

Orient's Bargain Basement Even Has Cut Rate Vicunas

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor
HONG KONG (UPI) — This British crown colony should be renamed the bargain basement of the Orient. It is such a shopper's heaven that even vicuna coats are comparatively cheap.

How the hordes of shopkeepers manage such low prices in Victoria, the city on the island, and in Kowloon, across the harbor on the mainland, is a mystery to me. But countless items from clothing to cameras cost far less than they do in the country where they're made. One thing which helps is the saying on duty—Hong Kong, like Shannon, Ireland, is a free port.

And don't think the U. S. tourists aren't listening to the guidebooks which say "Your dollar buys more here than in any other part of the world." They're shopping as if they may never pass this way again; and then playing the game of comparing "finds" with other tourists, once they're back at their hotels.

I crossed shopping paths with one American businessman I'd met on a Japan Air Lines flight into Hong Kong. He was carrying a handsome overcoat of vicuna, a material which was pretty well publicized through the Sherman Adams case. "Got it for less than \$200 (U. S. dollars)," he said happily. "Back home, it'd cost me \$600 or \$700."

(The U. S. dollar is worth \$5.80 Hong Kong dollars.)

There are three hitches to happy shopping here—minor ones, but worth remembering.

One, know quality in fabrics, jewelry, knick-knacks and furniture. Otherwise, it's easy to get "look"; plenty of second-rate goods are pouring into the city.

Two, make sure the shopkeeper can provide a point-of-origin certificate. Otherwise you'll have trouble getting your purchases home. The U. S. Treasury Department prohibits bringing in merchandise originating in China or North Korea.

Three, plan to haggle on price. The first quoted is only the be-

ginning in most shops although some of the older, established stores stick to the original.

"Special price for you because you're my first customer," was this greeting I received from numerous shops on a morning of making the rounds.

Bargains include tweeds and worsteds from the British Isles; silks from Italy and Japan; rich brocades either from Japan or Hong Kong; leather goods, from billfolds to luggage; all kinds of jewelry including watches, jade and cultured pearls; linens, lace, photographic supplies and hand-made shoes.

And the tailors—so numerous already I wonder how any new ones can find space to set up shop—will copy virtually any garment for you. Bring your own pattern or sketch, or wear in the costume you want in another material. Speed goes with the bargain. Tailors will do a suit with one fitting in 24 hours.

I talked with tourists who had paid \$50 and \$60 (U. S. dollars) for men's suits, but I found them offered also for \$23. One shop offered to make me a fully-lined suit either in worsted or heavy silk for \$22.

A mandarin-style brocade jacket, also lined, would cost \$7. Brocade by the yard cost from 90 cents to \$1. A twin sweater set of Scottish cashmere—cardigan and

pullover—cost from \$16 to \$18, about half the price in the states. I found a lamb's wool cardigan for \$5. And one tailor offered to make me a skirt in any material in the house for \$7.

A leathergoods shop showed me four pieces of matched luggage for \$43, including canvas covers. But comparing prices later, I talked to one tourist who had bought a three-piece set for \$14, with covers.

Inflation hasn't hit the colony yet; some residents say goods even are getting a little cheaper as competition gets keener. The shopkeepers are so anxious to sell, they practically haul you in from the street as you window-browse. Once inside, first thing they do is offer you a chair. If you sit down, you're done.

SCOUT NEWS

CUB PACK 8

Cub Pack 8 of Peace Memorial Church held its Halloween pack meeting October 29. There were so many good costumes that everyone got a prize. Jack-o-lanterns, made by the Cubs, were grinning from the stage. The cubmaster, Duane Cassidy, held an impressive hobcay ceremony bringing eight new cubs into the pack. The new cubs are Lenny McBride, Mike See, Darrell Maplet, Lloyd Wagner and Buzzy Cassidy, joining Den 2; Charles Gibson, joining Den 7; and Frank McGuire and David Butler, joining Den 8.

The awards ceremony recognized achievements of the following cubs: in Den 1, Mike Hendrick, bear gold and silver arrows; in Den 5, Craig Kitching, denner stripes, and Dale Down, assistant denner stripe; in Den 8, David Rusth, denner stripes, Jimmy Ward, assistant denner stripe and Gary Pierce, lion gold arrow.

Mrs. Martha Cassidy was welcomed back as den mother after an absence of several months. Highlight of the evening was a trip through the spook house. Judging from the screams and yells, it was a success. The meeting was closed with coffee and gaily decorated cupcakes.



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A MESSAGE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO ALL MY FRIENDS...



United States Senator Richard L. Neuberger and his wife Maurine

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY is essential to good government. As one of your United States Senators, I recently voted against proposals to cut Federal tax revenues, because I knew that we in Oregon needed \$90 million to save the vast Klamath pine forest, \$8 million to start John Day Dam, and nearly \$500,000 to begin the Fort Clatsop National Memorial—in addition to the overriding burdens of national defense in which we all share. I refused to insult my Senate colleagues by advocating tax cuts and also seeking increased funds for my own state, and thus they supported me on these Oregon projects.

TODAY, right here in Oregon, a candidate for Governor is insulting our intelligence by telling us simultaneously that he will cut taxes and that he will also increase state benefits in many fields. This candidate is Mark Hatfield.

In full-page newspaper advertisements last week, Mr. Hatfield promised local property tax exemptions which would take scores of millions of dollars in assessed valuation off local tax rolls, and force millions of dollars in taxes to be made up by the rest of us. He also proposed state income tax reductions which could cost the State treasury \$12 million or more for the biennium.

YET, IN THE SAME ADS, Mr. Hatfield promised a new State educational institution at Portland, a program of state-financed scholarships for students, additional funds for cleaning up our rivers, more spending on conservation and state parks, state funds for agricultural emergencies, etc.

You and I know that no candidate who is sincere and honest with us can, at the same time, pledge himself both to lower taxes and to higher spending. Yet that is how Mark Hatfield is trying to win your vote. Having taken my stand in the U. S. Senate for fiscal integrity, I believe I have the right to blow the whistle on Mr. Hatfield's present irresponsible and contradictory promises.

Mr. Hatfield now poses as the champion of tax reduction. Yet, last year, when Governor Robert D. Holmes called a special session of the Legislature to reduce state income taxes, Mr. Hatfield opposed such a call! In this, he even challenged his fellow Republican on the Board of Control, State Treasurer Sig Unander, who originally suggested the session which cut state income taxes.

There are additional facts you will want to consider.

All of us in the Pacific Northwest were thrilled when the U. S. Senate, last June 30, voted to admit our neighbor, Alaska, as the 49th State. I shall always be proud I was chosen to preside over that historic rollcall. Alaskan statehood has long been a great cause for many people in Oregon.

Thus, in 1955 the Oregon State Senate voted, 28-1, to ask Congress to admit Alaska to the Union. State Senator Holmes, now our Governor, voted with the bipartisan majority. The only vote against Alaskan statehood was cast by State Senator Mark Hatfield, yet Mr. Hatfield voted that session for resolutions of far less interest to the people of Oregon than the cause of statehood for Alaska.

The record of past acts tells more than campaign promises. At the height of the witch-hunting era, Governor Bob Holmes had the courage to vote in the State Senate against singling out Oregon's school teachers for the odious indignity of a special loyalty oath. Mark Hatfield actually was a legislative sponsor of this teacher's loyalty oath—an oath of the same type as Governor Earl Warren condemned so indignantly in California.

MY FELLOW CONSERVATIONISTS, who remember the long fight to preserve the Deschutes for recreation and sport fishing, should be particularly interested to learn that Mark Hatfield was a leading proponent of Pelton Dam, by working for legislation which the *Oregonian* editorially denounced as "a fantastic bill which would have nullified the long-standing state statutes governing water rights and usages."

THIS RECORD is something which Mr. Hatfield seeks to avoid by his reckless promises of lower taxes and more government spending. I have faith that Oregon's men and women are too intelligent and too well educated to be taken in by a political candidate who announces that government under him will spend more and tax less.

**I URGE YOU TO VOTE FOR GOVERNOR
BOB HOLMES ON NOVEMBER 4.**

Cordially,

Dick Neuberger
UNITED STATES SENATOR

Re-Elect Governor Holmes Committee, 400 S. W. 4th Ave., Portland, Oregon, Marguerite W. Wright, Secy.