

SAVE COLONG BULLETIN

THE COLONG COMMITTEE

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1. BREAK - THROUGH ON COLONG ?

MEETING BETWEEN THE COLONG COMMITTEE AND APCM

On Tuesday June 24 at 2.30 pm in The National Trust Office at 115 Pitt Street took place what may well be an important breakthrough.

The Colong Committee discussed alternative limestone deposits with APCM.

APCM was represented by the Managing Director, Mr F E Taylor, CBE, the Manager, Mr Double, a secretary and Mr Lavers, the Company's geologist.

The Colong Committee and your Society were represented by Professor Peter Johnson, Rev. Fr. Jim Tierney, Milo Dunphy, and Ivor Wyatt. Dr David Branagan (Senior Lecturer in Geology at Sydney University) attended as geological advisor to the Committee.

The meeting began by discussing deposits in the Murruin Creek area about five miles from the offensive Colong lease.

The Company agreed that it had no record of two large deposits mapped by the Sydney Speleological Society. It was agreed that the Colong Committee would write to the Minister for Mines suggesting that the Department carry out a thorough survey of the Murruin Creek deposits. Mr Taylor stated that the services of APCM's geological staff would be available to assist in such a survey.

The Company's present negotiations with Southern Portland Cement Ltd regarding joint mining of the Marulan leases and joint use of a pipeline to Berrima and Maldon were then discussed. Mr Taylor stated that if the Company's present investigations of the vast limestone deposits at Marulan prove satisfactory, and if the present negotiations reach a satisfactory conclusion, the Company will expand its mining operations at Marulan in preference to mining at Colong. The Company has already contacted the Railways Department regarding the use of the southern railway line for a pipeline.

(All this confirmed various recommendations made over the past 18 months by Dr Branagan and The Colong Committee.)

The Colong Committee believes that there is a very real possibility that APCM will expand its operations at Marulan and surrender the Colong lease.

A P C M A N N U A L G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

CONSERVATIONISTS MIX-UP CEMENT MEN

trips have been made for this purpose, to the Colong area and to the quarrying operations at Marulan. If you have good photographs and would be willing to lend them to the Committee for copying, please contact the Liaison Secretary, Mark Weatherley at 84-0265 (home).

JUNE HAS BEEN A GOOD MONTH FOR THE SAVE COLONG CAMPAIGN.

Warringah Shire Council approved a resolution by Councillor Brian Walker (a member of the Colong Committee) refusing to use cement from Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers (Australia) Ltd, or its subsidiaries.

A strong resolution regarding Colong from the Warringah Branch of the Liberal Party of Australia, N.S.W., was accepted for discussion by State Council of the Party. Wide support is expected for this resolution.

"Tharunka", the Journal of the University of New South Wales Students' Union, published on June 17, a detailed refutation by Milo Dunphy of the Premier's standard letter of reply to correspondents regarding Colong. The article states "The Premier makes 36 points. Of these 36 points, the writer believes two are correct statements, one is unverifiable, eight are misleading and 25 are demonstrably wrong. The 25 incorrect statements include errors which can only be described as gross."

BUT THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

X Colong has not been saved yet. Other Municipal Councils are considering whether they should follow the example set by Warringah. Is yours? Has your Society asked the Colong Committee to provide a lecturer? Has it given funds? Has it written to local M.P's? The possibility of a break-through makes an even greater effort worthwhile.

The Colong Committee would like to congratulate the conservationist shareholders who made the meeting with A.P.C.M. possible. It was A.P.C.M. that wished to take up Dr Branagan's suggestion - not Mr Fife who thought it "can hardly be taken seriously." A Company is controlled by economics, not like our New South Wales Government.

This Committee has decided to offer single A.P.C.M. shares in return for a \$3 donation. Each share is currently worth \$1, so that after brokerage of 2 or 3 cents, about \$2 are left for the Committee's campaign.

This campaign must be stepped up now, when State Cabinet is the lone supporter of mining Colong, when the Management of A.P.C.M. is worried about sales, and when their Economists are more interested in Marulan. The less willing A.P.C.M. is to mine Colong the easier the battle will be to convince Cabinet.

Mr Mark Weatherley,
Liaison Secretary,
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18 Begonia Road,
NORMANHURST, NSW, 2076.

Date

Please send me _____ A.P.C.M. shares (at \$3.00 per share).

My cheque for \$ _____ is attached.

Name in full (for share registration)

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Permanent address

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