

The following day Mr. Shugg was taken to Snob's Creek and shown over the trout hatcheries. He was particularly impressed by the efficiency and cleanliness of this extensive establishment and its attached research laboratories and equipment - not to mention the magnificent scenery at the nearby Eildon Weir.

In South Australia, Mr. Shugg was taken on a 400-mile, two-day trip up the Murray River. He was shown over a number of wetland sanctuaries as well as the wall-site of the proposed 5,000,000 acre-foot dam at Chowilla, near the Victorian border. When completed, this will be the largest body of water impounded in Australia - it will hold 12 times as much as Sydney Harbour and half as much again as Lake Eucumbone in the Snowy Mountains. It will be more than 5 times as large as our largest, the Wellington Dam, which holds about 40,000,000 gallons. When filled, Chowilla Dam will flood an enormous area and should provide tremendously valuable habitat for waterfowl, some of the many species of which Mr. Shugg had the pleasure of observing elsewhere on the meanders and billabongs of the Murray.

Staying overnight at Barmera, on the Murray, Mr. Shugg accompanied the Senior Fisheries Officer of S.A., Mr. Ray Vann (who, with the Senior Wildlife Officer, Mr. Doug Seaton, conveyed Mr. Shugg on the trip), to a meeting of the Barmera Professional Fishermen's Association, at which he gave a short address on fisheries administration in this State with emphasis on the parts played here by the fishermen themselves.

The extensive hospitality, both personal and official, extended to Mr. Shugg in Canberra by both the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Primary Industry and by the Division of Wildlife Research, C.S.I.R.O., and by the respective departments and officers in Victoria and South Australia, is most sincerely appreciated by both Mr. Shugg and this Department.

RESEARCH ON WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES

Advice has been ^{received} reviewed that Dr. H.J. Frith, Chief of the Division of Wildlife Research, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, has appointed Mr. Michael Ridpath to initiate work on the ecology of the wedge-tailed eagle in Western Australia. Mr. Ridpath, who will be arriving in this State towards the middle of 1965, will also do some work in the ecology of rails. From his research more might be learnt about the black-tailed native hen whose incursions into various parts of Western Australia are well known, but the reasons are obscure and the source of the birds uncertain.