

Laboratories in relation to the stability and permanence of inks used in ball-point pens and the investigations revealed that there is a serious fading which contra-indicates their use for recording anything which should be kept for a lengthy period.

The Registrar-General's Department and the Lands Department have instructed that ball-point pens will not be used in the preparation of documents for those departments. All Inspectors are instructed to use normal black or blue-black ink when preparing any documents that may have to be kept for two years or more.

LABORATORY AND FIELD STATION AT ROTTNESST ISLAND

The Minister for Fisheries has announced the establishment of a biological and fisheries research laboratory and field station in the old Naval buildings at Rottnest Island. The station will be used jointly by this Department, the Fisheries Division of C.S.I.R.O. and the University of Western Australia. Accommodation in the buildings will be available to inspectors when on duty at Rottnest and this Department will maintain the buildings and provide some technical assistance. The Zoology Department of the University will use the buildings for biological research into the Rottnest Wallaby. Officers of the C.S.I.R.O. will use the station to centralise its research work in the area on crayfish, ruff and other species. A committee consisting of the Superintendent (Mr. Fraser), Professor Waring of the University's Zoology Department, Mr. K. Sheard of C.S.I.R.O., and a member of the Rottnest Board of Control, will direct the activities of the station.