

NEW CLOSURE OF WATERS TO FISHINGPoint Quobba

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 9 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-67, does hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by any means of capture whatsoever in all that portion of the Indian Ocean within one quarter of a mile radius of Point Quobba. Notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette dated June 14, 1968.

Augusta

In the Government Gazette of June 14, 1968, the Minister for Fisheries and Fauna issued notice to the effect that, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 10 and 11 of the Fisheries Act, 1905-67, he does hereby prohibit all persons from taking any fish whatsoever by means of fishing nets from January 1 to February 28 and from December 1 to December 31 in each and every year in the following waters. All those waters bounded by lines starting from a point on the high water mark of the Indian Ocean situate in prolongation southerly of the western side of Barnett Street, Augusta, and extending southerly along that prolongation 21 chains; thence east 20 chains; thence north to the high water mark of the Indian Ocean aforesaid, and thence generally south-westerly along the mark to the starting point.

Shark Bay Mullet Mesh Nets Now $3\frac{1}{4}$ "

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon, has agreed, as a result of a petition by Shark Bay fishermen, to an increase in the size of mullet net mesh from 3" to $3\frac{1}{4}$ " for the waters of Shark Bay, together with all its loops, bays, estuaries, inlets pools and affluents. The purpose of this alteration is to stabilize the mullet fishery by allowing small fish to escape, mature and reproduce.

Notice to this effect was published in the Government Gazette on May 31, 1968.

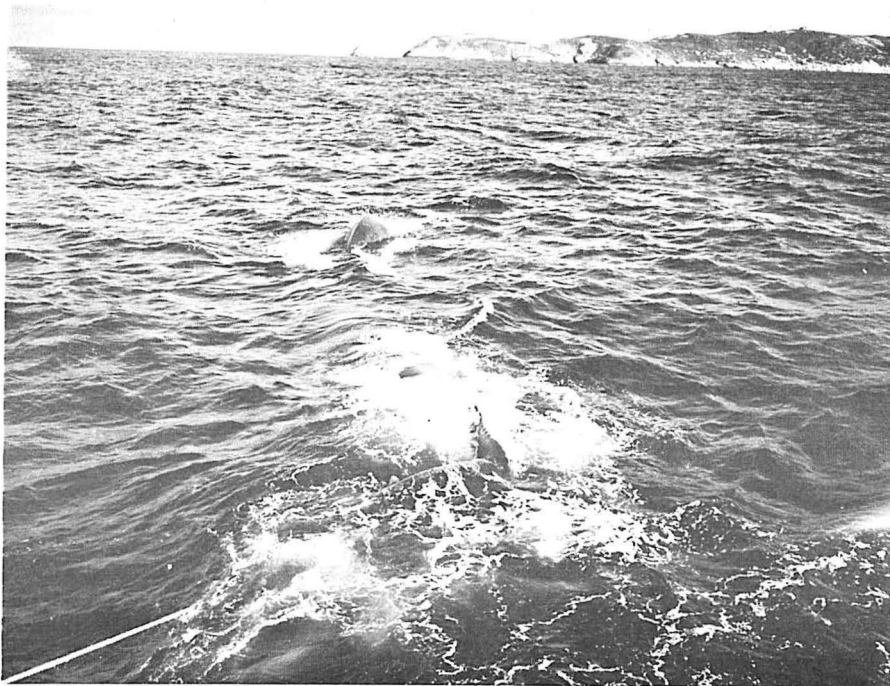
ANNUAL REPORT ON THE 1967 WHALING SEASON.

The Whaling Inspector stationed at Albany, in reporting on the 1967 season, says that a total of 585 whales were taken during the period March 7 to December 16, 1967. One Sei Whale, a female 54'6" in length was also taken by a whale chaser on October 31. This Sei Whale, the first taken by the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company produced 3.175 tons of oil or 19 barrels, 0.96 tons of meal and 1.38 tons of solubles.

Production for this season realized :-

Whale oil	-	3841.20 tons (23.047 barrels)
Whale solubles	-	1826.64 tons (\$130.00 per ton)
Whale meal	-	945.16 tons (\$120.00 per ton)
Whale teeth	-	4350 lbs (.95c per lb)
Ambergris	-	344 lbs (This was sold between 50c to \$20 per ounce, although the greater part was sold at the lower price).

The Company had to treat the Sei Whale separately, because its oil is different to that of Sperm Whales. The plant had to be thoroughly cleaned before normal processing could continue again. Once processed the oil was sold on the local market as fish liver oil.



Whaling off Albany

During 1967 the Company acquired a new Cessna 337 Twin Engine push-pull centre line thrust aircraft for whale spotting. This aircraft based at the Albany Airport, directs the Company's three chasers to the schools and also selects the largest whales for the chasers to hunt.

A pilot plant for filtering sperm whale oil was installed and commenced operations during this season. It is hoped that this pilot scheme will lead to the installation of a full scale plant at a cost of \$45,000. It operates by forcing oil under pressure through a canvas filter. The wax in the oil collects on the filter leaving only the pure oil, which resells at a higher price. This pure oil is a useful raw-material for use in the field of cosmetics.

According to the Whaling Inspector's report, the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company, the only shore-based company in Australia still catching whales - experienced an adverse financial season, but hopes are high for a good season during this present year. It is estimated that the catch for the 1968 season will be well over 600 Sperm Whales.