

(186)

Engineer & Marine Services Pty. Ltd. (5 vessels)	Jupiter Sonoma Maria S.S. Saturn Oceanic
Poole's Fisheries	Bluefin
Eureka Fishing Company	Eureka
Kingfisher Corporation	Geraldton Empress
Ocean Trawling Co.	Atlantic Ocean
M. Lombardo	Nelma
F. Correia	Miss Portuguesa
T. Doak	Fredricka
M. de Sousa	Lady of Fatima
Seafarer Fishing Co.	Eckero
R.J. Phillips	Kia Ora III

TWO STRANGE OLD DUCKS!

Recently, the scientific division of the Criminal Investigation Branch of the Police Department, Perth, successfully determined for us the obliterated numbers which had been stamped on a number of returned duck bands. A strange coincidence was revealed when one of the band numbers was deciphered as 3182. When the banding records were checked it was revealed that this band had been attached to a Grey Teal at Yealering Lake by Inspector J. Traynor on January 23, 1955. A band from another teal banded at the same place was also returned about the same time. It was numbered 3204, and had been placed on a grey teal on January 25, 1955, only two days after No. 3182. The recovery details received indicated that both birds had been shot almost eight years later, on January 1, 1963. 3182 was shot 20 miles north-east of Kalgoorlie by a Mr. O. Bennetts, while on the same day, 3204 was shot 25 miles north-west of Kalgoorlie by Mr. B. McCahon.

(187)

Band number 3204 was not very badly worn at all - in fact its number was quite decipherable. On the other hand, band 3182 was very badly worn and anyone viewing it could not help but regard the restoration of its number as a marvel of science. The recovery of these bands not only tabulates an extraordinary coincidence, but also provides a valuable record of longevity in the species. The apparent continued general association of the two birds also challenges one's imagination.