

Hong Kong

September 26, 1932.

(City)

(Country)

(Date)

Subject:

QUARTERLY GASOLINE AND KEROSENE REPORT (Original to Shanghai for use in the Quarterly Gasoline Survey Covering all China)

Submitted by:

David M. Haynard

Assistant Trade Commissioner

(Name)

(Title)

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 11-9138

Prices: Gasoline prices were steady during the third quarter of 1932 in South China with a slight rise in Hong Kong during the middle of July which brought the retail price to HK\$1.25 per Imperial Gallon. The price of kerosene outside of Hong Kong stiffened and by the end of the quarter was roughly the same as the third quarter of last year.

Market: Kerosene and Gasoline sales are approximately on the same level as in 1931 with imports for the first eight months of each year practically equal. A considerable portion of the lubricating oil imported into Hong Kong is transhipped from bond at Shanghai, being brought to Shanghai in tankers and reshipped to Hong Kong in barrels. American lubricating oils, therefore, obtain nearly 70% of the market.

Competition: Russian oil is a definite factor in the east ports of Swatow and Foochow and to a small extent in Amoy; usually selling from 5% to 10% less than the oil of the large foreign concerns they have been able to obtain between 2% and 5% of the market in these ports. As yet, however, no Russian oil has been reported in Hong Kong. Conditions in the primitive stills and refineries have not changed; production remaining small with quality poor.

Tables: Below are given prices of gasoline and kerosene in Hong Kong and the principal South China coast cities. Tables of imports for the first eight months of 1932 and comparative figures for 1931 are given as taken from the Statistical Department of the Hong Kong Government. Comparable figures for 1930 are not available.

GASOLINE AND KEROSENE PRICES*

Price per case of two, 5 gallon tins in local currency

	<u>Aviation Gasoline</u>	<u>Gasoline</u>	<u>Kerosene 1st Grade</u>	<u>Kerosene 2nd Grade</u>
<u>Hong Kong</u>	HK\$12.40 April 27 HK\$12.85 July 13	HK\$11.20 April 27 HK\$11.65 July 13 HK\$ 1.25 per tin.	HK\$6.53 May 23	HK\$6.38 May 23
<u>Canton</u>	HK\$13.70 May 23	HK\$11.70 May 23	HK\$8.23 May 23 HK\$8.53 July 27	HK\$8.05 May 23 HK\$8.35 July 27
<u>Swatow</u>	\$15.65 Mex. May 23	\$13.65 Mex. May 23	\$8.65 Mex. May 23 \$8.90 Mex. June 21 \$9.40 Mex. June 30 \$9.70 Mex. July 7	\$8.05 Mex. May 23 \$8.30 Mex. June 21 \$8.80 Mex. June 30 \$9.10 Mex. July 7
<u>Amoy</u>	\$15.65 Mex. May 23	\$13.65 Mex. May 23	\$8.80 Mex. May 23 \$9.10 Mex. July 7 \$9.50 Mex. Aug. 3	\$8.65 Mex. May 23 \$8.95 Mex. July 7 \$9.35 Mex. Aug. 3
<u>Peohow</u>	\$15.65 Mex. May 23	\$13.65 Mex. May 23	\$8.50 Mex. May 23 \$8.80 Mex. July 7 \$9.40 Mex. Sept. 3	\$8.30 Mex. May 23 \$8.60 Mex. July 7 \$9.20 Mex. Sept. 3

* These are prices of standard products of the Texas Oil Company and are in substantial agreement with the prices for the product of the Standard Oil Company of New York and the Asiatic Petroleum Company.

Price per case of two, 5 gallon tins in gold dollars (approximately)
 On September 24, 1932

GASOLINE AND KEROSENE PRICES

U. S. A.
 Meth. West Indies
 Straits & P.M.S.
 Other countries

Country	Aviation Gasoline	Gasoline	Kerosene 1st Grade	Kerosene 2nd Grade
U. S. A.	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Meth. West Indies	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Straits & P.M.S.	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Other countries	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53

China
 Germany
 French Indo-China
 Philippines
 United Kingdom
 Other countries

Country	Aviation Gasoline	Gasoline	Kerosene 1st Grade	Kerosene 2nd Grade
China	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Germany	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
French Indo-China	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Philippines	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
United Kingdom	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Other countries	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53

United States
 Meth. West Indies
 Other countries

Country	Aviation Gasoline	Gasoline	Kerosene 1st Grade	Kerosene 2nd Grade
United States	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Meth. West Indies	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53
Other countries	\$3.45	\$2.79	\$1.56	\$1.53

Hong Kong Imports

Fuel Oil

January - August 1931

January - August 1932

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>
U. S. A.	40,945	\$1,667,953	23,559	\$2,244,657
Neth. East Indies	65,103	4,341,019	86,233	9,849,405
Straits & F.M.S.	13,922	505,270		
Other Countries	13,559	751,588	1,924	115,240
	<u>133,529</u>	<u>\$7,265,830</u>	<u>111,716</u>	<u>\$12,209,302</u>

Hong Kong Imports

Lubricating Oil

January - August 1931

January - August 1932

	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>
U. S. A.	355,006	608,892	503,984	604,760
Neth. East Indies	305,496	416,743	127,868	229,309
China	68,447	60,282	236,527	414,786
Germany	63,990	84,468	31,255	120,564
French Indo-China	35,332	46,989	25,556	35,315
Philippines	22,483	19,679	12,528	20,196
United Kingdom	12,280	18,586	9,664	22,639
Other Countries	24,344	37,434	9,584	16,471
	<u>887,378</u>	<u>\$1,292,973</u>	<u>956,966</u>	<u>\$1,464,040</u>

Hong Kong Imports

Kerosene

January - August 1931

January - August 1932

	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>
United States	9,186,049	\$5,669,831	8,034,530	\$4,660,486
Neth. East Indies	7,837,070	5,275,229	9,551,291	5,563,930
China	16,406	7,683	328,183	203,774
Philippines	8,187	8,187		
	<u>17,047,712</u>	<u>\$10,960,930</u>	<u>17,914,004</u>	<u>\$10,428,190</u>

Hong Kong Imports

Gasoline

January - August 1931

January - August 1932

	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>	<u>Imp.Gals.</u>	<u>Hong Kong Dollars</u>
United States	2,187,884	\$2,146,678	2,131,158	\$1,684,954
Neth. East Indies	3,543,180	2,749,291	3,952,895	2,592,704
Other Countries	7,147	5,176	5,313	3,864
	<u>5,738,211</u>	<u>\$4,901,145</u>	<u>6,089,366</u>	<u>\$4,281,522</u>

The value of the Hong Kong Dollar has varied during this period but

may be taken as equal to roughly \$0.24.

Subject:

Submitted by:

Assistant Trade Commissioner

(Printed)

(Typed)

Trade in petroleum products in Manchuria during the past

quarter has fallen even below the low levels of the

David M. Maynard

Assistant Trade Commissioner

quarters. Even though the third quarter is normally a dull season,

it is estimated by officials of the larger companies that business

Approved by:

at present is only in the neighborhood of 25% of normal.

Thomas C. Barringer

Trade Commissioner

continued low level. Aids and partisan resistance to the new ad-

ministration prevents the conduct of normal business in interior

Districts. The harvesting of crops has even been interfered with in

some sections and the general economic picture shows the further