

Business this week

本周经济要闻

The London Stock Exchange and Deutsche Börse hoped it would be third time lucky, as the pair confirmed they were in advanced talks about merging. The London and Frankfurt exchanges tried to integrate in 2000 and 2005, but their overtures were rejected by shareholders. Times have changed since then. Only 10% of the LSE's and Deutsche Borse's revenues now come from trading in equities; both have expanded into derivatives, clearing houses and other financial services.

英国伦敦证券交易所和德意志交易所证实，双方正就合并事宜进行深入谈判，并期待能有一个皆大欢喜的结局。这已经是上述两家交易所第三次试图合并了，前两次分别发生在 2000 年和 2005 年，但是一开始便遭到了股东们的否决。如今的情况与当年有所不同，两家交易所的收入中只有 10% 来自于股票交易，并且他们都已将自己的业务扩展到了其他金融服务领域，如：金融衍生品及票据交换业务。

China's government ousted Xiao Gang as head of the securities regulatory commission for failing to prevent the bubble, or manage the bust, in the country's stockmarkets, which fell sharply again this week. Mr.Xiao's replacement is Liu Shiyu, the chairman of Agricultural Bank of China and a former deputy governor of the People's Bank of China.

由于处理股市泡沫不利，前中国证监会主席肖钢遭中国政府去职。但股市在本周仍旧暴跌。中国农业银行董事长兼前中国人民银行副行长刘士余接替肖钢出任中国证监会主席一职。

China, including Hong Kong, has surpassed America as the country with the most dollar billionaires, according to Hurun, a publication, and is home to 568 billionaires compared with America's 535. The figures for China were based on share prices in January, and take account of tumbling stockmarkets. India came third on the list with 111 billionaires. Britain and Germany were joint fourth with 82 each, followed by Russia on 80.

根据近日发布的《胡润全球富豪榜》显示，大中华地区以 568 比 535 首次超越美国，成为世界上拥有 10 亿美金富豪最多的国家。该结果是依据一月份的股票价格并且考虑股市暴跌因素而得到的数据得出的。印度以 111 名十亿富豪的成绩位居第三。英国及德国并列第四，都有 82 名富豪。俄罗斯则以 80 名富豪排名第五。

Mark Carney, the governor of the Bank of England, again dampened expectations of an interest-rate rise this year when he told a committee in Parliament that, on the contrary, he wasn't ruling out cutting the bank's benchmark rate to zero if the British economy worsened.

英格兰银行行长马克·卡尼(Mark Carney)向英国议会委员会透露，如果英国经济恶化，他非但不会加息反而还会考虑将基准利率下调至零。这一番话再一次降低了今年英镑升息的预期。

A fall in profit in its Asian business helped push HSBC to an \$858m quarterly pre-tax loss (pre-tax profit for all of 2015 came in at \$19 billion). It also had to put aside money for legal costs as American regulators have now added HSBC to the list of banks they are investigating for employment practices in Asia. Standard Chartered made an annual loss of \$2.4 billion, its first since 1989.

由于亚洲市场业务的损失，汇丰银行(HSBC)的第四季度税前亏损达到了 8.58 亿美元(其 2015 年的税前利润为 190 亿美元)。美国监管机构已将汇丰银行列入了调查名单，观察其是否在亚洲员工雇佣上存在问题。所以汇丰还得从利润中留出一部分作为诉讼费。渣打银行(Standard Chartered)去年遭遇自 1989 年以来最大损失，损失金额为 24 亿美元。

Saudi Arabia's oil minister surprised energy markets by reiterating that he would be happy to see oil prices fall to \$20 a barrel to squeeze out "inefficient, uneconomic producers". The minister's remarks somewhat undermine the kingdom's pact with Russia to freeze oil production in order to boost prices (though only if other big producers do the same).

沙特阿拉伯石油部部长语出惊人，他表示自己很乐意看到石油价格下跌至 20 美元每桶，这样就能将那些“低效，不经济”的产油国挤出市场。这一番言论一定程度上破坏了沙特阿拉伯与俄罗斯签署的关于停止石油产量增产以抬高价格的协议。仅仅俄罗斯一国停止石油增产并不会对石油价格有什么效果。只有当所有大型产油国都采取相同的停止增产的措施时，石油价格才会走高。

BHP Billiton joined the list of mining giants to publish dismal earnings on the back of the slump in commodity prices, when it reported a \$5.7 billion six-month loss.

必和必拓公布过去 6 个月净亏损为 57 亿美元，这意味着大宗商品价格的持续暴跌让矿业巨擘也加入业绩惨淡大军。