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23rd October, 1950.

MEMORANDUM:State Forest Proposal - Mersey Valley.

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Attached is a Geological Sketch Map of the area in question. It must be emphasised that the geological boundaries are very approximate and, except for a portion in the South-west of the area, are not the result of a geological survey. However the boundaries give an approximate position of the rock types which do occur in the area.

From an economic mineral point of view, the area may be divided into three portions-

1. Country which definitely contains economic mineral deposits.

Along the Eastern bank of the Forth River is a belt of Pre-Cambrian Schists and Quartzites intruded by Granite. Occurring in this group of rocks is a series of Wolfram veins, some of which, in the past, have been worked.

2. Country which may contain economic mineral deposits.

There are two series of rocks which may contain deposits of workable minerals. The Pre-Cambrian schists may contain veins of such metallic minerals as Wolfram and ores of tin or copper, while the Permian rocks may contain coal seams. Coal has been found in these rocks to the South-west of the area in question. Intensive prospecting would be necessary to determine the existance of both these classes of mineral.

3. Country which does not contain economic mineral deposits.

2.

The igneous rocks, dolerite and basalt, are not associated with economic minerals in Tasmania.

Thus no objection should be made to the dedication for forestry purposes of the country covered by dolerite and basalt but the remainder of the country is a potential mineral bearing area. The geological boundaries shown on the map are only approximate, and a detailed survey of this rugged and trackless area would be necessary before these could be shown in their correct relationship.

(Sgd) T.D. Hughes.  
GEOLOGIST.

The Director of Mines

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