

| Band No. | BANDING | | RECOVERY | | Distance Flown |
|----------|---------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Date | Place | Date | Place | |
| | | | <u>Pink-eared Duck</u> | | |
| 3162 | 19/1/55 | Yealering Lake | Captured alive 15/6/57 | 14 mls S.W. of Coorow | 210 miles |

ABROLHOS CRAYFISHERY

The catch at Houtman's Abrolhos continues to exceed production figures of past years. The table at page 114 compares the intensity and results of the fishing force in May last year with those this year. If conditions during the remainder of this season are usual, a record 3 million lb. catch may be expected.

WHITE-NECKED HERONS *

All officers are invited to send in notes on observations of white-necked herons. Dr. D.L. Serventy, who is a member of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, has recorded information on the arrival and departure times and general behaviour pattern of these birds this year, as an irruption of this species is occurring in the South-West at the present time. He says that these irruptions occur periodically - the last was in 1952 - and that they are believed to be caused by unfavourable conditions further north where the bird is more common.

In appearance the white-necked heron, which is also known as the Pacific heron, is similar to the white-faced heron or blue crane, a widely known and popular bird to which it is closely related. The Pacific heron is a slate grey on the upper parts and has a long neck, white underneath, white on the breast and at the bend of the wings. It feeds on aquatic insects and other food obtained in some flooded paddocks.