

MARINE MAMMALS AND FAUNA PROTECTION

A legal opinion has been obtained from the Crown Law Department regarding the interpretation of fauna as applied to such birds and animals as penguins, albatrosses, turtles, dugongs, seals and dolphins, which are normally found at sea, either for the whole or part of their lifetimes. It will be remembered that the definition of fauna specifically includes birds and reptiles. It seems therefore that as both seals and dugongs for example, are ordinarily to be found in parts of the State such as sandy beaches and resorts used for breeding purposes, they are fauna within the meaning of the Fauna Protection Act. Dolphins, which are always found in the water and are indigenous to no part or parts of the State but to the high seas, cannot be classified as fauna within the meaning of that Act. They are strictly "fish" in terms of the Fisheries Act.

LUCKY BAND DUCK SCHEME

Through the co-operation of Imperial Chemical Industries of Australia and New Zealand Limited, Western Australia this year is participating in the "Lucky Band Scheme" in regard to duck tag recoveries. The scheme was introduced in Victoria in 1958 and proved so successful that it is being repeated this year.

Fifty band numbers have been chosen and lodged in safe custody. The envelope containing the lucky numbers will be opened on April 30, and all persons who have sent in one of the numbered bands will receive from ICI a case of cartridges of their own choosing.

As the number of bands returned over the past few years has totalled only about 300, and 30 have been returned in the first month since the scheme started this year, there is no doubt of the interest brought about by the introduction of this scheme.

Any bands recovered should be forwarded immediately prior to the close of the season on April 30, together with the following details - the exact location of recovery, date of recovery, and recoverer's name and address.

(23)

Scorecards and post-free envelopes are available at Head Office, and any enquiries should be referred here.