

"Mr. Kelly said it was hoped that this and other investigations would make fishing a major industry in Western Australia."

EMU DEPREDATIONS

In recent months representations have been made by the Kojonup and Cranbrook Road Boards and the Farmers' Union to have protection on emus lifted in those road districts. In order to obtain some further information Messrs. H. B. Shugg, Acting Secretary, Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, and J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, made an inspection of the areas concerned between August 3 and 6.

On the first day the country from Arthur River out to Lake Towerinning and Capercup was covered and Kojonup approached through Muradup. The secretaries of the Kojonup Road Board and the local branch of the Farmers' Union were interviewed on Tuesday morning and information obtained as to the localities where emus were said to be troublesome. Inquiries were pursued and observations made along a route taken via Orchid Valley and Chowerup, and thence by the Boyup Brook road to Cranbrook. On Wednesday, after calling at the Road Board office and running out to Tom South Lake at Pootenup, the inspection was continued south-westerly to Frankland River and Rocky Gully, and on to Lake Muir and Boyup Brook. The return to Perth was made on Thursday, August 6.

From inquiries all along the route it was apparent that the Land Settlement schemes in the South Stirling and Rocky Gully areas had forced emus to change their habitat and to penetrate over a wide field into new areas. It was considered that there were sufficient grounds to support a recommendation for the lifting of protection for a period ending on March 31, 1954, to coincide with the termination of the open season for emus in the Albany, Denmark, and Plantagenet road districts. Action will be taken accordingly.