

### OPEN SEASON FOR DUCKS

The early summer this year will be taken into account by the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee when deliberating on their recommendation to the Minister on a suitable period for the next open season. While some reports mention successful breeding in districts where permanent water abounds, it is considered that generally the year has been a poor one for our wildfowl.

The Committee has made arrangements to meet representatives of the Capel Gun Club and local residents at the Elgin Hall at 8 p.m. on the evening of November 2 to hear their views on the date and times of the opening of the season this year.

### C.S.I.R.O. BIRD BANDING COMMENCES

Operators approved by the Chief Warden of Fauna have been appointed and equipped by the C.S.I.R.O. to mark wild birds, using numbered aluminium C.S.I.R.O. rings.

Among these operators is Mr. Ray Aitken, headmaster of the Nyabing State School, who is specialising at the moment on marking parrots and galahs, and despite the short time he has been operating he has had one recovery.

Mr. Aitken banded an adult smoker parrot at Nyabing on August 24 last. The bird was shot on September 1, i.e., 7 days later, at a farm 28 miles east of Kulin by Mr. R.G. Argent. This represents a travel, in a northerly direction, of some 70 miles.

It is expected that considerable information on the feeding movements and general dispersal of parrots will be accumulated as the result of these banding activities.