

was chartered from May 24 to June 24 to participate in the tagging of juvenile bluefin.

Altogether, 2,002 fish were tagged and released. All were double tagged using yellow tags with grey ends. No fish were injected with O.T.C. (Tetracycline), or given antiseptic treatment, nor were times out of water recorded, as none of these treatments appear, from previous work, to have much effect on the survival of the fish or tag shedding rate.

Fishing was somewhat slower than in previous years when upwards of 5,000 fish had been tagged in a month. This is attributed to changes in fish behaviour rather than in weather or fishing techniques. Local fishermen said that bluefin had not appeared in their usual numbers this year.

#### SEA ORDEAL

Bunbury professional fishermen, Nicholas Soulos and Neil Burton of l.f.v. "New Sydney" were missing for 3 days before they were rescued after an intensive air, sea and land search. They left on a fishing trip on July 26, but two days later, on the day they had planned to return, the engine failed to start. There was not enough wind to make use of the emergency sail they had rigged and they drifted, approximately 50 miles. Their food lasted until the last day, but water had to be rationed to half a cup a day. A Cessna of the Bunbury Aero Club, piloted by Mr. R. McKenzie, spotted the disabled vessel, which was later towed to Bunbury harbour by the pilot boat "Koombaa".

#### PRESERVATION OF INDIGENOUS FLORA AND FAUNA

As a result of representations made to the Hon. Premier for the creation of a unified conservation authority, under scientific direction, for the preservation of indigenous flora and fauna, a Committee has been formed which will advise the Government on the creation and retention of adequate reserves for such purposes.

The Premier has announced that the Committee will be constituted as follows;

Mr. S.J. Stokes (Chairman)	-	Lands Department.
Mr. G.E. Brockway	-	Forest Department.
Mr. D.G. Eustace	-	Main Roads Department.
Mr. C.F.H. Jenkins	-	Department of Agriculture.
Mr. H.B. Shugg	-	Department of Fisheries & Fauna.
Mr. E.K. Steere	-	Public Works Department.