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The length of the pelvic fin, and the anal and dorsal fin counts could not be accurately obtained from the mould.

In the press report of the taking of this specimen, its weight was given as between 130 and 140 lb.

#### NOR'-WEST WHALING ENTERS OTHER FIELDS

Interest in the prawn and scallop fisheries of Shark Bay has revived. The Nor'-West Whaling Company Ltd., of Carnarvon, is having two prawn trawlers built locally and is installing extensive ice-making plant at its station at Carnarvon to cope with expected catches of prawns, scallops, crayfish and scale-fish from the waters of Shark Bay.

The company intends to operate its trawlers for about 20 weeks each year. They will concentrate on tiger and king prawns but will fish for other seafoods. The processed catches will be brought to Perth by refrigerated road transport and sold on the local and eastern States markets. The possibilities of developing an export trade, particularly to the United States, will be kept under review.

#### GIANT RAY CAUGHT AT BROOME

What was believed to be the biggest ray ever seen in the Broome area was landed last month by professional fisherman Solve Wiberg. From a photograph published in the press with the report of the catch, it appears that the animal was one of the devil rays, perhaps Bathytoshia brevicaudata, the largest of the ray tribe recorded from Australian waters.

Mr Wiberg made his catch in a trap set at the foot of the Broome jetty. His first efforts to have the big ray moved by a four-wheel drive vehicle failed, and he estimated its weight at about one ton. As the giant manta rays of the Atlantic measure about 24 feet across the 'wings' and at that size have been estimated to weigh about two tons, we doubt that the Broome ray would have weighed any more than 1,000 lb., for it was reported to be a mere 12 feet wide. However, these are only guesses and Mr Wiberg certainly caught himself a "big 'un".