

On his return to Perth, Mr. Wright reported that a second British mark had been recovered. It was No. 11903, and was believed to have been fired by the "Discovery". It was found in the grass tank on October 23.

SHEEP ON GARDEN ISLAND

A report in a recent issue of a local weekly, that sheep were being grazed on Garden Island, caused alarm in conservation circles here late last month. Owned in fee simple by the Commonwealth Government and leased to the Garden Island Service Company, Garden Island has been an effective sanctuary for its scientifically interesting population of Tammar (Thylogale eugenii). The main reason for its effectiveness as a sanctuary has been that the conditions of the lease prohibit animals being taken to the Island. Unbeknown to the Department of the Interior, which exercises jurisdiction over this Commonwealth territory, a sub-lessee of the settlement area sold a half-share of his lease to a retired pastoralist, who transported 140 sheep to the Island and commenced a pasture improvement programme there. In addition to the damage to the flora from the grazing of the sheep, there has also been an unfortunate introduction of exotic veldt grass, which was reported to be growing successfully.

Following complaints, this Department made representations to the Commonwealth and has received an assurance that the sheep will be removed and the lease condition that no other animals be allowed on the Island will be enforced. This assurance was received with great satisfaction as it is believed to be essential that the Island should be kept in its natural state as far as possible so that there will be no disturbance to the Tammar which, in the near future, will be the subject of an intensive scientific investigation.