

DEPARTMENT  
AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

*Western Fisheries*

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July, 1962

STAFF NOTES

The Director, Mr A.J. Fraser, will commence one week's annual leave on July 2. Miss Helen Gilfellon, and Mr P. Yewers of Head Office, will also take one week's annual leave this month. The former will start on July 9.

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Officers who will be absent from duty on annual leave next month include Assistant Inspectors E.H. Barker and R.G. Emery, who will each commence three weeks' leave, on August 13 and August 20 respectively, and Miss H. Sivwright, of Head Office, who will take one week from August 27 to 31, inclusive.

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Three assistant inspectors will be posted on inter-district transfers this month. They are D.H. Smith, from Fremantle to Albany; R.G. Emery, from Mandurah to Fremantle; and G.J. Hanley, from Perth to Mandurah. The transfers will be effected on July 16. The projected interchange of inspectors, Grade I, has been delayed until September.

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Research Officer B.K. Bowen and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson will go to Geraldton later this month to continue the crayfish research programme, provided the intake of fish at the processing works improves. Catches have been so poor lately, as a result of bad weather, that



they would not provide reliable samples.

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The r.v. "Peron", under command of Capt. H.C.W. Piesse, with her full complement, Mr D. Wright, mate, Mr E.A. Mackenzie, engineer, Mr J. O'Sullivan, general hand, and Technical Officer R.J. McKay, will leave Shark Bay in the first week of August to return to Fremantle. She is expected to call at Geraldton en route.

LEAVE TO ATTEND COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE GAMES  
AS SPECTATORS

Circular instruction No.173, issued by the Public Service Commissioner, Mr R.J. Bond, gives authority for officers to utilise annual leave credits, or to be granted leave without pay, during any period of the Games. The granting of leave is subject to --

1. departmental convenience, and
2. production by the applicant of his tickets to the Games.

Portions of long service leave or short leave credits are not to be utilised for this purpose. Any officer who wishes to attend the Games should make application in the usual manner to his officer-in-charge.

PERSONAL PARS

Two American marine biologists arrived in Perth on June 21. They were Mr W.S. Wilson, and Mr W.Y. Saunders, of the Virginia State Fisheries Laboratory, U.S.A., whose chief interest is parasitology. They had previously visited each State collecting gill and gut samples of various fish for transmission back to their laboratory in Virginia. Their Australian itinerary was arranged by Dr G.L. Kesteven, Assistant Chief (Fisheries), Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O. Before coming to Australia they had spent fifteen months in the Australian antarctic station known as Wilke's Base. In the course of collecting samples in this State, Mr Wilson accompanied Research Officer R.J. Slack-Smith to Carnarvon, on June 26, and with him went aboard r.v. "Peron". Mr Saunders visited Albany and Bunbury. They will leave Perth by air on July 3.

Mr Wilson, who hails from Richmond, Virginia,



gave Mr Slack-Smith a tongue-tickling recipe which he described as "genuine Southern barbecue sauce." It appears on folio 126.

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Mr A.W. White, Assistant Fisheries officer of the Aden Protectorate Government, whose visit to this State was reported in the previous issue of this Bulletin, will leave Perth for Johannesburg, South Africa, on July 6. Mr White has had to cut short his stay here due to an illness in his family.

#### ALLOWANCES INCREASE

An administrative instruction received from the office of the Public Service Commissioner advises that, following a review of hotel tariffs, it has been agreed with the Civil Service Association that the daily rates of reimbursement of travelling, transfer and relieving expenses, shall be increased on and from July 1, 1962. The full travelling rate has risen from 50/6 to 51/6 a day, while the rate for city accommodation has risen from 64/6 to 66/6 a day. Transfer and relieving allowances have been increased similarly but no alterations have been made to either of the camping rates or to the boat allowances. The rates amended deal only with those in which hotel tariff is incorporated.

#### TURKEY TAKER TAKEN TO TASK

Officers might remember our report in the January-February issue of this year (Vol. XI, No.1) of this Bulletin, the historic conviction of a man in the Broome Police Court for having taken a wild turkey. The defendant, F.G. Evans, was fined £2, and we commented at the time that the legal protection afforded these economically valuable birds might well receive general recognition if that case were not allowed to remain a single isolated instance. Inspector R.J. Baird, who prosecuted on that occasion, has now advised that a second conviction has been obtained. In the Port Hedland Court, on June 18, 1962, John Frederick Smith, of the Newcastle Club Hotel, Perth, was convicted of having taken a wild turkey. He was fined £20 and ordered to pay 8/- costs. In this instance Constable Davies, of Port Hedland, prosecuted. The heavy fine imposed by the Port Hedland Court underlines the comment we made in the March, 1962, issue that fauna protection laws apply equally to all persons whether



they be in the Kimberley, North-West, Great Southern or other divisions of the State.

#### NORTHERN WHEAT-BELT PATROL

From June 4 to June 29 inclusive, Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler carried out a routine patrol through the northern wheat-belt from Toodyay eastwards to Mukinbudin. Covering 1,124 miles, Mr Bowler inspected 11 reserves all of which but one are sanctuaries. He called at police stations and on local authorities and also visited most honorary wardens, many of whom expressed their pleasure at this renewal of contact with the Department. Of the 61 species of birds recorded by Mr Bowler on the trip, perhaps the most noteworthy were two flocks of Major Mitchell Parrots, one of over 100 and one of approximately 60. Both were in the Mukinbudin Shire. Only common mammals were recorded, including red and grey kangaroos, but Mr R.G. Polkinghorn, of Welbungin, reported having observed a brush-tailed possum in a sanctuary near his home. Although this species is regarded as the only marsupial which can be described as having a fairly general continental distribution, very few reports of its occurrence in inland areas are received nowadays. It is presumed that the clearing of wooded areas for agriculture has been the principal reason for its disappearance from the wheat-belt.

#### FISHERIES TRAINING SCHOOL

The 1962 Australian Fisheries School for Field Officers will be held at the C.S.I.R.O. Marine Laboratory, Cronulla, from July 30 to August 17. The Minister for Fisheries has approved the attendance at the School of three officers from this Department this year. Those selected are Senior Inspector J.E. Munro, of Perth, Mr C.J. Seabrook, Master of r.v. "Lancelin", and Inspector A.T. Pearce, Skipper of the p.v. "Dampier", Geraldton.

Research Officer B.K. Bowen, who this year will be the State's only lecturer at the School, will not leave Perth for Cronulla until August 4. He will lecture on the concept of statistical analysis, with emphasis on fisheries problems. He will also officiate at five practical sessions and at one demonstration.

It will be remembered that Technical Officer R.J. McKay and Inspector B.A. Carmichael last year attended the initial school, which was of two weeks' duration.



This year's school has been enlarged in concept and duration and the syllabus has undergone certain modifications. The main purposes of the school are to help the trainees to understand science and why and how its methods are applied to fisheries, as well as to give training in the methods used by fisheries biologists when studying fishery resources.

#### CREDIT UNION ESTABLISHED

With the initial assistance of the Civil Service Association of W.A., the C.S.A. Co-operative Credit Union Society Ltd. has been formed for the benefit of members. The principal purposes of the Society are to make available unsecured loans at cheaper-than-bank interest rates to members, and also to offer a gilt-edged security for investments which will bear interest at 6% per annum. Loans are made only to members of the Society, but membership may be achieved by taking out five £1 shares.

With the approval of the Under Treasurer, both deposits and repayments may be paid by procuration order on a member's salary. The Society has only just got under way as we go to press, but has already demonstrated its success in that deposits totalling £8,000 have been received in 10 days, and applications for loans totalling £6,000 are under consideration.

Further details of the scheme may be obtained from your Association representative, or from the Society's secretary, 25 Irwin Street, Perth.

#### SECOND MEETING ON CRAYFISHING INDUSTRY

Officers will recall that a full record of the meeting between the Minister for Fisheries and representatives of the crayfishing industry, on May 1, was reported in the May issue of this Bulletin.

On June 26, 1962, a conference of land-based plant processors was convened to follow up suggestions made during discussions at the previous conference. The second conference was chaired by Mr G.G. Humphries, of Tropical Traders Ltd., and was attended by twenty delegates representing crayfish processors and exporters. The Director, Mr Fraser, and the Chief Clerk, Mr Saville, attended by invitation. The meeting carried the following resolutions which are reproduced as printed in the official record of the meeting:-



- "1. Regulations to stand with amendments to cover land plants for which the Department of Fisheries accepts carapace length only, and sufficient Departmental inspectors to be provided to cover these plants.
2. In view of the adoption of Resolution 1, we agree in principle to a levy as payment for additional inspectors. The method of levying should be examined by a Special Committee and subsequently their deliberations reported back to this conference.
3. Appointment of an investigation staff outside the control of the Fisheries Department.
4. Legal action for breaches of regulations be brought forward without delay. (Present time, season is often over before action taken).
5. That the Advisory Committee be increased to include -
  - (a) An exporter (a panel of names to be submitted by the Exporters' Committee);
  - (b) A person to represent Co-operative processing plants;
  - (c) A person to represent private enterprise plants;
  - (d) A person to represent Freezer Boat Association;
  - (e) A person to represent active crayfishermen.

In addition, a special sub-committee, comprising:-

Messrs J.C. Bowes (Chairman)  
F.R. Lemmon  
G.G. Humphries  
J.P. Pupazzoni  
C. Wheeler

was appointed to consider and report on -

- (a) Suggested methods of making the levy as resolved in Resolution 2.
- (b) Standardisation of inspectors' procedure, as some plants seem to receive stricter application of the regulations than others."

The meeting, like the previous one, was held in



the board room of the Farmers' Union Building, in Adelaide Terrace, Perth.

#### TUNA SURVEYS TO END

Both the aerial and surface tuna surveys will be completed this month. The "Estelle Star", the 85-ft. vessel chartered by the Commonwealth Government to survey the commercial potential of tuna fishing off the south coast, will sail from Albany on July 6. After calling at Esperance, she will return to her home port in South Australia. It will be remembered that the "Estelle Star" was chartered in that State and sailed from Port Lincoln on August 2, 1961, to undertake the survey, which was conducted in the waters of our south coast and off the west coast as far north as Jurien Bay. She is now being sold.

The aerial surveys, which have been conducted by a twin-engined chartered aircraft, will be concluded with a flight over the offshelf area, west of Rottnest. Mr K. Godfrey, Technical Officer of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., who has been acting as spotter, informs us that no tuna have been sighted in any of the aerial surveys to date. Although the "Estelle Star", towards the end of her programme, was taking up to 400-500 tuna a day, the fish were not visible from the air as they were being enticed up from deep waters by live bait. Sightings during the aerial survey, Mr Godfrey says, were virtually limited to whales and pilchards.

#### FAUNA NOTES

Miss C.A. Nicholls, who nurses a great number and variety of sick and injured birds back to health, recently advised that two black swans were fit to face the world again. Before being released on May 4, the birds were banded with rings numbered 150-01207 and 150-01208, respectively. The first was turned loose in Queen's Gardens, Perth, and the second at the Como Jetty. The latter bird "crash landed" at 150 Waterloo Street, Tuart Hill, on May 9, but on being retrieved was found to be unharmed and was released again at Como.

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Mr R. Kirkham, of 300 Great Eastern Highway, Midland, rang to say that he had, on May 10, found the body of a native cat, or chudich (Dasyurus geoffroii),



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on the side of the road at the 42-mile peg on the Great Eastern Highway. This was the second report in recent weeks of this now rarely seen, but one-time common, carnivorous marsupial having fallen victim in the rising tide of road fatalities.

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The Fleet Maintenance Officer, Mr A.J. Bateman, reported that on June 25 he sighted a black-browed albatross,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of the North Mole at Fremantle. The occurrence of this species in the waters between Rottnest and the mainland is most unusual, he says.

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The first report of the capture of a banded giant petrel comes from Assistant Inspector D.H. Smith. The bird was caught at North Beach by Mr Eric Sullivan, on June 14, and was found to be carrying band No. 50-15451. The bird was released on the same day by Mr Smith at Fremantle Harbour and when last seen was swimming out to sea. Thanks are extended to Mr Smith, not only for the report, but also for his proper releasing of the bird with the band intact. Incidentally, in a private letter, Dr D.L. Serventy (who is at present overseas) writes that the banding authorities have personally expressed to him their sincere thanks for the part being played by departmental officers and other observers in recording the details of band recoveries.

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Evidence of quite large populations of possums were observed by Fauna Protection Officer H.B. Shugg and Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler in the forest country near Nannup early last month. The officers were taken to an area around St. John's Brook by a Busselton naturalist, Mr R.A. Breeden, and were later joined by his friend, Mr A. Chugg. The party carried out day and night surveys by road and on foot of a considerable section of the forest country in the area. Evidence of pockets of quite heavy possum populations were the well-defined tracks up trees and a plenitude of scats. Perhaps due to fairly continuous rain, no possums were seen. However, sightings of a few kangaroos and a larger number of brush wallabies and one wambenger were recorded. The possums, apparently, were more-mindful of the unpleasant weather than were the enthusiastic searchers!

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Mr D. Gibbs, of 195 Walcott Street, Broome,



wrote that when on his way fishing one day last April, he had sighted a black swan in the sea near the town wharf. This was only the second he had seen near Broome in the last 12 years. Mr D. Wright, Mate of the r.v. "Peron", also reported having observed black swans at sea. On April 10, and again on April 12 and 13, he saw them feeding in Tegg's Channel, Carnarvon. Later, on May 17, he observed one sitting on the water approximately 100 yards from the vessel, which was then in Block 64 of Shark Bay. He said it was quite unperturbed by the presence of the vessel and its crew and it was still in sight when darkness fell. The sea that day was a flat calm. Mr Wright added that in April last, local residents had reported that swans were also observed upstream and at the northern mouth of the Gascoyne River, but only in flocks of five or six.

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In a series of good reports on bird observations, Mr Wright mentioned in May that he had not sighted any Australian gannets during the period since February when the "Peron" had been in Shark Bay waters. He asked whether they appeared to be in normal numbers farther south. Coincidentally, Inspector E.I. Forster, of the p.v. "Kooruldhoo", reported in his diary on June 30 that he had sighted 14 adult and 1 juvenile Australian gannet approximately 1 mile from the North Mole at Fremantle. He mentioned that the vessel was able to approach within 100 yards of the birds before they lifted. Comment on the normality of occurrences of the species in waters from Geraldton south would be appreciated.

#### PRAWNS

Research Officer R.J. Slack-Smith has established a colony of prawns in marine tanks in the laboratories at Head Office. To be used for experimental purposes, they were caught in the Swan River in May and June, and comprised a king prawn (Penaeus latisulcatus) and a number of Swan River or greasy-back prawns (Metapenaeus dalli). They are being fed on a diet of finely-ground fresh mullet and appear to be doing very well. Mr Slack-Smith is quite pleased with the progress of the prawn research programme as a whole, and it is stimulating to have commercial exploitation continuing hand in hand with the research programme.

Mr W.S. Wilson, the American marine biologist, who as reported earlier in this issue spent a few days aboard the r.v. "Peron", handed over the following recipe to Mr Slack-Smith with thanks for the hospitality extended



to him in this State and recommended it as a sauce fit to garnish the high-quality prawns being caught here:-

GENUINE SOUTHERN BARBECUE SAUCE

For 8 People - (12 Prawns Each)

Two 28 oz. Bottles Tomato Sauce  
1½ Cups Vinegar  
½ Cup Brown Sugar  
3 Medium Onions  
1 Cup Olive Oil  
Teaspoon Salt  
Good dash of Pepper, Garlic and  
Chilli Powder  
Tablespoon Hot Sauce  
¼ Cup Worcestershire Sauce  
Several Tablespoons of Pickles,  
(any sort).

Fry chopped onions in Olive Oil and add remaining ingredients. Simmer for a while (as long as possible), with the uncooked prawns in it.

Serve over rice (with beer).

This sauce can also be used to garnish chicken, steaks or pork. After grilling, they should be put in the sauce and simmered for a while to barbecue them.

ADDITIONAL STAFF APPOINTMENT

In the Government Gazette, of June 8, it was reported that a new item of Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, classification G-VII-1/2, had been created. The new position will provide assistance to the Inspector at Albany (at present Mr B.A. Carmichael) whose increased duties in respect of the sperm whale and other research programmes has made it impossible for him to pay proper attention to his district. As reported elsewhere in this issue, Assistant Inspector D.H. Smith, of Fremantle, will be transferred to the new item on July 16.

OUTSTANDING DUCK BAND RECOVERIES

Since the commencement of the last open season for wild ducks, some particularly old bands have been handed in. One was so worn that even the Scientific Bureau of the C.I.B. were unable to decipher its full number, but sufficient figures were "brought up" to say,



fairly definitely, that it was from one of a large group of grey teal which were banded by Mr J. Traynor at Big Bootine Swamp, Beermullah in the Gingin district, in March, 1953. When it was shot at Lake Mortijinup, near Esperance, on January 6, 1962, it had been in circulation for nearly 9 years - possibly an Australian record (see Vol. X, No. 2, February, 1961, for previous comment).

Another was band. 2996 which was from a grey teal banded at Lake Mears, near Brookton, on November 11, 1954. This bird was recovered on January 7, 1962, at Wannamal Lake, about 60 miles north of Perth.

The following records of bands recovered in this State have been received from the Director of Fisheries and Wildlife, Victoria. All these birds were Grey Teal and each was banded at Lara, near Geelong, Victoria.

<u>Band No.</u>	<u>Date Banded</u>	<u>Date Recovered</u>	<u>Place Recovered</u>
542681	7.3.58	9.3.62	Wagin, W.Australia.
616779	3.2.57	10.1.62	Near Esperance, on a lake, W.Australia.
536713	20.1.56	12.2.60	20 miles south of Boulder, W.Australia.
53778?	9.2.56	24.3.62	Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.

#### RARE PLANT COLLECTED

An application having been received for the alienation of reserve 18245, at Wubin, it was inspected on June 14 by the Fauna Protection Officer. He found that it was an interesting but small reserve of about 300 acres. Although only a few species of fauna were identified, a collection of 27 different plants was made and large numbers of birds were seen and heard. Included among the plants collected was a small ground plant subsequently identified as Grevillea nana C.A. Gardn. The Curator of the Western Australian Herbarium (Mr R.D. Royce) advised that it was particularly gratifying to have this plant in the collection. It was believed to be extremely rare and was originally collected between Koorda and Bencubbin. Its occurrence at Wubin was the only place it was known to exist on a reserve. From a botanical sense, this made it a particularly important area. It has been recommended that the purpose of the reserve (which was originally set aside as a water reserve) be amended to the conservation of flora and fauna and that it be vested in the local Shire Council, two of whose members are honorary wardens.



C.S.I.R.O. TO SELL "DERWENT HUNTER"

Advice has recently been received from the Administrative Officer of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O. (Mr G.R. Williams) that the fisheries research vessel "Derwent Hunter" is considered to be no longer suitable for the kind of research that the Division intends to carry out and it has been decided to take her out of service. She will be offered for sale by public tender in the near future. Mr Williams added that it was not proposed to replace "Derwent Hunter" immediately and for the time being the Division would operate from chartered vessels and, if suitable arrangements could be made, from commercial fishing vessels.

An auxiliary ketch, the "Derwent Hunter" is a 71-ft. craft with an 18-ft. beam and a cruising speed of 8 knots. Her crew of six comprised skipper, engineer, mate, two deckhands and cook. Accommodation was also available for scientific and technical personnel. She was originally purchased by C.S.I.R.O. in 1951 for work on shark and barracouta in south-eastern Australian waters and, initially, was based at Hobart.

MORE SHORT-NECKED TORTOISES FOUND

On June 8, Fauna Wardens S.W. Bowler and N.E. McLaughlan were delighted to find, in broad daylight, five of these little animals on the reserve at Bullsbrook. They were on one of the routine inspections described in previous issues and were particularly pleased with the discovery as it indicated that the tortoises still remained in the general area which was swept by a severe bushfire early this year. On the same day they encountered a farmer who had found an additional short-necked tortoise in a culvert under an adjacent road. On June 25, advice was received from the Department of Agriculture's research station, which is only half a mile from one section of the reserve, that a further specimen had been found in a shallow pool adjacent to the manager's residence. Fauna Warden McLaughlan visited the area on the following day and found another specimen in the middle of a bitumen road leading to the station, while an adjoining farmer found another one in a shallow pond on his property. These discoveries brought the total number found this year to eleven. All have been released on the reserve. The last three have had identification numbers painted on segments of their carapaces so that their movements can be plotted if they are found again.



By agreement with the Weeds & Seeds Branch of the Department of Agriculture, the boundaries of the reserves are to be sprayed with a hormone to control the growth of a declared noxious weed, Cape Tulip, heavy infestations of which occur in the area. We are assured that the spray will not affect the tortoises.

#### TAKING OF WHALES FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES

It will be remembered that, in the May 1962 issue, we published advice received from the Fisheries Division, Department of Primary Industry, Canberra, that quotas of 100 and 450 humpback whales had been allotted to the Cheynes Beach Whaling Co. and Nor'-West Whaling Co. respectively. Since then, separate approvals for the taking of additional whales for research purposes have been signified. Advice has been received that the Minister for Primary Industry has approved the capture of three blue whales at Carnarvon and three at Albany, and a later approval was given for the taking of seven blue whales at Carnarvon. On June 6, telegraphic advice was received that the Minister had approved the capture, in Western Australian waters, of eight undersize sperm whales each month from June to November inclusive. This meant that the Nor'-West Whaling Company and the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company were each allowed to take up to four in each of the six months, or a grand total of 48. It was further stated that permission would be given for one company to transfer to the other any portion or the whole of its monthly quota provided that the number of whales so transferred was taken in the same month. The total number of undersize sperm whales to be taken by both stations in 1962, therefore, was limited to 48. The products of the whales will become the property of the company capturing them.

#### CONVICTIONS

APRIL-JUNE, 1962.

Date	Defendant	Court	Charge	Result
<u>FISHERIES ACT</u>				
3.4.62	HUNT, Danuel Samuel	Albany	Netting close waters	Fined £10
3.4.62	SHACKELTON, Albert	"	" " "	" £10
28.5.62	TAYLOR, James Philamore	Carnarvon	Dynamiting fish	" £20
13.3.62	GRAHAM, John Kenneth W.	Collie	Obstruction	" £10
2.4.62	KATNICK, Roko	Fremantle	U/s crayfish	" £10



CONVICTIONS  
(continued)

Date	Defendant	Court	Charge	Result
2.4.62	MERCIADRI, Aldo	Fremantle	U/s crayfish	Fined £10
2.4.62	TURTUR, Carlo	"	" "	" £13.12s
2.4.62	TURTUR, Carlo	"	" "	" £13.2s
2.4.62	STACEY, Adrian	"	" "	" £25.18s
9.4.62	KATNICK, Roko	"	Spawning crayfish	" £25
9.4.62	KATNICK, Roko	"	U/s crayfish	" £28.16s
16.4.62	PRYER, Raymond	"	" "	" £15.16s
16.4.62	ROMETO, Cologiro	"	" "	" £18.8s
16.4.62	WANN, Lawrence Charles	"	" "	" £40.2s
16.4.62	ROMETO, Cologiro	"	" "	" £14.10s
30.4.62	IANNELLO, Cologero	"	" "	" £111.12s
30.4.62	CARBONARO, Vince	"	" "	" £21.16s
14.5.62	OGSTON, Alfred Charles	"	" "	" £48.3s
14.5.62	BOSCOLO, Mario	"	" "	" £11.2s
14.5.62	ABRUGIATO, Francisco	"	" "	" £11.10s
14.5.62	COOPER, Kevin	"	" "	" £17.6s
16.4.62	ENG. & MARINE SERVICES	"	Underweight cray tails	" £22.4s
16.4.62	ENG. & MARINE SERVICES	"	" " "	" £29.14s
21.5.62	BREGLIA, Cosima	"	U/s crayfish	" £15
21.5.62	PAPPAGALLO, Lorenzo	"	" "	" £33.7.6.
21.5.62	ABELHA, Alfredo F.	"	Brushed spawning crayfish	" £16.15s
21.5.62	OTERI, Santo	"	U/s crayfish	" £70.17.6.
28.5.62	COOPER, Kevin J.	"	" "	" £13.15s
28.5.62	ROMETO, Cologiro	"	" "	" £22.2.6.
28.5.62	ROMETO, Cologiro	"	" "	" £10
28.5.62	ROMETO, Cologiro	"	" "	" £10
28.5.62	LA PEGNA, Ciro	"	" "	" £27.17.6.
28.5.62	CASTROVINCI, Salvatore	"	" "	" £37.17.6.
28.5.62	LOCANTRO, Gaetano	"	" "	" £42.17.6.
18.6.62	CALDERA, Angelo	"	Undersize cray tails	" £89.10s
18.6.62	CVEJIC, Ziuojin	"	Processing crayfish at sea	" £10
25.6.62	DEERING, Ronald	"	Illegal processing	" £50
17.4.62	BIANCUCCI, Carmelo	Geraldton	U/s crayfish	" £11.1s
17.4.62	LOCKHART, Clive Maxwell	"	" "	" £13.19s
11.4.62	RUBERY, William	Perth	" "	" £12.6d
11.4.62	WANN, Raymond	"	" "	" £14.4s



CONVICTIONS  
(continued)

Date	Defendant	Court	Charge	Result
10.5.62	NIJGH, Rein	Perth	Attempt to contravene Act	Fined £5
13.4.62	McCORMICK, Horace, W.	"	U/s crayfish	" £39.10s
17.5.62	McCORMICK, Horace, W.	"	" "	" £58.5s
24.5.62	WANN, Raymond	"	" "	" £55.4s
24.5.62	McDONALD, Ray	"	" "	" £22.12s
24.5.62	RIGGS, Edward G.	"	" "	" £32.10s
24.5.62	BOTICA, Edward	"	" "	" £21.6s
23.5.62	BOWRA, John	"	Netting close waters	" £20
10.5.62	PRYER, Raymond	"	U/s crayfish	" £13.18s
24.5.62	GREEN, Roy Percival	"	Undersize cray tails	" £82.6s
1.6.62	HUGILL, Desmond Robert	"	U/s crayfish	" £33.14s
1.6.62	HUGILL, Desmond Robert	"	Attempt to contravene Act	" £5
13.6.62	EATON, Trevor Edward	"	Netting close waters	" £6
13.6.62	POZZI, Alfred Anthony	"	U/s crayfish	" £16.17.6.
27.6.62	DEVLIN, Frank	"	Netting close waters	" £5
27.6.62	ELLETT, Ernest	"	U/s Mullet	" £29.4s
<u>FAUNA PROTECTION ACT</u>				
12.4.62	GILES, Frederick James	Medina	Taking protected fauna	" £10
12.4.62	CYPRIAN, George John	"	" " "	" £10
12.4.62	GREENHAM, William	"	" " "	" £10
12.4.62	PENFOLD, Bruce Colin	"	" " "	" £10
12.4.62	RONEY, Frank Gilbert	"	" " "	" £10
12.4.62	PRIEST, Thomas William	"	Keeping unlic. fauna	" £5
23.5.62	SCHORER, Darryl Charles	Perth	Taking protected fauna	" £5
23.5.62	GIBSON, Kerry Stuart	"	" " "	" £5
6.6.62	NADALINI, Natoli	"	" " "	" £5
25.6.62	SHEEDY, Mrs Eunice A.	Fremantle	Keeping unlic. fauna	" £10
27.6.62	GIGLIA, Albert	Perth	Taking protected fauna	" £5
18.6.62	SMITH, John Frederick	Port Hedland	" " "	" £20



## CLEARING HOUSE

### Tasmanian Fishing Industry

Compiled by Fisheries Division, Department of  
Agriculture and C.S.I.R.O. Regional Laboratory,  
Hobart.

All the islands south of  $39^{\circ} 12'$  and between long.  $133^{\circ}$ - $149^{\circ}$  are within Tasmanian jurisdiction and it is from the waters within these limits that about 1,000 licensed fishermen in 500 vessels harvest annually approximately 8 million lbs. weight of fish.

The five most important fisheries are - crayfish, shark, barracouta, scallops and salmon. Their production is supplemented by catches of the less commercially important fish such as flathead, cod, garfish, mullet, flounder, trevalley, perch, tuna, real and silver trumpeter, white-bait and mackerel.

#### 1. Crayfish

Crayfish are caught in pots used from boats ranging from 20 feet to 70 feet long. Some boats use dinghies and some work directly off the boat. Most boats have diesel engines and auxiliary sails. Crayfish are taken all round Tasmanian coasts, including the Bass Strait Islands, as seasons permit. They are caught in depths of from one to fifty fathoms. The main part of Tasmania's crayfish catch is exported to New South Wales and Victoria and some to the United States of America.

#### 2. Shark

Fishing for edible sharks (flake) is carried on all around our coast. Boats used for shark fishing range from 50 to 70 feet in length and are fitted with powerful diesel engines and sails. The sharks are caught by means of "longlines" - each longline may have as many as 2,000 hooks, each at intervals of 3-5 fathoms apart, attached to it. These lines are set on the bottom with an anchor and a buoyline on each end, and are usually left down about three to four hours.

The species used for food are the school shark and the gummy shark, both of which grow to a length of about five to six feet. The shark flesh is sold fresh, mainly in Victoria, and the liver which is valuable, is processed and various medicinal products are made from the extracts.



### 3. Barracouta

Barracouta are seasonal, and usually most plentiful from November-May each year. The fish are taken by "jigs" which are made of a piece of pine about 6 inches long and 1 inch thick, shaped like a fish and fitted with one or two barbless hooks. The jigs are sometimes worked by means of long rods or "jig sticks", according to conditions. Some boats fish under sail and some use power all the time. The boats used in "couta" fishing are usually smaller than the average crayfish boat. All boats engage in "couta" fishing occasionally. Barracouta are sold fresh to shops for "fish and chips", canned for export by canneries, sold as fresh fish on Victorian markets, or smoked. Many hundreds of dozens are used for crayfish bait.

### 4. Scallops

During the winter months scallops are caught in south-eastern, eastern and north-eastern Tasmanian waters and are taken by means of dredges towed by wire ropes. The scallops are dredged from the sea bed and each day are taken to a base depot where they are opened and prepared for marketing. Scallops are packaged in the frozen state as they are not suitable for canning.

### 5. Salmon

Salmon are caught in large seine nets set around the shoals when these come into shallow water. Sometimes aeroplanes are used for locating the fish shoals and boats are directed to where the fish may be caught. Most of our salmon is canned.

Trumpeter, flounder, trevalley and perch are our better quality fish but few fishermen attempt to catch them for sale owing to the high cost of nets and gear. At various times of the year rock cod and mackerel are plentiful around our coasts but not a great quantity is taken as it is more profitable to catch crayfish, shark and barracouta.

An excellent canning fish, tuna, which sometimes weigh up to 200 lbs., are caught on troll lines or by surface longlines in Tasmanian waters.



Shelikof Strait - Area of Turbulence

Shelikof Strait is one of the world's stormy and turbulent seas.

It promises to become more so, and particularly in the blasts and currents of international politics and international fishing competition.

Shelikof Strait lies between the Alaskan mainland and Kodiak Island. It ranges in width from a minimum of about 25 miles to an average of about 30. Thus its width is such as to render much of it "high seas" under the commonly accepted concept, to which the United States adheres.

Alaskans on the other hand, regard Shelikof Strait as part of their territorial waters, and since Alaska became a state it has adopted and enforced fishery regulations over the strait as it has over its coastal waters.

The record does not show that the United States has stated its position with regard to the status of Shelikof, or the validity of Alaska's regulation of its fisheries.

These are the conditions before the storm which broke with April.

Japan made it plain late last fall that she would permit commercial fishing operations by Japanese nationals in 1962 south and east of the Aleutian Islands and the Alaska Peninsula.

Protests, and requests for postponement, were entered by Canada and the United States - and rejected by Japan (See Pacific Fisherman, Dec. 1961.)

Thus everyone who was watching knew Japanese fishing vessels would operate commercially in the western Gulf of Alaska this spring.

Few guessed that Japan would permit her fishermen to enter the stormy and sensitive waters of Shelikof Strait.

None dreamed, even when the Japanese did appear in Shelikof, that they would challenge Alaska's regulations in such place and manner as to court arrest.



But they did.

To believe the Japanese fishing company touched off a tempest for a few herring, and did it without the sanction, if not the instruction, of the Japanese Fishery Agency, is to be innocently ill-informed.

Why did Japan elect to precipitate an international controversy in Shelikof Strait?

There are several possible answers. Any or all of them may apply.

1. To establish an "historic right" to fishing in these waters.

Senator E.L. Bartlett of Alaska quoted in Washington a statement published in Suisan Keizai Shimbun, Japan's leading daily fishery newspaper, and translated thus:

"The Fishery Agency plans gradually to authorize other Japanese firms to operate herring fleets, should the experimental fishing prove successful, one purpose being to establish historic rights".

2. To establish an improved bargaining position in other areas.

Those might be: (a) United States' request of Japan to eliminate or greatly reduce its high seas fishing pressure on the 1962 Bristol Bay Red salmon run; (b) Japan's expected application for membership in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention; (c) Japan's effort to secure a larger market for canned tuna in the United States.

3. To force the United States into a declaration of national policy with respect to whether Shelikof Strait is to be regarded as Alaska territorial waters.

When Alaska arrested the "Banshu Maru", "Ohtori Maru No.5" and the "Soicha Maru No.7" they were charged with violation of state fishery regulations, and not with violation of territorial waters.

(In this connection it is notable that Raymond Yingling, solicitor of the Department of State, Washington, C.S., and William Redmond, Department of the Interior solicitor, Anchorage, were in conference with Governor



William Egan of Alaska, April 13, the day before the first Japanese vessel was seized.)

Will the United States support Alaska and declare Shelikof Strait to be territorial waters? Or -

Will traditional U.S. national policy prevail and the three-mile limit to territorial waters be maintained.

Now we're in the area of pure speculation.

There are some who say the national government of political necessity must support Alaska; but even from the political point of view there, this is not fully agreed.

One weak point in Alaska's case for authority over Shelikof Strait is that for many years, and since Alaska became a state and assumed control over its fisheries, Canadian halibut fishermen have fished outside the three-mile limit in Shelikof Strait without official objection. (Americans of course do the same in Hecate Strait, between the Queen Charlotte Islands and the Canadian mainland.)

But the most powerful reason for counting Shelikof Strait as international water is one of military security. The Navy cannot compromise here, and won't. If Shelikof Strait is closed, other strategic straits all over the world also may be closed to the United States.

But just suppose the United States could find some means of closing Shelikof Strait to foreign fishermen, perhaps while maintaining it as high seas from the standpoints of commerce and security. What then?

How long do you suppose it would take for Canada to take a similar position with respect to Hecate Strait? For years this has been a point of political pressure in Canada.

Granted that Hecate Strait is wider than Shelikof; granted that Americans have been fishing there for many years. The fact remains that to close one is almost sure to close the other; or that to apply some device like a 12-mile limit to one would likewise constrict the other to a point approaching closure.

Such friction between the United States and Canada just might be one of the considerations which influenced Japan's decision to send its vessels into Shelikof.



Alaska Claims Jurisdiction

Forty-mile width of territorial waters - at least for fishing - is called for by an act voted on by the Alaska legislature just before it adjourned, but after "the recent sighting of Japanese fishing vessels actually within Alaskan waters".

The requested 40-mile limit actually is a minimum, and is alternative with the edge of the continental shelf, whichever is the greater.

The legislative document was House Joint Resolution 88. After reciting that "increasing numbers of foreign fishing fleets move continually closer to the Alaskan coast," the resolution urges President Kennedy:

"To act quickly and decisively in informing foreign nationals who intend to fish near the Alaskan coast that absolutely no intrusions into Alaskan waters will be tolerated, and if any such intrusions are indicated, to take immediate action against the intruding vessel or vessels.

"The President is further urged as a matter of the greatest necessity to re-assess the United States' previous position as to a three-mile limit on state waters, and in an effort to protect the already harassed fisheries of Alaska from foreign intrusion, to press for acceptance of a 40-mile limit, or to the edge of the continental shelf, whichever is greater, at least in connection with fishing."

40-mile Fishing Zone Sought

Alaska's claim of jurisdiction over ocean waters around Kodiak and Chirikof Islands and in Shelikof Strait was plainly emphasized by Governor William Egan in his messages to Undersecretary of State George W. Ball, disclosing and protesting the activities of the Japanese.

In his telegram announcing the Japanese had been sighted in Shelikof Strait, he said:

"All activities are in violation of Alaska fisheries law. This is a matter of grave concern to all Alaskans. Will you notify me immediately as to procedure federal authorities intend to follow? The state cannot sit idly by and watch state fisheries laws openly violated."

A few days earlier, Governor Egan wrote Under-



secretary Ball that the Japanese were fishing off Chirikof and Kodiak Islands and expected to appear in Shelikof, saying:

"The State of Alaska has claimed jurisdiction over the entirety of these two bodies of water on historical and geographical grounds, notwithstanding the usual three-mile rule .... The State of Alaska does not wish to cause any international incident by interference with the Japanese operations, in view of the paramount responsibility of the federal government in the field of foreign policy."

This was March 30. Two weeks later Raymond Yingling, Department of State solicitor, called on Governor Egan. The day following that, the first of the Japanese vessels was seized.

(Pacific Fisherman                      Portland 5, Ore.                      May, 1962)

#### Faster Fish Fryer

A gas-fired commercial fish fryer, which reduces cooking-oil bills by half, has been designed and manufactured in South Africa. The first models, which are already in service, are claimed to have been very successful.

The special gas burners and the corrugated bottoms of the oil pans were designed by the technical staff of the Handigas Division of African Oxygen Ltd. The former give a heat output of 60,000 British thermal units an hour, which is three times that generated by the average electrically heated fish fryer. The corrugated bottom virtually doubles the heated area with which the oil is in contact. This makes for very rapid heating.

(Shipping News                      South Africa                      May, 1962)

#### Ireland to Seek 12-mile Limit

Ireland is to expand its fishing limits to twelve miles. Officials of the Fisheries' Section of the Department of Lands are working out final details of the proposals.

A government spokesman said, "We are very interested in expanding our fishing limits, and, in fact, are preparing for negotiations on the matter. This is something that must be done by agreement and can only be



decided by a conference of all the countries concerned."

Just over two years ago Ireland considerably enlarged the sea area reserved for the use of Irish fishermen when a new system using straight baselines determined by headlands, rather than the old method of measuring three nautical miles from the shore, was introduced.

The old three-mile limit is now generally recognised as completely out-of-date, but despite a number of international conferences in recent years it has not yet been found possible to work out a solution satisfactory to all.

An immediate problem that will face the Irish authorities should the limit be extended will be the question of policing home waters. At present, many in the fishing industry claim that the existing three miles of territorial waters are inadequately guarded against poaching.

(The Fishing News

London

May, 1962)

#### Plan to Curb Part-Timers

East Neuk of Fife regular inshore fishermen are protesting and endeavouring to find a way to check many small boat owners encroaching on their livelihood of crab and lobster fishing.

The part-timers have graduated from half-dozen or so creels to as many as 100 creels.

A notice from Anstruther's Fishery Office in Crail Harbour states that certain fishermen are landing undersized lobsters and disposing of them at under-cut prices. The Fishery Department consider the practice "a low, mean way of making a living, apart from taking the bread and butter out of self-respecting fishermen's mouths."

Lobsters are being sold privately without any record of the money received.

It seems about the only way a brake could be put on is to follow the Welsh way and not allow their boats to be registered as fishing boats. They're not fishermen, anyway.

(The Fishing News

London

May, 1962)



Diesel Trouble Shooting

Ten Maintenance Steps for Diesels

1. Keep dirt out of the engine
2. Maintain a lubricating film
3. Regulate the engine's fuel
4. Control operating temperatures
5. Guard against corrosion
6. Let the engine breathe
7. Prevent overspeeding
8. Know your engine's condition
9. Correct troubles while they are simple
10. Schedule and control your maintenance.

When a mixture of gasoline vapor and air is drawn into the engine cylinder, there is a great loss of fuel caused by the escape of part of the gas air mixture, when the exhaust ports open. However, there is no such loss in a Diesel engine, even in the high speed Diesel, which is two cycles, because the fuel is not injected until just before the piston reaches top dead center. Then the fuel is sprayed into the precombustion chamber. Up to that point there was only air in the cylinder.

As two cycles means twice as much power within the same metal space of cubic inches per cylinder; and as the H.S. Diesel turns double and triple the speed of a slow speed Diesel, the power delivered is going to be three or four times as great in the H.S. per given cubic inches than it can possibly be in a four cycle heavy duty Diesel.

This increased power per cubic inch through fuel economy, that is, no fuel lost to cylinder outlet, and the still intensified power gained by higher RPM, naturally causes many things and conditions to be taken care of. One of the most important of these is wear - metal wear - caused by uncontrollable momentum. The momentum is caused by a created force, but a natural result - the whip and thrust of high speed machinery - that will always exist where pistons, cylinders, connecting rods and crankshafts are involved.

This is increased by engine load and aggravated by engine overload. This concerns liner walls, piston rings and crank pin bearings and this is the most important section of the big wear and tear of the high speed Diesel.