

TR9-19

### 3 QUARRY SITE AT WATERHOUSE

by R. Jack

On 20th August I accompanied Mr. Death, Public Works Department Supervisor, of Launceston, on a trip from Scottsdale to Winnaleah in search of a quarry site suitable for producing road metal, required for the sealing of the Bridport-Winnaleah road in the next two years. The P.W.D. prefer basalt or dolerite, and as the only rocks in this area are Mathinna sedimentary rocks, granite and isolated basalt-capped hills we therefore visited these basalt occurrences first.

The basalt-capped hills occur at Waterhouse approximately six miles north of the main Bridport-Winnaleah road and about equidistant from both towns. Three hills were investigated, and any of them would yield suitable material. The highest hill is occupied by a P.M.G. repeater station and care would be needed in quarrying on the side of this hill. The lower hill beside this high one is very suitable with good road access and suitable sites for quarrying and crushing operations. The third hill investigated is also suitable but would require approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of road making for access.

Overburden on the basalt varies from 0-6 inches of sand on the windward side to 3-4 feet of sand on the downwind side. Vegetation is low growing and sparse. The basalt breaks readily along the joints and should be suitable providing sealing tests with the sample taken are satisfactory. Reserves of material are sufficient for immediate and any future road sealing programmes in the area.