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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

SERVICE BULLETIN

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DECEMBER, 1967

VOL. XVI, No. 12

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

THE DIRECTOR SAYS FAREWELL TO HIS STAFF



My dear friends,

It is only natural, I suppose, for a man who is to lay aside his life work after nearly 50 years of service to want to point with pride but, at the same time with due modesty, to some of the achievements and advances during that time.

Actually it is $47\frac{1}{2}$ years since I was appointed junior clerk in the State Fisheries Branch of the Chief Secretary's Department of New South Wales. What was virtually my apprenticeship of 18 years ended when I was given the job of Chief Inspector of Fisheries in this State. Without any shadow of a doubt, the 29 years I have spent in Western Australia have certainly been the most enjoyable years of my life, and perhaps also the most fruitful.

There have been many advances in the fisheries in those 29 years. There has been the development of the salmon and crayfish fisheries, not to mention the burgeoning prawn industry. There has been the successful acclimatisation of trout in the streams of the South-West. There has been the introduction of a system of fisheries statistics which has become the pattern for all such systems in eastern Australia. There has been the acquisition or building of fisheries research vessels - no other State has yet done this. There has been the commencement of a new biological laboratory and aquarium at Waterman. There has been introduced the practice of sending officers overseas to gain greater knowledge and wider experience (five such visits have been made in the past five years - I trust the policy will be continued). There has been the granting of cadetships to matriculants to enable them to graduate in Science and to join the Department as research officers. There has been the development over the years of a greater awareness on the part of the public of the need to conserve our native fauna and to reserve substantial areas of the habitat of our distinctive and unique birds and animals. There has been the establishment of a small fauna research laboratory at Victoria Park and field stations at Tuttanning near Pingelly and on Rottnest Island.

But one must, when recalling achievements, remember with some regret that there are many things which should have been done that have been left undone. I think we are all prone, when planning for the future, to say to ourselves often "There is still plenty of time to do that! Let's do something else more important first!" But before one realises it there is not plenty of time after all. In fact for me time has run out, and there is much still to be done. I hope posterity will not look too unkindly on these lapses.

As this is the last opportunity I shall have of contributing to this Bulletin, which has for the past 16 years been circulated regularly each month to every member of the staff, I may perhaps be afforded the opportunity to do some moralising.

When I was still in my teens and taking my first steps in the public service, an old officer in my Department, a very wise man, one day had a long chat with me. I don't remember every word he uttered of course, but I do distinctly recall what he said should be the attributes of every public servant. His words impressed me very deeply, and I hope I will be forgiven if I pass some of them on, particularly to the younger members of the staff.

He said a public servant must always remember that he is not the master of the public as some would try to be, but as the term implies

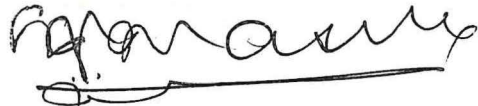
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he is its servant. "He who pays the piper calls the tune", he reminded me, and in the final analysis the public is boss. Still, he told me, there were other attributes which every good public servant should have. These were clear-sightedness, a sense of proportion and a sense of humour. He should have an independent spirit, so that neither popularity nor unpopularity influences his decisions. He must have determination, and allow nothing to turn him from the right road; he must have perseverance, that having once started something he will not lay it aside until it is satisfactorily completed, even if it means going "the extra mile"; and finally he must be loyal, to the Government of the day, irrespective of its political colour, to his Department and to his fellow-officers.

These are the characteristics of a good public servant as they were given to me long ago. I commend them to you all.

And now before I leave you at the end of this year, let me say that what has been achieved in the past has been achieved only because all of you have co-operated so whole-heartedly with the administration. Teamwork has been the secret of our success. May I thank you all for your loyal and unfailing support and express my sincerest wish that all will be well with you at all times.

Yours sincerely,



A. J. Fraser
DIRECTOR

* * *

A Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 1968 to all Members of the Staff.

* * *

LIST OF OFFICERS
serving with the
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
as at DECEMBER 1, 1967.

NAME	OFFICE	LOCALITY	PHONE NO.
Ammerer, K.J.	Clerk	head Office, Perth.	234431
Baines, T.B.	Inspector, Grade. 1.	Mobile Patrol.	
Baird, T.J.	Superintendent.	Broome	Broome 59
Barker, E.H.	Technical Officer (Fisheries) Grade. 2.	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953
Bateman, A.J.	Fleet Main- tenance Officer.	Cliff Street, Fremantle.	51369
Blackman, D.E.	Assistant Inspector.	Shark Bay.	Shark Bay D
Bowen, B.K.	Senior Research Officer.	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953
Bowler, S.W.	Senior Fauna Warden.	"Koonawarra" Adelaide Terrace, Perth.	
Bramley, J.E.	Supervising Inspector.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Brown, M.J.	Assistant Inspector.	"P.V. Lancelin" Fremantle.	51369
Burns, I.W.	Inspector Grade 2.	Mobile Patrol.	
Carmichael, B.A.	Senion Inspector.	Ellam Street, West Perth.	63996
Casselton, C.W.E.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Clayton, Marlene,	Assistant.	Head Office, Perth.	234431

NAME	OFFICE	LOCALITY	PHONE NO.
Clifford, G.	Technical Officer (fisheries) Grade.2.	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953
Craig, Marnie.	Cadet Research Officer (Fauna)	Zoology Department, University of W.A.	62731
Crawford, R.M.	Inspector Relieving, Grade.1.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
Cresswell, J.F.	Cadet Inspector.	Mandurah.	Mandurah 351240 234431
Daniel, Julie.	Typist.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Dear, R.F.	Fauna Warden.	Wittenoom.	
Donnelly, D.	Technical Assistant.	"Hamelin"	
Duckrell, B.J.	Mate.	"Flinders"	
Earle, E.S.	Cadet Inspector.	Cervantes.	
Edwards, A.C.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Emery R.G.	Inspector, Grade 2.	Bunbury,	Bunbury 2598
Emiliani, R.	Cadet Fauna Warden.	"Koonawarra" Adelaide Terrace, Perth.	
Evans, T.	Fauna Warden.	Pingelly.	Pingelly 277
Faulkner, G.B.	Assistant.	"Flinders"	
Fletcher, J.S.	Inspector, Grade 2.	Jurien Bay.	
Foster, E.I.	Inspector (Sea-going)	"P.V. Pelsart", Fremantle.	51369
Forsyth, Beverley.	Assistant.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Fraser, A.J.	Director.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
+Godfrey, K.F.L.	Technical Officer, (Fisheries)	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Gordon, D.P.	Inspector, Grade.1.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
Green, R.M.	Inspector, Grade.2.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
*Grubba, C.R.J.	Inspector (Sea-going)		
Hammond, E.R.	Inspector, Grade.1.	Mobile Patrol.	
Hanley, G.J.	Fauna Warden.	Moora.	
Hayes, J.W.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Haynes, C.R.C.	General Assistant.	Fremantle.	51369

NAME	OFFICE	LOCALITY	PHONE NO.
Heald, D.I.	Cadet Research Officer.	Zoology Department Universith of W.A.	
Husband, R.J.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
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Kelly, J.T.	Inspector.	Lancelin	
Kerr, B.J.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Kimpton, G.E.	Assistant.	R.V. " Flinders"	
Lenanton, R.C.J.	Research Officer, (Fisheries)	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953
Little, E.J.	Assistant Inspector.	P.V. "Pelsart"	51369
McCarthy, B.J.	Assistant Inspector.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
McCarthy, J.C.	Assistant Inspector.	P.V. "Dampier" Geraldton.	Geraldton 211956
MacKenzie, E.A.	Engineer.	R.V. "Hamelin"	
McLaughlan, N.E.	Senior Inspector.	Geraldton.	Geraldton 211956
Mahoney, P.J.	Clerk.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Marshall, A.R.	Fauna Warden.	"Koonawarra" Adelaide Terrace, Perth.	
Mearns, A.J.	Clerk In Charge.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Mell, D.	Cadet Inspector.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
Melson, A.K.	Senior Inspector.	Fremantle.	51369
*Morrison, K.D.	Cadet Fauna Warden.		
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Moss, L.R.	Assistant Inspector.	Leschenault.	
Mott, J.J.	Research Officer, (Fauna)	"Koonawarra", Adelaide Terrace, Perth.	

NAME	OFFICE	LOCALITY	PHONE NO.
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Neal, J.	Assistant Inspector.	Cervantes.	
Nelson, V.T.	Fauna Warden.	Wyndham.	
Noble, G.D.	Inspector Grade 2.	Geraldton.	Geraldton 211956.
Ostle, C.W.	Inspector Grade 1.	Albany	Albany 127
Pearce, A.T.	Fauna Warden.	Albany	Albany 127
Pedersen, H.	Inspector (Sea-going)	P.V. "Lancelin" Fremantle.	51369
Penn, J.W.	Cadet Research Officer. (Fisheries)	Zoology Department, University of W.A.	
Pennings, P.A.	Assistant Inspector.	Mobile Patrol.	
Peters, D.	Cadet Inspector.	P.V. "Lancelin"	
Powell, G.J.	Cadet Inspector.	P.V. "Lancelin"	
Riggert, T.L.	Research Officer (Fauna)	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	62731
Robins, J.P.	Senior Research Officer, (Development)	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Rumkorf, P.R.	Technical Assistant (Fauna)	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	62731
Saville, B.R.	Administrative Officer.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Seabrook, C.J.	Master.	R.V. "Flinders"	
Shugg, H.B.S.	Fauna Officer.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Silbert, R.B.	Assistant Inspector.	Ledge Point.	
Silvester, L.J.	Inspector Grade 2.	Jurien Bay.	
Simnet, J.K.	Mate,	R.V. "Hamelin"	
Simpson, J.S.	Senior Technical Officer (Fisheries)	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953

NAME	OFFICE	LOCALITY	PHONE NO.
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Smith, R.	Inspector (Sea- going)	Shark Bay.	Shark Bay 10
Steicke, K.V.R.	Inspector (Sea- going)	P.V. "Dampier" Geraldton.	Geraldton 211956
Waldon, A.C.	Extension & Pub- licity Officer.	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Whicker, Denise	Typist	Head Office, Perth.	234431.
White, J.W.	Master.	"Hamelin"	
Willey, P.C.	Inspector Grade 2.	Dongara	Don. 85
Williams, J.G.	Assistant Inspector.	Albany	Albany 127
Wilson, J.	Inspector Grade 2.	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	63996
Wood, P.A.	Technical Assistant (Fisheries)	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953
Woods, Violet.	Library Assistant	Head Office, Perth.	234431
Wright, D.	Technical Officer, (Fisheries)	Ellam Street, Victoria Park.	62731
Yewers, P.G.	Technical Assistant (Fisheries)	15 Outram Street, West Perth.	214953

* Undergoing National Service Training.

+ Seconded to the Department from C.S.I.R.O.

STAFF NOTES

Our sincerest wishes for a happy, healthy and long retirement are extended to our Director, Mr. A.J. Fraser, who retires from the State Public Service on January 2, 1968. Mr. Fraser will cease duties on Friday, December 29.

We the staff of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna, thank you sir for the strong and guiding leadership extended to us. This was exercised in a manner greatly appreciated and it will be remembered for a long time by all who have been fortunate enough to work not under you, but with you.

Best wishes are extended to you, and to Mrs. Fraser, on the voyage into retirement.

* * *

Whilst on the subject of retirement, our best wishes are also extended to Mr. J.S. Simpson, Senior Technical Officer, who retires when he attains the age of 65 years on January 6, 1968.

To Mr. Simpson and his wife we wish a happy, healthy and long retirement.

* * *

Mr. B.K. Bowen, Senior Research Officer, returned to Perth on Thursday, November 28, from his fact-finding tour of the major fisheries around the world.

* * *

Mr. R.J. Slack-Smith, Fisheries Research Officer, attended the Australian and New Zealand Conference on Decapod Crustaceans held at the Australian Museum, Sydney, during October 23 to October 28, 1967. The conference was attended by some 50 delegates from Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea.

All aspects of decapod studies were discussed, including life history, taxonomy, physiology, ecology, behaviour and exploitation.

* * *

KEVIN MORRISON WOUNDED IN VIETNAM

Cadet Fauna Warden Kevin Morrison at present undergoing National Service Training, spent exactly one day short of six months in Vietnam. He was wounded in the chest and back while his platoon was taking part in the Santa Fe operation during November.

Kevin hopes to be discharged from the Hollywood General Repatriation Hospital before Christmas, and spend his leave with his family at Kalgoorlie.

The Director and staff wish Kevin a very speedy and complete recovery from his experiences in Vietnam.

* * *

It is with great regret that we record the death of one of our younger inspectors sustained in a car accident on November 1, while on duty. The officer concerned was Ian Cardon, relieving inspector, Fremantle. Ian, who was 25 years of age when he died, has been with the Department for some six years. To his widow, Sue, and baby daughter we extend our very deepest sympathy.

In the car with Ian at the time of the accident was Cadet Inspector John Cresswell. John suffered multiple lacerations and fractures of the jaw, ribs and an arm. He has fortunately made a rapid and satisfactory recovery and expects to return to light duty in December.

* * *

TENDER LET FOR TUTTANNING FIRE RECEIVING PLANT

Southern Cross Machinery Pty. Ltd. has been awarded the contract to supply and install the fire fighting plant at the Tuttanning (East Pingelly) Biological Research Station. The cost of the unit is \$2,240.00.

NEW RESEARCH VESSEL "FLINDERS" LAUNCHED

"Flinders", built at a cost of \$148,000, was named and launched by Mrs. A.J. Fraser on November 10, at the Dillingham Shipyards at North Fremantle. The ceremony was attended by the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna (Mr. MacKinnon) and approximately 80 guests. "Flinders" is the first research vessel specially designed and built for a State Fisheries Department. She replaces "Lancelin", which has been transferred to the Inspection Branch.

NEW OPENING DATES FOR WILD DUCK SEASON

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna recently announced that the open season in respect of wild ducks for 1968 will be -

1. From 6.00 p.m. on January 13, 1968, to 7.00 p.m. on April 30, 1968, in that part of the State which lies within the boundaries of the Shires of Harvey, Dardanup, Collie, Donnybrook, Capel, Busselton, Augusta-Margaret River, Nannup, Balingup, Greenbushes, Bridgetown and Manjimup.
2. From 5.00 a.m. on January 14, 1968, to 7.00 p.m. on April 30, 1968 in those parts of the State which lie within the boundaries of the South-West and Eucla Land Divisions, with the exception of those areas otherwise proclaimed.

The Duck Shooters Guide for 1968 defines the other proclaimed areas and officers should refer to that publication for their guidance.

Acting on recommendations made by the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee and departmental research officers, Mr. MacKinnon accepted the principle that the opening date for the duck shooting season be set on a biological basis rather than a traditional date.

ABROLHOS STUDY TRIP

During the first week of January 1968 a group from Aquinas College comprising some members of staff and senior students will again visit the Pelsart Group. It is proposed also to visit the Eastern Group, in this fourth visit to the Abrolhos Islands. The purpose of these study trips is to record and publish data on terrestrial and marine fauna and flora.

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, in whom all the islands are vested, has authorised the visit. He feels that this sort of controlled and educational venture should be encouraged.

A HELPFUL HINT ON CARCASS IDENTIFICATION

If you wish to have a positive identification - and reports are useless without an accurate identification - of a carcass you may discover, then you should remove the head, seal it in an appropriate container, and together with your report send it to the Museum. Dr. Ride, the Director of the Museum, is quite appreciative that the handling of foetid material is unpleasant but it is the only way to achieve positive identification.

ONE FOR THE BIRDS

Recently a report reached this office claiming that inebriated crows were common in the Donnybrook area. It was claimed that crows are sipping crude cider oozing from apple dumps. Several crows observed at one dump were very slow and drowsy. One had to rest in the fork of a tree as it could not stand on its own.

CRESTED GREBES

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, reported that on October 25, he saw a number of Crested Grebes on the lake crossed by the Mullaloo Road. Mr. Bramley said that he had counted twelve of these birds, but was sure that there were more than twelve on the lake.

As these beautiful waterbirds are uncommon, if not actually rare, this important sighting is of special interest.

WHEN MAY ABORIGINES NOT TAKE FAUNA FOR FOOD

Recently an alleged destruction of rock wallabies came to the notice of the Department. It was intimated that the illegal shooting was the work of natives.

Under Section 23 of the Fauna Protection Act, natives may take protected fauna sufficient only for food for themselves and their families and not for sale. This does not apply :-

- a). upon any area which is a sanctuary within the meaning of the Fauna Protection Act, of
- b). on private land, where the owner has not given his consent.

TUNA SURVEYComments:-

The eleventh in a series of aerial tuna spotting surveys was flown between October 31 to November 5, 1967.

Water colour conditions remained similar to those observed during the September survey. This survey period again coincided with the spring tides and once again large areas of muddy water in the northern area were observed.

Current lines were weakly developed and the strong current line off North West Cape was observed again.

Weather conditions were good in areas to the north of North West Cape but adverse for spotting south of the Cape.

The typical summer inversion with low cloud is beginning to form in the northern areas but the cloud is not yet thick enough to make sighting conditions adverse.

The trichodesmium bloom is increasing in extent north and north east of Point Samson.

The number of fish schools sighted on this flight was slightly more than the number sighted during September, and the fish schools were small and scattered. Eighty-three percent of the total sightings occurred in the area between Lacedpede Island and Cape Leveque.

Bait school sightings were slightly fewer than the number sighted during September and most of the schools were small and scattered.

Sea bird sightings were high in the area where fish schools were sighted and also in the Adele Island, Bedout Island and North Turtle Island areas.

The charts show the tracks flown together with fish school sightings.

Table 1 etc. (as in previous bulletins).

SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER ADDRESS
ROYAL SOCIETY OF W.A.

Mr. J.P. Robins, Senior Research Officer (Development) addressed the Royal Society of W.A. at its November meeting. The subject of Mr. Robins' address was "Tuna of the Australian Coasts".

Table I

Outward Flight (School Sightings)				
Area	Small	Medium	Large	Total
Fremantle-Carnarvon	4	-	-	4
Carnarvon-Onslow	-	-	-	-
Onslow-Pt. Hedland	1	-	-	1
Pt. Hedland-Broome	3	-	1	4
Broome-Derby	38	2	-	40
Total	46	2	1	49

Inward Flight (School Sightings)				
Small	Medium	Large	Total	Area
1	-	-	1	Derby-Broome
1	-	1	2	Broome-Onslow
-	-	-	-	Onslow-Carnarvon
-	-	-	-	Carnarvon-Geraldton
-	-	-	-	Geraldton-Fremantle
2	-	1	3	Total

Table II

(Inward + Outwards Flights)

Fish Size*	School Size			
	Small	Medium	Large	Total
Small	17	-	1	18
Medium	31	2	-	33
Large	1	-	-	1
Total	49	2	1	52

15.

*Small - 15 lbs.
*Medium - 15 - 40 lbs.
*Large - 40 lbs.

Table III

Bait Schools Sighted	
Small	32
Medium	14
Large	-
Total	46

SUCCESSFUL FIELD DAY
HELD AT THE
TUTTANNING RESERVE

The Field Day conducted on Friday, November 3 by this Department in liaison with the University of W.A., Botany and Zoology Departments was attended by 106 people.

In his opening address the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon referred to this being a momentous occasion for it had been 14 years since the last Fauna Bill was before Parliament.

He said that the basic philosophy of the Bill has been praised by both Houses. In a way this Reserve was a pretty clear example of what has to be done. Man and his progress is probably the greatest enemy of the animals, so we must the Minister said, look for and introduce some conservation programmes. The development of land for agriculture further endangers its chance of survival.

Professor Main in his talk said that the plant diversity of Tuttanning Reserve made it precious. Over 300 species have been recorded. This diversity governs the number of species of animals that can be found on this reserve.

The problem of reserve management is, the regulation of animal numbers in such a way that the persistence of the population is ensured while the habitat remains intact with its present diversity of plants.

This problem is not unique to Tuttanning; it is a problem to be studied on all reserves. However, it is easier to establish the elementary principles of reserve management by concentrating the available and very limited manpower in one locality. Thus Tuttanning has become an area where study methods are being devised and management procedures developed.

The study programme has tried to establish what type of plants an animal needs for cover (a home or place to live) and what it needs for food. Since the area has been periodically burnt a special part of the study has been devoted to determining how long it takes for plants to grow to a size suitable for cover. Since 1961 many areas have been under close study and the growth of many individual plants has been measured. Surprisingly, no area has yet regrown sufficiently to afford adequate cover. This shows that an area burnt every 6-7 years would only support a variety of quick growing early seeding plants that are of little use to the rarer mammals which require much older plants for cover. It seems, therefore, that there is a need to divide the reserves into a larger number of areas that can be burnt every 10 or 15 years.

The most desirable regeneration occurs following late summer-autumn. Last autumn certain areas were selected for burning, but early rains prevented this. However it is felt that sufficient is now known about the reserve and its fauna for a long-term burning programme to begin, so in addition to fire breaks selected blocks will be autumn-burnt from time to time.

A population study has shown that at all different seasons of the year, animals occupy different parts of the reserve. A male bettong for instance needs 100 acres to live in and to provide him with all the requirements for the seasonal needs. Trapping is one form of population study, radio tracking is another.

Professor Main said that nutrition study tells us of their needs. Study conducted so far has been mainly on the Abrolhos wallaby, and it has been found that they can survive on even-dry chaff and only sea water to drink. He said if sheep could live on this, most farmers would be very happy.

NEW LEGISLATION

Two new pieces of legislation passed during the parliamentary session just concluded will be administered by this Department. They are the Fauna Protection Act Amendment Act, 1967, and the Fisheries Act Amendment Act, 1967.

The new fauna law will now be known as the Fauna Conservation Act. It provides, among other things, for the abolition of the old Fauna Protection Advisory Committee and the creation of a new body - consisting of 11 members - to be known as the Western Australian Wildlife Authority, of which the Director will be chairman and the Chief Warden of Fauna, deputy chairman and chief executive officer. Another important innovation is the power given to the new Authority to classify reserves and sanctuaries. It will probably be proclaimed to come into effect on January 1, 1968.

The Fisheries Bill was a short one, nevertheless important. Its main purpose was to give to the Director the power to refuse to grant an application for a processor's license in another ground, viz, that to refuse the license would be in the better interests of the fishing industry. Hitherto the approval of an application was to all intents and purposes automatic, provided the plant concerned was efficiently and hygienically run. The new provision became necessary because of the increasing number of people who appear to want to put up prawn processing works without regard for the overall economics. It is believed that too great proliferation of such plants could spell ruin to some operators. In any case, if some person has at some expense tried and proved an area and established a plant, other persons who have not spent a cent on prospecting or exploration should not, in normal circumstances, be allowed to 'cash in' on somebody else's spadework.

FISHING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES MEET
TO DISCUSS THE FORMATION OF
THE W.A. BRANCH OF THE FISHING INDUSTRY COUNCIL

The move which originated at the Australian Fisheries Development Conference in Canberra in February of this year for the formation of an Australian Fishing Industry Council was taken a stage further when 32 representatives from all sections of the fishing industry in the State met on October 20, 1967.

The idea stemmed from a statement by the chairman of the conference (Mr. A.C.B. Maiden, C.B.E. Secretary of the Department of Primary Industry) that unless the Australian fishing industry could organise itself efficiently, as many other primary industries had done, there was little possibility of its voice being heard in Canberra. Other industries he said, had received very substantial assistance, by financial support and otherwise, from the Commonwealth Government and there appeared little reason to believe that the Government would turn a deaf ear to requests for similar assistance for the fishing industry if it could be satisfied that the industry was speaking with one voice.

It was finally decided at an informal meeting of representatives of industry attending the conference to proceed with the organization of an Australia-wide body, with a branch in each State.

Mr. F. Pensabene, of Nor'West Whaling Company, brought the matter before the people representing the fishing industry in Western Australia at the meeting called by the Minister and held in his office on October 20, so that it could be ascertained whether the proposed new body could be assured of general support.

On October 31, at the office of the Chamber of Manufacturers, a further meeting was held, following which the secretary pro tem, Mr. Frank Malone issued the following statement -

"The first meeting of the Western Australian Branch of the Australian Fishing Industry Council was held on October 31, and the following gentlemen were elected to the Executive Committee:-

Messrs. F. Pensabene	Chairman
J.P. Pupazzoni	Vice Chairman
J.C. Bowes	Members
F.A.L. Connell	
E.C. Harris	
R.D. Harrison	
G.G. Humphries	
R.D. Hunt	
W.J. Poole	

The objects of the Council are generally to unite the Australian Fishing Industry for the members' common benefit and to promote the implementation of a national fisheries policy both for the good of the nation and the industry.

Membership of the Council covers all those engaged in the development and promotion of the Australian fishing industry, including various fishermen's associations, processors and marketers.

In an address delivered to those present, the Minister for Fisheries, Hon. G.C. MacKinnon, M.L.C., expressed the support of the State Government for the Council. The Minister said he felt it would assist the Government in solving a number of problems confronting the fishing industry by being able to discuss policy matters with a united body representing the industry. At the same time, the Council would strengthen existing fishing organizations.

The Minister emphasised that there was a great future awaiting the fishing industry, provided those engaged in it had the vision to act together to revitalise it.

'As the Council grows, each section of the industry will grow with it,' Mr. MacKinnon said. 'If a section is confronted with a difficulty, the Council will be of major assistance to it. As nothing succeeds like success, it is imperative that all present should take every opportunity to ensure that the Council is effective.'

'It is important,' the Minister concluded, 'that you not only understand the working of the Council, but that you take the knowledge back that you gain from discussions at the Council and impart it to your own Association.'

A vote of thanks to the Minister was moved by Mr Rodney Hunt, who said that those present were participating in the launching of a new phase in the development of the West Australian Fishing Industry.

'The Australian Fishing Industry Council,' said Mr. Hunt, 'will be a single voice for all of us involved in the fishing business. We are individuals, and the challenges and ever-changing demands made upon us are as varied as the moods of the sea. Very quickly we must learn to be self-supporting if we are to survive in the current turbulent environment'.

Mr. Hunt said that the Minister had brought to the attention of those present the wide meaning of industry insofar as it covered all phases of fishing - fishermen, processors, marketers and supporting trades. On behalf of those present he thanked the Minister for the time and enthusiasm he had displayed in assisting the Council in its inauguration and first meeting.'

TRAINING: WHAT TO TEACH

In the October issue the first part of an article written by D.B. Thomson, Assistant Professor of Fishing Gear and Methods at the University of Rhode Island, U.S.A. was published. The article was originally published in the September issue of "World Fishing". Herewith is the remainder of the article showing the subjects and various courses taught.

SUBJECTS

The subjects covered in a fisheries college will depend upon the length of the course, the nature of the fishery and the educational standard of the students. To give a basis for comparison there follows a summary of one 3 year, and 4 year and one 5 year course, all for fishing skippers. This summary

is slightly condensed for the sake of space, and the subject - hours are therefore an approximation.

It must also be borne in mind that the hours detailed do not include time spent on a training vessel. Most fishery colleges require students to spend an equal time at sea as they do in school, during their period of training.

3 - YEAR DIPLOMA COURSE FOR FISHING CAPTAINS
(From the syllabus of the College of Fisheries,
St. John's, Newfoundland)

SUBJECT	HOURS OF STUDY		
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
English	72		
Technical Drawing and Chemistry	84		
Economic geography and ocean- ography	36	72	
Practical seamanship	48	48	
Fishing gear materials	84	48	
Practical nets	120	48	
Naval architecture	48	48	
Meteorology	24	48	
Mathematics and physics	396	144	60
Physical education & boatwork	96	108	72
Fisheries hydrography	12	24	24
Navigation and chartwork	108	156	24
Ship stability	24	72	48
Fishing gear theory	24	96	48
First aid and signals	24	36	24
Seamanship theory, ship handling and orals	48	72	92
Fisheries statistics and resources		48	
Electric-technology		24	24
Navigational aids		12	144
Marine & Fisheries law & industrial management		48	84
Ecology, ichthyology and fish processing.		36	48
Marine Engineering		48	36
Radar Simulator			60

5-YEAR COURSE FOR FISHING CAPTAINS
(From the syllabus of the Kaliningrad
Fisheries University USSR)

SUBJECTS	HOURS OF STUDY				
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year
Ichthyology	35				
Fishing gear construction	175				
Chemistry	140				
English	140	70			
Mathematics	280	175			
Physical training	70	70			
Physics	105	175			
Technical drawing and geometry	122	140			
Theoretical mechanics	105	122			
Technology & Metal Constructions		157			
Resistance of Materials		157			
Hydraulics			70		
Theory of machines			70		
Fishing gear operation			70		
Theory & Structure of ships			70		
Electrical Engineering			140		
Seamanship training.			70	70	
Navigation & rule of the road			52	105	
Fish finding and electrical aids			52	42	
Radio Navigation			35	70	
Nautical astronomy			122	35	
Marine and fisheries hydrology			35	17	
Nautical law				52	
Magnetic compass				35	
Safety & Fire prevention				35	
Machine parts and equipment			87	35	35

SUBJECT	HOURS OF STUDY				
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year
Fleet organisation				52	52
Fishing gear theory				52	105
Engineering calculations					35
Fish finding					35

NOTE: During the 5th Year, the students write their theses.

2-YEAR COURSE, VESSELS UP TO 200 G.R.T.

(as drawn up by FAO Seminar, Moscow, 1965)

SUBJECT	HOURS OF STUDY	
	THEORY	PRACTICAL
General education subjects	480	-
Navigation and seamanship	240	160
Fish and fish behaviour	80	-
Fishing gear and equipment	200	320
Fishing techniques	160	160
Fish finding	80	240
Care of catch	40	40
Cost and earnings	80	-
Elementary engineering	60	20
Electronics and radio	20	60
Swimming, rowing, first aid.	20	100

NOTE: 8 months of the 2 years to be spent at sea.

2-YEAR VOCATIONAL COURSE FOR SKIPPERS

SUBJECT	1st Term	2nd Term	3rd Term	4th Term
	Deck- hands	Bo'suns	Mates	Captains
Maths & English	72	72	72	
Practical nets	192	84	36	
Practical seamanship	48	24	24	
Fishing gear theory	48	36	24	24
First aid	24	-	-	-
Theoretical seamanship	24	36	36	48
Fish handling	12	12	-	-
Chartwork and Navigation	-	36	72	36
Navigational and fishing aids	-	24	36	36
Engineering	-	36	-	-
Ship handling and stability	-	12	12	48
Meteorology	-	12	24	24
Oceanography	-	12	12	-
Fishing gear materials	-	-	12	-
Maritime and fisheries law	-	-	12	24
Signals	-	-	12	12
Radar	-	-	-	48

NOTE: 12 months of the 2 years to be spent at sea.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

It is hereby notified for general information that the following days will be observed as Public Service holidays for Christmas and New Year:-

Monday, 25th December, 1967 - Christmas Day.

Tuesday, 26th December, 1967 - Boxing Day.

Monday, 1st January, 1968 - New Year's Day.

Tuesday, 2nd January, 1968 - Special.