FC726 [redacted]

CUE,
26th September, 1950

The State Mining Engineer,
P E R T H.

Re: Inspections by visiting Inspectors.

Could Inspectors of Mines please be instructed to first contract the Inspector in Charge of an Inspectorate, when it is their intention to visit and inspect mines in the said inspectorate. This would create harmony and tend for advancement of cooperation and enlightenment by all concerned.

I would refer to a case of recent occurrence.

The workings at Witten oom Gorge have apparently always been a matter of deep concern for inspectors. I have made special efforts to clean up this mine, and the position had advanced where all underground workings were satisfactory but the dust nuisance in the mill had not been overcome enough to satisfy me. On my last visit to the mine I requested that certain alterations be carried out in the milling sections so that the dust would be avoided. I have had our Mr. Hunter watch the work and keep me advised. Work was not being carried out as promised and on 17th instant I arrived at Wittenoom with the intention of stopping the mill until the work required was completed. This is the only way to handle the mine - prosecutions would be wasted.

As our Mr. Hunter had recently been to the mine I first opened the Record Book to see his report. I found that Inspector Lloyd had inspected the mine some few days previous to my visit and had written that "ventilation was satisfactory and that he would make a report on the milling section - in the meantime effo s must be made to control the dust." He did not know what had been arranged or else he would, no doubt, have acted differently.

However the fact remains that as he had been satisfied to leave matters in obeyance, I could not very well belittle him by going through with my intentions and the matter therefore remains until I read his report. This has resulted in a considerable amount of wasted effort.

Had I first been contracted, he would have been au fait with the position and would have cooperated with me.

Whilst I was stationed at Leonora, on two occasions, the then, Workmen's Inspector , Culley told me that Inspector Lloyd would visit us on certain dates and on both occasions that was my only advise as to impending visits.

Travelling over this inspectorate entails long arduous hours and is not to any imagination, a picnic; and to find ones time wasted does not assist in forming a symetrical frame of mind.

I do not wish to create ill-feeling or discard, but a little forethought would make every one's work more easy and I trust that the matter can be arranged.

C 1682

DISTRICT INSPECTOR FOR MINES