



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1974

PARKING METERS FOR TSUEN WAN B B B B B B

PARKING METERS WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT, NEW TERRITORIES, AS FROM TUESDAY (JUNE 25) THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

ABOUT 1,000 METERS, ALL OF OLD RATES, WILL BE INSTALLED IN A PROGRAMME SPREAD OVER 10 WORKING DAYS AND EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY JULY 9.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ON INSTALLING METERS IN THE DISTRICT DATED BACK SEVERAL YEARS. THE IDEA IS TO REGULARISE PARKING FACILITIES IN THE FAST-GROWING RURAL TOWNSHIP, HE SAID.

TSUEN WAN WILL NOW BE THE FIRST DISTRICT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES TO HAVE METERS INSTALLED. AFTER THIS, IT IS INTENDED TO INSTALL METERS IN OTHER RURAL DISTRICTS SUCH AS YUEN LONG AND TAIPO, DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF STAFF AND EQUIPMENT, HE SAID.

THE METERS IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE OPERATIONAL UP TO MIDNIGHT. UNLIKE THE NEW-RATE METERS, THEY WILL ACCEPT 10-CENT COINS. MOST OF THEM WILL BE THE TWO-HOUR TYPE, THE OTHERS BEING FOR HALF AN HOUR, ONE HOUR AND FOUR HOURS.

THE INSTALLATION WILL START ALONG TEXACO ROAD. AS IT PROGRESSES, PARKING SPACES UP TO PUN SHAN STREET WILL BE METERED.

THE SPOKESMAN ADVISED MOTORISTS TO READ CAREFULLY, DURING THE INSTALLATION PERIOD, THE REGULATIONS PRINTED ON THE METAL PLATE ATTACHED TO THE METERS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE CORRECT COINS WERE INSERTED.

HE SAID ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO CANCEL PARKING TICKETS ISSUED TO A MOTORIST WHO HAD PARKED HIS CAR AT AN UNMETERED PARKING SPACE WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INSTALLED WITH A METER.

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HUNG HOM RAILWAY TERMINUS COMPLEX
NEARING COMPLETION
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CONSTRUCTION OF THE MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR RAILWAY TERMINUS COMPLEX AT HUNG HOM IS ENTERING ITS LAST TWELVE MONTHS OF WORK.

THE NEW TERMINUS WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE AT TSIMSHATSUI AND WILL PROVIDE FOR BETTER RAILWAY SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

ABOUT HALF OF THE GIANT CONCRETE PODIUM, WHICH FORMS THE BASE OF A MODERN RAILWAY TERMINAL BUILDING, IS NOW COMPLETE AND FOUNDATION WORK FOR THE OTHER HALF IS ALMOST COMPLETE.

THE PODIUM STANDS 30 FEET ABOVE GROUND LEVEL. THE RAILWAY TERMINAL BUILDING ON TOP OF IT WILL BE TWO STOREYS HIGH. THE FLOOR ON PODIUM LEVEL, WHICH IS ALMOST COMPLETE, WILL ACCOMMODATE A FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED PASSENGER CONCOURSE INCORPORATING A BOOKING HALL, WAITING AREAS, A RESTAURANT AND OTHER USUAL RAILWAY TERMINAL FACILITIES.

THE RAILWAY OFFICES WILL BE HOUSED ON THE UPPER FLOOR. SIX PLATFORMS HAVE BEEN BUILT AT GROUND LEVEL DIRECTLY BENEATH THE PODIUM. LIFTS AND ESCALATORS WILL BE INSTALLED TO SERVE PASSENGERS COMMUTING BETWEEN THE RAILWAY PLATFORMS AND THE STATION BUILDING.

OTHER AUXILIARY WORK OF THE PROJECT INCLUDE:

- + THE LAYING OF ABOUT EIGHT MILES OF TRACKS AND SIDINGS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY LINK UP WITH THE EXISTING ALIGNMENT OF THE RAILWAY AT THE PRINCESS MARGARET TUNNEL
- + TWO VEHICULAR FLYOVERS LINKING THE PODIUM TO GILLIES AVENUE AND THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL APPROACH ROADS.
- + THREE ELEVATED PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGES CONNECTING THE PODIUM TO ITS SURROUNDING AREAS, AND
- + NEW SERVICE FACILITIES INCLUDING A SHED FOR REPAIRING LOCOMOTIVES, TURNABLE AND OIL STORAGE TANKS.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE RAILWAY TERMINUS WILL BE OPEN TO TRAFFIC IN THE SUMMER OF 1975.

MEANWHILE, THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY HAS ORDERED 40 NEW CARRIAGES WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR TO BOOST PRESENT ROLLING STOCK. TWELVE OF THE NEW CARRIAGES WILL BE USED TO FORM A NEW TRAIN.

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URBAN COUNCIL REINTRODUCES
INCENSE TREE TO HONGKONG
B B B B B B

THE URBAN COUNCIL HAS STARTED A MODEST PROGRAMME TO REINTRODUCE THE INCENSE TREE TO HONG KONG.

THE PROGRAMME IS NECESSARILY MODEST BECAUSE INCENSE SEEDLINGS ARE NOW A RARITY HERE.

FIVE OF THE YOUNG PLANTS ARE TO BE PLACED ON EITHER SIDE OF THE APPROACHES TO THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL. THREE OTHERS WILL BE PLANTED AT THE BOTANIC GARDENS AND THE REMAINING THREE IN KOWLOON PARK.

THE 16 SEEDLINGS BEING PLANTED WILL, EVEN WHEN MATURE, SCARCELY CONTRIBUTE MORE THAN A SPECK OF GREEN TO OUR SCENERY COMPARED WITH THE 113,895 TREES OF OTHER TYPES PLANTED BY THE COUNCIL IN THE PAST THREE YEARS, OR THE 36,562 IT WILL PAY FOR (AT A COST OF MORE THAN \$3 MILLION) AND PLANT DURING THE PRESENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

HOWEVER, THE INCENSE SEEDLINGS REPRESENT THE FRUITS OF A CAREFUL SEARCH OF HONG KONG FOR THE FEW REMAINING ADULT INCENSE TREES, AND CAREFUL CULTIVATION OF THE SEEDS FOUND FROM THOSE TREES.

THE SEEDS ARE FROM THE BEST REMAINING INCENSE TREE IN HONG KONG, A 20-FOOT SPECIMEN AT THE URBAN COUNCIL'S NURSERY AT SHOUSON HILL.

GARDENERS THERE PLANTED ALL THE SEEDS AND FOR MORE THAN A YEAR HAVE CAREFULLY TENDED THE RESULTANT SEEDLINGS.

NOW THE 16 STURDIEST OF THEM ARE BEING USED TO START THE RE-PLANTING CAMPAIGN.

THE COUNCIL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE IT CAN RESTORE THE AROMATIC TREE TO ITS FORMER POSITION IN HONG KONG.

THE INCENSE TREE, CORRECT NAME AQUILARIA SINENSIS, WAS BROUGHT HERE HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO FROM WHAT IS NOW NORTH VIETNAM.

THE SOIL HERE AND ALONG THE COASTAL AREAS OF KUANGTUNG SUITED THE TREES, WHICH FLOURISHED HERE.

THIS LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROSPEROUS TRADE IN HONG KONG-GROWN INCENSE FOR BURNING IN TEMPLES AMONG CHINESE COMMUNITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE TREES WERE GROWN IN VARIOUS PARTS OF HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, AND WHAT WAS LATER TO BECOME THE NEW TERRITORIES. TWO OF THE MOST PROLIFIC AREAS WERE ON LANTAO ISLAND AND AROUND THE SHATIN VALLEY.

HONG KONG INCENSE GREW IN FAME FOR ITS AROMATIC QUALITY, AND IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE NAME 'FRAGRANT HARBOUR' COULD HAVE ARISEN.

MUCH OF

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MUCH OF THE LOCALLY GROWN INCENSE WAS SHIPPED THROUGH SHEK PAI WAN, NEAR ABERDEEN, AND SOME HISTORIANS SAY THAT THE PLEASANT SMELL THE TRADE GAVE TO THE HARBOUR LED TO THE AREA BEING NAMED 'HEUNG KONG' (FRAGRANT HARBOUR).

HONG KONG'S ABILITY TO GROW THE FINEST TYPES OF INCENSE LED TO HEAVY CUTTING. EVENTUALLY THE MAIN GROWING AREAS WERE STRIPPED, AND THE TRADE HAD TO DEPEND ON OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPLY.

FROM THE FEW REMAINING TREES THE SEED WAS SCATTERED AND FROM THIS PRECARIOUS TOEHOLD NATURE, HELPED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL, IS NOW TRYING TO GIVE US SOME INDICATION OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE LED TO HONG KONG BEING KNOWN AS 'FRAGRANT HARBOUR.'

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

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A NUMBER OF NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL COME INTO FORCE ON TUESDAY (JUNE 25) IN THE MID-LEVELS AREA ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON TONG.

ON THE ISLAND, BREEZY PATH WILL BE REVERTED TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC AS FROM 10 A.M. ON TUESDAY TO OBLIATE A DETOUR WHICH MANY MOTORISTS HAVE HAD TO MAKE. AT THE SAME TIME, NO RIGHT TURN MOVEMENT FROM ROBINSON ROAD TO GLENEALY WILL BE PERMITTED.

MEANWHILE, EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ALONG ARGYLE STREET IN KOWLOON WILL AGAIN BE ABLE TO TURN RIGHT INTO THE SOUTHBOUND DIRECTION OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD AS FROM 10.30 A.M. THE SAME DAY.

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS SUSPENDING THIS MOVEMENT WERE INTRODUCED IN MARCH THIS YEAR TO FACILITATE WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ARGYLE STREET FLYOVER.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE POSTED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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