

March 2nd, 1966

NOTES ON A MEETING WITH MR. WODHAMS OF SIDNEY WATERWORKS DISTRICT

On Saturday, February 26th, 1966, Mr. Wodhams telephoned me at home to ask if I would visit the site of a new well being drilled for Sidney. The reason for the request was that Mr. John Motherwell, the Consulting Engineer for the job, was suddenly called away because of an accident involving a relative.

On Monday morning, I went to the site where the well was being drilled by Ken Slade and Sons of Duncan. Mr. Wodhams said that the well had been located by a dowser named Mr. Lime who said there was water at 40 feet and also between 90 and 100 feet. The location is just north of the house owned by Sidney Waterworks District near the "shop well". The well is near a well drilled two years ago (also on advice of a dowser) which produces about 15 gallons per minute.

Mr. Slade, the driller, gave me the following log:

- 0 - 49' Sand, medium to fine.
- 49 - 51' Till
- 51 - 60' Rubble, probably partly till over weathered rock.
- 60 - 90' Rock.

Static level 31'.

A 12-inch casing has been used to about 50 feet with six-inch casing to 60 feet and open six-inch hole below.

The driller had saved two-foot samples of the sand from 31 feet to 49 feet. These are quite uniform. He had made up a combined sample for the bottom eight feet of the hole for the purpose of selecting a screen. The size curve indicates that a .020-inch slot screen is required.

The driller had apparently told Mr. Wodhams and Mr. Lime that the only hope for an interesting quantity of water is in the sand from 31 feet to 49 feet and had recommended using eight feet of 12-inch screen. However, Mr. Wodhams et al decided to continue to 100 feet on the strength of the dowser's prediction.

Mr. Wodhams said that the District is quite short of water in the summer months and that they needed all the water which could be obtained. He asked whether there is any chance that the Water Resources Service could help with advice in the search for more water. I said that I could not give him an answer on this but that the district could write to the Comptroller of Water Rights and ask for help.

Mr. Wodhams pointed out another site chosen by the dowser just south of the "shop well". This is to be drilled upon completion of the present well.



E. Livingston, Chief  
Ground-water Division

EL/lr