

INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS . .

Exports of commodities, including minerals, produced in Hong Kong, which are recorded separately in the Trade Statistics, amounted in March to a total declared value of \$61.6 million, an increase of \$5.9 million (10.5%). This figure represents 30.1% of the Colony's total exports, as against the figure of 28.6% for the previous month. The country which showed the largest increase in the purchase of Hong Kong products was Thailand, from \$3.6 to \$7.4 million. Other important markets were the United Kingdom and Malaya, up by \$2.0 and \$1.7 million respectively. Among the countries which reduced their purchases, South Korea recorded a decrease of \$2.4 million and Indonesia a decrease of \$1.1 million.

The more important items, valued at over \$4 million, with details of major markets, were as follows:—

Commodity	Total exports March, 1955 HK\$	Major markets in \$ million
Cotton piece goods	15,809,233	United Kingdom (\$6.8 m.) Thailand (\$2.3 m.) Indonesia (\$1.4 m.) Philippines (\$1.3 m.)
Cotton yarns	6,938,997	Indonesia (\$3.8 m.) Thailand (\$1.2 m.)
Footwear	6,748,702	United Kingdom (\$3.5 m.) Canada (\$0.9 m.)

TRADE ENQUIRIES

At Appendix I in this publication appear numerous Trade Enquiries from Hong Kong firms wishing to expand their interests abroad while a similar Appendix, published only in those copies of the Bulletin circulated within Hong Kong, is maintained on behalf of overseas readers seeking connections in the Colony.

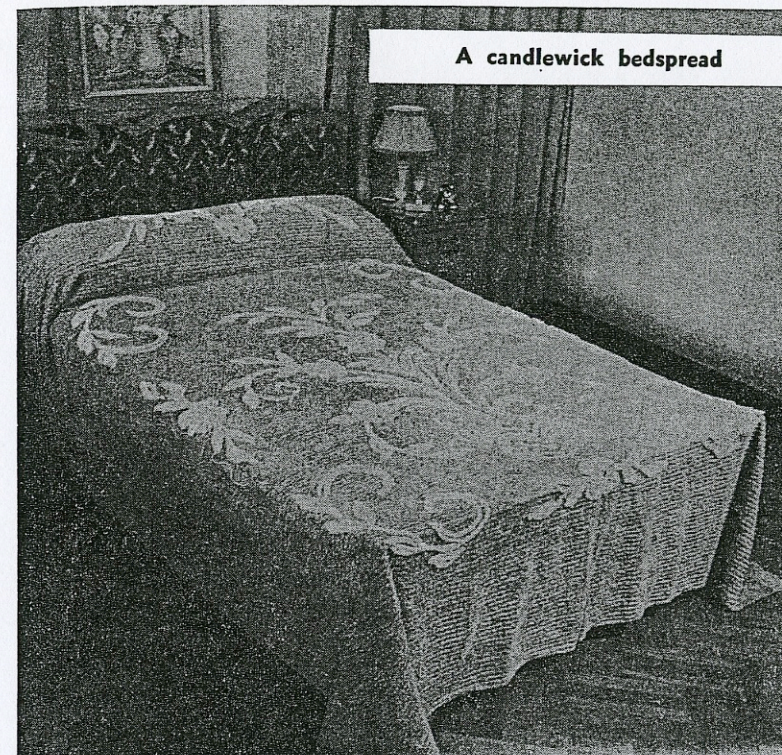
The Trade Enquiries service is a valuable one and a free one. To the Hong Kong merchant it means that his interests are being circulated to 8,000 overseas readers, all of whom are connected with trade. To the overseas advertiser it means that his needs are made known to a wide circle of Hong Kong merchants and manufacturers.

There is no charge for an insertion in the Trade Enquiries Appendices but owing to limited space, requirements should be kept to a minimum. Firms forwarding requests for inclusion should give the names of their bankers.

Shirts	5,636,194	Br. West Africa (\$1.0 m.) United Kingdom (\$1.0 m.) Thailand (\$0.9 m.) Malaya (\$0.5 m.) Malaya (\$3.2 m.) Thailand (\$0.9 m.) Indonesia (\$0.6 m.)
Cotton singlets	5,541,198	Africa (excl. Br. Territories) (\$1.1 m.) Br. West Africa (\$0.8 m.) Central America (\$0.5 m.) South America (excl. Argentina and Brazil) (\$0.4 m.) Malaya (\$0.4 m.) Indonesia (\$0.4 m.) U.S.A. (\$0.8 m.) India (\$0.7 m.)
Household utensils of iron and steel, enamelled	5,303,019	Br. West Africa (\$0.3 m.) Central America (\$0.3 m.) Malaya (\$0.2 m.) Canada (\$0.2 m.) Africa (excl. Br. Territories) (\$0.2 m.) Thailand (\$0.2 m.)
Electric torches	4,323,828	

Details by countries and by commodities are shown in Appendices VI and VII.

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH



A candlewick bedspread

The handsome, tufted cotton bedspread shown above is one of the items of a new range of goods being produced by the candlewick department of the Lee Wah Weaving Factory, NKIL 2850, Un Chau Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Candlewicking is an old craft and is virtually the hooking of wicking—originally the wicking used for dipping candles—on to an unbleached cotton background. The art is believed to have come from Scandinavia from whence it was taken to Britain. It is said to have been carried to North America by early settlers.

While the craft still flourishes in rural homes in Britain and the United States, candlewick is now produced commercially in these countries on a wide scale and candlewick articles are valued for their appearance and durability.

The Lee Wah Weaving Factory is pioneering the industry in Hong Kong. At present production is confined to bedspreads, bath mats and dressing gowns. All manufacturing, except the actual spinning of the yarn, is done on the premises and goods are available at remarkably reasonable prices.