

Helicopters are used for many purposes in the United States by a number of Federal and State agencies, including the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is realised that they would be a most suitable craft for patrolling the crayfisheries of this State but to date the intitial cost of the craft of between £30,000 and £50,000 has proved a stumbling block. The cost of hiring will, however, be watched with interest.

GOVERNMENT AIDS CAMPAIGN

The Western Australian Government has decided to contribute towards the cost of the "Pearls for Prestige" campaign at present being conducted overseas. As reported in the previous issue of this Bulletin, the results of the campaign have been most encouraging. The Commonwealth Government decided early last month to make a second grant to the campaign fund, which was established in the first place by contributions from the Commonwealth Government, the Australian Pearlshell Industry and United States pearl buyers. Pearlshell promotion in the fashion design fields of London, Paris and the United States has moved along very successfully and it is now expected to offset to a large extent the inroads made by the plastics industry with its imitation pearl buttons.

WILDLIFE EXPORTS

Four immature pelicans reached Perth early in June after having been airfreighted from Pelican Island, Shark Bay, by Inspector N.E. McLaughlan. The birds were taken originally for export to the Paris Zoological Gardens but it is now understood that the State Zoological Gardens Board is so pleased with them that they intend to keep them themselves, at least for the time being. Meanwhile, five black swans, which were sent to Japan as a goodwill gift from the city of Perth, arrived safely in Kobe. They carried with them a personal message to the Mayor of Tokyo from Perth's Lord Mayor Howard. Their trip on the "Ellen Baake" (the same ship which freighted the first consignment of craytails direct from the port of Geraldton) was reported as uneventful. They were fed on a diet prescribed by the Superintendent of the South Perth Zoological Gardens, Mr. W.H. Lyall.