

The company anticipates commencing the 1966 season operations on March 1.

DUCK SEASON OPENS

Fauna Warden S. W. Bowler, accompanied by Research Cadet J. Mott and Fauna Cadet K. Morrison, attended the opening shoot at Gundaring Lake, near Wagin, on December 19.

Mr. Bowler reports that the lake was inspected on December 18 and the water level was found to be very high. Approximately 2,000 ducks were observed on the lake as well as coot and black swans. The number of grey teal was estimated at 1,500 while mountain duck were predominant among the remainder.

In the early morning of December 19 a patrol was carried out around the lake in an endeavour to prevent shooters commencing before 5.00 a.m. However, sporadic shooting occurred at 4.15 a.m. and despite the efforts of the Department's officers shooting was well under way by 4.45 a.m.

About 170 shooters took part at Gundaring Lake and a check of the bags of 142 of them revealed that results were poor. All participants were disappointed with the shoot and no full bags were recorded.

Mr. Bowler says that after the first few barrages the ducks left the lake for Yates' Swamp, about three miles away. The swamp is on private property and the owner does not permit shooting to take place there.