

have also been found from a little to the east of Albany up to Cottesloe Beach. He added that last season quite a lot of unusual seeds or fruits were washed ashore. Entada was widespread and a number of other types were found. These included Nipa fruticans (a palm), Heritiera (a tropical plant called dungun), Carapa (commonly known as crab wood) Sapium (called the tallow tree or milkwood) and Picea, a member of the spruce family.

Professor H.N. Barber, of the University of Tasmania, to whom the latest specimens were also forwarded, says that Entada seeds are carried across the Atlantic in the Gulf Stream. He wondered whether the plant was grown here in cultivation or if it were possible that they, and the Picea, might have been carried from the northern hemisphere by natural drift. As far as is known by Mr. Royce, the only Entada grown here was from a seed which an Albany resident was able to germinate, but nothing is known of the fate of the seedling.

FAUNA NOTES

Assistant Inspector L.R. Frizzell regularly comes forward with interesting observations. Last April, for instance, he reported the sighting in Houtman Abrolhos of two male hair seals in the lagoon at Wooded Island. He also recorded a bird rarely sighted - the Spotless Crake. This species was seen, he said, at both the north and the south ends of Wooded Island. Another interesting record was that of a number of immature Little Shearwaters in the mangroves at the south end of the island. They had their full plumage but were apparently not able to fly for they hid beneath overhanging rocks on the edge of the mangroves.

During a visit to the Perrilup district, in the Shire of Plantagenet, to witness certain vermin control trials being run by an officer of the Agriculture Protection Board, Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler had occasion to visit the property of a Mr. M. Trotter. He was staggered to hear a complaint from that gentleman that Western Magpies were damaging and eating his apples. Mr. Trotter's story was confirmed by Mr. P. Strugnell, of the Agriculture Protection Board. As some squeakers (Strepera versicolor) were seen in the vicinity it was

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thought that these birds might have been taken for magpies, but both men maintained that the birds causing the trouble really were magpies.