

PRINCESS SEES HONG KONG BY NIGHT.

The lights blazed in Victoria. The Capital of Hong Kong was even gayer than usual, stimulated by a royal visit, already, at this early stage, successful far beyond expectations. Undoubtedly the vivacious personality of Princess Alexandra has evoked lively response everywhere she has appeared. Escorted by Sir Michael Turner and Sir Sik Nin Chau, she now walked towards the san-pan, on the way to the Sea Palace restaurant. There, Her Royal Highness was to be guest of past and present Unofficial Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils. The evening engagement was an example of gracious living in Hong Kong; and graceful girls paddled the sanpan across the water. How much pleasanter to go dining out this way than battling through motor traffic. The elite of the Colony - British and Chinese - awaited the Princess in the restaurant.

Diners at the Sea Palace don't depend on a printed menu, they see the fish still alive, and choose anything they fancy. For Princess Alexandra it was a novel experience; one which she evidently enjoyed, though there was so much to select from, it must have been difficult to make a choice. If the customer doesn't like the look of it at closer quarters, something else can be fished out. It can be a splashy operation; perhaps, that's all part of the fun.

The final choice was a crawfish, and a fine specimen, too.

Sir Sik Nin Chau is one of the Colony's foremost industrialists; Sir Michael Turner, before his recent retirement, was Chairman of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. Both are members of the Legislative Council. By this time the Princess was no stranger to chopsticks.

There was a marked Chinese flavour in an engagement of another kind, when Her Royal Highness went to see part of a Cantonese opera at the Lee Theatre. The proceeds of the performance were devoted to hospitals, and the royal presence ensured a full house.

In the Princess's honour the operatic troupe put on a special dance.