

PERSONAL

Mr. R. E. Pritchard, Manager of the Geraldton Fishermen's Co-operative, recently resigned and left the company on June 30.

Our congratulations to Mr. Athol Middleton, Technical Officer, Hydrology Section, C.S.I.R.O., on his marriage on June 14 to Miss Jennifer Greagg.

Mr. T. W. Houston, Research Officer, is a recent appointment to the C.S.I.R.O. staff. Mr. Houston arrived from England in March last. He has recently been in W.A. for the purpose of acquiring data on trawling operations and has had access to the logs of the trawlers "Commilles" and "Ben Dearg". He will compare results achieved here with those obtained in the Eastern States and assess our trawling potentialities.

WHALING

Operations are strongly under way at all three stations. Progressive totals of captures have been published in the press and these are in advance of official returns. Reports indicate that whales are in exceptionally good condition and oil recovery is expected to be high. The new venture at Albany has already secured about a quarter of its quota of 50 humpbacks.

DISTRICT OFFICERS' CONFERENCE, PIMBERTON,
JUNE 5 to 5

The following matters were discussed at the conference and the discussion and recommendations arising therefrom are detailed hereunder for the information of officers generally.

1. Hours of duty and time off.

- (a) Inspectors have no set hours of duty and accordingly "time off" is not obligatory. Some time ago the Public Service Commissioner