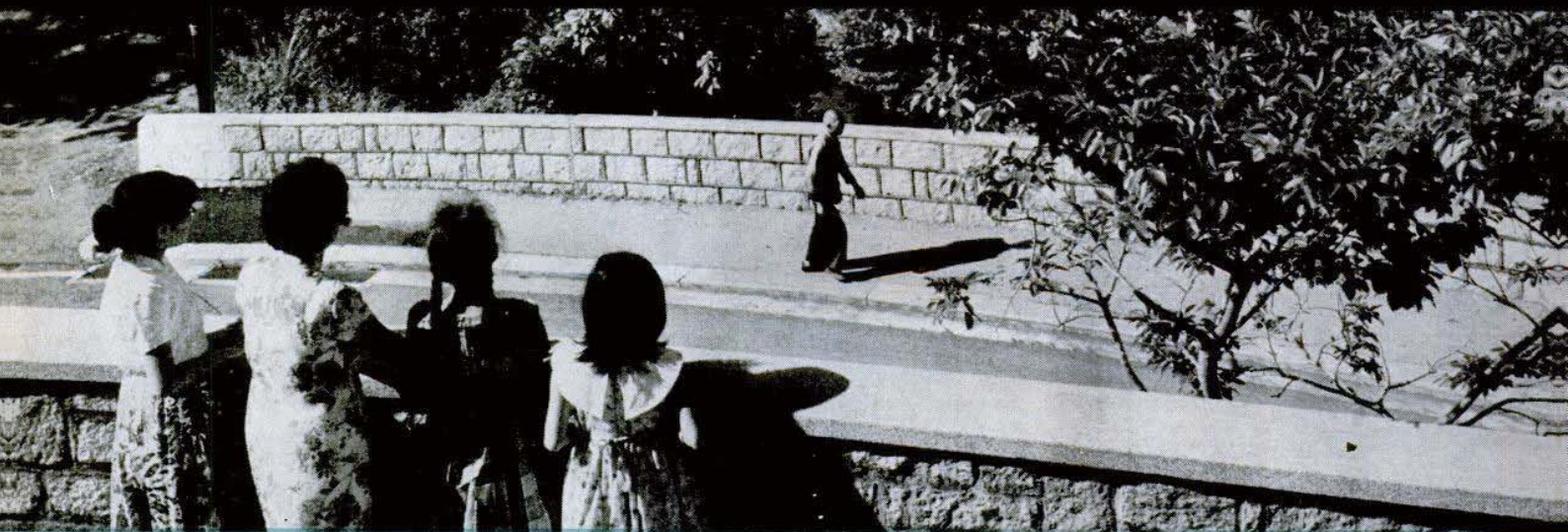




A FAMILY OF



Hong Kong's teeming harbor, mushrooming city of Kowloon, and barren hills of the Asian mainland lie before the Fungs' apartment on The Peak.

Meet Fung Hon-Chu and family, of this crowded and fabulous land on Red China's doorstep.

THE ORIENT offers few greater sights, veteran travellers agree, than the air approach to Hong Kong. The jet glides in over the South China Sea, its sparkling surface dotted by fishing junks with ragged, bat-winged sails. Rocky coves swarming with sampans give way to terraced hillsides. The blue waters of the harbor, alive with barges, ferries, and great freighters, frame the gleaming city of Victoria, where modern buildings climb the towering Peak. Flaps down, the plane thunders low over tall, serried housing blocks and bursting tenements, their balconies and rooftops

aflutter with laundry tied to bamboo poles. Kai Tak runway comes with a gentle bump, and, minutes later, traders and tourists blink in the bright sun before plunging into the sights, sounds, and smells which make this industrious, opulent, and fantastically crowded British colony the most talked-about place on earth.

To its 13,000 monthly visitors, Hong Kong is a tailor-made suit, a ricksha ride, fried prawns in a floating restaurant, a bewildering shopping paradise, a disturbing glimpse of Asia's poverty. But to Fung Hon-Chu (the family name is first) and his family, this tiny chip of land



香港

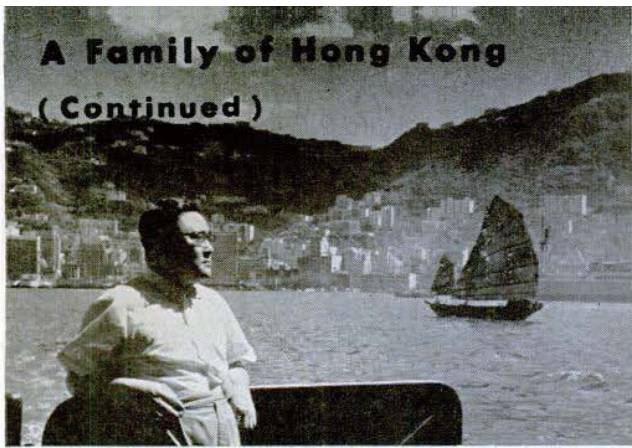
HONG KONG

HOW ROTARIANS LIVE

Photos and Text by
Herbert A. Pigman

Lined up on the foredeck of their 46-foot Bluebird in the sampan-crowded harbor of Aberdeen are Fung Hon-Chu and Charity, his wife; Belinda, Clara, Angela; and sons, William (left) and Victor.

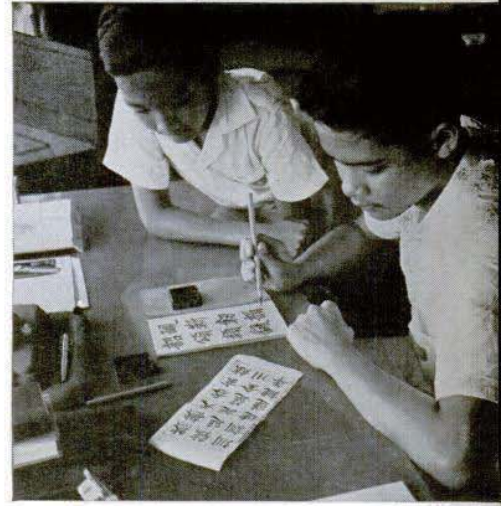




A Family of Hong Kong
(Continued)

A cooling ferry ride (fare: 3 cents) between Kowloon and Victoria offers a welcome respite in Hon-Chu's busy schedule.

on the rim of Asia (see map page 15) is home. The son of a late Canton, China, Rotarian, he came to Hong Kong in 1937 to manage a trading firm and factories which today deal in garments, toys, firecrackers, plastic flowers, rattan furniture (his classification in the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island West), jade, jewelry, and dozens of other items bearing the stamp "Made in Hong Kong." An influential voice in a land that must trade to live, he led the Hong Kong delegation to the recent Tokyo meeting of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. His life is geared to quick decisions, high-level committee meetings, and, through membership on Hong Kong's Urban Council, hard thinking about the overwhelming problems of this refugee-swollen colony, the home of more than 3 million Chinese. His wife, Charity, has an equally busy schedule, yet they both guard jealously their free time, Sundays especially, when they can get together for some family outings with their two sons and three daughters.

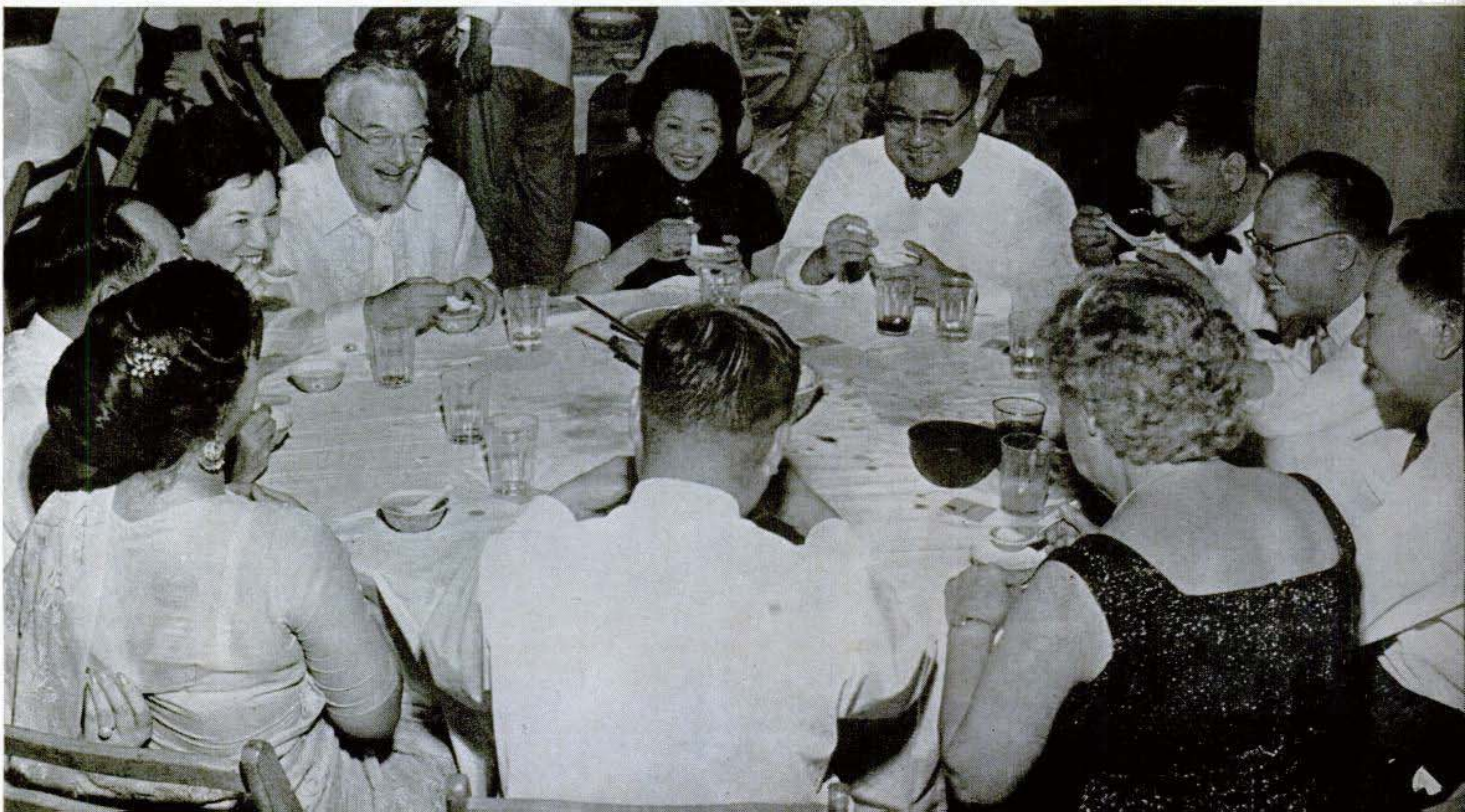


Though their schoolwork is carried on in English, Victor and William spend time each day learning to write in Chinese characters.



Jade carvings and Chinese paintings adorn the Fungs' exquisite apartment. Charity usually starts the day with a little figure-trimming Chinese shadow boxing.

Merriment reigns when Chinese gather around the dinner table. Hon-chu and Charity entertain friends and overseas business visitors often. Dinners, which usually include shark's fin soup, beef, pork, chicken, fruit, and tea, start about 9 P.M. and break up around 11 or 12 o'clock.

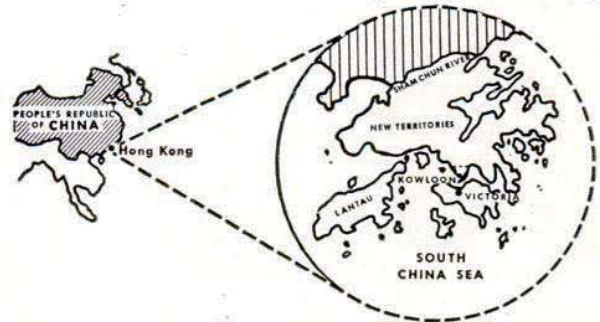


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A woman with a tiny baby slung on her back eyes a street hawker's burden of oranges on Shanghai Street in Kowloon. Hon-Chu gives his driver his morning schedule. A maze of signs and bamboo poles, used for scaffolding and clothes drying, arches overhead.

(Continued on next page)



HONG KONG AND THE NEW TERRITORIES are the home of more than 3 million Chinese and a handful of British. The New Territories, which comprise about nine-tenths of Hong Kong's 391 square miles, were acquired in 1898 under 99-year lease from China, now a vast enigmatic land of 700 million people lying just across the Sham Chun River (photo left). Barbed wire, blockhouses, and gunboats seal the border, but still refugees risk death to sneak into Hong Kong, where thousands live in shacks and in bursting tenements; 75,000 live on rooftops.



In the 18-acre So Uk Estates, 33,000 Chinese live in eight- to 16-story housing blocks. Four to 11 persons share one room with tiny kitchen, toilet, and a balcony from which they can see less fortunate families in Hong Kong's rooftop shacks (center). A member of the Housing Authority, Hon-Chu helps plan such huge resettlement projects.

A working mother claims her babies at a nursery which Charity Fung helped to start. The daily fee for child care is 18 cents.



Few refugees starve in Hong Kong, thanks to dedicated people like Msgr. John Romaniello (right), a close friend of Hon-Chu. Famous as the "Noodle Priest," he invented cheap machines which turn U. S. surplus corn meal, flour, and powdered milk into nutritious noodles. Seventeen tiny plants run by refugees grind out more than 5 million pounds of noodles a year, which are distributed free.



Grazing giraffe, Trojan-like horse illustrate the artistry of Hon-Chu's rattan-furniture workers. He exports tons of dime-store toys, manufactures firecrackers and plastic flowers.



Nimble-fingered girls decorate fly swatters with roses in Hon-Chu's plastic-flower factory, which hums around the clock. World demand for the artificial blooms has boosted the plant's output to 3,000 dozens a day. . . . (Below) Workers pressing out flower parts—from aster stems to zinnia petals—shed their shirts in Hong Kong's humid Summer heat.



Massive lions flanking the entrance to a Hong Kong bank scowl at ever-increasing traffic jams on the narrow streets of downtown Victoria, the capital. . . . (Below) Hon-Chu talks trade quotas with Sir Sik-nin Chau, Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Industries. Any let-up in Hong Kong's trade and manufacturing boom seriously hurts efforts to feed and house the soaring population.



In the Golden Dragon Restaurant, Rotarians of Hong Kong Island West ply chopsticks on diced pork, chicken, shrimp, and nuts. Hon-Chu was charter President of the Cantonese-speaking Club.



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