

1259 - TRANS
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POSSIBLE WATER SUPPLY FOR CLOSER
SETTLEMENT BLOCKS AT CHUDLEIGH
ESTATE, CHUDLEIGH DISTRICT

These blocks are situated on and adjacent to the alluvial flats of Dale Brook, north west of the Western Creek Road and about four miles from Needles. The Estate has been divided into five blocks, four of which are bounded by the Dale Brook and whose water problems are thus not acute. A supply of permanent water for the fifth block, however, is urgently needed.

The rivulet is bounded by wide alluvial flats of recent origin from which rise gentle slopes of limestone (to the west) and shales and slates (to the east). These hills are capped by basalt and the change of topography where the basalt begins is most noticeable. The limestone and shale series are in faulted relationship but there is no surface expression of this fault. Pebbles and boulders of quartzite and conglomerate are widely strewn over the area by Pleistocene glacial action.

The principal rock types outcropping on block five are limestone and basalt. Limestone should occur also beneath the basalt flows. Very little boring for water has been attempted in the Gordon River Limestones in Tasmania. While this rock is not in itself an aquifer, it does carry numerous holes, caves, apertures and underground passage ways which often contain strong streams of water. Perhaps the best surface expressions of these spaces in the rock are holes and depressions. The location of possible sites for bores was discussed with Mr. Anderson, who will probably be the tenant of this block, and this location is indicated on the attached plan. One is near the proposed dairy site and the other in a depression farther north. As far as the eastern portion of the block is concerned it is considered that a better water supply could be obtained by constructing a small dam on a (reported) permanent spring than by boring. A similar spring on block 1 could be developed for Mr. McGee's house purposes and the water gravitated to the house from it.

It is considered that a bore would encounter water in the alluvial flats anywhere at a fairly shallow depth (say 10 - 20 feet) and although there can be no assurance that water will be encountered in the limestone, the probability is sufficiently encouraging to put down some bores in the areas indicated.

(Sgd.) Terence D. Hughes

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