

New ore worries Church

DARWIN, Sat. —
Bauxite (the raw ore of aluminium) may open up vast industrial schemes — and big problems for missionaries.

Bauxite has been discovered in Arnhem Land, and church missionaries are worried because they fear desecration of the native reserve.

A Sydney company has been given a drilling contract by the Mineral Resources Bureau to test the quality and extent of the bauxite on Marchinbar Island, one of the Wessel group, in eastern Arnhem Land.

After "the wet"

Sanctioned by the Government, work will begin immediately after the wet season.

The chairman of the North Australia District Methodist Overseas Missions (the Reverend A. E. Ellemor) said today: "The discovery of bauxite in the north-east of Arnhem Land fills all those working for the progressive survival of the remaining aborigines with a deep sense of concern.

"We would welcome an assurance that this will not result in the whittling away of the Arnhem Land reserve in size or character.

"Steps should be taken to vest the reserve and all its resources in the aboriginal tribes who own it in perpetuity."