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The seal population at Macquarie Island is estimated at about 110,000 and there are about 85,000 at Heard Island.

OPEN SEASON FOR FINCHES

The usual open season for finches in the Kimberley Land Division has been proclaimed to start on September 1. It will close on December 31. Any person desiring to trap finches for gain or reward must hold a license. On fulfilment of certain conditions and payment of the £2 fee, licenses may be obtained from this Office. The activities of trappers in the Kimberley Land Division are again being kept under surveillance by Pearlring Inspector R.J. Baird and Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler, who towards the end of August were to leave Mr Baird's headquarters at Broome by Land Rover for Wyndham.

It is expected that the almost total ban on the export of Australian fauna, which was imposed by the Commonwealth Government a couple of years ago, will again automatically limit the number of trappers to operate this season. As was the case last year, only sufficient birds will be taken to meet the demand of the Australian home market.