



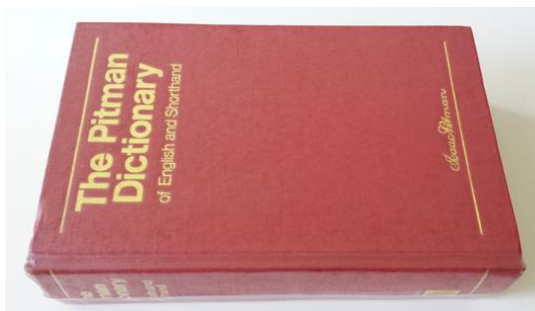
Maria Lui

1972, F5

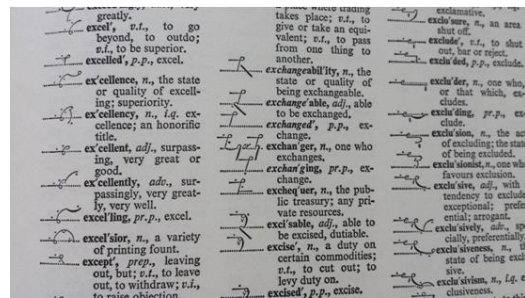
Alumna of Commercial Section, St. Paul's Convent School

### Shorthand: My Fond Memory of the Commercial Section

Shorthand is a method of simplified symbolic writing which aims at increasing the writing speed of a language. *The Pitman Dictionary of English and Shorthand* was a student's best companion in Shorthand classes in the 1970s. Although the invention of recording devices eclipsed the popularity of Shorthand nowadays, this dictionary brings us back in time to the Commercial Section of St. Paul's Convent School in the past century.



*The Pitman Dictionary of English and Shorthand* by Isaac Pitman, 1974



A sample page with Shorthand writing from the dictionary

Technology has always been an academic interest in St. Paul's Convent School ever since Sr. Beatrice introduced the first Typewriting class in 1913. During Sr. Marie du Sacre Coeur's tenure as the Principal of the Commercial Section, Shorthand and Correspondence were also included in the curriculum. Opened to students with a minimum of Form 5 qualification, enrollment in this one-year commercial and secretarial course, which continued to operate until 1992, was extremely popular and competitive. Successful applicants acquired valuable skills and received excellent training who, upon completion, were offered great positions in offices. In fact, the Commercial Section enjoyed such a good reputation that local employers left their contacts with Sr. Marie so that she could send her girls for interviews.



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**Sr. Marie du Sacre Coeur, Principal**

**Mr. Joseph Isaac**

**Miss Hene Lin**

(Left to Right)

**Back Row:** Paula Yip, Diana Ng, Lily Cheng, Norma Concepcion, Rosalina Shum, Helena Li, Maryan Chin, Sophia Wong, Antonia O'Brien, Lily Yuen, Agnes Siu.

**3rd Row:** Becky Wong, Lily Mok, Magdalena Chan, Fatima Aladin, Jacqueline Cheung, Annie Wu, Christina Chung, Amy Lam, Sherita Khan, Marisa Kahn, Elizabeth Barber, Maria Yik.

**2nd Row:** Barbara Mai, Angela Pang, Elizabeth Roberts, Helen Beng, Elaine Leung, Irene Wong, Angela Wong, Betty Fan, Helen Lok, Judy Ho.

**Front Row:** Irene Chan, Mary Lam, Vito Ng, Sofia Ip, Agnes Fung, Nancy Ho, Rosaline Ling, Catherine Cheung, Madeline Cheung, Lena Chen.

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**A.M. 2**



**Sr. Marie du Sacre Coeur, Principal**

**Mr. Joseph Isaac**

**Miss R. Malwan**

(Left to Right)

**Back Row:** Lily Yip, Betty Chan, Dorothy Hsu, Helen Fung, Fiona Ching, Eva Ng, Audrey Kuo, Ada Chung, Nora Oresta, Teresa Yu, Ellen Yu, Vivian Lee, Lilian Kwan, Lina Li, Virginia Fernandes.

**2nd Row:** Eileen Tsui, Barbara Lopes, Angela Ho, Catherine Yeung, Lory Fu, Minnie Kwan, Norma Harbison, Dora Hui, Rosita Leung, Emma Ho, Pauline Chung, Elsie Leung.

**3rd Row:** Shirley Ho, Diana Chan, Sarina Lee, Patricia Tang, Juliana Chai, Lylla Chan, Cecilia Hung, Fanny Leung, Carolina Barros, Angela Lee, Ramona Bernardo, Amy Lam, Hilda Fong, Rose K. Ng.

**Front Row:** Mary Leung, Teresa Chan, Margaret South, Christine Fong, Juliana Ma, Agnes Kwan, Nerissa Cheng, Anna Wong, Judy Chan, Nancy Wu, Maria Lui, Winnie Chan.