

of crayfish occurred, and where efforts had been made, without success, over a considerable period to establish a crayfishery.

Nevertheless, the fishing tests outlined in the previous issue of this bulletin will be undertaken this month by the r.v. "Lancelin" under the direction of the Senior Research Officer, Mr. B.K. Bowen. In addition to the special Aden craypot, normal cane and steel-framed pots will be used together with "tangle" nets. Underwater surveys will also be carried out by Mr. Bowen and Technical Officer, R.J. McKay.

COMFORT OR COLOUR

The question of having to decide whether the aesthetic and sentimental appeals of birdlife on parts of the Swan River, are worth the discomfort suffered by those sections of the public living close to mosquito-infested swamps and marshlands around the river, will have to be decided soon.

The results of an extensive survey conducted by the Public Health Department were summarised in a press release issued last month by the Minister for Health, Mr. Hutchinson. Some of the 63 sites discovered to be actual or potential mosquito breeding grounds, include some that are used or are very near those used by birdlife. Two of these, the first between Alfred Cove and Attadale, and the second near Pelican Point, are of particular importance and may need protection, not because the mosquito breeding areas themselves are of value to wildlife, but because the projected large-scale method of dealing with the mosquitoes - by land-fill or dredging - may render adjacent beach shores unsuitable to the birds which feed and rest there during the summer months. It is feared that the thousands of waders which annually migrate from nesting grounds in Siberia and "stage" at Pelican Point may be seriously affected. The matter will be referred to the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, at its next meeting on August 2.

W.A. FISH PRODUCTION 1962

The table at Page 183, sets out the total catch of the main species in 1962 compared with 1961.