

S.R.M.P.

8 June 1982

AA gears up to fight for drivers

The 22,000-strong Hong-kong Automobile Association hopes to have a stronger voice by increasing its membership in the coming year.

Speaking after the annual

meeting, the president, Mr R. Hauser, said they expected membership to increase to 25,000 by the end of this year.

Membership in the past year has been boosted by 45 per cent.

And last month, when the Government introduced measures to discourage car ownership, the association registered an additional 800 members — 200 more than the monthly average.

The association's officials believe this may be because more motorists want them to fight to improve their lot.

Meanwhile, the AA has collected more than 5,000 signatures for its petition protesting against the Government's recent massive increases in car registration tax, licence fees and duty on light oils.

Petitions collected are expected to be sent to Britain's Foreign Secretary, Mr Francis Pym, next month.

Mr Hauser said they have hopes of "getting some relief" through the petition.