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I was disappointed to hear that things have not gone well on the Port Clement drilling. I am sure that something has gone wrong in the setting of the screen. It seems to me that there must be silt or clay occurring as interbeds or as a thick bed near the top of the screen which must have caved around the screen shutting off the water. I think that jet development is the best way to correct this condition. When I phoned Mr. Rawsthorne, he said that MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co. Ltd. have supplied some sort of fire pump for this work. I certainly hope this works and that the surging which was done has not created some sort of situation which cannot be corrected.

If this does not work, I suppose that the screen could be removed from the well and re-set higher in the hole (or even at the same place). If this is done, I think that jetting should be done right from the start.

I have discussed possible Masset drilling with Mr. Raudsepp pointing out the high cost of moving in and out of the Queen Charlotte Islands. He pointed out that it is most irregular to arrange for test drilling by a contractor without requesting bids. At his suggestion, I discussed this with Mr. Maclean, the Departmental Comptroller, who got approval from the Department of Finance for a limited expenditure as long as G. & G. will continue under the same conditions as those arranged by MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co. Ltd. and as long as the Village of Masset understands that the well, if successful, would be turned over only to the Village if they would pay for the material used in well construction. You should contact the Village of Masset and make sure that they are prepared to obtain an easement and that they understand the conditions under which they may take over a successful well. They should state this in a letter to the Chief Engineer.

Mr. Rawsthorne says that MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River Co. Ltd. will agree to leave the equipment on the Island long enough to drill at Masset as long as we will pay part of the cost of transportation. Mr. Freund of G. & G. Well Drilling says that G. & G. is willing to drill for us at Masset under the same terms as at Port Clements.

At Masset, I think we should investigate only a possible source close to the Village as there is no economic study to indicate whether a more distant source is economically feasible. I guess we could make exception to this if such an investigation could be done at low cost. There

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will be enough money for one hole about 250 feet deep (providing drilling progress is not too slow) with a pump test.

I have just received copies of size analyses of samples from the Port Clements well done by Coast Eldridge. It is difficult to see how silt can be the problem in the present well as the amount of material passing a 100-seive is only about 5%. However, much of this may be lost in the bailer sampling procedure. I note that the samples from 119 feet to 130 feet all have only about 2% passing the 100 seive so perhaps this part of the aquifer is cleaner. If it should be necessary to try relocating the screen, it might be worth considering moving up to this part of the section. This decision is up to you.

The results of the rotary drilling at Saltair were negative. One hole encountered gravel below the till but this gravel seemed from the drilling and the electro-log to be of low permeability so I doubt that any follow-up drilling will be done. The first hole at Bannon Creek will probably be started next week or the week after.

Gus asked me to tell Harold and his helper that they could come home for Easter if the work is not finished by then.



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