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Title:
Television script - Thevenard

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TELEVISION SCRIPT.

Station: A.D.S.7

Duration: 5 MINS.

Title: THEVENARD.

Date: 31.1.68.

Type:

Key No:

Audio

GOOD EVENING :

The Port of Thevenard on the west coast is one of growing importance. The harbour is already handling ships of up to 10,000 tons, and last year 140,000 tons of grain and nearly 250,000 tons of Gypsum were loaded onto ships at Thevenard. Prospects for the future are even greater with a potential export market for 400,000 tons of Gypsum a year.

One of the facts that Mr. Donald Currie, the Director of Industrial Development confirmed on his recent Asian tour is that ships of 10,000 tons capacity are no longer economical. In fact they are being scrapped at the rate of about 100 a week.

10,000 tonners are scarce and uneconomical and it is apparent that the harbor at Thevenard must be dredged and widened to allow ships of 15 or 20,000 tons to get in and load in more economical quantities.

Video

PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT,
ADELAIDE.

TELEPHONE 28 2400

TELEVISION SCRIPT.

Station:

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Realising this need the Government instituted investigations and in due course recommendation was made by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works which has now been approved by the Government.

As a result the Thevenard Harbour will be deepened and the jetty will be lengthened to handle ships of up to 20,000 tons and will so greatly increase the export of grain and particularly Gypsum. These improvements will cost \$2,158,000.

The world trend is to larger and larger bulk carrying ships and the increasing numbers of ships of the 100 to 150,000 ton category are meeting ever increasing difficulties in finding harbours deep enough to handle them.

Thevenard looks as though it could be one of the few places in Australia where there is a potential to handle these giant ships.

Video

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South Australia contains one of the world's largest deposits of Gypsum in the Thevenard area.

Gypsum is used at present in the manufacture of cement and plaster board and there are good markets for such use in the countries bordering the Pacific and also possibly in India.

Another aspect of Gypsum is worthy of consideration. At present Australia is lacking in elemental sulphur which is an essential raw material in the fertilizer industry.

In South Australia we obtain sulphur from pyrites which comes from Nairne and is used at Port Adelaide to make sulphuric acid.

Gypsum is also rich in sulphur but it is at present not easy to extract. Research is needed to make a straight-forward process available and the Government is considering commissioning such research. This could bring about

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a vast increase in the demand for Gypsum.

Apart from grain and Gypsum, the port of Thevenard can also become a major area for the production and export of salt and there are plans to export 200,000 tons annually when the harbour is improved to handle larger ships. There is a very favourable climate and the presence of natural brine which is much richer in salt than ordinary seawater.

At present there is a huge demand for salt from Japan and Japanese representatives have visited Thevenard and expressed their satisfaction with the quality of salt and the bulk handling arrangements.

Their only criticism was concerning the limitations of the harbour to ships not exceeding 10,000 tons.

The proposed harbour improvements will rectify this situation and we can look forward to immediately increased overseas exports of salt.

Video

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Gypsum is also facing a growing demand and if the Government can help to provide a means of getting sulphur from Gypsum, there will be an even greater export business from Thevenard.

GOOD NIGHT.