

KEROSENE SHALE: Discovery and Refining.

Recent issues of the R.A.H.S. Newsletter, dating from August have featured articles and comments on kerosene shale in New South Wales.

It began with an article on Hartley Vale by E. J. McKenzie of Lithgow society, stating, inter alia, that the work of processing began at Hartley Vale in the mid-seventies.

However our own society has published a booklet by Mr. A. P. Fleming, councillor and past president, which shows that kerosene was refined in the mid-sixties at American Creek, which was the predecessor of the Mount Kembla coal mines.

Entitled "The Pioneer Kerosene Works at American Creek" the booklet that the works were the first in Australia.

In no comment so far printed by the R.A.H.S. have the works been mentioned. Except for the name, Joadja which our society visited again this year, has not gained reference.

Mr. Fleming's book gives a comprehensive outline of the history of the Mount Kembla venture until its final closing in 1878.

He then goes on to trace the successor companies which turned over the area to coal mining which still continues successfully.

PIONEER KEROSENE WORKS at American Creek (Mount Kembla)
1967: 15pp quarto with Kromcote pictorial cover: available at our
museum at 40c plus 13c pack and post.

R.A.H.S. Newsletter please copy.