

TH/2

20th February, 1951.

MEMORANDUM:Water Supply for Closer Settlement Farms,
King Island.

On the 23rd December, 1948, after a visit to King Island, I reported on this matter and suggested that well sinking would result in the establishment of more satisfactory water supplies than boring.

During my recent visit to the Island, I had a further discussion on this matter with Mr. D. Handley, who is the officer in charge of Closer Settlement Development in King Island.

Mr. Handley informed me that, owing to the difficulty of obtaining well sinkers he had requested his Department to apply for a boring plant to be sent to the Island.

I accompanied Mr. Handley to the Mount Stanley area and inspected two wells that had already been sunk. In one, a supply of water at 30 feet, yielded at least 200 gallons an hour even in the driest period and was sufficient for house and dairy requirements. On slightly higher ground, another well, 25 feet in depth, was nearly dry and was being deepened and so could be inspected. The rock although not itself an aquifer is well fractured and some water was beginning to make along the breaks.

I am still of the opinion that wells would yield a better supply at shallower depths, but as the rock is so broken, sufficient supplies could probably be obtained from bores put down to greater depths.

Signed: Terence D. Hughes,

GEOLOGIST.

The Director of Mines.
