GOVERNMENT DRILLS

Mines Department drills were hired to private concerns for testing two areas, one a limestone deposit and the other a clay deposit.

A total of nineteen holes were bored, having a footage of 1,659 ft.

SUBSIDIZED ROADS

The expenditure on subsidies and grants for roads to mining areas was $\pounds 4.603$ for the 1945-46 financial year. The expenditure in the previous year was $\pounds 5.752$.

LEGISLATION

An amendment to the Quarries Act, 1944, was made by the Statutes Amendment Act, 1945, providing for the issue of a special form of permit to managers of quarries which use no explosives and have no underground workings.

I have, &c.,

R. H. SCHOEN, Inspecting Engineer of Mines.