

The Committee's recommendations on the above matters and on a number of others will be presented to the Minister in due course. His decision will be announced as soon as possible.

APPROACHING OPEN SEASONS.

All officers are reminded that the open season for stubble quail in that part of the state north of the 31<sup>o</sup> parallel will commence on December 1. In that area stubble quail may be taken until March 31.

The open season for marron, which usually commences on December 1, will be delayed until January 1, as part of an additional effort to conserve the dwindling stocks of these popular crustaceans, if the recommendations of the various trout acclimatization societies are accepted.

ROTTNEST BIOLOGICAL STATION COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the above committee attended by the Director (Mr. A. J. Fraser), Chairman, Dr. E. P. Hodgkin of the University of W.A., Dr. K. Sheard, of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., and Mr. B. K. Bowen (Secretary), was held at the Department on October 5. Dr. Hodgkin reported that discussions had taken place with regard to the fencing of the central portion of the island by the Rottneest Board of Control. This was considered necessary to allow natural regeneration and regrowth of the flora which hitherto had been over-grazed by quokkas. A special sub-committee which had been appointed to report on this matter was requested to formulate a further report for submission to the Board on additional areas to be fenced. Included in other matters dealt with by the Committee, was the completion of the booklet on the history of the Station and containing a review of scientific work in progress at Rottneest published by the Royal Society of W.A. The writers of the various sections, it was agreed, should be commended for the excellent standard achieved.