

DUCK SEASON

The Department has received a number of suggestions that the duck shooting season this year should open at a later date than in previous years. Usually the season commences on the weekend prior to Christmas to allow shooters to obtain a few for Christmas dinner. Reports have been received this year, however, that some ducks are still nesting at the time of going to press and it appears probable that quite a lot of young birds will be incapable of flying at the usual opening date. In view of the fact that ducks will probably still be widely scattered and shooting very poor for the opening, it is feared that many shooters who otherwise would not take immature birds might be tempted to do so if bags of mature ducks are very poor. The Fauna Protection Advisory Committee will consider the whole question at its next meeting, which will probably be held late this month, and on the information then available will make a recommendation to the Minister.