

ANNUAL REPORT



FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1963



NATIONAL PARKS BOARD
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CANCELLED



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ANNUAL REPORT

**NATIONAL PARKS BOARD
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1963

National Parks Board of Western Australia



ANNUAL REPORT



For Year Ended 30th June, 1963

To The Honourable W. S. Bovell, M.L.A., Minister for Lands.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting, on behalf of this Board a report covering its main activities over the past year ended the 30th June, 1963.

I. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Membership has remained unaltered since submission of the previous report and comprises :—

A. C. Shedley, M.B.E., B.Sc. (For.), President.
 C. R. Bunning, B.C.E., A.M.I.E.
 C. F. H. Jenkins, M.A.
 J. E. Lloyd, M.T.P.I., F.A.P.I.
 L. J. Parks.
 R. D. Royce, B.Sc. (Agric.).
 F. C. Smith, J.P.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Managing Secretary—H. E. Bancroft, A.A.S.A., A.C.I.S.

3. FINANCE

Summarised in consolidated form is a statement of receipts and payments for the year, along with the preceding year's comparative figures, the former of which is subject to audit :—

1961-62	Receipts	1962-63
28,543	National Parks—General Receipts	28,769
34,921	Garden and Mowing Services—Receipts	43,572
44,500	Treasury Subsidy	49,000
£107,964		£121,341
743	Plus Opening Credit Balance	48
£108,707		£121,389

1961-62	Payments	1962-63
52,416	National Parks—General Payments	50,949
18,607	National Parks—Improvements	19,019
71,023		69,968
32,857	Garden and Mowing Services—General Payments	43,790
4,779	Garden and Mowing Services—New Plant (Vehicles, Mowers, etc.).....	2,295
37,636		46,085
108,659		116,053
48	Plus Closing Credit Balance	5,336
£108,707		£121,389

Segregation of financial records between National Parks Board General accounts and those applicable to the Garden and Mowing Services has been effected, in order to give a truer indication of receipts and payments in relation to the important function of actually administering the National Parks and Reserves controlled by this Board, as distinct from other services rendered to Government Departments and Institutions.

It is difficult to make a true comparison of the receipts and payments relating to the Garden and Mowing Services, due to the fact that it is only now that these services have been called upon to bear a heavier proportion of administrative and other related expenses. In addition, expenditure on new plant is strictly not a full charge against the years of purchase, and will be recovered by way of depreciation over the life of the plant concerned.

4. RESERVES

(1) *New Vestings*.—Reserve No. 26444 (Canning Location 1777) of two acres, was vested during the year for "use and requirements of National Parks Board of W.A." and used as a headquarters for the Garden and Mowing Services at Jarrah Road, Victoria Park.

In addition, action was nearly completed for vesting of Reserve A21904 at Serpentine for "Park, Recreation and Conservation of Flora and Fauna."

The Board is still awaiting vesting of a reserve containing about 45 acres, at "The Knoll," Gooseberry Hill, with the possibility of a further 30-40 acres being added later and also another one in the Neerabub-Wanneroo area of around 2,600 acres.

Also reserves in the Peel Inlet, Lakes Clifton and Preston areas are expected to be vested in the Board in the relatively near future.

(2) *Classification*.—The Board is still striving towards having all its reserves classified "A" Class and early in July, 1963, just after the close of the year under review, three more were so classified, viz., A20359, A23894 and A21904, which are all in the Serpentine area.

(3) *Reserves Vested in the Board* :

(a) These comprise areas totalling in the vicinity of 329,000 acres, the largest of which is the Stirling Range National Park with over 278,000 acres.

(b) The chief National Parks and Reserves concerned are :—

National Parks :

Stirling Range	.....	278,102	acres
Nornalup	.....	32,943	"
Porongorups	.....	5,384	"
John Forrest	.....	3,648	"
Greenmount	.....	127	"
Lesmurdie Falls	.....	81	"

Reserves :

Yanchep Park and Beach	.....	6,693	"
Serpentine Falls	.....	1,568	"
Hamelin Bay	.....	366	"
Crawley	.....	57	"
Penguin Island	.....	50	"
Araluen—Canning Dam area	.....	50	"
East Perth Cemetery (disused burial ground)	.....	12	"
Old Mill, South Perth	.....	$\frac{1}{2}$	acre

(4) *General Vestment of Reserves in this Board*.—A sub-committee of the Board has been appointed to consider and make recommendations regarding the acquisition of control over reserves considered suitable for creation as National Parks, including areas at Dales Gorge, Wittenoom Gorge and Murchison River.

5. ROADS

The Main Roads Department, in conjunction with the Board and Local Authorities concerned, including some financial assistance from the Tourist Development Authority, has continued to carry out a system of progressive road improvements and the works concerned will be referred to later in the Appendix to this report.

6. FIRELINES AND FIRE CONTROL

(1) Fire control plays an important part in the preservation of flora and fauna in the National Parks and Reserves administered. The Forests Department and local Bush Fire Brigades have co-operated in the clearing and maintaining of firelines and tracks in certain parks, whilst our own staff attend to these functions in such areas as Yanchep Park and John Forrest Park, where fire trucks, tractors, equipment and chain saws are stationed. It is hoped to improve the fire protection in the Serpentine Falls Reserves in the near future, this Board providing the finance and the Forests Department carrying out the actual work on our behalf. That Department has assisted materially over the years in endeavours to protect the Nornalup National Park from major damage from fire.

(2) A standard fire report form has been adopted for reporting outbreaks of fires in or adjacent to controlled territory.

(3) Arrangements have been made for leading hands at Yanchep Park and John Forrest National Park to attend a Forests Department Fire School in the near future.

7. WILD LIFE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF FAUNA

(1) *Wildflower Conservation*.—The Board was represented recently at a Conference called by the Hon. Minister for Agriculture in an effort to lessen the burden placed on his Department in connection with the large volume of wildflowers being supplied for display purposes, and which are being collected from various sources, including National Parks and Reserves controlled by this Board.

The recommendations suggested a reduction in the official collection of wildflowers, particularly from reserves, and advocated a greater use of preserved material (including ice cones) and illustrations where displays are necessary.

(2) *Wildflower Cultivation*.—A start has been made on the establishment of an area at Yanchep Park for cultivation and growing of wildflowers for supply to cut flowers for display purposes in approved cases. It is hoped to establish others later, including one at John Forrest National Park.

(3) *Biological Survey of National Parks*.—In conformity with its policy to carry out a biological survey of all national parks, work has been commenced at Yanchep where special attention is being paid to botany and ornithology. In the overall project the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture, University, Museum and other specialists will be sought as appropriate.

(4) *National Park Rangers*.—A caretaker/ranger was appointed during the year for the Nornalup National Park and arrangements are in hand to appoint one for the Stirling Range National Park and Porongorups National Park, whose duties will include the protection of flora and fauna in these areas.

(5) *Adult Education Course on Conservation*.—This course on conservation of fauna and flora was held during the year in conjunction with the University of Western Australia Adult Education Board metropolitan classes.

(6) *Arbor Day Planting of Trees*.—Once again a tree-planting ceremony was held at Yanchep Park on Arbor Day (4th July, 1962), when children from the Wanneroo Schools each planted a tree. This function was well patronised by adults, who each planted either a tree or kangaroo paw. Films suitable for the occasion were screened in the Yanchep Park Hall.

(7) *Koalas*.—The South Australian Fauna Protection Board kindly made available two (2) male koalas as a means of introducing new stock to our koala colony. Unfortunately, there have been one or two deaths this year.

(8) *Black Swans for Perry Lake and Perth Airport*.—A pair of these birds was supplied to the City of Perth from Yanchep Park just before the commencement of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games, to replace a pair lost from the lake, and three pair were supplied to the Department of Civil Aviation for release on the pond at the new Air Terminal at Guildford.

8. SPRINGTIME WILDFLOWER WALKS

In the Springtime conducted wildflower walks are a feature of the attractions at Yanchep Park and John Forrest National Park. Cultivation of wildflower beds avoids the necessity for tourists and other visitors to walk long distances in an effort to see some of our spectacular flora.

9. SIGNPOSTING OF NATIONAL PARKS AND RESERVES

The signposting of national parks and reserves is continuing with particular emphasis on the protection of flora and fauna and the dangers associated with bushfires.

10. GARDEN AND MOWING SERVICES

There has been little alteration in the number of establishments receiving a gardening service, whereas the mowing service has continued to expand. Further information on these services is given in the Appendix to this report.

11. ALGAE REMOVAL

The Board continues to co-operate with the Swan River Conservation Board in the removal of algae from the foreshore in certain sections of the Metropolitan Area.

12. PUBLICITY

(1) Press articles have been published, radio features broadcast and items of interest televised in an effort to bring before the public the facilities available for their enjoyment and recreation in the national parks and reserves administered by the Board. In addition, lectures on National Parks and nature conservation have been delivered to various societies and organisations.

(2) Leaflets publicising the Nornalup and Stirling Range National Parks should be on issue in the very near future.

(3) Preliminary plans have been started for preparation of an improved publication on Yanchep Park.

13. HISTORICAL PLAQUES

Financial assistance was rendered to the Albany Branch of the Historical Society of Western Australia in connection with the cost of erecting a plaque at the "Vancouver Memorial Notch Weir" near Albany.

14. SUPERANNUATION

Contributions commenced on the first pay period in July, 1962, in connection with the newly-formed Staff Contributing Endowment Fund established for other than Head Office Staff.

15. POLICY

Following the adoption of an overall policy for the control of Parks and Reserves vested in this Board, long term plans were drafted as a guide for future action at Nornalup and Stirling Range National Parks.

16. BY-LAWS

During the year the Board's By-laws were completely revised.

17. BREACHES OF BY-LAWS

There were a few detected breaches of the Board's By-laws in relation to unauthorised picking of wildflowers and damaging of cave formations. Action was taken against the offenders.

18. VANDALISM

Vandalism continues to be a problem and necessitates serious thought when designing facilities for the public.

19. YANCHEP PARK GOLF COURSE

This nine-hole course of grassed fairways and greens was officially opened on the 15th July, 1962, and is providing a further attraction at this popular park, where picnickers and sportsmen and women are well catered for.

20. BUILDINGS

A further staff house was erected at Yanchep Park and a caretaker/ranger's residence and attached Tea Room erected at Coalmine Beach in the Nornalup National Park. This subject is dealt with more fully in the Appendix to this report.

21. NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Additional vehicles and mowers were acquired for the mowing services. Also further electricity generating plant was installed at Yanchep Park.

A new launch and chain saw were obtained for use in the Nornalup area.

Reference to the Appendix will give further information on these acquisitions.

22. STANDARD PICNIC FIRE PLACES

The Tourist Development Authority arranged the supply and met part cost of twenty (20) standard concrete picnic fire places, which have been distributed among the parks and reserves to advantage.

23. HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Pelican Point Bird Lookout during a recent stay in this State and he has suggested the following wording for a plaque to be erected on the spot:—

"His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh watched the birds of Pelican Point from the lookout on the morning of the 27th of March, 1963. He has expressed the hope that this and other suitable sites around the City of Perth would be preserved as permanent bird sanctuaries."

It is hoped to have such a plaque erected in position during the ensuing months.

24. INSPECTION BY BOARD MEMBERS

Board Members visited all the major reserves during the year and held meetings with the Nornalup Advisory Committee.

Several sites for prospective reserves were also inspected and recommendations were made for the appropriate vesting.

25. IMPORTANT VISITORS

Mr. Harold Abrahams, Secretary of the National Parks Commission of Great Britain, met and discussed with Board members, national parks administration matters as applied to his country. In addition, Mr. Hugh Wilson, Member of the Committee of Management of the Wyperfield National Park, Victoria, and President of The National Parks Association of Victoria, called at the office in January, 1963.

26. APPENDIX

Further detailed information is given in the appendix to this report, in respect of the individual national parks and reserves.

27. GENERAL

(1) The Board appreciates the advice and assistance rendered by the various Government Departments, including the Treasury, Agriculture, Child Welfare, Forests, Government Stores, Harbour and Lights, Lands and Surveys, Main Roads, Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage, Public Works, Town Planning, and also the Government Printing Office and the Tourist Development Authority.

(2) Financing the growing demands for development in the parks and reserves controlled by the Board is an ever increasing problem, and it is hoped that additional grants will be made available for this purpose in future years.

(3) I join the Members in expressing our appreciation of the assistance and co-operation given by its officers, including the Superintendents and outside staff.

A. C. SHEDLEY,

President, National Parks Board of Western Australia.

APPENDIX

to

NATIONAL PARKS BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1963

I. CRAWLEY RESERVE

(1) *Pelican Point Area*.—Levelling work including the construction of two playing fields, and a tree planting programme were carried out in this area. A well, pump and motor were installed and a sprinklet system provided for this purpose.

(2) *Bird Watching Look-out and Bird Sanctuary*.—This Look-out has been constructed and arrangements are in hand to fence the adjoining bird sanctuary.

(3) *Crawley Bay Tea Rooms*.—Notwithstanding some repairs and renovations have been carried out to this building, it is still in a poor state of repair, but the question of its replacement is tied up with future planning in this area.

(4) *New Plant and Equipment*.—A small rotary mower was acquired during the year and a manually operated "Hartson" sweeper purchased for cleaning of the reserve.

(5) *Carnival of the Swan (2-12-1962)*.—The Board co-operated with the organisers in the conduct of this function, which was held on the Swan River following the British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

2. JOHN FORREST NATIONAL PARK

(1) *Control*.—Superintendent G. E. Edwards is in charge of this Park.

(2) *Wildflower Gardens*.—Efforts are in progress towards further improving these gardens and providing wildflower identification name plates for the information of visitors. The Springtime wildflower walks are proving very popular with tourists and even our own population.

(3) *Fire Equipment*.—A four-wheel drive vehicle, a 200 gallon water tank, "Floodmaster" water pump, hose, knapsack sprays, fire rakes, etc., are available in case of outbreak of fire. In addition, a Ferguson tractor with grader blade attachment is on hand. Also it is hoped to add a chain saw to this equipment during the coming year.

(4) *Dam on Mahogany Creek*.—The wall of this comparatively small dam was raised in an effort to obtain immediate relief in supplementing the supply of water to the swimming pool, over the summer months.

(5) *Footbridge over Jane Brook*.—This small footbridge was erected over Jane Brook near Rocky Pool for the convenience of picnickers and visitors to this section of the park.

(6) *Proposed Glen Brook Dam*.—The Tourist Development Authority has promised some financial assistance in the construction of an 29,000,000 gallon dam on Glen Brook and the Board is endeavouring to arrange the financing of this project for construction work to commence in 1963-64. Such an earth wall dam, with water lining the scenic road and wildflower planting would prove a great tourist attraction, besides also providing additional water for the swimming pool and the watering of flower beds adjacent to the Tea Rooms.

(7) *Garage for Vehicles*.—Action is in course to erect a garage to house the vehicles and Board labour will be used for this purpose.

(8) *Tea Rooms*.—Extensive improvements were carried out to this old building.

3. PENGUIN ISLAND LEASE

New Lessees have recently taken over this lease and there are indications that improved conditions will be offered in the near future to people visiting this Island.

4. SERPENTINE FALLS RESERVES

(1) *Release of Irrigation Water above Serpentine Falls*.—Further approaches have been made, without success, to have irrigation water released above the falls. The dearth of water falls in the South-West part of the State would seem to warrant efforts towards having these falls kept flowing for as long a period as possible during the year.

(2) *Bridge below the Falls*.—Enquiries are in hand toward replacing the burnt out bridge below the Serpentine Falls with a suspension type footbridge.

(3) *Clean-up of Reserve*.—Negotiations are in progress towards having the main portion of the reserve in the vicinity of the falls tidied up following pipe-laying operations.

(4) *Road Access and Scenic Drive*.—The question of further road access to this reserve and the construction of a scenic drive was taken up with the Main Roads Department, but these proposals have been shelved on account of the high costs involved in certain practical difficulties.

(5) *Firelines*.—Expenditure to the extent of £750 has been authorised for the construction of protective firelines in the Serpentine Falls Reserves, the work to be carried out on our behalf by the Forests Department.

5. YANCHEP PARK

- (1) *Control*.—Superintendent W. J. Burnett is in charge of this Park and the Yanchep Beach Reserve.
- (2) *Wildflower Gardens*.—Much progress has been made in effecting further improvements to the wildflower gardens area, including provision of wildflower identification name plates. Tourists and local population continue to display keen interest in these gardens and the Springtime Wildflower Walks. Different varieties of wildflowers are in bloom practically throughout the year.
- (3) *Road North of Yanchep Inn*.—The old bridge was dismantled and a sealed road constructed north of the Inn through the golf course to join the Perth-Lancelin Road. This work was carried out by the Main Roads Department.
- (4) *Firelines*.—Additional firelines were constructed along the Southern and Western perimeter of the Park.
- (5) *Fire Equipment*.—This includes a four-wheel drive vehicle, a 200 gallon water tank, "Floodmaster" water pump, hose, knapsack sprays, fire rakes, chain saw, etc., and these are on hand in readiness should there be an outbreak of fire in or near the park. In addition, a Ferguson tractor with grader blade attachment is available if required.
- (6) *Fire Extinguishers*.—Fire extinguishers were replaced where considered necessary and additional ones installed in buildings within the park, under the supervision of the Fire Brigade Board.
- (7) *Koalas and Enclosures*.—The introduction of new stock in the form of two (2) male koalas from South Australia necessitated the construction of a new two-compartment enclosure for segregation of these animals in an effort to breed more and thus increase our little colony of them.
- (8) *Tennis Courts*.—A start has been made on renewing the fencing of these courts, following colas surfacing of them.
- (9) *Golf Course*.—Further improvements have been effected to the fairways and putting greens, in addition to thinning out the undergrowth adjoining the fairways.
- (10) *New Playing Field near Cabaret Cave*.—Filling and grading has been carried out on the field, but further work is necessary before it will satisfy requirements.
- (11) *Public Toilets at Golf Course*.—These facilities were provided towards the end of the year.
- (12) *Renovations to Old Staff House*.—This building was in need of renovations and action was taken accordingly.
- (13) *Staff House (No. 6)*.—A further staff house was erected during the year. This timber framed and tiled roof building was erected with use of Board labour.
- (14) *Tram Bungalows*.—Three of these old buildings have been demolished on account of their deterioration in condition.
- (15) *Yanchep Inn and Staff Quarters*.
 - (a) Flush-jointing of passageways and bedrooms was carried out in order to replace perished plaster board and improve the guests' accommodation.
 - (b) Alterations and additions were carried out, principally involving the provision of more adequate bathroom and toilet facilities for the staff.
- (16) *Gloucester Lodge*.
 - (a) Fairly major alterations were carried out to this building involving re-construction of the upstairs bathrooms and toilets.
 - (b) Also action is in progress to replace the old kitchen stoves with a modern effective one with plate warmer attachment.
 - (c) New lessees took over just before Christmas, 1962, and this looks to be yielding beneficial results.
- (17) *McNess Guest House*.—A brick wall was built around the empty bottle section and the woodyard, in an attempt to improve the outlook for people passing along the adjoining road leading down to Loch McNess.
- (18) *Electricity*.
 - (a) Problems associated with the generation and distribution of D.C. electric current at Yanchep Park continues to exercise the minds of those in control. A secondhand water cooled 40 h.p. Ruston diesel engine was acquired from the Forests Department during the year and a water cooled 69 h.p. Crossley engine and 50 K.W. D.C. generator purchased to supplement the existing plant, following failure of a hired plant to give the service expected of it.
 - (b) Without doubt a happy solution to these ever-present problems is an extension to Yanchep Park of the S.E.C. electricity power line and let us hope that such an extension is not far away.
- (19) *Rowing Boats*.—A further six rowing boats were built during the year.
- (20) *Plant and Equipment*.—A paint spray outfit has been purchased, further water pumps, pipes and spray lines acquired, a dozer blade attachment bought and orders have been placed for a new diesel operated tractor and rotary mower attachment.
- (21) *Nursery Shade House and Potting Shed*.—These improved facilities were provided during the year in the interests of wildflower germination and cultivation.
- (22) *Market Garden Leases*.—Two of these leases have been cancelled and it is proposed not renewing the other one beyond the 30th June, 1964.

6. NORNALUP NATIONAL PARK

- (1) *Nornalup National Park Advisory Committee*.—This Committee, consisting of Messrs. Tom Swarbrick Jun. (Chairman), C. Cooper, J. D. Hull, J. T. Lanning and J. H. Rate continues to serve a useful purpose in advising the Board on local matters concerning future development of this important National Park.
- (2) *Staff*.
 - (a) Mr. J. H. Rate in his capacity of Honorary Ranger and Secretary to the Advisory Committee continues to render valuable assistance in matters affecting this National Park.
 - (b) The appointment in November, 1962, of a Caretaker/Ranger stationed at Coalmine Beach has helped relieve him of some of the responsibilities obligingly assumed by him previously.
- (3) *Ranger's Residence and Public Tea Room*.—The completion of this building has not only provided accommodation for the caretaker/ranger, but it is also providing a source for campers and visitors to obtain refreshments and essential provisions. The building is of pleasing design and well constructed.
- (4) *Launch*.—The Harbour and Lights Department co-operated in the building of an 18 ft. launch for use by the caretaker/ranger in policing unauthorised camping at areas inaccessible by means other than over the water.
- (5) *Retaining Wall at Coalmine Beach*.—A number of secondhand railway sleepers have been acquired and a start made on building a retaining wall to arrest beach erosion in this area.
- (6) *Road into Coalmine Beach*.—The Main Roads Department provided finance for the Shire of Manjimup to carry out road works in this area including sealing of 16 chain of road in the vicinity of the camping and caravan area.
- (7) *"The Knoll" Scenic Road*.—Attention is drawn to the fact that this is a one-way traffic road and vehicles may proceed only in an anti-clockwise direction. Some very fine views are obtained when travelling in this direction.

(8) *Fire Control*.—The Forests Department continues to co-operate in the construction of firelines and controlled burning in this large park, which carries a heavy density of scrub and timber. A fireline in the vicinity of the Monastery was constructed during the year in very rugged and steep countryside. The caretaker/ranger has been supplied with a four-wheel drive vehicle and chain saw as aids to fire control.

(9) *The Depot and Peppermints*.—The problem of unauthorised camping and erection of semi-permanent structures has presented some problems to this Board as these spots may be reached only by boat. Those concerned were given until the 31st July, 1963, to vacate the sites and remove the structures, failing which legal action will be taken against offenders, for contravening the Board's By-laws.

(10) *Proposed New Public Toilets at Coalmine Beach*.—Day visitors to Coalmine Beach have been using the facilities provided for the campers and it is proposed providing toilets in the near future for the day visitors.

(11) *Car Park*.—Vehicle parking is becoming a problem for day visitors and action has been taken towards improving these facilities.

(12) *Water Supply at Coalmine Beach*.—It became necessary to install an auxiliary water pump for the Windmill in order to keep the tank full on windless days.

7. PORONGORUPS NATIONAL PARK

(1) *Porongorups Estate Lot No. 6*.—Negotiations were entered into for the acquisition of this lot on the western boundary of the park in the hopes of eventually providing a scenic access road from this area through "The Pass" towards Bolganup Dam.

(2) *Road Along Northern Boundary of Park*.—The Main Roads Department and Shire of Plantagenet have co-operated in the construction and re-siting of an existing access track into a traffickable road, offering interesting views for those wishing to travel this road via Woodlands Road and through to Bolganup Dam.

(3) *Fire Control*.—Arrangements are in hand for re-grading of access tracks and firelines to be carried out by employees of the local Shire.

(4) *General Development*.—Upon appointment of a caretaker/ranger for the Stirlings and this park, it is hoped to improve climbing conditions to the scenic points.

8. STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK

(1) *Roads*.—Work on roads have included :—

(a) *Red Gum Pass Road*.—Re-construction of this road was carried out through the efforts of the Main Roads Department and the local Shire Council and the picnic area at Red Gum Springs is now much more readily accessible whether from the Northern or Southern region.

(b) *Toolbrunup Access Road*.—This road was re-constructed some time ago, but as it had deteriorated, the Main Roads Department was approached and kindly effected justified improvements by way of more extensive re-construction work, including the installation of a larger concrete pipe on a creek crossing.

(2) *Fire Control*.—The Board helped finance the Woogenellup Bush Fire Brigade in the clearing of a fireline along the southern boundary of this National Park.

(3) *Proposed Change Rooms, Toilets and Water Supply near Bluff Knoll*.—It is hoped, with Tourist Development Authority financial assistance, to have these facilities erected before the end of 1963. Construction work has been delayed awaiting the appointment of a caretaker/ranger to service them.

(4) *Caretaker/Ranger*.—Action is in hand to call applications for a caretaker/ranger for this and the Porongorups National Park, duties of which will include policing of unauthorised picking of wildflowers, fire control, servicing toilets, etc.

9. GARDEN AND MOWING SERVICES

(1) *Gardening Section* :

(a) *Control*.—Mr. R. Green, Supervisor of Gardens, controls this section. In addition, his services are utilised in an advisory capacity and in supervision of gardens at Government House and Parliament House grounds. He also carries out similar duties in connection with Yanchep Park, John Forrest National Park, Crawley Reserve and the Zoological Gardens. His services are utilised from time to time by other Government Institutions.

(b) *General*.—The number of establishments receiving a gardening service has increased from 35 to 39.

(2) *Mowing Section* :

(a) *Control*.—This section is under the control of Foreman E. Walters and continues to expand.

(b) *Mowing and Edging*.

(a) *School Grounds and Playing Fields*.—With the opening of new schools, the number and size of new areas requiring a mowing service has increased and 165 schools are receiving such a service, as against 153 a year earlier.

(b) *Other Government Establishments*.—There are 74 of such establishments now receiving this service in comparison with 73 at the close of the previous year.

(c) *New Plant and Equipment*.—Acquisitions over the year have included a new motor truck, a secondhand motor truck, two 24 in. mowers, two 20 in. mowers, one 24 in. rotary mower and three small rotary mowers. Also a fertiliser spreader attachment was acquired for use in conjunction with a Ferguson tractor for speeding up fertiliser spreading on school playing fields and large grassed areas.

(d) *Petrol and Oils*.—Issue of petrol has been speeded up by the installation at no cost to the Board of an electric petrol pump and new tank. In addition, improved greasing facilities have been installed in the interests of economy in labour.