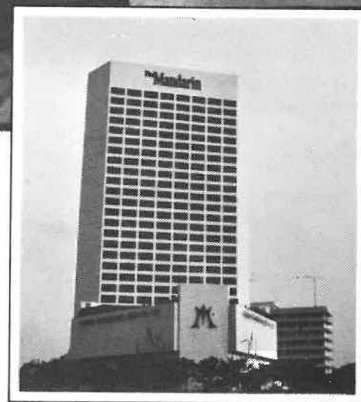
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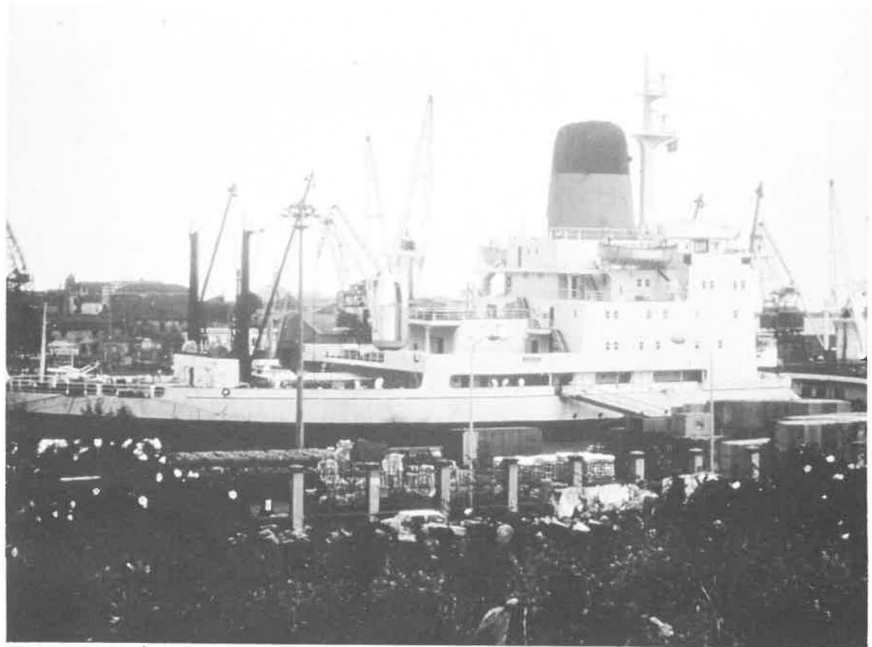


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A loan of US\$350 million has been granted by a consortium of international banks to Portugal to finance public and private investment projects. The number of banks and investment companies in the country is also increasing. Early last year, the Chase Manhattan Bank set up an office in Portugal.

The influx of investment suggests a bright future for Portugal. It augments the capital available to industry and paves the way for technological progress. Not only will the production capacity of existing industries expand but new industrial projects can be implemented. The expansion of industry will lead to a continuing cycle of foreign investment. That is the hope and the expectation of the Portuguese Government and the people.

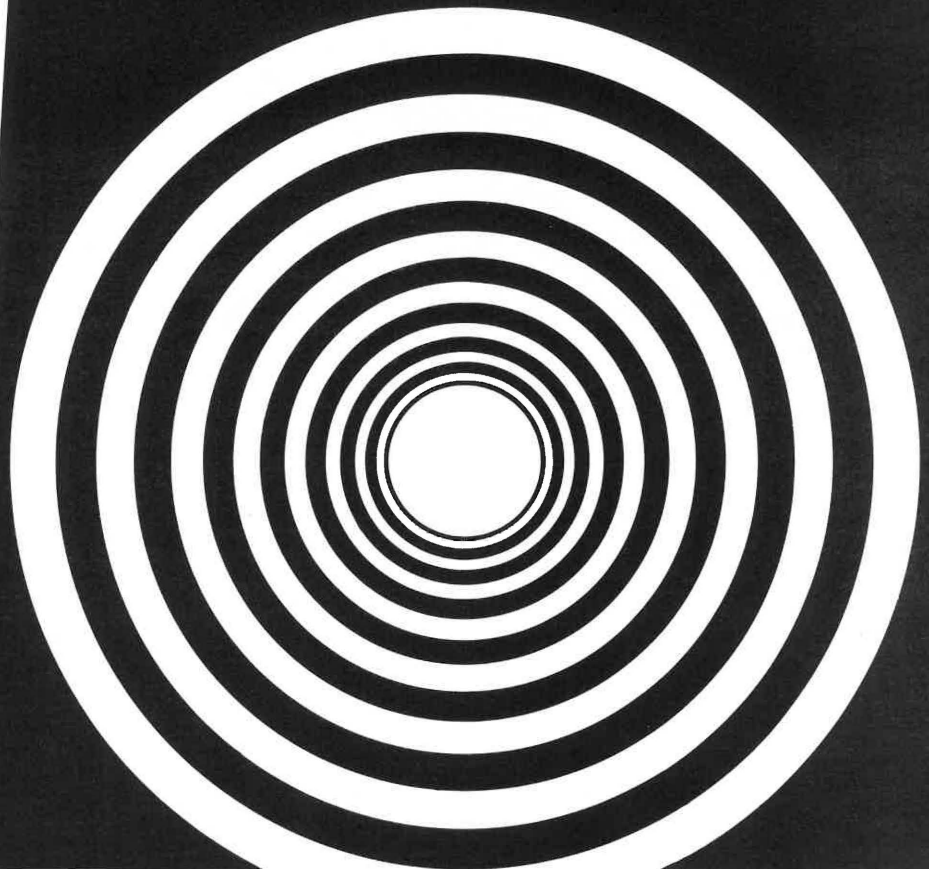


The port of Leixoes serves the North of Portugal

Portugal in perspective

Portugal - although far from being the largest of EEC countries - is by no means the smallest. It does, however, lag in some aspects behind its smaller as well as larger economic partners. To give perspective, we show how Portugal compares in some key aspects with one of the EEC giants, Federal Republic of Germany, and one of the smaller members, the Republic of Ireland.

	Portugal	Federal Republic of Germany	Republic of Ireland
Area (square miles)	34,861	95,994	26,600
Population (million)	9.8	61.1	3.3
Gross Domestic Product (US\$ billion)	20.1	759.0	14.8
GDP per capita (US\$)	2,051	12,422	4,485
National Income (US\$ billion)	18.9	674.7	13.3
Manufacturing as % of GDP (1978)	32.9	37.7	28.1
Total Exports (1979 FOB, US\$ million)	3,480	171,887	7,175
Total Imports (1979 FOB, US\$ million)	6,534	159,711	9,858
Major Export Markets (% of share of total exports 1979)	UK (18.1) West Germany (12.7) France (10.0)	France (12.7), Netherlands (9.9) Belgium and Luxembourg Economic Union (8.5)	UK (46.4) West Germany (8.8) France (8.1)
Major Import Suppliers (% of share of total imports 1979)	West Germany (12.4) US (11.1) UK (9.1)	Netherlands (12.3) France (11.3) Italy (8.8)	UK (50.0) US (8.5) West Germany (7.5)
Total Reserves (June 1979, US\$ million)	1,472	57,241	2,247



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(Top) Dr. Pereira, Consul-General and Mr. Catarino, Vice-Consul of Portugal.

The Bulletin recently spoke with the Consul General and Vice Consul of Portugal regarding application for EEC membership and trade with Hong Kong.

Dr. Pedro Catarino, a lawyer, is the Consul General of Portugal. He has been here since April 1979. Before coming to Hong Kong, he held a post with the Portuguese delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. He has also served at the United Nations in New York and at the Portuguese Embassy in South Africa.

Mr. Antonio Jose Pereira is the Vice Consul of Portugal. He has been in Hong Kong for over five years. He previously worked at the Agriculture and Forestry Department in Macau where he was in charge of the afforestation of Taipa and Coloane Islands. He once worked at the Macau Broadcasting Station.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION IN PORTUGAL?

The economic situation in Portugal has improved lately. We have reduced the inflation rate, increased exports substantially and attracted investments. We still have a trade deficit but it is covered by invisible trade such as tourism and remittances of Portuguese abroad. Our main target at the moment is to enter the Common Market. We hope that by 1983, we will become a member of the EEC.

DO YOU THINK PORTUGAL WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE COMMUNITY RULES?

We are making efforts in order to adapt our economic structures, to modernise industry and agriculture. We will probably need a period of transition in which we will be given special concessions. Negotiations with the Common Market have been taking place. We now have the support of all member countries. We have also had assistance from the Community by means of loans and technical assistance. We do not see how we can not succeed.

IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT OF PORTUGAL'S MEMBERSHIP ON THE EEC?

From the economic point of view, not an effect of great dimension. The size of the Portuguese economy is not such that it will cause any problems to the EEC. But it will have a very important political effect. Portugal is a European country and it is connected to the members of the Common Market by very close and strong political, social and cultural links. We can not see a country like Portugal out of the Democratic Europe as we can not see Europe without Portugal.

HOW ABOUT THE EFFECTS ON PORTUGAL?

It will have a tremendous effect and in our opinion, a very positive one. It will be for Portugal a qualitative jump, and it will open new horizons for the economic development of the country, strengthening at the same time our democratic institutions. Portugal has a much better chance to become prosperous as a member of the EEC than outside it.

IN 1978 AND 1979, HONG KONG - PORTUGAL TRADE FAVOURED PORTUGAL HOWEVER, FROM JANUARY TO AUGUST 1980, IT SLIGHTLY

FAVOURED HONG KONG. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE REASON FOR SUCH CHANGE?

Exports from Hong Kong to Portugal increased by 147% from 1978 to 1979. During the first eight months of last year, exports grew by 101%. Trade no longer favoured Portugal not because there was a decline in its exports (on the contrary, our exports to Hong Kong have been going up), but because Hong Kong has exported much more to Portugal. Of course, when we look at exports from Hong Kong, we consider both exports and re-exports.

WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU SEE FOR PORTUGUESE INVESTMENT AND TRADE IN HONG KONG?

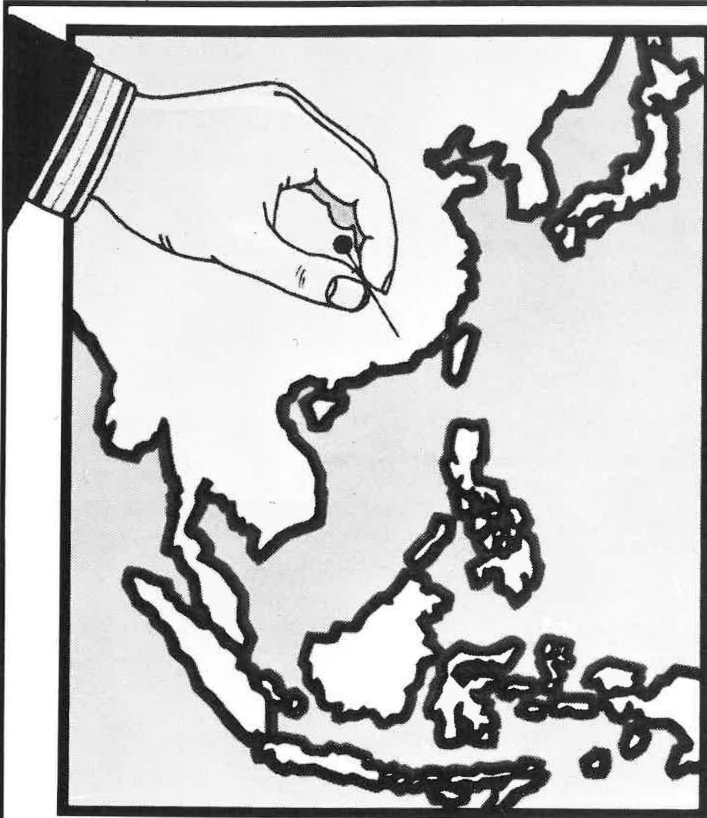
Hong Kong has a great potential both as an exporter and as an importer. Portugal is presently looking more into using Macau as an entrepot to the Far East. The establishment of diplomatic relations between Portugal and China and the new policy in China gave stability to Macau which is enjoying a formidable boom. As Portuguese businessmen look to Macau for trade, they will certainly look to Hong Kong.

DO YOU SEE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HONG KONG TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN PORTUGAL?

Yes. Portugal can offer markets with good potential to Hong Kong. Our membership of the Common Market will mean a much wider economic unit, and we should not forget that Portugal has still very close connections with Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, the ex-colonies like Angola, Mosambique and Guinea-Bissau. So Portugal can serve as a trade entrepot for Hong Kong to those countries.

IN WHAT WAYS CAN HONG KONG EXPORTERS INCREASE THEIR SHARE OF THE MARKET IN PORTUGAL?

The main exports of Hong Kong to Portugal are toys, dolls, radios, clocks, photographic equipment, watches and electrical machinery. All these products can have a larger market in Portugal. One should think of sending trade missions to Portugal, mission that would find the possibility of increasing trade with the country - not only to sell but also to buy from it. We believe they would be a success. ■



Could you identify the region's most promising investments?

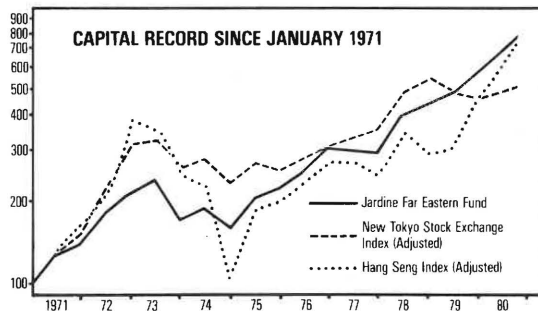
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THE BULLETIN 3/81

SAVE & PROSPER INTERNATIONAL



"...a form of government by devolution of power from the central government..."

Some have seen the advent of the White Paper on Administration as a threat to the future of the Urban Council. The Bulletin recently went to talk to A. de O. Sales, Hong Kong's 'Lord Mayor' for the past eight years. He spoke with pride of the past achievements of Urbco, while his optimism for the future certainly suggested any storm clouds on the horizon could only be little ones.

'A project proposal submitted to the Urban Council is either supported, modified or rejected, but never does the Council dillydally on it. That is the keynote of our administration - a business-like institution,' says Mr. Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales, Chairman of the Urban Council.

He stresses that the Urban Council goes out and gets things done. 'I prefer to act first, that's been so all my life, my Jaycee training, and talk afterwards,' he says.

And supporting his claim of getting things done, with cost-effectiveness in mind, Mr. Sales points out that there has been a 5% rate of increase in the government establishment over a period of ten years while the Urban Council's establishment grew by 2.2% over a period of seven years in spite of performing mostly on labour-intensive functions.

Two themes constantly crop up when speaking with Sonny Sales. The first is his emphasis on the practical business-like approach of the Urbco. The second is his calm pride in the achievements of the body he has done much to shape.

In a society that sometimes seems incapable of looking outside its own boundaries, unless trade is concerned, it is striking that Mr. Sales sees Hong Kong in a world context, perhaps a natural result of his international presidency of the Junior Chamber many years ago. Phrases such as 'of all the cities in the world ...', 'in comparison with cities overseas ...', 'there is no other city on earth that ...' occur frequently.

One imagines Mr. Sales has tucked away in his mind a global map. It is consulted frequently, and with computer-like precision. Hong Kong's standing is rapidly assessed in comparison with Boston, Birmingham, Bangkok or wherever. The comparison is often flattering.

'The success story of Hong Kong was



Mr. Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales

strongly displayed at the 'Great Cities of the World' conference held in the United States in September last year,' he reports.

'Hong Kong was one of the 36 cities invited by the City of Boston to join in celebrating its 350th anniversary. The Urban Council presented an audio visual of Hong Kong development, distributed special publications, and mounted a photographic exhibition of Hong Kong. We also provided the representatives with free dimsum. The impression we created was one of high organisation and very efficient management.'

This report, occurring naturally - almost casually - in the conversation, is typical of many others Mr. Sales can recall. But comparisons are made not simply to determine Hong Kong's standing in the world league. Often, they aim to assess where Hong Kong stands to learn.

'The Urban Council must keep opening mental doors so that the people will not have a closed mentality so easily found in a circumscribed area. They must see beyond Hong Kong to

survive. It is important to raise the people's sights to the higher values of life through the arts,' says Mr. Sales.

Mr. Sales has been Chairman of the Urban Council since 1973. He was appointed a member of the Urbco in 1957. He is also the longest surviving Committee member of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, having been on the export Committee up to the mid 60s. He is still a Chamber Councillor.

Mr. Sales sees the Urban Council as one of the various organisations involved in the development of Hong Kong society as a whole. It is a local city administration which is a form of government by devolution of power from the central government. Its main functions fall in three categories - environmental public health, recreation and amenities and provision of cultural services.

However, Hong Kong is a unique city with unique problems. It has an area of about 409 square miles with over five million population. But most people live in high density in an area of less than 40 square miles.

'Our problems in the final analysis go back to high density living in a very small area. High density creates problems which would not exist in low density living' says Mr. Sales.

The scarcity of land in the urban area forces the Council to use unique solutions in creating a better Hong Kong. It has to come up with innovative ideas in order to improve the quality of life in Hong Kong.

'The Hong Kong citizen can now speak proudly of a city which is emerging as one of the most modern in the world,' says Mr. Sales.

Typical of the innovative approach is Urbco's policy on new markets. Market buildings are being developed as high rises. The lower floors serve as the market. In the same building are a library, reading rooms, games hall and

“... a form of government by devolution of power from the central government ...”

a district cultural centre with facilities for district committees to put on plays, musical shows and other presentations. On top of the building is a children's playground. Last year, five new public markets were either completed or were nearing completion, adding to the existing 46 public markets.

And did you know that Hong Kong now has its first solar heated public bath house, in Stanley? If it proves to be successful, similar systems may be installed at other Council public amenities to cut fuel costs.

Nor does the Council forget some of life's more basic comforts. 'The most expensive public toilet in the world must be the one at Beaconsfield Arcade facing the Hong Kong Bank. It is valued at about \$10 thousand per square foot, if not more!' says Mr. Sales.

When the Urban Council started some 20 years ago to develop sports and recreation, there was a handful of children's playgrounds, no basketball court, no volleyball court, virtually nothing, according to Mr. Sales. 'We believe in the right of every child to have access to play facilities,' he said. Now, the Council has provided Hong Kong with 148 children's playgrounds despite the limited availability of land in addition to the greatest concentration of public swimming pools anywhere with a wide range of other sports facilities too.

The Council attaches importance to recreation. It has standing sub-committees for almost every major sport. Every time there is a planned activity, leaders of major sports associations meet and advise the Council on the project. 'I have not heard of any city in the world that gets its sports leaders to cooperate with the public authorities in such a close and intensive manner,' says Mr. Sales.

The Council also supports the Annual Festival of Sport organised by the Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee since 1958 which now involves 35 different sports associations, more than sixty events and 60,000 competitors. They were attended by over 300,000 people.

Another Council innovation, the Queen Elizabeth Stadium, was opened in August last year. It is a multi-purpose stadium for sports and entertainment designed to make maximum use of land. It is fully air-conditioned and is equipped with computerised scoreboards and mobile electronic scoring devices. Its arena is specially designed so that it can be quickly converted into a theatre for stage and musical shows. The stadium cost \$50 million and is considered one of the finest of its kind in Southeast Asia. There is a bigger one under construction on the railway podium in Hunghom.

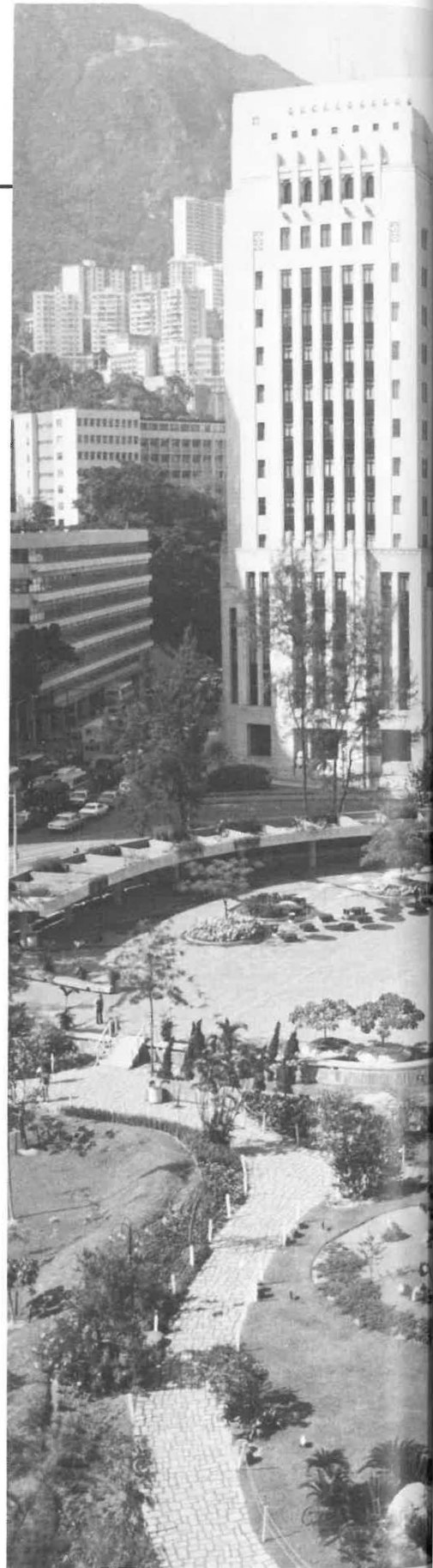
A ready target of Urbco critics is its expenditure on the arts. Mr. Sales explains that most people in Hong Kong have not had the chance to go abroad. Even if they went as tourists, they are not likely to go to concerts, art galleries, museums or plays.

Therefore, the Urban Council takes the initiative to bring in overseas artists and performers to educate the people on different aspects of the arts and culture of other countries.

The Council aided 93 different cultural groups in Hong Kong during the financial year 1979-1980. Its Fifth Festival of Asian Arts was outstanding. China, Australia and New Zealand took part for the first time. Over 2,000 artists from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey and Hong Kong presented 146 performances.

The Council also provides free entertainment for the people in their own neighbourhood. It pays artists to attract and entertain people. Whenever the Council stages a festival of Asian arts at the City Hall, it is presented twice outside without charge, once on the Island of Hong Kong and once in Kowloon.

Audience surveys show that people who attend the City Hall presentations are mostly under twenty nine years of age. The surveys also show that the audience consistently comes from the middle and lower middle income groups. 'I believe that is our success.

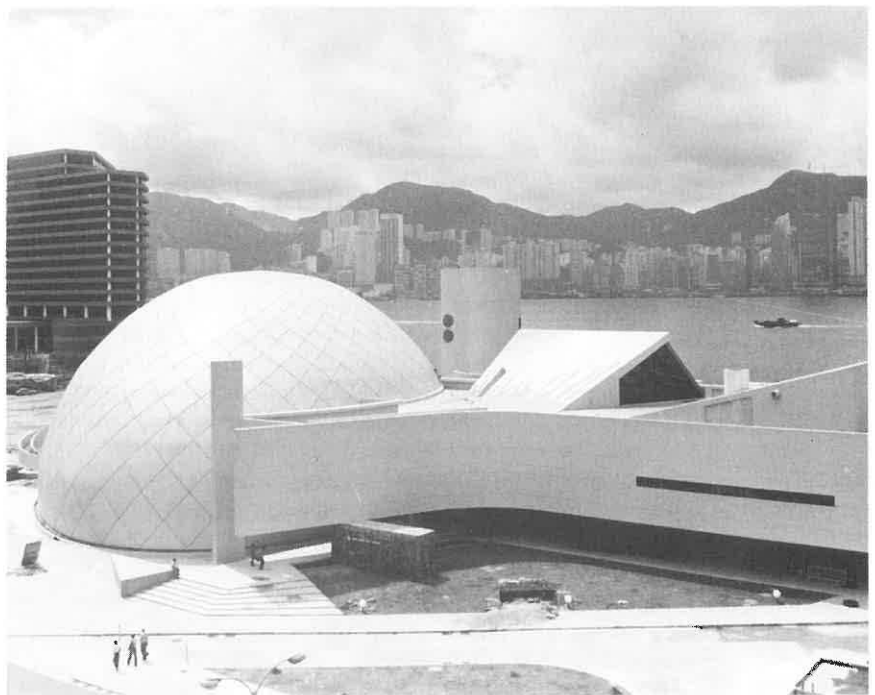


Chater Garden in Central

“... a form of government by devolution of power from the central government ...”



Queen Elizabeth Stadium in Wanchai



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The Wanchai Sports Ground

We have brought them out, shown them these higher values in life, higher standards of achievement and higher expressions of the human soul through the arts,' says Mr. Sales.

The Council has its own Cantonese drama company. This company not only presents Cantonese plays but a number of translated plays. 'I used to take part in dramatic performances when I was young ... I support drama because I understand it,' says Mr. Sales.

The Chinese orchestra organised by the Council has established a high reputation. Members were provided by the Council with traditional gowns and shoes. Its popularity was shown by 'full house' notices at all their performances.

The Council is presently setting up a professional dance company.

The \$60 million Hong Kong Space Museum is one of the most ambitious projects undertaken by the Urban Council. It is the most advanced and best equipped space museum in the world. It is a complete institution of astronomy and space science. Mr. Sales states that the museum is for the education of the young in the space age. It is the first building in the ambitious Cultural Complex on the Kowloon

Lantau front.

'The Urban Council is Hong Kong's catalyst in sports, recreation, public entertainment and culture,' says Mr. Sales.

When Mr. Sales speaks of the future of the Urban Council, particularly in relation to the White Paper on Administration, one begins to see something of the fundamental beliefs that have shaped his concept of public service. He understands the need for direct representation and is deeply concerned with the welfare of the people and their right to participation. He does however entertain some doubts on the present means by which this objective is being sought.

'The competitive element will come in. There will be competition for the distribution of benefits to the districts. Let's say I am Eastern Hong Kong and you are Western Hong Kong. We will be competing for money because we will be urged to do so by our respective people,' he points out.

'That might be considered good in a competitive society like Hong Kong, but on the other hand, it could make for a split Council and detract from its beneficial work.

'I think the White Paper is a good

move in the context of Christian social philosophy: the application of the principle of subsidiarity, that is, when subsidiary power is devolved gradually and percolates through to the people to exercise.

'Power does not arise in a place like Hong Kong. Power is wielded in - if you like - a monolithic, perhaps even an autocratic manner. But there should be an opportunity for people to determine the conditions which they want to have in their own districts.'

To what extent does Mr. Sales think people in an a-political society such as Hong Kong actually want to be concerned?

'This is one of the questions I pose to myself,' he says. 'I have said in the past that we cannot apply a political textbook solution to Hong Kong - a solution founded on experience gained in the United Kingdom or Australia or wherever, to Hong Kong, or for that matter to any other place. But the local attitudes, the historical political experience, the traditions of the people, their mores and customs: these cannot be disregarded in any attempt to set up a system of government.'



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Some Urban Council Activities and Projects

Environmental public health

The average road on Hong Kong Island and Kowloon is swept from four to eight times a day. The Urban Council has a workforce of over 3,000 employed in street cleaning duties around the clock.

Household refuse is collected free of charge daily by the Council. The Council has a modern refuse collection fleet of more than 260 vehicles, nearly all of them equipped with compaction machinery.

The Urban Council is also engaged in pest control services. It has more than 660 specially trained staff on pest prevention and control. The staff are supported by the Pest Control Advisory Unit of the Urban Services Department.

The Food Hygiene Select Committees of the Urban Council is responsible for the control and sale of food. It licenses and inspects all restaurants, food factories, fresh provision shops, siu mei and lo mei shops, cold stores and premises where milk and frozen confection are manufactured to ensure that they comply with the health standards.

The Council's Environmental Health Training School was opened in August last year. It is making a substantial contribution to the number of qualified health inspectors. The trained inspectors receive diploma qualifications recognised in the United Kingdom. Health inspectors always maintain an exceptionally high standard performance, according to Mr. Sales, 'In fact, a doctor said that were not for their efficiency and dedication, people would not be free of tropical disease considering the high density,' said Mr. Sales.

The Council also runs market abattoirs, inspection of imported food and food for exports and licensing of premises used for the sale or the supply of liquor in the urban areas.

Swimming pools

The International Swimming Federation awarded a diploma and a plaque to the Urban Council for its development of public swimming pools. It was the first time this award was granted to a city.

The Council has built over 65 swimming pools for public use, 17 of which are 50 meter pools - Olympic size pools. It builds a series of special purpose pools in one localised area. One might find eight or nine swimming pools ranging from children's pools to 50 meter pools and a diving pool in one area.

An \$18.7 million eight-pool complex was opened in Chai Wan in June last year. The complex includes a park, spectators stands and a restaurant. Its 50 meter main pool is equipped with electronic timing. It also has special facilities for the physically handicapped.

Major projects for sports and recreation

The Council's Hong Kong Tennis Centre, the largest in Hong Kong was opened at Wong Nai Chung Gap Road in October last year. The 17-court centre cost \$5 million. It has changing rooms, showers, a parking area and a refreshment kiosk. The Council has 36 other tennis courts in five public parks on Hong Kong Island and in Kowloon. ▀



Kennedy Town swimming pool



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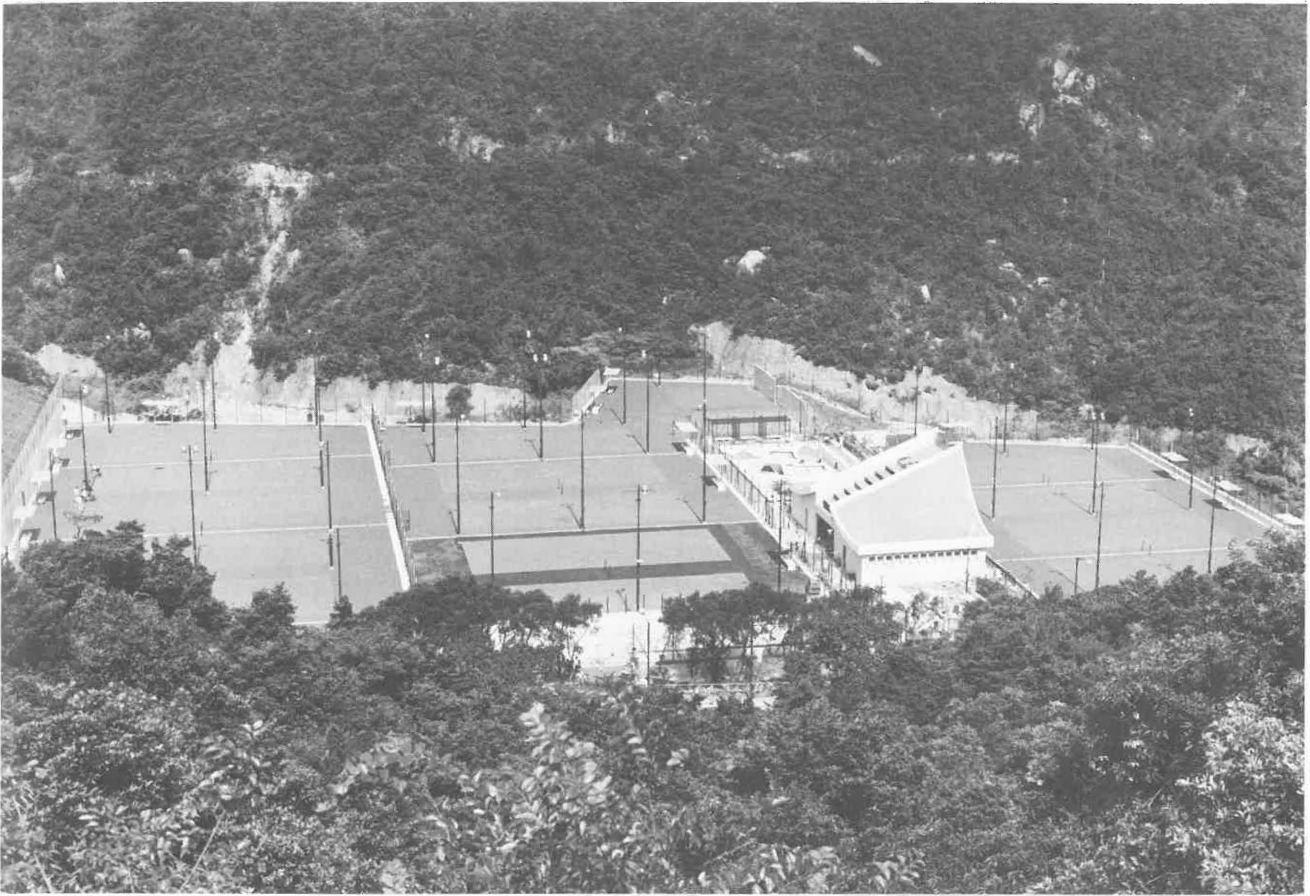
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Hong Kong Tennis Centre in Wong Nei Chung

The Council has an athletics track in Aberdeen which is open to the public. It has a number of other running tracks, six in the city including the national stadium located in Wan Chai.

- Further extension and redevelopment of the Victoria Park. The project will cost an estimated \$17 million. The Council plans to put up six tennis courts and two practice walls, a full-size grass soccer pitch with facilities for other field sport, a six-lane 100 meter track for athletics, a jogging track, a sitting-out area, indoor games hall and a multi-purpose, all-weather play area.

- A \$53 million park at Lai Chi Kok in Kowloon. The park will have a swimming pool complex and an indoor games hall.

- Redevelopment of the Council's Boundary Street Sports Ground in Kowloon. The projects will cost over \$5 million. It will include a soccer practice area, a rest garden, changing rooms and offices.

- An open-air velodrome for cycle racing. It will be the first of its kind in Hong Kong on a site opposite the entrance of Ocean Park. It is estimated to cost more than \$55 million. It will have a wooden racing track of more than 333 meters, meeting international standard. It will have a sitting accommodation for 6,000. Other features will include an electronic scoreboard, an access tunnel beneath the track, changing rooms and toilets.

- Waterfall Park at Shek Kip Mei in Kowloon. This project is included in the second stage development of the Shek Kip

Mei Park. There will be a plaza for open-air concerts, displays by young artists and Council entertainment programmes. Other facilities will include a floating refreshment kiosk, a children's playground, tennis courts, changing rooms and toilets, pavilions, arbours, a rock garden and planted areas.

- Ko Shan Road Park in Kowloon. It has an estimated cost of more than \$50 million. The park will have an open-air theatre, a mini-soccer pitch, four tennis courts, a children's playground and a landscaped rest garden with fountains.

- An \$8 million hockey pitch with artificial turf and stands to seat 1,000 spectators at King's Park in Kowloon.

Library extension

Another aspect of the Council's activities is the library extension service. There are presently eleven branch libraries and two mobile libraries. These provide a full range of facilities such as study rooms, audio visual, video cassette, music listening and microfilm sections. Portable art exhibitions are moving around these libraries. Art and first aid classes are conducted by the Council in these libraries. Extension activities also include Clubs where anyone may take part in drama, photography, art and design.

This year, a new library in North Point will be opened. Another library is planned for Telford Gardens in Kowloon Bay.

Prospects for the British Economy

This is the first of a series of articles on different aspects of the British economy which The Bulletin has commissioned Mr. F. Knox to prepare. Mr. Knox is a lecturer in Economics at the Open University, Milton Keynes. He is the author of four books, 'Consumer and the Economy', 'Common Market and World', 'Government and Growth', 'Labour Supply in Economic Development'.

Mr. Knox is presently working on a book on the economic development of Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan. He intends to come to Hong Kong for research purposes later this year.

Gloom - Gloom - Gloom

Nearly all commentators on the state of the economy agree that unemployment in Britain will continue to rise during 1981 and will reach nearly 3 million - 14 per cent - by the end of the year. The political significance of this is considerable; the latest date for the next General Election is May 1984, and given the lag of about eighteen months before tax cuts substantially affect unemployment, it would be desirable for the government to have these this year. The 1982 Budget is the latest in which they could be implemented to affect the economy before early 1984. Nevertheless, there is near-unanimity among observers that the 1981 budget will be neutral, or possibly slightly deflationary, in its effect on total demand, because of the slow fall in inflation from 20.3 per cent in January 1980 to 15 per cent in December, and the very high level of the public sector borrowing requirement - now running at £13½ billion, £5 billion more than forecast at the start of the financial year last April. Reducing inflation remains the over-riding aim of government policy.

Income tax and public spending

Not only the overall demand effect of the budget but, in rough outline, its content are fairly predictable. Mrs. Thatcher has said that there will be no increase in personal income tax, but this leaves open the possibility of a rise in the burden of personal income tax through leaving the lower limits at which income tax is payable unchanged despite inflation. This, in fact, is what is generally believed will happen. There will also fairly certainly be an increase at least in line with inflation in the taxes on alcoholic drink and cigarettes, and possibly a slight rise in other indirect taxes. The general aim of the budget, apart from countering inflation, will very probably be to give some relief to the hard-pressed company sector (profits have been hit by high wage awards in 1979-80, high interest rates, and the high exchange rate) at the expense of the personal sector, which has so far done fairly well, at least those still in employment. There will also be doubtless continued efforts to reduce public spending, but so far this has had only very limited success, and the announcement in January of a further £950 million for British Leyland makes it likely that it will not have much more this year. In other words, the reduction in the public sector borrowing requirement will have to come about not through cutting government spending, as the government would like, but through maintaining or possibly increasing taxes. It is true that most of the rise of £5 billion in the PSBR has been due to the unexpected depth of the recession, and that as soon as

output and employment pick up, it will fall automatically - the government will be spending less on unemployment benefit, and will get higher tax revenues. But this will not happen until 1982. Relief for the company sector is likely to take the form of one or more of: cuts in employers' national insurance contributions, in Corporation Tax, or higher investment incentives, plus possibly more aid for small business.

Unemployment and inflation

The most striking feature of the British economy in 1980 was that unemployment rose much more than expected. The number unemployed in January was 1,471,000. It passed the 2 million mark in August, and by January 1981 had reached 2.4 million, 10 per cent of the labour force. In its last forecast, published last November, the Treasury expected the recession to reach bottom this spring. However it is now clear that the turning point will be later and in any case the forecast refers to output, not employment. As there is a lag of 6-12 months before the upturn in output and the fall in unemployment, it will certainly be 1982 before unemployment begins to fall perceptibly.

While the figure of nearly 3 million unemployed by the end of 1981 seems very probable, there is little reason to go as far as the more pessimistic brand of forecasters who see it continuing to rise into 1982, reaching 3½ million. The main factor here is how far government anti-inflation policies are successful. The Treasury forecast was for 11 per cent inflation by end-1981. This, most observers now feel, may be slightly pessimistic and 10 per cent by the end of the year is feasible. During 1982 inflation will continue to fall, perhaps to around 6 per cent. Wage settlements this winter have been around 6-10 per cent, compared with 17-20 per cent in the winter of 1979-80. Since its election the Conservative Government has strongly and consistently opposed any kind of formal incomes policy, but in the public sector most settlements this year have in fact been around 6 per cent, and in setting the Rate Support Grant to local authorities the government has said that it is allowing for a 6 per cent rise in wage bills. There has been a wide spread in private sector wage settlements, but most of these also seem to have been in single figures.

The government is clearly determined not to force interest rates down faster than inflation falls, and also to do nothing to reduce the foreign exchange rate (possibly even allowing it to rise further) both of which should continue to help on the inflation front.

However, both inflation and unemployment probably ought to be looked at in a longer context than that of a few years ahead, or back. As recently as 1975 unemployment in

Britain was only 900,000, which itself was unprecedentedly high in comparison with the 1950s and 1960s. In other words, it has nearly trebled in five years. The current inflation level of 15 per cent, besides being also much higher than 1950-1973, must also be looked at in comparison with that of the other main industrial countries, generally 8 per cent or less.

The sun also rises

While the prospect for 1981 is therefore predominantly gloomy, from 1982 onwards there are grounds for taking a much brighter view. One, short term, is the good performance of exports in the last few years, despite the rise in the foreign exchange value of sterling. The other is North Sea oil, which from now on will be one of the dominating features of the British economy - and certainly the feature distinguishing it from other industrial countries, who will remain heavy energy importers.

The dollar value of sterling - the simplest, though not necessarily the most relevant, indicator of its foreign exchange value - fell to \$1.7 in 1977 and has since risen steadily to \$2.40. It is rather difficult now to recall that a fairly short time ago serious commentators were predicting a fall to \$1.50! But in spite of very strong criticism from industry, the fact is that exports showed no signs of being adversely affected until last September, and the decline since then has been only slight. It is of course possible that the repercussion on export volume are still to come and in view of the unexpected trend in exports since 1977 it would be unwise to be too dogmatic. However the most pessimistic production certainly seem to have been confounded. There may be something in the old theory that businessmen faced with difficult home market conditions simply put more effort into exporting. The export success has not been due to any large extent to export of oil or gas - government policy has been, and will continue to be, to keep production at about the level needed for self-sufficiency, but not to become a substantial exporter. (In looking at the exchange rate it is of course also relevant that even at \$2.4 m, the pound has only recovered to the level of 1967-71 - after the 1967 devaluation from \$2.80).

Much current discussion of the long-term and underlying impact of North Sea oil stresses such factors as 'de-industrialisation' and the 'Dutch disease'. This emphasis seems largely misguided. While there is considerable scope for debate about precisely how oil will affect the U.K. economy - partly arising from doubt about the future course of world oil prices - it can hardly be seriously disputed that the overall impact will be beneficial, and that

the size of the benefit will be substantial - perhaps as much as 10 per cent of the national income by 1984. Oil self-sufficiency, based not only on oil from the North Sea but on other areas of the continental shelf, will, it is now agreed, continue into the early years of the next century. Meanwhile, substantial reductions are in prospect in the cost of extracting oil - e.g. through submersibles rather than sea platforms. The size and timing of the impact on government revenues is debatable owing to the complex provisions for depreciation etc., but it is likely that there will be a surge in government revenue from this source in 1982-84, permitting substantial cuts in taxes.

The 'de-industrialisation' thesis is largely based on the assumption that with energy self-sufficiency, the resulting high foreign exchange value of sterling will reduce manufactured exports, and hence jobs. But the damage to exports, to date at any rate, seems largely hypothetical. In any case, if this did happen, it should be possible in a flexible economy to meet it by transferring productive resources to production for the home market. It is naturally very difficult to be specific about what industries or sectors should or will expand, but there will probably be massive investment in nuclear energy and coal; in construction; and probably some increase in employment in services - including public services, notwithstanding that over-rapid expansion of this sector was undoubtedly one of the main cause of Britain's economic difficulties in the period 1965-1980. The rise in the value of U.K. oil production will of course mean that as a percentage of national output, or national income, the other sectors - including manufacturing - will decline; but this should not, in the long run, mean that output or employment in non-oil sectors will decline in absolute terms - again, assuming reasonable mobility of productive resources. ■

Metamorphosis of Nam Wai Village

A painting showing the history of Nam Wai



Nam Wai was one of the poorest villages in the Sai Kung District until the mid 70s. Houses were small and roughly built. Very little means for subsistence was available in the village. For many years, Nam Wai was forced to be self-sufficient through farming and fishing because of the lack of road and transport facilities. However, agricultural output was very limited. Resources were used for household consumption with a meager amount for trade and no extra to store up for bad crop years. Villagers had to work 20 hours a day to help meet their needs.

With the People's Republic of China sending cheap food to Hong Kong, it was no longer feasible for the village to make a reasonable profit by selling vegetables. Inevitably, most of Nam Wai's farming land was abandoned. Some villagers sold their land to outsiders who speculated for land development.

In 1977, only fifteen people worked in the village and 120 commuted to construction and factory jobs in Hong Kong and Kowloon. Others found jobs in Chinese restaurants overseas. Virtually all of the social and economic functions of the village disappeared. The village as an integral social unit was losing its identity.

Today, more job opportunities are offered as the number of business establishments increase. Productivity within the village is rising, and the physical image of Nam Wai has improved substantially.

These positive changes were conceived when the Institute of Cultural Affairs contemplated a model project for human development. It worked closely with the Secretary of the New Territories and Sai Kung District Officer, Robert Upton, to find a village that would be open to such a project. After visiting numerous villages and talking with the village representatives, the Institute found that Nam Wai's two village representatives (one representing the families of the Yau clan and the other the families of the Shing clan) were keen to venture into the village renewal scheme. The Institute decided that the local people had the resources, knowledge and desire to improve their conditions but lacked models and methods to effect change.



The Institute of Cultural Affairs is a global service organisation whose purpose is to motivate cooperative involvement within the community for human development. It was incorporated in Evanston, Illinois in 1954 as a private and non-profit organisation. It is now autonomously registered in 32 nations. It specialises in devising and implementing practical methods for comprehensive rural renewal. Its approach is based on the conviction that 'hope takes root' where people actively take part in directing the course of their own future.

The Nam Wai Development project began in February 1977. A prerequisite to beginning the project was that the villagers would agree to undertake a comprehensive development of their community. 'It is the village's project, not the ICA's,' said Mr. John Ballard of the ICA. 'We are only here to assist them in carrying out their plans.'

A week-long consultation involving 100 Nam Wai residents and 113 volunteer consultants from nine nations created a comprehensive plan with 13 components to deal with the social, economic and cultural life of Nam Wai. The wide-ranging plan included education, service, beautification, recreation, cultural tradition, business enterprise, agriculture and land development. The major focus was on rebuilding community identity.

The ICA studied the history and culture of the village. Their study encouraged the elders to write their history assimilating many clan records. The ICA sought to revitalise the village without hampering the preservation of its traditional Chinese cultural values. The villagers were asked to identify factors that were hindering the development of Nam Wai. The major block was the lack of any cooperative method of planning. It took many meetings - week after week of meeting with villagers, business advisors and government representatives to form the foundation for development.



ICA workers John Ballard (left) and Joseph Nagy (second from left) with villagers, James Shing (third from left) and Robert Yau (right).



Models were set up. 'It was however a struggle, trying something that has never been done before and making it work,' said Mr. Ballard.

The village leaders recognised land as their major resource. But the immense pressure to sell plots for quick profit meant haphazard development.

A major step forward by the village took place in 1978 when its decision-making body, Nam Wai Foundation, Ltd., was organised. It is a representative entity wholly owned by the villagers. Its first aim was to acquire some village-owned land which would be developed for income to support the Nam Wai Human Development project.

The Foundation has elected its Board of Directors. The Board meets monthly to discuss and decide on issues of im-

portance to the village. It works closely with the government, the business sector and local villagers to create a model for the future of Nam Wai.

The Board of Directors with their advisors persuaded a group of village landowners to sell their land to the Foundation at a nominal price. A total of 700,000 square feet of unused agricultural land was purchased by the Foundation using some of the HK\$15 million it has borrowed. The Foundation has entered into a joint venture partnership with an outside investor, Yuet Fat Investment Ltd., to develop the land.

Under the agreement, the Foundation will receive a 51% share of profits of the development. Profits will be used for economic, social and physical improvements of Nam Wai. At least

HK\$12 million has been reinvested in the village.

The villagers used most of the money earned from the sale of their land for new housing. Since 1977, over 30 new houses were built in Nam Wai, dramatically improving the appearance of the village. Increased construction provided jobs for residents. It also allowed family members living outside the village to return. Other families put up apartments for rent to supplement their income.

'The process of building community is continuous,' said Mr. Ballard. 'One problem is solved and another appears. What is required is a core of community leaders from all age groups and backgrounds who will take responsibility for creating the solutions.'

The challenge facing the Foundation



was how to broaden the villagers' participation in the development of Nam Wai. The ICA believes that if someone else builds the plan for the village, it will probably fail because the villagers have no stake in it. Recently, the young people of Nam Wai have taken interest in the Foundation and have assumed positions of leadership, showing that capacity for leadership and service is expanding in the village.

As the Foundation continued to meet, more needs were recognised.

Most people work and spend their money outside the village. A method was needed to increase jobs in Nam Wai and keep money circulating within the village. Several economic experiments were tried, including mushroom growing and an electronic assembly plant. Neither proved to be economically feasible. Recently, a village leader has successfully established a packaging industry that employs a number of people.

A health survey revealed that a major problem in the village was dental care. A dental health day was organised in which 200 people attended. In 1979, a fully equipped dental clinic was organised with three village women trained as dental assistants.

The village has undertaken construction of a community centre and a football pitch was made for youth and adult recreation. Various activities were organised in which both the youth and the adults participated. During Sundays, the open spaces made available for the village are filled with children playing basketball, bicycling or playing other outdoor games and adults discussing further development of the village and other relevant topics.



The small but fully equipped dental clinic



Children in the village have a brighter future



The people decided to acquire new breeding boars to increase pig production. Once a minor income producer in the village, pig production has increased by 30% over the past four years. In fact, the number of pigs is more than twice the total human population of Nam Wai!

Training in new skills for leadership and corporate action has been a major focus of the project. Four young people from Nam Wai participated in community development training schools in Korea and in the Philippines. Practical methods for economic, social and cultural development were learned. Government agriculturalists held day-long sessions with villagers on improved methods of care for pigs and poultry. A banker volunteered to lead several sessions for shop owners and village businessmen in accounting and management. Courses in planning and conducting meetings were given for village youth and women. 'When people have the skills and self-confidence, they can work miracles,' said Mr. Ballard.

The efforts of local people have been made more effective through cooperation with public and private sectors. The ICA has acted as a liaison. Government has provided services and helped define and implement policies while the business sector has provided management expertise and financial assistance. 'Most important has been the local villagers' knowledge of the issues as they are experienced in community life. Therefore the development reflects the real needs of the village,' according to Mr. Ballard.

The most innovative and challenging aspect of the Foundation's project will begin as the land development scheme nears completion. The Board of Directors are undertaking a planning brief that would outline all the improvement objectives for the economic, social and cultural life of the village. The brief will include special issues that will go beyond the scope of most village policies and practices and will set the standards for future village development in other parts of Hong Kong.

Some of the issues to be considered include a study of agricultural potential, transportation needs, economic base, education assistance, limitations to growth, local management and housing needs.

The Foundation has already begun this work by organising five committees.

The Management Committee will be responsible for the financial affairs and all correspondence of the Foundation. The Planning Committee will oversee the creation of the village master plan. The Community Centre Committee will oversee the construction of a new community centre and manage its use. The Social Service Committee will manage the dental clinic and investigate other areas for social service. The Pond Committee will negotiate to obtain control over the key village resource, the pond bordering the north side of the village which is now owned by people outside the village.

Each committee will consist of both Foundation Board members and interested villagers. Each will report monthly to the full meeting of the Board of Directors.

It was clear at the beginning that the Nam Wai Human Development project would be a demonstration project for the whole New Territories. According to Mr. Ballard, 'Nam Wai made a decision to pioneer community development methods so that others could learn from the efforts of the village. Once someone has shown the way, others quickly follow.'

by Josephine Martin





Temple recently built by the Yau clan in Nam Wai.





Members of the Hong Kong Branch of the Hong Kong Association led by Sir Y.K. Kan, Chairman, meet Messrs. R. Whitney (Conservative) and E. Lyons (Labour), British Members of Parliament visiting Hong Kong for the purpose of gathering information regarding the British Nationality Bill. After a lively meeting, the Hong Kong Association presented a submission to the two MP's before they returned to London.



The joint Chamber/HKTDC mission to the Middle East, seen here at Kai Tak Airport before departure. Chamber Senior Manager W.S. Chan is fourth from right.



The Director, Jimmy McGregor, Assistant Director, Ernest Leong, and West Europe Committee member, Margaret Williams discussed two way trade with the senior Turkish trade mission which visited Hong Kong recently. As a result it is likely that Turkey will figure in the Chamber's trade promotional programme for 1982.

The In-tray

New Members

Twenty-three companies joined the Chamber during February :

- B. Evershine Enterprises Ltd.
- Babco (Export) Inc.
- Banco Ambrosiano
- Banque Worms Hong Kong Branch
- Brother Garment Factory
- Brunswick International Ltd. - Hongkong Branch
- Credito Italiano - Regional Rep. for Asia-Pacific
- Crocker National Bank
- Future Trading Company
- Hua Guang Hang
- Interlingua Language Services Ltd.
- Lloyds (H.K.) Co.
- Marine Offshore (HK) Ltd.
- Normande & Company
- Protech Components Ltd.
- Pui Hing Garment Factory Ltd.
- Scandinavian Ships Supplies Ltd.
- Shing Cheong Electronics Ltd.
- Sieverts (Hong Kong) Ltd.
- Sunford Company
- Team Trading Company
- Vendex Pacific Ltd.
- Wen Yu Company

Stores of the World Directory

Newman Books Limited has published a Stores of the World Directory. The Directory is an international guide to export markets for selling consumer goods in 121 countries. Chamber members may obtain a 40% discount on the standard overseas retail price. The £ 26.40 discounted price (£44 less 40%) includes postage and packaging at surface mail rates. A surcharge would have to be applied in case of air mail. Members may place their orders to Newman Books Limited, 48 Poland Street, London W1V 4PP.

RIPA Course

A twelve week course (8 June - 28 August 1981) on Management and Information and Control Systems will be conducted by the Overseas Services Unit of the Royal Institute of Public Administration in London. The course is specially designed for national and international managers who are likely

to have responsibility for determining and evolving management information systems in their countries and for implementing them.

Speakers and discussion leaders for this course are drawn from a wide range of organisations in London (government, public, private and academic sectors). Emphasis is on delegate participation and involvement by means of work bench situations, case studies, syndicate work, visits and other projects.

For further detail, please contact Overseas Services Unit, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD.

AIM Top Management Programme 1981

The Asian Institute of Management has announced the schedule of its third Top Management Programme, which will begin on 1 June 1981. This one-month programme is designed primarily to meet the needs of the Chief Executive Officer and those who share his responsibility for policy formulation and decision-making. It has also been designed with the specific needs of the Asian manager in mind.

The programme, like other AIM programmes, is international in its composition, drawing participants from all the nations of the Southeast Asian area.

For further information, please contact The Programme Director, Top Management Programme, Asian Institute of Management, MCC P.O. Box 898, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Interpretation Need not be a Problem

Interlingua Language Services Ltd. offers a simultaneous interpreting and commercial translation service for Hong Kong based conferences, conventions or meetings. The company has over forty full-time translators and interpreters dealing with all European languages and a good portion of other languages including Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Russian. It also has interpreting equipments available for hire, lease or purchase.

For further information contact Interlingua Language Services, 701 Southland Building, 47 Connaught Road, C., Hong Kong.



Delegates from the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry met representatives from the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and Chinese Manufacturers Association to discuss promotion of two-way trade between Hong Kong and India, joint venture promotions and financial collaborations. Leader of the Indian delegacy was Mr. K. N. Modi (centre right), President of the Indian Chamber.



Mr. Sidney Fung, Chamber's Industry Promotion Manager, gives information about the Chamber during the AIESEC Careers Information Day at the University of Hong Kong.



Mr. Jimmy McGregor (second from left), Director, briefed company representatives about the Chamber's organisation and functions at the 'Meet the Chamber' reception. The reception was held to welcome companies which have recently joined the Chamber.



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Trade in Progress

Hong Kong Overall Merchandise Trade (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979	% Change
Imports	111,651	85,837	+30
Domestic Exports	68,171	55,912	+22
Re-Exports	30,072	20,022	+50
Total Exports	98,243	75,934	+29
Total Trade	209,894	161,771	+30
Balance of Trade	-13,408	-9,903	+35

Imports: Major Suppliers (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
Japan	25,644	19,320
China	21,948	15,130
USA	13,210	10,365
Taiwan	7,961	6,035
Singapore	7,384	4,821
UK	5,456	4,350
South Korea	3,869	2,529
Switzerland	2,897	2,592
Fed. Rep. of Germany	2,883	2,775
Australia	1,698	1,579

Imports : Major Groups (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
Raw materials and semi-manufactures	46,489	37,507
Consumer goods	29,469	21,530
Capital goods	16,055	12,156
Foodstuffs	12,065	9,968
Fuels	7,573	4,676

Domestic Exports : Major Market (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
USA	22,591	18,797
Fed. Rep. of Germany	7,384	6,344
UK	6,791	5,974
Japan	2,329	2,656
Australia	1,941	1,789
Singapore	1,791	1,413
Canada	1,782	1,637
China	1,605	603
Netherlands	1,575	1,406
France	1,407	1,004

Domestic Exports : Major Products (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
Clothing	23,258	20,131
Toys, dolls and games	5,944	5,156
Watches	5,204	3,516
Textiles	4,535	4,065
Radios	3,888	3,186
Electronic components for computer	1,437	778
Handbags	1,012	780
Hairdryers, curlers and curling tong heaters	786	551
Electric fans	657	275
Footwear	624	518

Re-exports : Major Markets (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
China	4,642	1,315
USA	3,085	1,995
Indonesia	2,761	1,684
Singapore	1,804	2,510
Taiwan	2,229	1,730
Japan	2,201	2,477
Macau	923	605
Philippines	904	677
South Korea	899	818
Nigeria	843	377

Re-exports : Major Products (HK\$M)

	Jan.-Dec. 1980	Jan.-Dec. 1979
Textiles	4,310	2,772
Chemicals and related products	2,817	2,201
Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies and optical goods, watches and clocks	2,810	1,802
Non-metallic mineral manufactures	2,388	2,379
Crude materials, inedible except fuels	2,373	1,580
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances and electrical parts	1,963	1,195
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	1,554	935
Food	1,418	1,220

Values and volume - monthly progress (all values in HK\$M)

	Imports		Domestic Exports		Re-exports		Total Trade
	Value	Quantum Index (1973:100)	Value	Quantum Index (1973:100)	Value	Quantum Index (1973:100)	
1978	60,056	152	40,711	150	13,197	145	116,964
1979	85,837	176	55,912	175	20,022	184	161,771
1980	111,651		68,171		30,072		209,894
Monthly Average							
1980	9,304		5,681		2,506		17,491
Jan. 1980	8,132	189	4,997	179	2,047	215	15,176
Feb.	7,124	166	4,131	147	1,788	187	13,043
Mar.	8,959	207	4,585	163	2,202	230	15,746
Apr.	9,537	220	5,389	190	2,303	239	17,228
May	9,456	216	5,968	208	2,527	260	17,951
June	8,824	199	6,079	210	2,378	243	17,281
July	9,193	206	6,087	207	2,423	245	17,703
Aug.	9,448	210	6,769	228	2,696	269	18,913
Sept.	9,388	207	5,980	200	2,782	275	18,150
Oct.	9,572	209	6,106	202	2,899	284	18,577
Nov.	10,901	238	5,893	196	2,933	285	19,727
Dec.	11,306		6,270		3,120		20,696

Area Comparison (HK\$M)

	Imports (Jan.-Dec. 1980)	Domestic Exports (Jan.-Dec. 1980)	Re-exports (Jan.-Dec. 1980)
South and East Asia (excluding China)	52,015	8,216	14,702
China	21,948	1,605	4,642
Europe	17,253	23,199	3,286
(EEC)	(14,224)	(19,435)	(2,421)
North America	13,993	24,374	3,266
Australia	1,698	1,941	431
Africa	1,582	2,747	1,566
Middle East	1,320	2,593	1,280
South America	492	1,255	276
Rest of world	1,350	2,241	623

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本會動態

由馬登任主席之民政事務委員會最近就英國新國籍法獲通過後，對港人地位影響的問題，進行考慮。結果，本會向英國內政大臣韋德羅呈交了以下的意見書，並且將意見書副本寄予港英兩地的各大工商組織及政府官員。

逕啓者：本人謹代表敝會二千五百個會員公司及香港工商界，向閣下表達我們對現正由英國會一個委員會專責討論的新國籍問題的幾點關注。

或者，本人應先略為介紹本人現任署理主席之機構性質。香港總商會是本港規模最大，最具影響力和代表性的私人工商組織。敝會擁有各行各業約二千五百個會員，其中大部份（約百分之七十五）為香港公私營的公司——以華人商行居多。此外，會員還包括若干以外籍人士佔多數董事席位的大機構集團。其餘百分之廿五則包括世界三十個不同國家的工商機構，其中以英國公司佔多數。

敝會為工商界發言頗具權威性，這點從行政立法兩局非官守議員及港府各諮詢委員會的知名人士，在敝會理事會及諮議會一向佔有顯要地位可以反映出來。敝會現屆主席是紐璧堅議員，紐氏身為怡和公司主席及行政局非官守議員。最近，他曾前往英國聆聽國會的新國籍法辯論。敝會與港府一向保持悠久密切的聯繫，且更被當局視為向工商界諮詢有關工商貿易，及其他影響本港發展等問題的權威機構。

相信閣下已知悉本港公私營組織對英新國籍法問題極表關注；有關各界提出的觀點和論據，閣下必定已熟悉。敝會對其意見大致贊同，現特就以下幾點提出討論：—

- (一) 敝會認為法案中撤消現行根據出生地點取得公民資格的建議，終會引起香港行政及政治上一個極端尷尬的問題。倘敝會理解這節條款正確的話，則凡中國籍或非英籍父母（不論是那一類）在港所出生的子女，今後將有可能喪失公民權而處於無國籍狀態。相信閣下定必知道，本港大部份人口雖為永久居民，但他們一般仍保留中國國籍，且通過合法移民的人數正在持續增加。雖則港方已向中國當局表示了對移民問題的關注，但香港似不可能完全拒絕中國移民來港。這批移民當中有不少正屆適婚及生育年齡，因此，港府將需面對關於在港中國移民所出生的子女國籍問題，因為他們將沒有資格成為英國公民或英國屬土公民或英國海外地區公民。雖然，他們可以保留名義上的中國國籍，但他們既選擇在港居留，這實質上是毫無意義的。唯一表面上的解決辦法，是中華人民共和國提高其在本港之官方代表地位（如以設立領事館的方式）。但年來，基於英政府深悉的原因，港府一直都堅決拒絕了這項發展。
- (二) 法案中提議將香港公民定為「英國屬土公民」，對英國殖民地居民今後出國可能引起之限制及不便，是港人頗感顧慮的。這些顧慮已獲得第三國家領事館的非正式聲明証實。香港公民被劃分為英國屬土公民雖可能對來往港英之間沒有影響，但我們所關注的，是第三國家可能因此新國籍法而限制港人現有的旅遊自由。顯然，不論英政府在這方面持有任何態度，亦不一定會對第三國家產生影響。作為一個促進貿易的組織，敝會深知目前經常出國公幹的「身份證明書」（非護照）持有人在需要辦理入境簽證上的問題。敝會認為，香港公民一旦成為「英國屬土公民」，問題加深確有實際可能。
- (三) 三者，敝會認為法案中建議，只准英國公民在海外出生的第二代子女按例自動成為英國公民，將使很多現正或暫時在海外工作的英國公民子女的國籍有問題。很多英國人雖仍與英國保持密切關係，但實際上，他們的上幾代已移居國外，以致他們自己並非在英國出生。此項新條款可能使他們的子女及後代喪失英國公民權。然而，法案中對僑居海外的英國政府公務員及英國聯屬私營機構僱員的後代，則有規定可以登記為英國公民。敝會認為，「英國公司」定義未明，實無以減輕有關人士的顧慮。舉例而言，若干在港註冊的龐大機構向有聘用英國外籍僱員的傳統，它們不論直接或間接都對英國經濟作出了實際貢獻。這些公司在法律上可否稱為英國公司是值得仔細考慮的重點。至於在非英國公司（如美國石油公司或日本銀行）工作的英國公民，問題就更加深一層。我們懇請英政府考慮到這些人士的國籍問題，確保新法案不論其出生地點，容許他們的子女承受英國公民權利。
- (四) 最後，關於英國屬土居民取得英國公民資格的居留期問題，敝會支持港府提出應將居留期由五年減為三年的意見。

以上乃敝會所關注的各項要點。在此，應再指出英國新國籍法引起了港人極大的關注及疑慮，（不論其是否有事實根據）。英國會最近提出聲明謂，英國對香港的責任承擔保持不變，並未能減輕港人的疑慮。現行的移民國籍法例看來恰當可行。鑒於英政府聲稱對本港之責任保持不變，同時，為着港英雙方的利益，敝會看不出為何要修訂現行法例。就香港而言，敝會相信新國籍法所引起的問題比解決的還多，事實上，確難看出新法例會有任何的利益。

敝會已將本函副本寄予對香港事務尤感興趣的英國會議員，香港工商協會之倫敦總會與香港分會會員，及港府的有關官員。

希望閣下會注意到敝會的關注，同時，更希望國會在辯論新國籍法案時，對上述各點意見予以考慮。

此致

英國內政大臣 韋德羅

一九八一年二月四日

香港總商會署理主席馬登謹啓

葡萄牙加入歐洲經濟共同體—— 能應付市場競爭嗎？

葡萄牙加入歐洲經濟共同體的企圖，將使該國經濟有突飛猛進的發展。此項行動引起了新挑戰，然而，要遵守歐洲經濟共同體的規則，則必需作出極大的努力。葡萄牙希望加入共同體會促進經濟穩定。

葡萄牙與共同體的關係始於該國與歐洲經濟共同體及歐洲煤鋼聯營簽訂協議。於一九七二年七月達成的協議，旨在為葡萄牙與歐洲共市之間的工業產品成立一個自由貿易區。

兩年後，葡萄牙實行民主立憲制，使該國根據巴黎及羅馬條約不得加入歐洲經濟共同體的政治障礙消除。這就是葡國與共同體加強聯盟的經過。

一九七六年九月，兩項草約或協議在布魯塞爾簽訂。一項是附加草約，同意對若干去銷共市的葡萄牙貨品給予較大的關稅特許。另一項是融資草約，歐洲經濟共同體向葡萄牙貸款二百萬計算單位，資助其發展投資計劃，貸款期限為五年。

一九七七年三月廿八日，葡萄牙政府正式申請加入歐洲經濟共同體。由於葡國的經濟範疇較小，其加入對共同體不會有重大影响。但歐洲共同體認為，在歐洲綜合化過程中把葡萄牙孤立，必會對該國造成重大政治影响，而且葡萄牙的加入必將鞏固歐洲理想。預料葡萄牙將由一九八三年起，成為歐洲經濟共同體的正式會員。

加入歐洲經濟共同體將給予葡萄牙進入世界最大自由貿易市場的機會。這對該國推行農工業現代化，必定

會有促進作用。另一方面，葡萄牙亦終於可在沒有限制的情況下，向共同體開放其市場。

葡萄牙加入後，能否與歐洲的先進工業競爭？其經濟結構對今後發展的適應能力又如何？

農業——過去發展受困阻

葡萄牙是個農業國家，約有三分之一的勞動力受僱於農業。然而，該國的糧食並未能自給自足。年來，葡萄牙都極需要依賴其他國家供應食品。每年的糧食進口量皆比產量為多。一九七八年，糧食佔入口總值約達百分之十三。

由於共市價格較高，該國的食品供應大部份來自非歐洲經濟共同體成員國。葡國政府一向對小麥、玉蜀黍、高粱、油籽及糖進口給予津貼，以保障消費者免受世界市場食品價格高漲的影响。

據歐洲經濟共同體規則，一旦葡萄牙成為正式會員，它就必須終止津貼措施，而且須決定是否停止在共市以外採購糧食，抑或向共同體繳納徵款。

葡萄牙農業是傳統的作業，生產率低主要是因地理環境使然——大部份地帶多石、土壤貧瘠及雨量不足。近十五年來，建設水堤、灌溉系統、運河及抽水站，已成為葡國的優先考慮事項。新農作物雖曾引進，但與共同體的其他成員國比較，生產率仍低。

工業——規模細小

工業化永遠是經濟發展的推動力。為要加速經濟增長，葡萄牙必需引進精良科技。

葡國工業的規模極小，大部份工廠（十居其八）的僱員人數不足五十名，其中只有百分之一點五的工廠僱用超過五百名工人。港商永新企業有限公司在葡萄牙設有四間附屬公司，製造羊毛針織及成衣，僱員總數達一千二百名。

加入高度競爭性的歐洲市場，可能使多個葡國工業遭受重大的存在困難。有些工業可能會消失，而其他則或需要支持，方可提高生產質素，適應較廣大的市場。

推行工業化的過程將不會容易，它不單只需要大量資金，而且還需要高資格的技術統治專家。葡萄牙並不能單獨應付上述需求，它必須依賴歐洲經濟共同體的協助。

貿易——赤字持續出現

雖則一九七八及七九年的出口增長較進口迅速，但葡萄牙的貿易差額顯示，該國仍出現淨赤字。繼七五及七六兩年的縮減後，七七年的葡國出口貿易已告復甦。七八及七九年的出口增長率分別為百分之十九點三三及百分之四十四點一，而同期的進口增長則分別為百分之五點七七及百分之廿四點六。儘管出口紀錄得可觀增長



農業仍需依賴體力勞動。



南部飼養的羊羣是供紡織業及本地肉食需求。

，但七九年葡萄牙的總貿易赤字仍高達三十億五千萬美元，較七八年的廿八億二千萬美元赤字增加百分之八。

葡國與歐洲經濟共同體之貿易，亦以進口比出口為大。一九七九年，歐洲經濟共同體佔葡國出口總值百分之五十六點九四，同期間，葡國百分之四十一點五五的進口是來自共同體的成員國。

葡萄牙的主要出口計有紡織品、成衣、鞋類、軟木、紙張、農產品如番茄醬、砵酒、餐酒及非金屬礦物。上述產品佔出口總值逾三分之二。主要入口項目則包括石油產品、機器、運輸工具及農作物如小麥及玉蜀黍。

過渡時期——征服障礙

葡萄牙如要利用歐洲經濟共同體範圍以內的經濟發展機會，則必須改革國內的經濟結構。為使工業能對共市劇烈競爭作好積極應戰準備，葡國重整經濟必須經過一個過渡時期。

葡萄牙在多方面都佔有比較的優勢。大片的土地仍未開發。葡國政府為加入歐洲經濟共同體作出的準備計劃包括：開拓東北部的 TRÁS-OS-MONTES 偏僻地區，大規模的造林計劃及整頓空置的土地。

葡國擁有豐富的礦床如硫化礦、岩鹽及石灰。此外，葡萄牙製造的高級紡織品及成衣亦享有盛譽。產品如葡萄酒、番茄醬、橄欖油、紙漿及軟木等，已在歐洲經濟共同體奠定了良

好的市場。

與歐洲經濟共同體的工資水平比較，葡國的工資甚為低廉。但若然葡國工資不調升至可與共同體國家比較的水平，則預料會出現勞工調動的問題。

預期加入歐洲經濟共同體，已為葡國開拓了籌措資金的新來源。除獲共同體給予經濟支援外，外資的流動亦告增加。

一九八〇年，葡萄牙議訂了多項計劃，其中包括：—

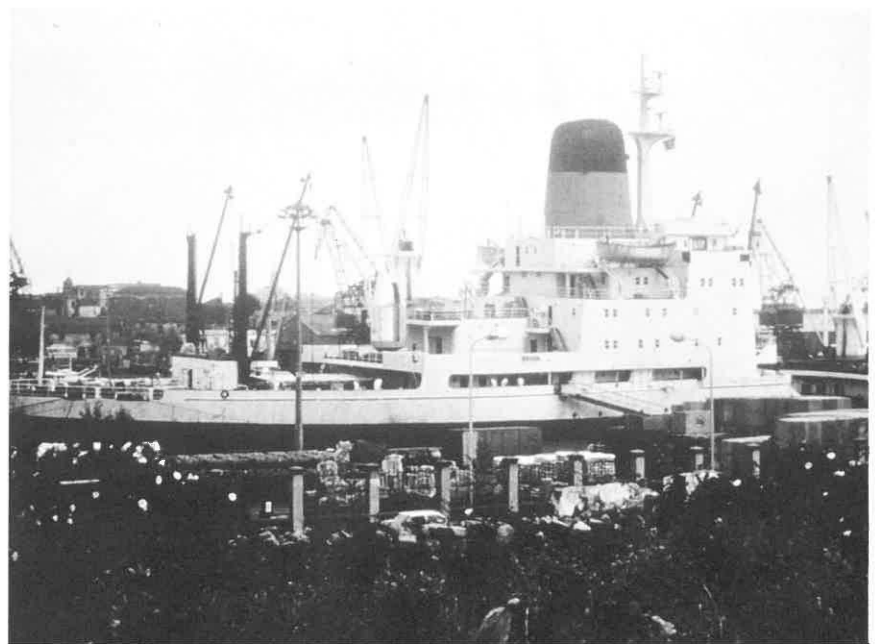
— 葡萄牙國營公司與通用汽車公司簽

訂合約，在葡國設廠生產，投資額約為五千六百萬美元。

— 葡萄牙與法國 DBA 公司達成協議，建設廠房製造及裝配汽車附件，投資額約達一億五千萬美元。

— 葡萄牙與“ESSO PROSPECCAO E PRODUCAO ALGARVE SARL”（EXXON 集團聯屬機構）簽訂合約，授權該公司在 ALGARVE 大陸高原一帶進行堪探及鑽油工程，投資額約達一千三百萬美元。

— 成立“YOSHIDA PORTUGUESA



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Ask the Australian Trade Commissioner

葡萄牙基本經濟資料比較

葡萄牙雖與最大的歐洲經濟共同體國家相距甚遠，但亦決非最細小的國家。然而，在若干方面，葡萄牙卻比其較大或較小的經濟夥伴國落後。為給予讀者正確透視，本刊現就若干主要方面，將葡萄牙與西德（歐洲經濟共同體大國之一）及愛爾蘭共和國（較小成員國之一）作一比較。

	葡萄牙	西德	愛爾蘭共和國
面積（平方哩）	34,861	95,994	26,600
人口（百萬計）	9.8	61.1	3.3
國家生產總值（十億美元）	20.1	759.0	14.8
個人生產總值（美元）	2,051	12,422	4,485
國民收入（十億美元）	18.9	674.7	13.3
製造業佔國家生產總值百分率（%）（1978）	32.9	37.7	28.1
出口總值（1979離岸價，百萬美元）	3,480	171,887	7,175
入口總值（1979離岸價，百萬美元）	6,534	159,711	9,858
主要出口市場 （1979年出口總值百分率%）	英國(18.1) 西德(12.7) 法國(10.0)	法國(12.7) 荷蘭(9.9) 比利時及盧森堡 經濟聯盟(8.5)	英國(46.4) 西德(8.8) 法國(8.1)
主要入口供應國 （佔1979年入口總值百分率%）	西德(12.4) 美國(11.1) 英國(9.1)	荷蘭(12.3) 法國(11.3) 意大利(8.8)	英國(50.0) 美國(8.5) 西德(7.5)
國家儲備總值 （1979年6月，百萬美元）	1,472	57,241	2,247

LDA”，資本約六百萬美元，全部由日本 YOSHIDA 集團擁有。主要業務為製造及銷售塑膠拉鍊。

—成立“BILLITON PORT-UGUESA-

DESENVOLVIMENTO

MINEIRO, LDA”，進行一級礦床的堪探及開採工程。

葡萄牙還獲一個國際銀行財團貸款三億五千萬美元，資助其公共及私人投資計劃。此外，國內設立的銀行及投資公司數目亦正在增加。去年初，大通銀行在葡萄牙開設了海外辦事處。

投資湧入顯示葡萄牙的前途一片光明。它增加了可供發展工業的資本，並為科技進展鋪路。不單只現有工業的生產能量可以提高，新工業計劃亦可以付諸實行。工業發展將可吸引源源不絕的海外資金，此乃葡國政府及人民的期望。

「工商月刊」最近訪問葡萄牙駐港總領事及副領事，談論有關葡國申請加入歐洲經濟共同體及港葡雙邊貿易問題。

“葡萄牙可作為香港的貿易轉口港”

□閣下認為目前葡萄牙的經濟情況如何？

■近期葡萄牙的經濟情況已有改善。我們已減低了通貨膨脹率，大量增加出口和吸引投資。葡國雖仍出現貿易赤字，幸而無形收益如僑民滙款及旅遊業等，可以彌補有形赤字。我們目前的主要目標是加入共同市場，我們希望葡萄牙可於一九八三年，成為歐洲經濟共同體的會員國。

□閣下認為葡萄牙能夠遵守歐洲經濟共同體的規則嗎？

■我們現正致力調整經濟結構，及推行農工業現代化計劃。我們大概需要一段授予特別特許的過渡時期，葡國與歐洲共同市場的談判正在進行中。現時，我們已獲得全體會員國的支持，並且得到歐洲經濟共同體的貸款及技術援助。相信我們必定會成功。

□依你看，葡萄牙加入歐洲經濟共同體會造成什麼影響？

■從經濟觀點看，影響不大。葡萄牙的經濟規模相信不會引起歐洲經濟共同體任何的問題。但葡萄牙的加入，將有重大的政治影響。葡萄牙是個歐洲國家，與共市國家有非常密切的政治，社會及文化聯繫。就如我們不能讓歐洲沒有葡萄牙一樣，我們不能讓葡萄牙這樣一個國家脫離民主歐洲。

□對葡萄牙本國的影響又如何？

■加入共市對葡萄牙將有重大影響。我認為，這些影響是積極的。它將使葡萄牙產生質量上的急劇轉變，為經濟發展開拓新境界，並且加強國內的民主組織機構及其制度。葡萄牙成為歐洲經濟共同體會員，將可帶來更佳的繁榮機會。

□在一九七八及七九年間，葡萄牙在港葡雙邊貿易中享有盈餘。在八〇年一月至八月間，香港略有順差。閣下認為這項轉變的原因何在？

■七八至七九年間，香港對葡萄牙的出口增加了百分之一百四十七。去年首八個月內，出口再度增加百分之一百零一。葡萄牙在港葡貿易中不再享有盈餘非因該國對香港減少出口，（反之，葡國對本港的出口正在上升），而是因為香港的出口增長遠超葡萄牙的比率。談及港對葡國的出口貿易，我們當然把出口及轉口計算在內。

□閣下認為葡萄牙在本港有何投資及貿易機會？

■香港作為出口及進口地均有極大的發展潛力。葡萄牙現正着意研究利用澳門作為遠東區的轉口港。中葡建立外交關係及中國的新政策使澳門地位穩定，經濟日趨繁榮。隨着葡國商人注意澳門的貿易，他們亦必然會注意到香港的市場機會。

□閣下認為港商在葡萄牙會有可觀的貿易投資機會嗎？

■是的。葡萄牙可為香港提供龐大的市場機會。葡國加入共同市場，即意謂經濟單位擴大。我們不應忘記葡萄牙與非洲的葡語國家，如前殖民地安哥拉、莫三鼻及、幾內亞比紹等，仍有非常密切的關係。因此，葡萄牙可作為香港對該等國家的貿易轉口港。

□本港出口商如何能擴大他們在葡萄牙市場的佔有率？

■香港對葡萄牙的主要出口是玩具、洋娃娃、收音機、鐘錶、攝影器材及電機儀器。這些產品皆可以在葡萄牙擴展銷路。港商應考慮組織貿易團訪問葡萄牙，尋求加強貿易的可能性——不單只是推銷，還有採購。我們相信他們的訪問必會成功。

“……一個獲中央政府 授權的城市管理機構”

若干人士已體會到地方行政白皮書的出現，將對市政局的未來造成威脅。「工商月刊」最近訪問了在職八年的香港市長沙理士先生。在言談間，他表示對市政局過去的成就感到自豪。他的前景樂觀態度當然顯示，即使是有疑慮，亦將屬輕微。



沙理士先生

市政局主席沙理士先生稱：「凡呈交市政局的計劃建議，都必定會獲得支持、修訂或拒絕。但本局絕不會把計劃擱置，耽誤時間。這就是本局的行政要旨。」

他強調指出，市政局响往把事情辦妥。他稱：「一向以來，我都喜歡先採行動，後作談論。」

但沙氏又指稱，該局辦事亦必須考慮到成本效率的問題。過去十年間，政府建設增加了百分之五，而市局雖則以推行勞工密集職務為主，但近七年來的建設項目僅增百分之二點二。

與沙氏談話經常引起兩個話題。其一是他強調市局的實際商務式工作手法，其二是他對市局的工作成就感到自豪。

沙氏經常把香港與世界相提並論，或者，這就是他多年來從青年商會國際工作經驗所得的自然結果。“在世界各大城市中”，“與海外城市比較”，“世上沒有其他城市……”等語句，常出自他的口中。

香港的地位現可與波士頓、伯明罕及曼谷等城市比較作評價，而且比較結果一般令人滿意。

沙氏稱：「去年九月，假美國舉行的“世界大城市”會議，曾盛大展出香港的成功史。」

他續稱：「香港是獲波士頓邀請

參加其三百五十週年市慶的三十六個城市的其中一個。市政局放映了一套介紹“香港發展”的錄影片。此外，並派發特別刊物及舉行了一個香港的攝影展覽。我們還設免費美點，款待各國代表。我們所給予的印象，是香港是個有條理及管理妥善的城市。」

但比較並非只為確定香港在世界聯盟中所處的地位，其主要目的是在評估香港應從那方面向世界學習。

沙氏稱：「市政局必須保持思想門戶開放，使市民不致在受包圍的環境下養成閉關自守的思想。他們生存必須把目光看遠。通過藝術知識和欣賞提高市民生活價值的觀念，非常重要。」

沙理士先生由一九七三年起出任市政局主席，他於一九五七年獲委任為市政局議員。此外，他亦為香港總商會服務最悠久的一個工作委員。直至六十年代中期，他一直為出口委員會之成員，現任總商會諮議會委員。

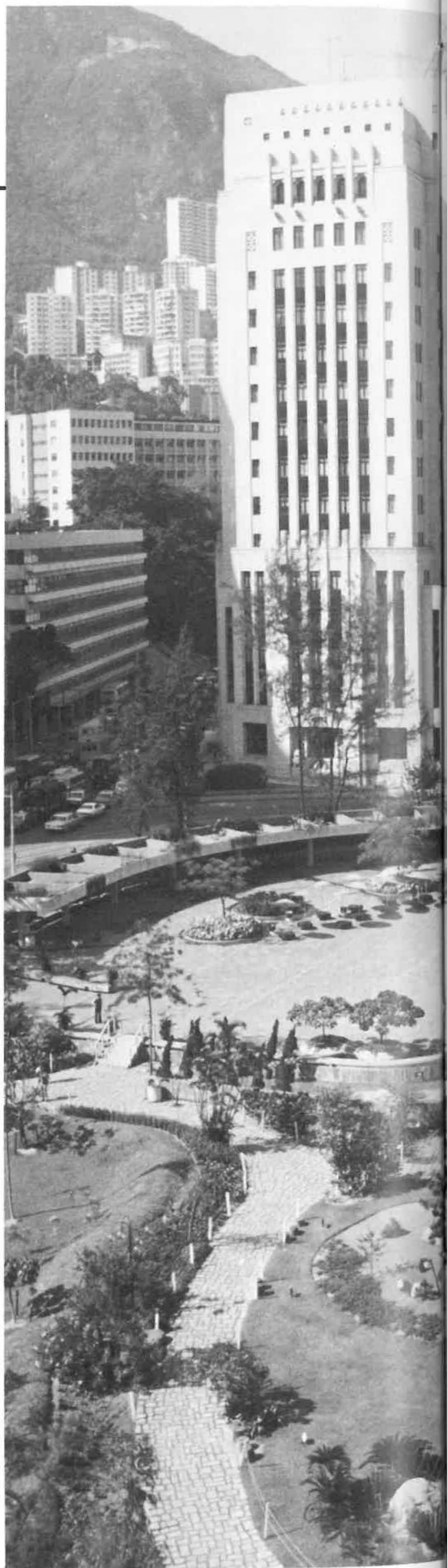
沙氏把市政局視作多個參與香港社會整體發展的機構之一。它是個獲中央政府授權的城市管理機構，其主要職務可以歸納為三大類：一環境衛生、體育康樂設施及文化服務。

然而，香港是個獨特的城市，有獨特的問題。本港面積約四百零九平方哩，人口達五百多萬，但大多數市民聚居的面積卻不及四十平方哩。

沙氏稱：「本港問題的最終分析，皆歸結到地狹人稠的因素。人煙稠密所引起的問題，是低人口密度居住環境所沒有的。」

市區土地缺乏迫使市政局採用獨特的辦法，去改善香港的環境。在這方面，它不斷創新，以求提高本港的生活水準。

沙氏稱：「目前，港人對香港日漸成為世界一個最現代化的城市，可以感到自豪。」



中區遮打花園



市政局的新街市政策，是個具代表性的創新方法。最新興建的街市大廈，皆為多種用途的高層大廈。在同一大廈內，除有街市的應有設備外，更提供文化、康樂和其他市政服務設施，例如圖書館、閱讀室、遊戲場、地區文化中心，內有可供地區委員會上演話劇、音樂表演及其他節目的設施，大廈天台闢作兒童遊樂場。除現

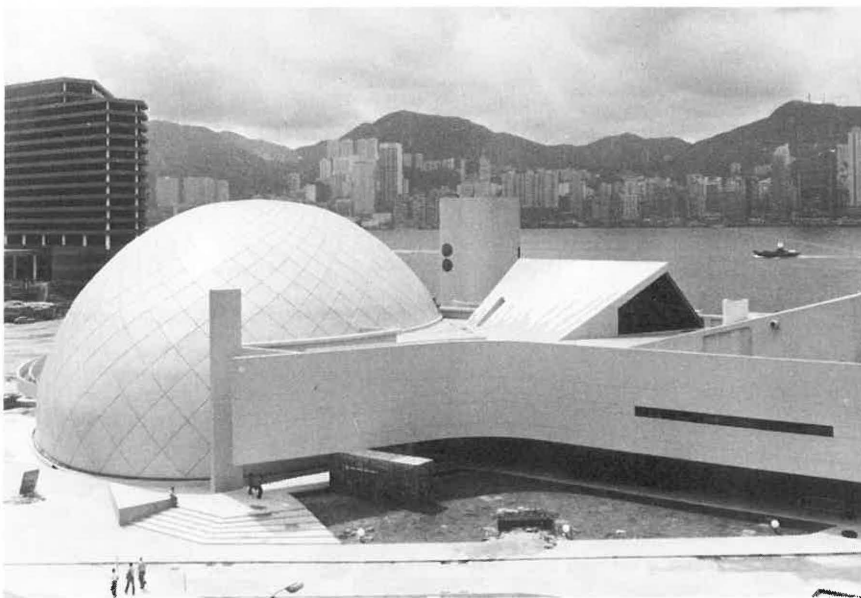
有的四十六座公眾街市外，去年已落成或在建築中的新街市大廈共有五座。

你可知道香港現已在赤柱開設了第一所使用太陽能加熱的公眾浴室。倘試驗證實成功，市政局將在其他公眾設施裝置同樣系統，以削減燃料成本。

市局並沒有忘記若干生活上的基本舒適需要。沙氏稱：「世界上最昂



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據他稱，約二十年前，當市局開始發展體育康樂設施之時，本港只有幾個公眾兒童遊樂場；此外，並沒有藍球場、排球場……。他續稱：「我們認為每個兒童都應有嬉戲的權利。」儘管本港土地缺乏，市局現時已在港九設置了一百四十八個兒童遊樂場。此外，該局並積極在各區闢建公眾泳池及其他各項體育設施。

市政局把康樂事務放在重要地位，幾乎各主要體育項目都設有常務小組委員會。凡主辦任何體育項目，各主要體育團體領導人都會聚集，就主辦計劃向市局提供指導和意見。沙氏稱：「我從未聽聞世界任何國家能使體育領袖與政府機構之間有如此密切的合作關係。」

自一九五八年起，市局亦贊助由業餘體育協會及世運委員會每年主辦的體育節。目前，共有三十五個不同的體育團體參與該體育節，比賽項目達六十多項，參賽者約六萬人，而觀眾人數則超過三十萬名。

市局的另一項創新，是去年八月落成啓用的伊利沙伯體育館。該館是個地盡其用，可供體育及娛樂的多種用途體育館。館內全部空氣調節，裝置有電腦化計分板及流動式電子計分儀器。其表演場乃經過特別設計，可以隨時將舞台設備搬進場內，舉行娛樂節目。該館的建築費達五千萬元，被視為東南亞國家同類體育館中最優秀的一個。另一個規模更大的體育館將位於紅磡火車總站對上的平台上，現時該工程尚在興建中。

藝術活動開支龐大，是市政局一個易受抨擊的目標。沙氏解釋稱，香港大多數人都沒有機會出國。即使以遊客身份前往，他們亦未必一定會參觀或欣賞到當地的音樂會、藝術館、博物館或話劇。

因此，市局主動邀請海外藝術家及表演者來港，使市民有機會認識其他國家的不同藝術及文化。

在一九七九至八〇年的財政年度內，市局共贊助了本港九十三個不同的文化團體。市政局主辦的第五屆亞洲藝術節成績卓越。中國、澳洲及紐西蘭藝術家首次來港參加演出。超過二千名來自孟加拉、印度、印尼、日



灣仔運動場

本、韓國、菲律賓、新加坡、斯里蘭卡、泰國、土耳其及香港的藝術家，共表演了一百四十六個項目。

此外，市局亦為市民提供免費公眾娛樂節目。在亞洲藝術節舉行期間，除有節目在大會堂演出外，局方亦在港九各區推出戶外表演節目，免費供市民欣賞。

一項觀眾調查顯示，前往大會堂參觀節目的大多數為二十九歲以下的人士。該項調查又顯示，觀眾一貫是來自中等或中下入息階層。沙氏稱：「我認為這是我們的成功。我們把他們帶出了生活的小圈子，通過藝術使他們體會更高的生活價值、成就標準及人類的心靈的表達。」

市政局成立了一個粵語話劇團。該團除演出中國話劇外，還演出翻譯的西洋名劇。沙氏稱：「我年青時也曾參加過戲劇演出……我支持戲劇因為我了解戲劇。」

市局成立的中樂團亦有良好的聲譽。團員獲局方供應中國傳統的套裝鞋服，其受歡迎的程度從各場演出的滿座票房紀錄可見一斑。

該局現正籌備成立一個職業舞蹈團。

耗資六千萬元建設的太空館，是市局最龐大的計劃之一。它是世界上最先進及設備最完善的太空博物館。該館透過氣象節目、展覽會、公開講座、天文學課程及望遠鏡觀察等形式，為市民介紹太空探險和有關科學的知識。沙氏稱，該館為太空時代青年提供教育，以及包羅萬廣的宇宙知識。太空館成為了矗立尖沙咀海傍的一座雄偉建築。

從沙氏談市政局的前景，尤其就地方行政白皮書而言，可使人體會他個人對公共服務的一些基本信念。他了解直接代議制的需要，並深切關注市民福利及他們參與的權利。然而，他對現有試圖實踐目標的方法，却存有懷疑。

他指出：「競爭因素將起作用，地區利益分配將出現競爭。譬如說，我是來自港島東區，你是來自港島西區；我們將為金錢競爭，因為有關地區的市民將敦促我們這樣做。」

「對如香港這樣一個競爭性的社會來說，這或許是好的；但另一方面，它却可能使市局分裂和貶低其市務工作效果。」

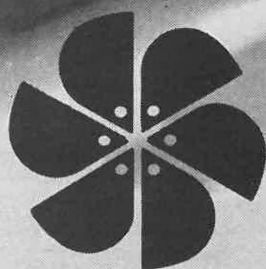
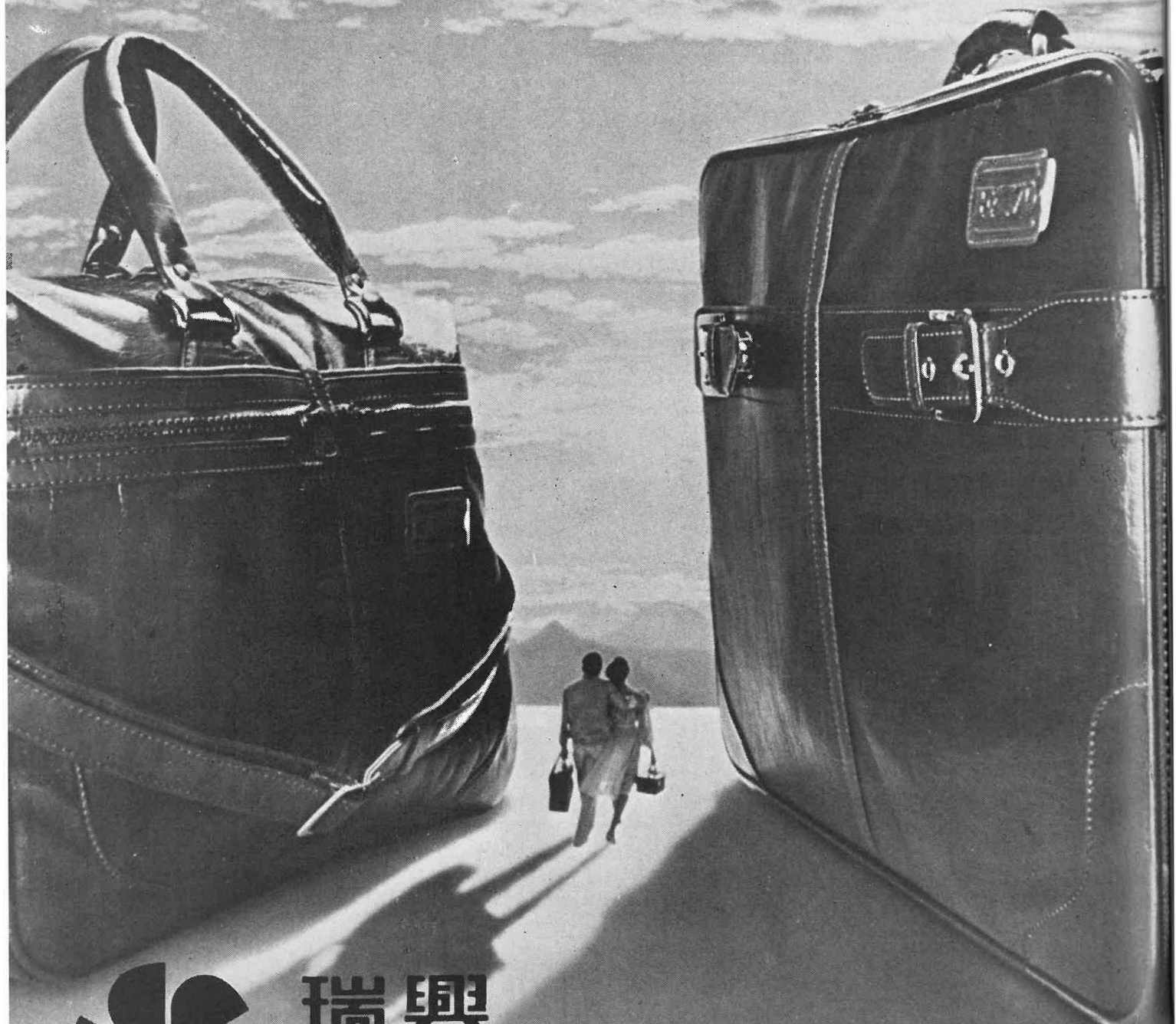
「從基督教的社會哲學觀點看，我認為白皮書是一項好的行動——其所應用的附屬原則，就是將附屬權利下放，使市民得以行使。」

「在香港這樣一個地方，權力並不出現。如果你願意這樣理解的話——權力是以整體或者甚至專制方式行使。但市民應有機會決定他們本區所需要的環境。」

在如香港這樣一個政治社會中，市民真正有意參與地方行政的究竟達到什麼程度？

沙氏就此問題表示：「這是我常自問的一個問題。過去我曾說過，我們不能對香港採取呆板的政治手法——如根據英國、澳洲及其他地方政治經驗所得的辦法，來應用於香港或任何其他地方，皆未必恰當。在試圖擬訂任何一項行政制度，本地的觀念、歷史的政治經驗、人民的傳統、習俗和慣例等，皆不可被忽視。」

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市政局舉辦之活動及計劃

環境衛生

港島和九龍區的一般街道每日清掃四至八次。市政局經常僱用三千多名人員日以繼夜執行清潔街道職務。

市局免費為市民收集垃圾。該局備有一支收集垃圾的新型車隊，為數超過二百六十輛，差不多全部均有壓縮裝置。

市政局亦負責防治蟲鼠服務。該局屬下從事防治蟲鼠工作的員工超過六百六十人。這種工作的技術指導和其他輔助性服務，是由市政事務署的防治蟲鼠諮詢小組負責提供。

市政局食物衛生事務委員會是負責有關食物管制及銷售事宜。所有菜館、食品製造廠、新鮮糧食店（肉食店）、燒味滷味店、凍房和製造牛奶及冰凍糖食的店舖，必須領有牌照和接受該委員會視察，以確保維持良好的衛生水準。

市政局的環境衛生訓練學校於去年八月開幕，對合資格衛生督察的訓練有重大貢獻。受訓督察獲頒發之文憑資格獲得英國方面承認。據主席沙理士說，衛生督察經常保持高度的工作水準。他稱：「事實上，一位醫生曾表示，若非因為衛生督察的高度工作效率，市民在人口密度高的環境下易感染熱帶疾病，實屬難免。」

市政局亦負責屠場工作，檢查進出口食物及處理簽發酒牌事宜。

泳池

一九七八年間，市政局贏得世界泳壇的最高榮譽——國際業餘游泳協會的「最高榮譽獎」，是為獎勵該局在推展本港水上運動方面所作的貢獻。此獎乃第一次頒予一個城市。

市局各泳館共有公眾泳池六十五個，其中十七個為五十米泳池——符合世運標準的泳池。該局在一處泳館設有多個特種用途的泳池，例如有專供幼童嬉水的小池，比賽用的主池及獨立跳水池等。

耗資一千八百七十萬元興建的最新泳館位於柴灣，於去年六月開放。該館附設有公園、看台及餐廳。館內設有八個泳池，其五十米主池并設有電子計時系統。此外，該館還有適合傷殘人士用的特別泳池設備。

主要康樂體育計劃

一香港網球中心乃全港規模最大的，位於黃泥涌峽道，在去年十月開放。該中心共有十七個網球場，建築費達五百萬港元。此外，該中心亦設有更衣室、沖身室、停車場及小食部。市局在港九五處公園尚設有其他三十六個網球場。

市政局在香港仔設有公眾的田賽設備。此外，市區內還有六個賽跑場，包括灣仔運動場在內。

一維多利亞公園的擴建及重新發展。此項計劃的建築費估計約達一千七百萬元。市局準備建設六個網球場，兩個練習牆，一個草地足球場，一個六線一百米長的田徑場，緩步跑道，室內運動場及多種用途的全天候遊樂場。

一耗資五千三百萬元在九龍荔枝角興建一座公園。園內設有泳館及室內運動場。

一重新發展該局位於九龍之界限街運動場，預算經費逾五百萬元。重建計劃包括足球練習場，休憩花園，更衣室及辦公室。

一露天室內單車競技場將設於海洋公園入口處對面。預算經費超過五千五百萬元。該競技場將設有符合國際標準，長逾三百三十三米的木跑道。此外，亦會設有可容六千名觀眾的看台。其他設備將包括電子計分板，跑道地下隧道，更衣室及洗手間。

一位於九龍石硤尾的瀑布公園。此項建設工程已包括在石硤尾公園的第二期發展計劃中。園內將設有可舉行露天音樂會、青年藝術展覽及市局公眾娛樂節目的廣場。其他設備將包括海上小食部、兒童遊樂場、網球場、更衣室及洗手間、涼亭、帳篷、假山及植樹區。

一高山道公園。預算經費超過五千萬元。園內將有露天劇場，小型足球場，四個網球場，一個兒童遊樂場及設有噴水池的美化休憩花園。

一耗資八百萬元在九龍京士柏公園建設草地曲棍球場，內有可容一千名觀眾的看台。

推廣圖書館

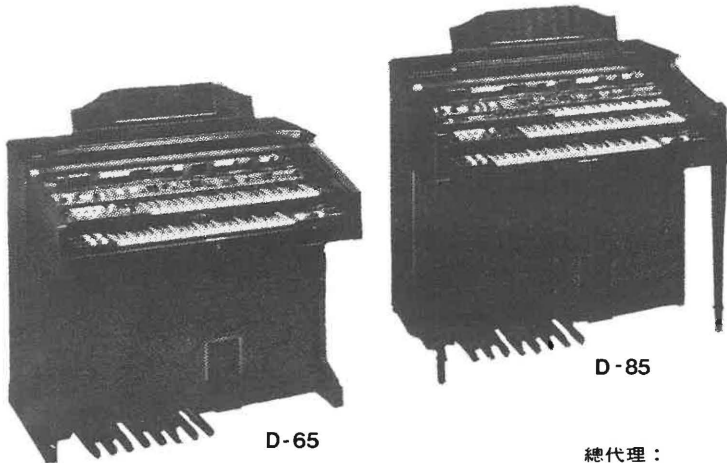
推廣圖書館服務是市政局另一項主要工作範圍。該局現開設有十一間圖書館及兩所流動圖書館。市局圖書館提供全面性的設施，例如溫習室、視聽器材、卡式錄影帶、音樂欣賞及顯微膠卷等。此外，圖書館亦經常舉行流動式藝術展覽，及主辦藝術及急救課程。推廣的活動包括興趣小組，任何人士均可參加戲劇、攝影、繪畫或設計等活動。

今年，市局在北角開設了一所新圖書館。另一間圖書館計劃在九龍灣德福花園開設。



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英國經濟展望

由今期開始，「工商月刊」將刊載一系列有關英國經濟的專文。作者諾克斯（F. KNOX）先生為本刊之海外特約撰稿員，現任著名英國大學（OPEN UNIVERSITY, MILTON KEYNES）經濟系講師。他的著作有「消費者與經濟」、「共同市場與世界」、「政府與發展」及「經濟發展中的勞工供應」。

一般經濟評論家都認為，一九八一年間的英國失業率會持續上升，年底時之失業人數接近三百萬名——百分之十四。失業對英國有重大的政治意義，下次大選日期為一九八四年五月。假使相隔十八個月時間，減稅才會對失業產生具體影響，英政府則宜於今年有所行動。一九八二年財政預算是政府為影響八四年初以前經濟所可以實行的最新政策。然而，觀察家幾乎一致認為，一九八一年預算將對總需求產生中性或略帶通脹緊縮的影響，原因是通脹率下降緩慢。在八〇年一月至十二月間，通脹率僅由百分之二十點三降至百分之十五。此外，公營部門的借貸需求極高，達一百三十五億英鎊，較去年四月財政年度開始時之估計超出五十億英鎊。因此，抑制通貨膨脹仍是政府經濟政策的當前急務。

不單只是預算的總體需求影響，就算是其內容也可以作出粗略預測。英國首相戴卓爾夫人曾聲稱不會增加個人入息稅，但應課稅的最低入息限額未因通脹劇烈作出調整，則個人入息稅負擔仍有加重的可能。事實上，這正是一般所意料的。此外，煙酒稅按通脹情況調高及其他間接稅略增的可能性亦甚大。除抑制通貨膨脹外，財政預算的大體目的是藉加重個人方面的負擔，減輕工商界所受的壓迫（七九至八〇年間，工資、利息及匯率劇升，使利潤大受打擊），因為至少那些仍就業人士的境況尚好。再者，政府亦必定會繼續努力削減公共開支，目前這方面的成績仍欠理想。當局將通過維持現有稅率或加稅措施，而非削減政府開支，達到減低公營部門借貸需求的目的。事實上，公營部門借貸需求增加五十億英鎊，主要是因出乎意料的嚴重衰退造成。只要產量及就業人數復增，這項需求就會自然下降——政府將可減少失業津貼福利開支，並可獲得較高的稅收。但此情況相信直至一九八二年才會出現。減輕工商界負擔措施將以下列一個或數個形式實行：削減僱主對國家保險計劃的供款，削減公司稅或提高投資鼓勵，給予小企業更大的援助。

一九八〇年英國經濟最顯著的特色，是失業率增長較預期為高。一月份的失業人數為一百四十七萬一千，而八月份的數字已衝破二百萬大關，時至八一年一月，失業人數達至二百四十萬，相當於勞動力人口的百分之

十。在去年十一月發表的最新經濟預測中，英財政部曾預料衰退可望於今年春達到底點，但現況顯示轉捩點將會遲現。鑒於尚相隔六至十二個月的時間，產量才會轉增，失業人數減少，相信必定要到一九八二年時，失業率才會顯著下降。

儘管八一年底失業人數接近三百萬的可能性甚大，但如悲觀派預測失業增長將持續至八二年，達到三百五十萬的水平，則是理由不充分的。這裏，主要的因素是政府反通脹政策的成效如何。財政部的預測是，八一年底的通脹率會降至百分之十一。目前一般觀察家認為，這個預測可能略為悲觀，百分之十是個較為實際的數字。一九八二年間，通貨膨脹將繼續下降，或者降至百分之六。今冬的工資調整幅度約為百分之六至十，而七九至八〇年度冬季則為百分之十七至二十。自大選以來，保守黨政府一直堅持反對任何正式的入息政策。但今年，公營機構方面的實際工資調整約為百分之六，而在制訂地方稅津貼方面，政府亦曾表示容許工資上升百分之六。私營機構的工資亦有普遍調整，一般幅度為個位數字。英政府顯然決意不使利率下降速度超越通脹減幅，同時，亦決不插手促使匯率下跌（可能甚至讓它作進一步上升），這兩項措施應可繼續協助對付通貨膨脹。

然而，通貨膨脹及失業問題應從前後數年的較長遠觀點看。一九七五年，英國的失業人數僅為九十萬。與五十及六十年代比較，這個數字已算空前高漲。換言之，近五年內的失業人數幾乎增加了三倍。目前的通貨膨脹率為百分之十五。除遠超一九五〇至七三年間的水平外，通脹率亦必須與其他主要工業國的通脹（一般為百分之八或以下）水平作比較。

雖則一九八一年的經濟展望悲觀，但從八二年起，應有理由採取較樂觀的看法。其一，儘管英鎊匯率上升，近年來出口仍保持良好業績。其二，北海油田從今以後將成為英國經濟一個佔優勢的特徵，這個特徵使它區別於其他仍為能源進口國的工業國家。

匯率是英鎊幣值最簡單的指標。於一九七七年，英鎊匯價曾一度跌至一點七美元，其後英鎊已穩定回升至二點四美元。雖則工業界對英鎊強勢提出猛烈的批評，但事實上，在去年九月以前，出口並沒有因英鎊堅挺而受影響的跡象，其後放緩的幅度亦僅

屬輕微。當然，英鎊堅穩對出口總值的反響作用尚未顯現是有可能的。鑒於自一九七七年以來的出口趨勢皆難以逆料，過於固執是不明智的。然而，作最悲觀預測亦同樣似乎沒有根據。舊理論中有謂，面臨國內市場困境的商人應更致力拓展出口業務。石油及天然氣出口，並非是促使出口業績良好的主要原因——政府一向的政策是使生產維持於自給自足的水平，而非成為一個龐大的石油出口國，此政策將會持續。（匯率即使是在二點四美元，亦僅回升至六七至七一年間的水平。在一九六七年貶值之前，英鎊兌美元匯率為二點八美元。）

有關北海油田對經濟的長期及基本影響，正在熱烈討論中，「工業退縮」及「DUTCH DISEASE」是強調的論點。以上的強調似被錯誤引導。儘管世界油價前景未明使石油對英國經濟的確切影響仍有爭論的餘地，但整體影響將屬有利，而且利益將會相當大——時至一九八四年，石油佔國民收入的比率或會高達百分之十。基於北海油田及大陸架其他地區的石油供應，石油自給自足的情況將可持續至下個世紀初。此時，預料採油成本將會大幅削減，例如放棄海洋鑽井棧橋，而使用潛水艇。由於折舊準備等一類的計算複雜，有關石油對政府收益影響的規模及時機，仍是個可爭論的問題。但預料一九八二至八四年間，來自石油的政府收益將會增加，容許大幅減稅。

「工業退縮」的主要理論根據，是假定能源自足及英鎊匯率高升，會導致製造業出口和就業機會減少。但無論如何，出口受打擊似乎仍是個假設。果真如是，靈活性的經濟環境應可將生產資源轉移到迎合國內市場的生產業務。至於何種工業或行業應會或將會發展，則甚難明確提出。但煤、核能及建築業方面預料將有龐大的投資。此外，服務行業包括公營服務（這部份發展過速雖為六五至八〇年間促使英國出現經濟困難的主因）的就業人數大概亦會有所增長。當然，英國石油生產的價值提高，更意味着其他行業包括製造業在國民生產或國民收入所佔的百分率將會下降，但長期而言，這不應意味着非石油行業的生產或就業絕對數字會減少——在此，再次假定生產資源含有適當的流動性。 ■

南圍村的蛻變

直至七十年代中期，南圍仍是西貢區一個窮鄉僻壤，房屋簡陋細小，村內謀生之計甚少。多年來，由於缺乏陸路及運輸設施，南圍村民被迫以耕作及捕漁為生。然而，農產極屬低微。物資大部份供家庭消費，只有少量可作交易用途，此外，並無額外可以作為失收年間的儲備。村民每日需工作二十小時，才能維持生活上的需求。

在中國大陸以低價向香港輸入糧食產品的情況下，南圍村民已不能再藉賣菜賺取合理的利潤。村內大部份農田遂終於成為了荒地。有些村民甚至把農地售予有意發展地產的外來人士。

一九七七年，只有十五個人在村內謀生，另有一百二十個村民在港九從事建築及製造行業，其餘則在外地的中國餐館找到工作。那時，南圍實際上已失去所有的社會及經濟功能。該村作為一個完整的社會單位亦逐漸失去其本體。

今日，隨着商業機構增多，村內的就業機會亦有所增。此外，生產力現正日漸提高，自然環境形象大有改善。這些積極轉變是由國際文化協會推行南圍發展計劃帶來的。數年前，國際文化協會正在考慮一項人類發展模範計劃。該會與新界政務司及西貢理民府額普頓（ROBERT UPTON）商議，尋求一個適合推行發展計劃的鄉村。參觀過衆多鄉村及與村民代表談論後，國際文化協會認為南圍的兩位村民代表（一位代表邱氏宗親，另一位代表成氏宗親），極有意進行重整該村的計劃。再者，該會更認為南圍村民擁有改善環境的物資、知識及意願，但卻缺乏實踐改革的典型和方法。

國際文化協會是個全球性的服務機構，其宗旨是激發社會協作精神，促進人類發展。該會是個私人及不牟利的機構，於一九五四年在美國伊利諾州艾凡斯頓市成立。現時，該會已在世界三十二個國家註冊為自治團體。國際文化協會專為全面性的鄉村重整計劃提供策劃及貫徹執行的實際方法。該會處事態度所基於的信念是，只要人民願積極參與指引他們本身前途的路向，希望和信心就會加強。

南圍發展計劃於一九七七年二月



一幅展示南圍村歷史的圖畫

開始，實行該計劃的先決條件是村民同意推行全面性的發展。國際文化協會白莊勇（JOHN BALLARD）先生稱：「這並非國際文化協會的計劃，而是南圍本村的計劃。我們在此只是協助他們推行計劃。」

一百名南圍居民與來自九個國家的一百一十三個義務顧問進行了一個星期的協商，終於訂出一項全面性發展南圍社會、經濟及文化生活的計劃。這個廣泛計劃包含十三個部份，其中包括教育、服務、美化環境、康樂、文化傳統、工商企業、農業及土地發展。其主要目標在於重建南圍村的本體。

國際文化協會研究了南圍村的歷史和文化。他們的研究鼓勵了鄉民父老綜合多個氏族紀錄撰寫村史。國際文化協會力求在不妨礙村民保存傳統中國文化價值的情況下，使南圍呈現一派新氣象。

該會要求村民鑒定阻碍南圍發展的因素。主要的障礙是缺乏合作策劃的方法。經過了多次會談——與村民、商業顧問及官方代表會晤洽商，才定出發展基礎，樹立發展模範。白氏稱：「然而，這是個奮力鬥爭，我們作出前所未有的嘗試，並使計劃發揮實際效用。」

南圍村長老承認，土地是他們的主要資源。但藉售地迅速獲利的壓力，卻意味着發展沒有計劃。

一九七八年，南圍基金會成立是該村發展計劃一項龐大的進展。該基金會是個由村民擁有的代表性決策組織，其第一個目標是獲取若干可發展賺利的村地，來支持南圍人類發展計劃。

基金會選舉出理事會，理事每月集會商討和決定任何與該村有關的重要事宜。它與政府、工商界及村民緊密協作聯繫，為未來的南圍村創造新典型。

理事會與其顧問說服了一羣地主，以名義價格將土地售予基金會。南圍基金會利用一千五百萬元的貸款額，購買了七十萬平方呎的荒廢農地。其後，基金會並與一間投資公司合作發展土地。

據議定的合約，基金會佔發展利益百分之五十一。所得利益將用於改善南圍村的經濟，社會及自然環境。至少已有一千二百萬元重新投資於村內的發展。

村民將大部份的售地利潤用於興建新房屋。自一九七七年以來，南圍已建設了三十多間新房屋，使村貌大為改觀。建築工程增加，為居民提供



細小但設備齊全的牙醫診所

了就業機會。此外，它亦容許移居村外的家庭成員返回南圍。有些村民並出租套房單位，以幫補收入。

白莊勇稱：「建立村民團體是個持續不斷的過程。一個問題獲解決，另一個問題又出現。我們需要各不同年齡及背景的核心團體領袖，去負起創造解決辦法的責任。」

基金會所面臨的挑戰，是如何擴大村民參與南圍發展。國際文化協會認為，倘外人為某村擬定了一項發展計劃，而不受村民關注，則該計劃是難望成功的。最近，南圍的青年人對基金會的工作漸感興趣，有些並擔任了領導職位。由此可見，南圍村的領導及服務能力正在提高。

基金會不斷符合需要，另一方面，公認的需求亦與日俱增。

鑒於大多數人都在村外工作和花錢，基金會必須謀求方法擴展南圍的就業機會，及使貨幣在村內流通。該會曾經嘗試過若干經濟實驗計劃，其中包括磨菇種植及電子裝配廠，但沒有一個是經濟可行的。最近，一位村領導人僱用村民，成功開設了一間包裝工廠。

一項健康調查顯示，牙齒護理是個重要問題。南圍曾舉辦過牙齒健康日，共有二百人參加。一九七八年，該村開設了一間設備齊全的牙醫診所，三位女村民受訓為牙醫助理。

南圍現正在興建一所社區中心及足球場，為青少年及成人提供康樂活動。此外，該村亦安排了多項其他活動，供青年及成人參加。每逢週日，曠場上更可以見到一羣又一羣的兒童嬉戲——打籃球、玩腳踏車及其他戶外遊戲的歡樂情景。成人則在一旁談論村內的進一步發展及其他有關的話題。

村民決定引進新繁殖用的公豬，



國際文化協會工作人員白莊勇（左）及黎祖法（左二）與村民成俊邦（左三）及邱奕華（右）。

以提高豬隻生產，以前養豬雖只是南圍的次要生產行業。但過去四年的豬隻產量已增加了百分之三十。事實上，豬隻數字比南圍村人口還要高出兩倍有多。

訓練新領導及團體行動技能，是計劃的主要目標。四位南圍村的青年獲派往韓國及菲律賓的社區發展訓練學校受訓，學習推行經濟、社會及文化發展的實際方法。政府農業專家與村民進行整日會議，商討改善飼養豬隻及家禽的方法。某銀行家更自願為該村的店東及商人提供數講關於會計

及管理學的基本知識。此外，南圍的青年及婦女亦有機會接受有關策劃及主持會議的課程。白氏稱：「村民取得技術和自信，就可以創造奇迹。」

與公私營部門之間的合作，使村民的努力更見成效。國際文化協會充當聯絡機構。港府方面提供了服務，並協助規定及執行有關政策。工商界方面則提供了管理技術及經濟援助。白氏稱：「最重要的是村民認識到他們團體生活中所面臨的種種切身問題。因此，發展足以反映南圍村的實際需要。」

隨着土地發展計劃接近完成階段，基金會計劃即將開始最創新及最具挑戰性的一面。理事會現正籌備一份計劃簡報，概括改善該村經濟，社會及文化生活的各項目標。此項簡報將包括超出一般鄉村政策及慣例範圍的特別問題，並將為本港其他地區鄉村的未來發展定下標準。

需考慮的若干問題包括農業潛力、交通運輸需求、經濟基礎、教育援助、限制發展因素、地方管理及居屋需求的研究。

基金會已成立了五個委員會，開始此項研究工作。管理委員會負責財政事務及基金會所有的通信聯繫。計劃委員會監督南圍村整體計劃的制訂。社區中心委員會監督新社區中心的興建，並負責管理其使用。社會服務

委員會管理牙醫診所及調查研究其他社會服務的範圍。池塘委員會則負責協商取得南圍村主要資源的控制權，北面的池塘現為村外人士所擁有。

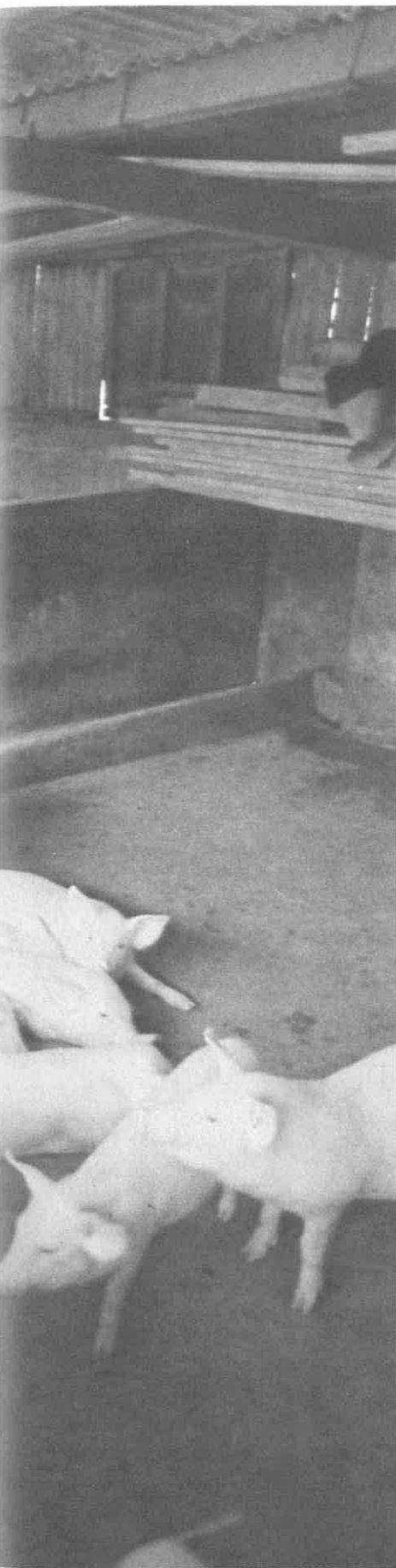
由基金會理事及有興趣參與鄉事發展的村民組成的各個委員會，每月需向理事會述職。

開始時已清楚南圍的人類發展計劃可能成為整個新界的示範計劃。據白氏稱：「南圍決定開創新社區發展方法，使其他鄉村得以向其努力成果學習。一旦有人指路，其他人就會迅速跟隨。」



南圍村兒童有美好的前途

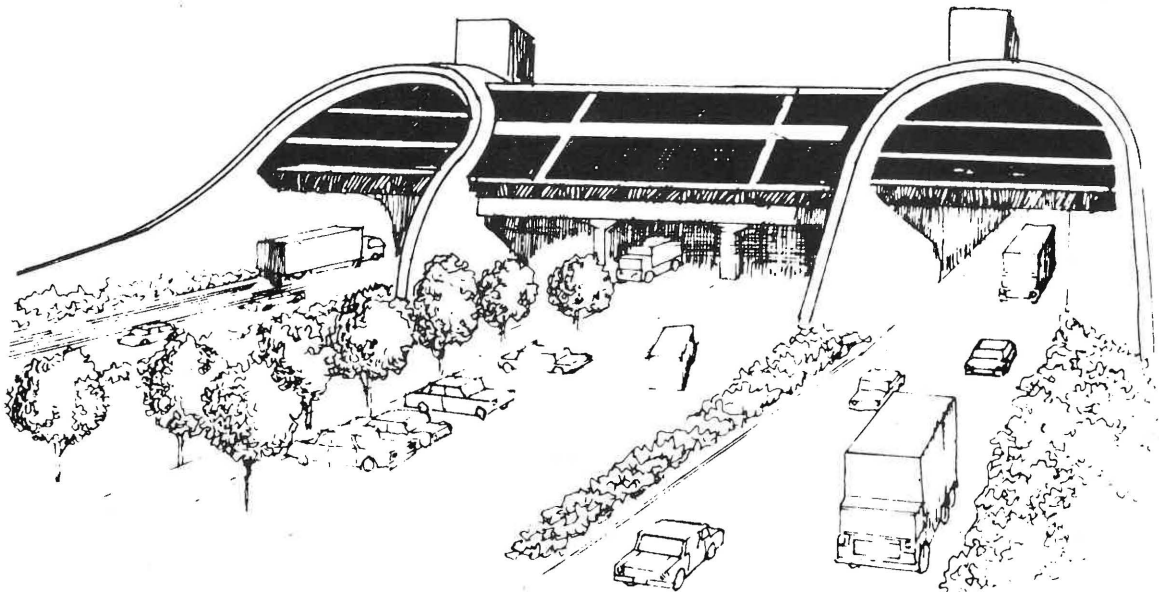




邱氏宗親最近興建了一間廟宇。



GEC Technology at work



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簡報滙編

歡迎新會員

本刊歡迎廿三間公司於二月份加入本會，成為香港總商會會員。(新會員名單詳列本期英文版)。

一九八一年高級管理課程

亞洲管理專業協會宣佈，由該機構主辦的第三屆高級管理課程定於一九八一年六月一日開始。此項為期一月的課程是專為現職總行政主任，及參與決策與政策制訂的高層人士而設。此外，它亦旨在符合亞洲管理人員的具體需要。

正如其他亞洲管理專業協會主辦的課程一樣，此乃一項國際性的課程，學員選自東南亞地區各個國家。

查詢詳情，請與亞洲管理專業協會高級管理課程部主任聯絡。地址：MCC P O BOX 898, METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES。

世界貿易資料大全

紐文圖書有限公司 (NEWMAN BOOKS LTD) 最近出版了一本世界貿易資料大全，內容包羅萬有，詳盡介紹世界一百二十一個國家的消費品出口市場。

該本貿易大全之海外零售價為每本四十四英鎊，本會會員訂購可獲六折優待，(即折價為廿六點四英鎊)，包括了平郵遞寄之包裝及郵費在內。空郵遞寄需繳額外費用。

會員如欲訂購，請與紐文圖書有限公司接洽。地址：48 POLAND STREET, LONDON W1V 4PP。

傳譯服務

譯特靈語言服務有限公司為香港舉行的各界研討會及會議，提供專業傳譯服務。該公司屬下有四十位專門人材，担任各種歐語及其他語文如阿拉伯、中、日及俄語的翻譯及傳譯工作。此外，該公司亦有傳譯機可供購買或租賃。

查詢詳情，請與譯特靈語言服務有限公司聯絡，地址：香港中區干諾道中四十七號七〇一室。



香港工商協會(香港分會)會員在主席簡悅強爵士率領下，會晤英國保守黨議員韋理及工黨議員里昂。該兩位議員是次訪港是為蒐集港人對英國新國籍法的意見。在兩位議員離港前，香港工商協會並呈交了一份有關新國籍法的意見書。



本會與貿易發展局合辦之「中東貿易團」團員在啓德機場登機前留影。右四者為本會高級經理陳煥榮。



執行董事麥理覺、助理董事梁紹輝及西歐區貿易委員會委員韋廉仕女士，會晤最近訪港之土耳其貿易代表團，商討雙邊貿易事宜。本會現正考慮在一九八二年的貿易促進大計中，組團訪問土耳其。



印度工商會聯會代表團會晤香港總商會及中華廠商聯合會代表，談論促進港印雙邊貿易，聯營企業及融資合作等事宜。



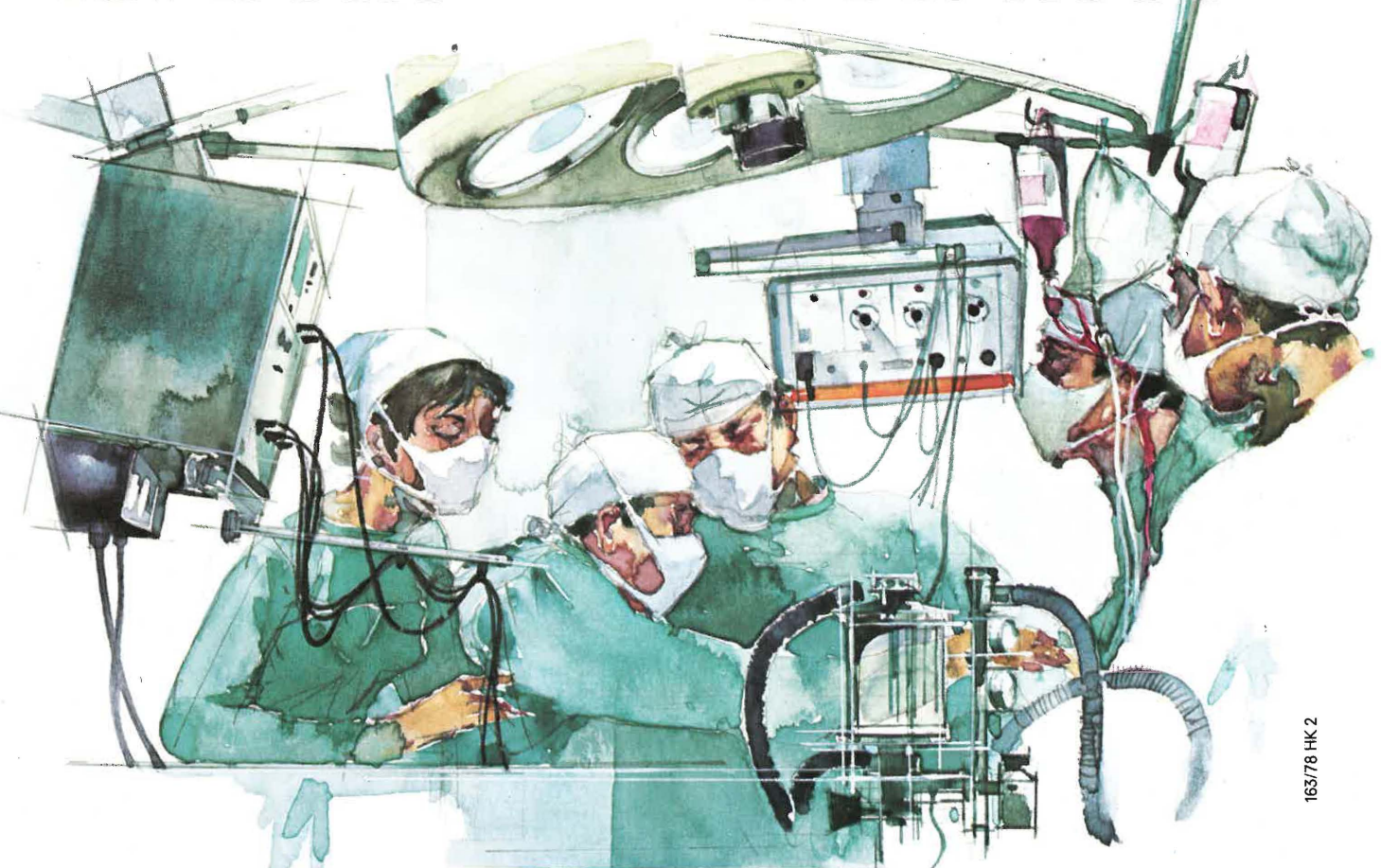
本會工業促進科經理馮棟澤在港大AIESEC職業資料展覽中，講述有關本會的資料。



執行董事麥理覺（左二）在歡迎新會員酒會上，向會員公司代表簡介本會組織及各部門工作。

SIEMENS

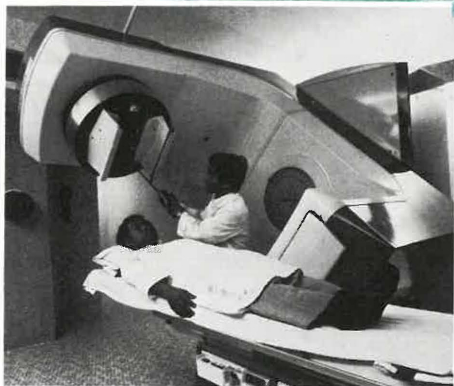
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