

HGWK/1

Department of Mines, Tasmania

Hobart, 1st February, 1956

MEMORANDUM

During my recent visit to Smithton and Stanley several matters received attention.

G33 Percussion Drilling Plant

Mr. Harper was without an assistant when we arrived. We had an applicant for the job on Wednesday 25th January, and took him to be interviewed by Mr. Harper who engaged him as from that date.

In conversation with Mr. Harper it was pointed out that several of the bearings were badly worn. It appeared that Mr. Harper was thinking of taking the plant to Launceston for overhaul and taking the new plant from Launceston for use. To me this appeared to be an expensive loss of time and as the Mines Department has three similar plants it was suggested that certain bearings be obtained as spare parts which could be replaced quickly with very little loss of time, the old bearing being remounted at leisure. As Mr. Evans agreed he made notes of the bearings required and should submit the proposal to you for approval.

Mr. Harper commenced boring near the Church in Forest on Thursday, 26th January.

As Mr. Harper is not familiar with the various rock types he was advised to send to this office chips obtained by boring and a record of the depth at which the chip was obtained. In this way a correct determination of the rock type will be made and the bore records will be more nearly correct.

Smithton Post Office

I was advised by telegram to inspect the area around the post office to determine the possibilities of obtaining suitable foundations for a two storey brick building proposed for the site.

I was told that the Commonwealth authorities had already tested the ground to shallow depths, reported to be 21 feet, by shallow shafts and jumper holes. Samples of the materials were taken by the Commonwealth Public Works Department. As the material passed through was entirely sandy, on return to Hobart, enquiries were made from the Commonwealth authorities to find out their actual requirements. They are anxious to know the depth to bedrock. Perhaps this information could be obtained by the use of the hand plant but as the G33 is in the district the results would be more quickly obtained by its use. Mr. Corby advised them to make application for the use of the plant and it may be possible to have this boring done soon. At least four holes would be required.

During the trip the opportunity was taken to guide Mr. Evans and Matthew, the Burmese student, in the use of Aerial photographs for the spotting of bore positions and generally as a road and topographical map.

The Director of Mines,
HOBART.

Sgd. (H.G.W. Keid)
CHIEF GEOLOGIST