

recommendations of the Committee of Three. One of the recommendations is that there should be a total prohibition on the taking of humpbacks for a considerable number of years - probably 50 years or more. The Committee has also recommended drastic reductions in the take of blue whales, fin whales and pigmy blue whales.

Local Whaling Continues

Meanwhile, at Carnarvon, the Nor'-West Whaling Company intended to commence its humpback whaling season on July 1. It has been allotted a quota of 450 humpbacks this year. This Company's chasers took its first sperm whale for the season on June 3, and had secured a total of 37 sperms by June 27.

The Cheynes Beach Whaling Company, which has been allotted a quota of 100 humpbacks this season, took its first whale of this species on June 13, and by June 29 a total of 8 humpbacks had been taken. This Company is continuing to operate on sperm whales, and by June 29 had secured a total of 198.

FLORA PROTECTION - HONORARY INSPECTORS WANTED

The Minister for Forests, Mr. S. Bovell, has advised the Minister for Fisheries, Mr. Ross Hutchinson, that it is the Government's wish that all officers of the Fisheries Department, who are over twenty-one years of age and are interested in the protection of native flora, be invited to make application for appointment as Honorary Inspectors under The Native Flora Protection Act. The Minister for Forests added -

"While the Native Flora Protection Act gives wide powers to inspectors in connection with the apprehension of offenders, it is felt that the prevention of offences should be the primary aim and that honorary inspectors, and indeed every responsible citizen, can render service towards the better protection of our native flora by using every opportunity offering to impress upon members of the public, and children in particular, the futility of picking flowers which once picked rapidly

fade and must be thrown away. The same flowers left on the plant will continue to give pleasure during their season to many people and later develop seed to increase the display in years to come."

Any officers interested in securing appointment should make application to the Conservator of Forests, Rural and Industries Bank Building, 54 Barrack Street, Perth, who will supply any further information required. It should be noted that Honorary Inspectors under the above Act are empowered -

- (a) to examine any wildflower or native plant in the possession of any person and
- (b) for that purpose to stop and inspect any vehicle and to enter into or upon any place whatsoever or any vessel and to open and inspect any package or receptacle,
- (c) to take possession of any wildflower or native plant which appears to have been unlawfully obtained,
- (d) to demand the name and address of any person in possession of any such flower or plant.

Any person who, when required to do so by an Honorary Inspector under the provisions of the above Act,

- (a) refuses to give his name and address ;
- (b) gives a false name and address ;
- (c) refuses to deliver up any wildflower or native plant, or who delays or obstructs an Honorary Inspector acting under such authority, is guilty of an offence.