

## Comments on PWD gravel supplies, Gladstone Road

*by D. J. Jennings*

I have spoken to Ron Lawry and Joe Mullins (Public Works Department road foreman) and they have obviously got together over the matter of gravel prospecting.

- (a) The PWD foreman is aware of the tin in the pit to the west of the road south of the Aberfoyle cottages, and the PWD drivers have not been using this material at all during the current road building season.
- (b) The PWD has currently reopened an ancient road material pit north of the Aberfoyle cottages over the creek to the east of the road. Material from here shows no promise of tin (poorly consolidated hailstone gravels, only ½ dozen birds-eye pebbles in the whole pit) — but derelict small scale tin workings riddle the east flank of the ridge, down towards the Dorset dredged flats. Mr Lawry considers that this area is barren.
- (c) The required 5 acre PWD gravel lease is to the east of the road, through a gateway just south of the Aberfoyle cottages, and has recently been prospected by the PWD with a back-hoe. According to the Department of Mines chart this area falls in the middle of 8M/62 — the Storys Creek mineral lease for kaolin. Material in the shallow prospect holes suggests neither tin nor kaolin.
- (d) The required 10 acre PWD gravel lease south of the Ringarooma River at Ogilvies Bridge is disproportionately large and impossible to locate on the ground from the information provided. Mr Lawry claims he directed PWD attention to gravel in that area and anticipates some remuneration per yard, as he is of the impression they fall on one of his leases. He considers that if any tin is present at all, it is in sub-economic amounts.

Mr Mullins agrees that he was shown gravel deposits in that area by Lawry and even infers that removal of barren overburden might be doing Mr Lawry a good turn.

Unfortunately Departmental charts show no leases of Lawry's anywhere in that locality, but this may be because of inaccuracy on the chart.

*[15 October 1968]*