

West of Albany, at Torbay, Boat Harbour and Peaceful Bay, very few fish have been taken and none at all have come from Parry's Inlet.

#### PEARLING

Late in January, advice was received from the Commonwealth Fisheries office that the Commonwealth Government had approved the induction of several specialised pearling operatives from the Ryukuan Islands or Japan. The number of men to be brought in will not exceed the number of specialists required to give the Australian luggers already based on Broome and Onslow complete and efficient complements.

Conditions of entry will be the same as for the Japanese brought here in 1953.

#### NEW TROUT ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY

In the "Government Gazette" of February 25, it is notified that an application by the Albany, Denmark and Plantagenet Trout Acclimatisation Society for registration has been granted. The area covered by the Society embraces the Albany Municipality and the Albany, Denmark and Plantagenet Road Districts. The President of the Society is Mr. H. Hockey, Stirling Terrace, Albany.

#### ROTTNEST BIOLOGICAL STATION

Since the formation of a Committee to set up and control a research station at Rottneest in October of last year, considerable work has been done. Progress has been made in bringing the disused Navy buildings to a properly furnished and properly equipped state. Alterations and additions are also being made in the shape of a garage and protective fences. The station has already been used by C.S.I.R.O. and State officers as field headquarters for research into the Western Australian crayfish and sea-herring. The Wildlife

Survey Section of C.S.I.R.O. and the Zoology Department of the University have also used the centre as headquarters for ecological studies on the Rottnest quokka. (Incidentally the recent disastrous fire did not harm the buildings but it has caused a break in the quokka research. The work done to date will have to be written up and then a fresh start made).

The station has also been used for instructing zoology students in such field work as trapping, marking and releasing animals and in statistical methods of sampling from small numbers.

On the resignation early this year of the Minister (Mr. Kelly) as a member of the committee (representing the Rottnest Island Board of Control) the Board has appointed Mr. T. Sten, Superintendent of Teacher Training, Department of Education, and Principal of the Teachers College, Claremont, as a member. In addition to Mr. Sten the members are -

Mr. A.J. Fraser (Chairman), Dr. K. Sheard (C.S.I.R.O.) and Professor H. Waring (University of W.A.). Mr. B.K. Bowen, of the Fisheries Department, is the Secretary.