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**NOTES ON TIN PROSPECTS—REKARA,
KING ISLAND**

by T. D. Hughes.

In the parish of Rekara, in the central north of King Island, the Closer Settlement Board is developing new farm lands. The land is flat and low-lying (about 50 feet above sea level) so that deep drains have to be dug. While engaged in a fencing contract in this locality, Mr. B. Pitchford washed some dishes of the alluvium from the sides and bottom of some of these drains and obtained a fair prospect of fine tin.

Recently I visited the area in company with Mr. Pitchford and Mr. J. Curtain and we looked at an area about a mile square. In the south-western portion of this, bedrock comes close to the surface but towards the north-east the cover of alluvium thickens. Several dishes were washed in this north-eastern portion and a fair concentrate was obtained. An assay of this concentrate showed 16.8% tin. This does not reveal any real evidence of the tin content of the ground but it does show that tin is present and that the ground warrants further prospecting. The tin is very fine but it is

near the top of the ground and it is reasonable to suppose that it will improve towards the bottom. At present there is nothing to indicate the depth of the ground, and I suggest that some preliminary prospecting be done to ascertain this at several localities and also if tin values improve at the bottom. The alluvium is sandy-clay with several bands of large pebbles. The preliminary work should be done either with a post-hole digger fitted with extension rods or a hand boring plant, which perhaps may be borrowed from the King Island Scheelite Company.

Sea shells of recent origin have been found close to this locality and it is reasonable to suppose that the sea covered the area recently and that the wash and tin concentrate was formed by wave action.

The following occur as well as cassiterite and quartz and felspar in the concentrate:

Staurolite.—In large lozenge shaped crystals—some dull grey, others with a reddish-brown translucence. Also as bright orange-coloured chips.

Garnet.—As small pink crystals.

Tourmaline.—*Zircon*.—Small amounts.

Sapphire.—As rare blue crystals.