

445. Does that track go over a high range?—It crosses over the low parts. The range runs across here [indicating on map], and is higher.

446. Then, it gets shallow, so to say, west towards the Grey River?—Yes.

447. You had to pass over a high range, you say. Did you see any mining?—No.

448. Could you say anything of the rest of the block?—I could not say anything.

449. Do you know anything about Block 79?—I know there is not a portion of land at the north-west corner which shows a vestige of mining, and, in view of the character of the country, I would not consider that it would be likely to be made a reserve for gold-mining.

450. Hon. E. BLAKE.] Is that creek [indicated on map] called the Kangaroo Creek?—The part in that north-west corner is the Kangaroo Creek. Of course, I always laid it down as a principle that the creeks must be protected.

451. Mr. Jones.] Kangaroo Creek is protected?—Yes.

452. But there is a part on each side which is hatched?—I did not find anything there to show that any mining was going on.

453. Did you go up the left-hand side of the branch?—I went three miles up.

454. Did you go up the right-hand branch of the Kangaroo?—Yes, only about a mile.

455. On the banks of either of these branches did you see any diggings or gold-mining going on?—I was close on a mile up the right-hand branch—that is, the southern branch.

456. On the creek or on the terrace?—On the terrace.

457. Far back from the creek?—I should say, 150ft. or 200ft.

458. Is that the terrace there [indicating on map] which they say is rightly reserved?—Yes, here [indicating on map].

459. Going up the creek further, do you know anything about that?—I did not go further up.

460. Did you see anything of that block [indicating on map]?—Yes.

461. What have you to say about the north-eastern portion of that block—the portion which is held as a reserve for gold-mining purposes?—I should say the bit of ground near the junction [indicating on map] should be reserved for gold-mining purposes. There is a reserve at the fork of the two branches.

Hon. E. BLAKE: That is already agreed upon as a proper reserve, and you need not refer to it.

Witness: On the left-hand side of the left branch, which I would call the north branch, there is no mining at all, none for a mile; but I think further up there is some mining.

462. In the creek?—Yes.

463. Then, do you say that that block is rightly rejected by the company?—I do not know what the width of the creek is.

464. Hon. E. BLAKE.] How much would you reserve?—Two chains on each side of the creek.

465. That would be the least you would ever reserve?—Yes.

466. What do you say would be proper for Kangaroo Creek?—I should say, 2 chains on each side.

467. Mr. Jones.] And the rest of the block?—There is no mining on the rest of the block.

468. Should it be reserved?—It should not be reserved.

469. You have been through the piece at the south-west corner of the block across the track to Frankpit store?—I did not see that.

470. What about Block 77; start from the boundary of No Town Creek and work up north?—I should say, first of all, along No Town Creek there should be a reserve made, as I do along all creeks. I would then certainly consider that the land between No Town Creek and O'Connor's Creek, verging on the south-west corner, should not be reserved. There is no mining of any kind there; it is rough country, no good for anything. There is no mining there.

471. Hon. E. BLAKE.] Would you make a reservation along the whole of the creek?—Yes.

472. Running through as far as No Town Creek runs through the block?—Yes; all the way along. Then, at O'Connor's Creek I would make a reserve. I would do the same along Deadman's Creek. Further along I would make a reserve at Kangaroo and Red Jack's.

473. And McLaughlan's?—Yes. Also Wyndham Creek. Then I would go up along the Nelson Creek, where it is approaching the reserve there. There is very little of it there—it is only about a mile in length.

474. Mr. Jones.] Would you go to Potts's Creek?—Then I would let it go for mining purposes from north of Potts's Creek.

475. And, with the exception of the creeks already mentioned, you think the pieces in between the hatched portions should not be reserved?—Yes. I cannot speak of Deadman's Creek. On the lower part I am satisfied there is no mining.

476. You think the hatched portions of that are pieces of land which should not have been reserved for mining purposes, or purposes incidental thereto?—Yes.

477. Now we will deal with Blocks 74 and 75. Take 74. What do you say about that?—All that, I say, should be reserved except two points—one along the strip of land running along the road, about two miles in length, on the south-westerly end of it. There is no mining there of any class. In fact, there is no mining at all on the west side of Larkin's Race. Up at Ahaura, at the west corner of it, there is no necessity for mining.

478. That is north of Callaghan's Creek?—Yes. About Riverview I should certainly reserve that little piece of ground dividing the country of Callaghan's Creek to Cinnamon Creek.

479. Hon. E. BLAKE.] Would you continue the Riverview reserve down to Callaghan's Creek?—Yes.

480. Mr. Jones.] In all other respects you agree with that map, with the exception of that little piece?—Yes.

481. Then, as to 75?—I have not visited that piece.