

Hong Kong is Anglo-Saxon, Macao is Latin—Both Are Chinese

By Walter Robb

Since all Philippine cities were founded as Catholic mission and are hardly more different from one another than peas, it is beguiling to a Manila to take a voyage up the China coast as far as Shanghai and remark the differences between Shanghai, Macao, and Hong Kong.

He comes upon Hong Kong first, the tradesmen's entrance to China, decked out in commendable blocks and streets solidly built along the harbor and over the mountains, and at night blazing with lights whose brilliance is sheer deception.

You would swear there was gayety and urban abandon back of these lights. But there isn't; there are only clerks, with their families, reading and smoking and preparing for early bedtime. A day's work is ahead, thank goodness; downtown at 9 and back up topside at 4, or even at 5, should you stop by the Gloucester Lounge for a spot.

Tennis, of course, and squash and badminton, a deal of walking and of course the races . . . it is up to a man to keep fit. No, the routine British life goes on behind those flashing lights of Hong Kong—not a bit what such lights against an Oriental sky should proclaim.

Chinese Laugh More.

In Hong Kong, where there are Chinese, there are chatter and jocularly along with incessant industry; swift and skillful movement of craftsmen at their tasks, or of coolies, unskilled men, at work. The color of the place is limited to this. By 1 o'clock in the morning even the ferries to Kowloon have stopped running. Your quest for adventure has been vain, and you must rent a sailboat to take you back to your hotel.

Next day what you do discover in Hong Kong is the first-rate shops—trafficking in British goods. All the woolsens of every sort you need, get them here. All the time there are hundreds of travelers in Hong Kong finding enjoyment merely in shopping. In the good hotels are good meals and beverages. The subtlety of silver values is behind this, a mercantile alchemy that touches the little gold you carry into veritable fortune.

For the week end you get to Macao, the old-time tradesmen's entrance into China that Hong Kong made useless. It is only 40 miles from Hong Kong, but most Hong Kong folk have never been there—they discourage you from going to Macao, assuring you it will bore you.

Macao Is on the Loose.

Far from it! Macao, who, since she can't trade, must be on the loose, is the end-product of Christian effort in the Orient and could bore no one. As your boat labors to the dock the silhouettes lined up in the darkness ashore make you shudder with excitement. The shadows descend upon you as soon as you reach the street; every wickedness is offered you at once. You shake off the shadows, clamber into a rickshaw and have a patrolman note his number. It is worth your life, you think, that these hard-boiled policemen are about, and that their authority seems to be respected.

This Macao, that seems to be all underworld, blazes like Hong Kong with lights, but the lure of Macao's lights means what it says. You are free to do anything in Macao, where the public opium factory distills its product for your own pleasure. (Yet you find that the Portuguese, Macao being a Portuguese colony, live out their lives in Macao without ever visiting this factory or beholding Chinese smoke opium. Even in the case of the Portuguese, there is what this difference between what they do and what the Orient does).

Meticulous as to Religion.

Macao taxes opium, taxes feminine amiability, taxes all vice and lets it all run riot; only there must be no crime, no assaults and murders. Tawdry with opium flanking one side, motley indulgence another, stands a church; and Macao, clean and colorful, outwardly immaculate, exploits to the traveler her meticulous attention to religion.

When you stay longer in Macao than three days you should tell the police you are there. No passport is required. Macao shows her discreet politeness in her public



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administration; she asks no questions. But probably her police are equal to any emergency—any, that is, that affects Macao. The interest another jurisdiction may have in you is not Macao's—the ancient right of sanctuary persists here.

You will not, in contrast, be in Hong Kong three hours without presenting yourself to police headquarters, exhibiting your passport, filing an autobiography and leaving a photograph with it.

Hong Kong Fears Air Raids.

Another contrast between Macao and Hong Kong relates to Japan's current campaigns in China. Though Macao is on the mainland and from her customs gate you can drive 80 miles into China and through three cities of considerable size, Macao has practically no trade with China (deepdraft ships can't get into Macao's harbor!), and Macao feels no anxiety that Japan will attack her. But, though Hong Kong is on an island and is British territory (only her suburb Kowloon is on the mainland), Hong Kong exists upon her entrepot commerce with China and lives in hourly ap-

prehension of bombing raids by the Japanese.

Macao, without a newspaper—though they do say there is one that comes out once a week—hardly knows that China and Japan are at war. Hong Kong, 40 miles away, thinks of nothing else and scans the extra editions while she sips her tea—because there is so much special work at the office with the goods that must be got to Canton and slipped up the way to Hankow.

When you leave Hong Kong and reach Shanghai again all is different. You feel here: "What on earth is done about children?" Older folk manage what passes for adult enjoyment, but the parks and provisions for the normal life of children you never come upon.

However, Shanghai is in ruins— you will not judge her now. But you know at once that she is not like Hong Kong or Macao. And of the three cities, which is most like your home city of Manila? The jolliest, the gaudiest and the oldest—old Macao!

Men Worth . . .

(Continued from page 14)

yachtsman during his off hours. At this time of the year, Saturday afternoons and Sundays will find him out on the waters of Manila Bay, enthusiastically racing his "Star" boat in the annual series of the yacht club. He is no stranger to Manila's night spots.

In the Philippines since 1927, Sammy Schier has acquired a considerable fund of information about the Philippines. He adds constantly to this store of knowledge by periodic trips to the hinterland, and puts down what he knows in very readable articles. Many of these have appeared in the Sunday Tribune magazine section, (the last series was on the Bontoc Igorote tribes) and Schier is sending others to Brown & Bigelow to place for him in the States. An expert amateur photographer, he illustrates these stories with his own photographs.

U. S. FAR EASTERN TRADE

Our data are from the Manila *Tribune* of Sunday, February 6, *United Press* wireless from Washington. Because there has been inquiry for them, we print them:

In 1937 Japan was America's third best customer, America's exports to Japan upped 41% from 1936. Asia for the first time outranked Europe as a supplier to America. Also, exports from the United States to Asia upped to \$579,749,000 from \$398,885,000 during 1936.

Major exports for the two years:

Country	1936	1937
To China	\$ 46,819,000	\$ 49,697,000
To Japan	204,348,000	288,378,000
To Commonwealth	60,350,000	85,031,000

United States imports from Asia during the same years—

Country	1936	1937
From China	\$ 74,232,000	\$103,616,000
From Japan	171,744,000	204,202,000
From Commonwealth	101,679,000	126,207,000

Total American imports from Asia during 1937 summed \$796,541,000 compared to \$707,728,000 during 1936.

In December, America sold Japan goods worth \$16,532,000, compared to \$16,433,000 in December, 1936. She sold China goods worth \$1,787,000 in December, compared to \$4,748,000 in December, 1936.

In December, America bought from China goods worth \$4,992,000 compared to \$4,548,000 in December, 1936. She bought goods worth \$11,839,000 in December from Japan, compared to \$16,451,000 in December, 1936. Summary for 1937—

Country	Exports to U. S.	Imports to U. S.	1937 Total
China	\$103,616,000	\$ 49,697,000	\$154,313,000
Japan	204,202,000	85,031,000	492,589,000
Commonwealth	126,207,000	288,378,000	211,238,000

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