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WHALING

Reporting from Albany, Inspector B.A. Carmichael advised that the Cheyne Beach Whaling Company took its hundredth humpback for the season on August 28. It was a 44' female. The weather during July was most unfavourable and hampered the operations of the chasers considerably. It has been unkind during most of the season so far and has caused this year's catch figures to lag behind last year's despite the additional chaser operated by the Company. At the end of August the total of humpbacks taken had reached 102, whereas last year the quota of 120 was taken on August 21. Towards the end of the month, Inspector Carmichael reported, the Company decided to concentrate on sperm whales and four of this species were taken during the week ended August 24 and a further three in the following week, bringing the total for the season to 10.

It is understood that a lot of bad weather has been experienced at Carnarvon also, although the number of whales taken there to the end of August, (789), is an improvement on last year (741). The river has been running on three occasions this season which no doubt has caused some local alteration in water conditions and might have affected the movement of stocks to some extent. The average length of whales taken by the Nor<sup>th</sup>-West Whaling Company this year seems to be a little down on last year but it may pick up before the season ends. With the usual predominately male run being experienced it is anticipated by the Company that it will reach its quota on or about September 20.