

NOTES ON ASBESTOS DEPOSIT AT NORTH DUNDAS

The deposit is situated at North Dundas, about 10 chains south-east of south end of tunnel on Emu Bay railway line.

A prospecting licence of 50 acres, in the name of T.S. Burns, embraces the area.

Zeehan-Renison Bell road, traverses the western part of the area from south to north.

The rocks in the vicinity consist of serpentine of Devonian age.

Little or no prospecting for asbestos appears to have been undertaken up to the present.

The quarries, opened for road material, occur on either side of the road and expose the unweathered serpentine to a depth of 15 feet.

In the southern quarry, on west side of road, two zones of closely spaced, parallel veins of crysolite asbestos traverse the serpentine for a distance of at least 20 feet. The zones are two feet across respectively, and the included veins of cross fibre range from $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch in width, adjacent veins being separated by $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch of serpentine.

Other isolated veins of asbestos occur up to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in width and, at one point, several minute veins join to form a vein one inch wide over a length of 12 inches.

Five chains further north, in a quarry on east side of road, some small isolated asbestos veins are exposed in serpentine, which vary in width from $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch. The quality of the asbestos appears to be up to standard but, owing to the general thin nature of the veins, the deposit does not assume commercial proportions. Further prospecting in the search for concentrations of wider veins is warranted.

F. BLAKE

Acting Government Geologist.

1st May, 1939.