

CONSERVATION
LIBRARY, KENSINGTON



080267-17.11

JOURNAL

MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

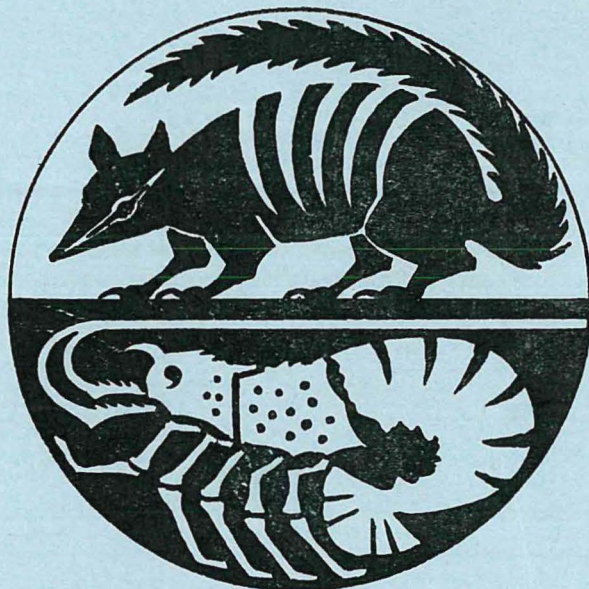
17(11) NOV 1968

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

STAFF

BULLETIN

CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE
NOT FOR LOAN



NOVEMBER, 1968

VOL. XVII, No. 11

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

SALARY INCREMENTS

In view of the recent decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the National Wage Case, 1968, and the application of the decision to other State Public Services, the following salary variations have been determined with effect from the 25th October, 1968.

Adult Officers

The gross annual salary rates paid to adult officers (male and female) under the provisions of Salaries Agreements made under the Public Service Arbitration Act, 1966, or authorised by current Administrative Instruction, shall be increased by an amount of \$70 per annum on and from the 25th October, 1968.

Junior Officers

Proportionate salary variations may be applied to junior officers (male and female) on and from the 25th October, 1968.

Special Division

This Instruction does not apply to officers of the Special Division as specified in the Determination published in the Government Gazette dated the 29th December, 1967.

Further information may be obtained from your departmental staff clerk.

New Research Laboratory — Waterman

The following is a recent radio talk on 6WN, A.B.C. Radio, given by the Director, Mr. B.K. Bowen:

"In this talk I want to describe briefly the new marine laboratories which have been built at Waterman. If you drive along West Coast Highway in the Waterman area you will see a large concrete building between the road and the sea. It is called the Western Australian Marine Research Laboratories. The questions which may reasonably be asked of these laboratories are: why were they built? who works there? are the public invited to visit them?

Firstly, then, why were they built? For many years now, the research officers of the Fisheries Research Branch of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna and officers of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., have worked in buildings with very limited facilities. In fact, their laboratories, for the most part, have been within an old house in a Perth suburb. This has meant that the only source of data has been the field situation. Comparing this to agriculture, the facilities would be similar to the time when the only source of information available to the agricultural scientists was that obtained from the farmers' fields. Nowadays, however, the agricultural scientist has experimental farming areas and laboratories for soil testing, grain testing, the effects of chemicals, and the like. An so it will be with the new research laboratories at Waterman. In the downstairs area is an aquarium room. The basic essentials of this room are a continuous supply of sea water, fresh water, and compressed air. The sea water is pumped from the sea approximately 120 yards offshore up into an overhead tank. From here it gravitates down to the various aquaria, and then returns to the sea. By doing this, we are sure that the fish in the aquaria are living in clean oceanic sea water.

In the upstairs area there are 11 laboratories, each equipped to allow fisheries scientists to carry out laboratory experiments on the particular species on which research is being undertaken.

The main research species is, of course, the Western Australian rock lobster which is the basis of the most valuable fishery in Australia. Scientists will be studying growth, physiology, behaviour, feeding preferences and so on in these new facilities, and thus provide a better understand-

ing of the requirements of this animal in its natural environment. Other species being studied are prawns, whiting, salmon, trout and marron.

Who works there? The fisheries research officers of the Department of Fisheries and Fauna are the main occupants of the building. However, officers of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O. working in Western Australia are also housed in the laboratories so that the research work will be completely integrated with both the State and the Commonwealth playing a part. Contiguous with the main laboratory is a building owned by the University of Western Australia. Here, the marine scientists from the University will be able to undertake their research programmes under the same ideal conditions of aquaria facilities. In essence the, the laboratories will bring together all the research scientists in Western Australia working on marine problems. This is something new and exciting for Western Australia and in line with the tremendous development taking place in so many fields of endeavour.

Will the public be invited to visit the laboratories? As a general rule, I am afraid the answer is no. The facilities are for research, not for public display. However, from time to time, field days at the laboratory will be organised and the public will be invited to these. During the field days, talks will be given and displays arranged so that the public will be made aware of the progress being made in the various research programmes. The interest shown by the public at these field days will be a guide to those who are keen to see a public aquaria built in the Perth area. It is possible, therefore, to look forward to the day when Perth will have a public display of marine life equal to some of the best throughout the world.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The New South Wales Fisheries Branch of the Chief Secretary's Department is now located at 211 Kent Street, Sydney. The postal address will continue to be Box 30, G.P.O. Sydney, 2001.

* * * *

"Last night John tried to put his arm round me three times."

"I say! Some arm."

| |
|--------------------------------|
| 1969 PRAWN TRAWLING CONDITIONS |
|--------------------------------|

1. Boats authorised to trawl for prawns in Shark Bay - Carnarvon area and also having crayfishing rights.
 - 1.1. January 1 to April 30 may operate in Shark Bay - Carnarvon area and in other waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
 - 1.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl in the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area.
 - 1.3. August 1 to December 31 may operate in the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area and in waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
2. Boats authorised to trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf and also having crayfishing rights.
 - 2.1. January 1 to April 30 may operate in Exmouth Gulf and in other waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
 - 2.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl in Exmouth Gulf.
 - 2.3. August 1 to December 31 may trawl in Exmouth Gulf and in waters lying north of the 20th parallel of south latitude.
3. Boats having crayfishing rights and not authorised to prawn in the restricted areas of either Shark Bay - Carnarvon or Exmouth Gulf.
 - 3.1. May trawl for prawns in any locality during this year with the exception of Shark Bay - Carnarvon and Exmouth Gulf.
4. Boats authorised to trawl for prawns in the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area and not having crayfishing rights.
 - 4.1. January 1 to April 30 may trawl in any waters with the exception of Exmouth Gulf.
 - 4.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl for prawns in the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area.
 - 4.3. August 1 to December 31 may operate in any waters

with the exception of Exmouth Gulf.

5. Boats authorised to trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf and not having crayfishing rights.

5.1. January 1 to April 30 may trawl in any waters other than the waters of the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area.

5.2. May 1 to July 31 must trawl for prawns in Exmouth Gulf.

5.3. August 1 to December 31 may trawl in any waters with the exception of the Shark Bay - Carnarvon area.

In addition, fishermen will be advised that a further announcement may be made during 1969 in respect of Nickol Bay. If the prawn abundance is sufficiently high to attract a large number of boats, conditions may be imposed on boats operating in this Bay to the effect that night fishing was not permitted and that prawns caught must be landed for processing. However, such restrictions would be for a limited period of time only.

STAFF DISTRIBUTION

The following will be the staff distribution for the current crayfishing season:-

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Cape Leschenault: | Inspector R.E.P. Kendrick |
| Ledge Point: | Inspector J.E. Neal |
| Lancelin: | Inspector G.W. Lukeis will assist Inspector Kelly. |
| Cervantes: | Inspector B.C. Bruce and M.T. Mill. |
| Jurien Bay: | Inspector L.J. Silvester will assist Inspector Fletcher. |

* * * *

"Is your wife changeable, old man?"

"I've never tried, but I shouldn't think so."

MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS

As in every year December is a very busy time for accounting sections.

Every effort will be made, however, to have all traveling claims paid before Christmas. Three different departments (Fisheries and Fauna, Chief Secretary's and Treasury) must handle your claim before final payment is made.

To ensure prompt payment please follow the golden rules:

1. Forward claims at the beginning of each month.
2. Make sure all diary forms covering the above claim are in at the same time.
3. Make sure claims and diaries are correct and legible.
4. Claim forms are to be in duplicate. Note, one must be original back and front and the other may be a carbon copy.
5. Your name and address must be printed on the claim.
6. Sign the claim back and front.

REGIONAL FAUNA CONFERENCE

The first ever regional fauna conference for honorary wardens will be held during mid-February next year. The final arrangements are yet to be confirmed but it is likely to last only one day commencing about 10 a.m. and concluding at 9 p.m.

This meeting is being brought about by the request of enthusiastic honorary wardens in Fauna Patrol District No. 9.

* * * *

The Taxation Department facilitates moderation in success.

PRE DUCK SEASON WATERFOWL SURVEY

This year the waterfowl survey, conducted by Research Officer T.L. Riggert, was divided into two periods, a preliminary investigation and a more detailed final investigation. The preliminary flights took place during the first week of October when waterfowl are rearing broods and wetlands are still at their winter high levels. These flights were used for a comparative basis to establish brood development and the extent of evaporation in wetland areas, with the rising temperatures in the spring. The main observational flights were carried out between November 10-14 and consisted of four flights covering the major duck shooting areas governed by the duck shooting regulations of Western Australia.

The first flight took in the Northern Coastal Lakes from the metropolitan area to Snag Island and across to Three Springs, Carnamah, Moora, Northam and York. This area, which is usually the driest of the surveyed areas, showed considerable ground water and many small groups of waterfowl. Both swans and ducks had young in the latter stages of development which would be flying in early January.

The second flight from Lake Mears near Beverley to Cunderdin, Oak Park, Wongan Hills, Moora, Dalwallinu, Tammin, Narambeen, Kondinin and Quairading showed considerably more water than area 1 and excellent numbers of ducks were recorded with numerous young swans and ducklings still present with parent birds. This area in the previous year was almost completely dry and waterfowl breeding was extremely limited. However, this year an excellent breeding season has taken place. From reports received from residents in these areas the ground waters have only receded a few inches during the past weeks which has been due to the abnormally low temperatures for this time of the year. It is, therefore, felt that by mid January the more permanent lakes will still contain ample water.

Flight three, which included Perth, Narrogin, Wagin, Dumbleyung, Cranbrook, Albany, Lake Grace, Yealering and Pingelly showed few ducks on the preliminary flights, but on the final flight a few concentrations of ducks were observed. In general, in this area it appears that an excellent breeding season has occurred. However, there are still many young birds and especially many young swans. The wickepin area does not appear to have received as much water as surrounding areas, but many stock dams contained large numbers of ducks

and geese.

Flight four from Perth to Mandurah along the Serpentine River, Harvey Estuary, Lake Clifton, Lake Preston, Benger Swamp, Wannerup and Vasse Estuary, Katanning Lakes, Lake Muir, Walpole, Broke Inlet and other surrounding wetlands, showed concentrated groups of waterfowl which indicates that the main breeding season is not yet completed. Many of the far southern lakes have very few waterfowl present indicating that the water conditions further north are still holding.

The aerial survey has shown that in general an exceptional breeding season has occurred throughout the surveyed areas. Many waterfowl are still rearing broods of varying ages and local residents report that freshly hatched ducklings have been sighted in their areas. Swans are still rearing their cygnets which range in age from 1-2 weeks to the flying stages. It takes 122 days for a young swan to develop to the flying stage and, therefore, many swans will not be capable of flight until late summer. The water situation is excellent in all areas and shooters can expect an excellent season.

DUCK SHOOTING SEASON

The opening date for this season's duck shoot has not yet been decided but is likely to be sometime in January. No duck shooter's license will be necessary for this season but it is almost certain that they will be required for the following season.

The duck shooter's guide will be available to wardens, inspectors and other interested parties immediately the opening date has been announced.

NEW EQUIPMENT FOR DISTRICT OFFICES

Three outboard motors have been ordered for Lancelin, Jurien Bay and Geraldton. Dinghies and trailers have been requisitioned for Geraldton and Jurien Bay and Geraldton is to receive a new four-wheel drive vehicle this year.

(i)

Western Australia.

PUBLIC SERVICE ARBITRATION ACT, 1966.

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PUBLIC
SERVICE ARBITRATOR.

No. 3, 1967.

In the matter of Government Officers who are public service officers or temporary employees under and within the meaning of the Public Service Act, 1904-1966, and The Public Service Commissioner, and in the matter of a Claim made by The Civil Service Association of Western Australia Incorporated concerning rates to be paid for overtime worked by Government officers in addition to ordinary salary, and the circumstances in which payment for overtime shall be made.

HAVING heard and considered the above Claim and having determined the same in accordance with section 11 (1) (e) of the Public Service Arbitration Act, the Public Service Arbitrator, pursuant to section 24 of the said Act, hereby makes the following Award:—

PUBLIC SERVICE OVERTIME AWARD, 1967.

Award No. 4 of 1967.

1.—Title.

This Award shall be known as the Public Service Overtime Award, 1967, Award No. 4 of 1967.

2.—Scope.

This Award shall apply to all officers and temporary employees employed under the provisions of the Public Service Act, 1904-1966, whose offices are not included in the Special Division of the Public Service.

3.—Arrangement.

1. Title.
2. Scope.
3. Arrangement.
4. Definitions.
5. Overtime.
6. On Call.
7. Travelling Time.
8. Special Conditions.
9. Copies of Award.
10. Term of Award.

4.—Definitions.

In this Award, the following expressions shall, unless the contrary intention appears, have the meaning hereby respectively applied to them, namely:—

“Prescribed Hours of Duty” means the hours of duty prescribed by Public Service Regulation 6 or by administrative instruction issued thereunder.

(i i)

"Public Service Holidays" means the days mentioned in section 57 of the Public Service Act, 1904-1966, and any other days which the Governor may appoint as public service holidays under the said Act.

5.—Overtime.

(a) All work performed by direction of the Permanent Head or of a Senior Officer duly authorised by him;

- (i) before or after prescribed hours of duty on any working day including where applicable, Saturday, or—
- (ii) on any Saturday not so included, Sunday or public service holiday,

shall be classed as overtime and subject to the provisions of this Award shall be paid for at the hourly rate prescribed by subclause (b) of this clause.

(b) (i) Payment for overtime shall be calculated on an hourly basis in accordance with the following formula:—

Week Days:

For the first four hours on any one week day—

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Fortnightly Salary | 3 |
| <hr/> | X |
| 75 | 2 |

After the first four hours on any one week day—

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Fortnightly Salary | 2 |
| <hr/> | X |
| 75 | 1 |

Saturdays:

Up to 12 noon on any one Saturday—

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Fortnightly Salary | 3 |
| <hr/> | X |
| 75 | 2 |

After 12 noon on any one Saturday—

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Fortnightly Salary | 2 |
| <hr/> | X |
| 75 | 1 |

Sundays:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Fortnightly Salary | 2 |
| <hr/> | X |
| 75 | 1 |

Public Service Holidays:

Payment for all work performed on a public service holiday shall be computed on the basis of ordinary time and shall be paid in addition to the day's pay which the officer would ordinarily receive in respect of such period.

(ii) For the purpose of this subclause "fortnightly salary" shall not include any district allowance, personal allowance, qualifications allowance, efficiency allowance, service allowance, special allowance or higher duties allowance, unless otherwise approved by the Commissioner.

Provided that special allowance or higher duties allowance shall be included in "fortnightly salary" when overtime is worked on duties for which these allowances are specifically paid.

(c) Where an officer so elects in writing before commencing to work overtime, equivalent time off in lieu of payment, to be determined on an hourly

(iii)

basis by dividing by his normal hourly rate of pay the amount to which he would otherwise have been entitled at the prescribed rate, may be granted.

(d) A commuted allowance and/or time off in lieu of overtime may be negotiated between the Commissioner and the Association, provided that where there is disagreement between the Commissioner and the Association as to the necessity for or the amount of a commuted allowance or time off, a dispute within the meaning of section 11 (1) (f) of the Public Service Arbitration Act shall be deemed to have arisen.

(e) A break of at least 30 minutes, which shall not be reckoned as overtime, shall be made for meals between 12 noon and 2 p.m. when overtime is worked on a Saturday, Sunday or public service holiday, and between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on any week day on which overtime is worked.

(f) No claim for payment or time off in lieu under the provisions of this clause shall be allowed in respect of any day on which the additional time worked amounts to less than 30 minutes.

(g) An officer who is required to return to duty—

(i) on a Saturday, (otherwise than during prescribed hours of duty) Sunday or public service holiday, shall be entitled to payment for overtime at the prescribed rate for a minimum period of three hours.

(ii) without prior notice after prescribed hours of duty on a week day, shall be so entitled for a minimum period of two-and-a-half hours.

(h) When an officer is directed to work overtime at a place other than his usual headquarters and the time spent in travelling to and from that place is in excess of the time normally spent in travelling to and from his usual headquarters then such excess time shall be deemed to form part of the overtime worked.

(i) Except as provided in subclause (j) of this clause, payment for overtime, or the granting of time off in lieu, shall not be approved in the following cases:—

(i) Officers whose salary, or salary and allowance in the nature of salary, exceeds that determined from time to time as the maximum of Class 8 in the appropriate Division,

(ii) field officers and officers whose work is not subject to close supervision; or

(iii) officers whose salary includes specific provision in respect of overtime.

(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (i) of this clause, where from the nature of the duties required or from other relevant circumstance it appears just and reasonable, any such officer as is referred to in that subclause shall, with the special approval of the Commissioner, be paid overtime or granted time off in lieu as prescribed by subclause (b) or subclause (c) respectively of this clause and if in any such case the Commissioner declines to give such special approval a dispute within the meaning of section 11 (1) (f) of the Public Service Arbitration Act, shall be deemed to have arisen.

6.—On Call.

(a) An officer who is authorised by the Permanent Head or by a Senior Officer duly authorised by him, to hold himself on call during his period off duty shall be paid such allowance as may be agreed between the Commissioner and the Association, and in event of disagreement a dispute within the meaning of section 11 (1) (f) of the Public Service Arbitration Act shall be deemed to have arisen.

(b) For the purpose of this clause "On Call" shall mean an instruction to an officer to remain at his place of residence or otherwise to hold himself available for immediate contact in the case of an emergency call-out requiring the performance of duties away from such place of residence.

7.—Travelling Time.

An officer who, in the course of his duties, is called upon to travel before the usual time for commencing or after the usual time for ceasing duty may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, be granted time off in respect of such time or part of such time spent in travelling.

8.—Special Conditions.

Leave is reserved to the Association to apply to the Public Service Arbitrator in accordance with section 11 (1) (e) of the Public Service Arbitration Act, 1966, in respect of a specific occupational group covered by the provisions of this Award.

9.—Copies of Award.

Every officer shall be entitled to have access to a copy of this Award. Sufficient copies shall be available in each Department for this purpose.

10.—Term of Award.

This Award shall operate as from and including the 1st day of January, 1968, and shall remain in force for a period of three years from that date, provided that either of the parties may after the 31st day of December, 1968, negotiate with the other party to amend or add to this Award or approach the Arbitrator for an amendment to this Award.

Dated at Perth this 21st day of December, 1967.

(Sgd) H. G. SMITH,
Public Service Arbitrator.

FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS

The Australian government has now realised the great potential of the prawn fishery in the Gulf of Carpentaria, where Japanese and Russian vessels have been concentrating for some time. Feelings ran high recently when the 5,000 ton Russian trawler Van Gogh was alleged to have intimidated an Australian fishing vessel. Later, however, the Van Gogh redeemed herself by rescuing some Australian fishermen who were adrift on a raft.

The Russian vessel is said to be taking up to 11 tons of prawns in one tow and to be working round the clock, which has made Australians painfully conscious of the small scale of their own operations.

Australia has recently put her limits out to 12 miles, but one member of the Opposition is agitating for the complete closure of the Gulf to foreign vessels on a unilateral basis - a suggestion frowned upon by the government. However, regular patrols by the Navy and Air Force have been ordered and the Minister for Primary Industry, Mr. Anthony, has visited the area to talk to Australian fishermen.

One effect of the situation in the Gulf has been to highlight the inferior position of the Australian fishermen, and improved credit facilities are being urged to help them re-equip. The new limit has also posed a problem with the Japanese, who claim traditional fishing rights and who, in some cases, are working with Australian companies.

All inspectors are required to report immediately by telephone to Head Office all sightings of foreign fishing vessels. A special report form, which is to be circulated, must then be forwarded to Head Office.

The Commonwealth Government is most anxious that it be advised of the activities of all foreign fishing vessels off the Australian coast.

STAFF NOTES

Mr. Don Munro and Mr. Ian Cook have been appointed wardens of fauna. Their appointment appears in Government Gazette No. 106 of 1968.

* * * *

STAFF NOTES

Inspector Peter Pennings has now become eligible for a Father's Day present next year. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Pennings whose brand new son was born in November.

* * * *

Inspector Noble will be glad to return to work on December 10, after having such a long break during his long service leave.

* * * *

Inspector Alf Melsom has been off work for some weeks due to illness and annual leave. We wish Alf a speedy recovery.

* * * *

The staff wishes to extend a warm welcome to two new staff members. Mr. H.L. Lee and Mr. J.N. Blackman.

Mr. Lee, who is already known to many of the inspection staff, has taken up Jack Bateman's old job of Fleet Maintenance Officer.

Mr. Blackman who is the brother of inspector Derek Blackman will be working under Mr. Seabrook on the R.V. "Flinders".

* * * *

Senior Warden, S.W. Bowler has returned to work after being off for some time with a badly pulled leg muscle.

* * * *

Mr. Kevin Morrison transferred to Pingelly on October 28 to take up the position vacated by Mr. Trevor Evans. Mr. Evans will be assisting Dr. Burbidge on Reserve Management Programmes.

* * * *

RESTRICTIONS ON FREEZER BOATS

Freezer boats will have to operate outside the reef line in the red crayfishing season from January 1 to August 14, 1969.

This will be a condition on which their licenses will be issued for this and future seasons.

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon accepted this recommendation from the Westralian Freezer Boats Association.

This agreement was reached after more than 12 months of negotiations for an acceptable solution to problems caused by the operations of some freezer boat skippers.

The full implications of these restrictions will be printed in the next issue of "F.I.N.S." and departmental licensing officers will be given full instructions before the commencement of the licensing year.

BROADBILL MARLIN

Inspector John Fletcher reported that while he was on annual leave and staying at a holiday shack approximately four miles north of Cape Leschenault he found a broadbill marlin on the beach.

Inspector Fletcher came across the 200 lb. fish while taking a walk along the beach a few miles from his shack. The marlin was in a bad state of decay and showed signs of gulls and foxes feeding from it.

Enough of the carcass was left for Mr. C. Ferguson of Dalkeith to make an identification. Mr. Ferguson has fished for this species off the North-West coast with Mr. Garrick Agnew.

The Supervising Inspector and Mr. R. McKay of the Western Australian Museum have both been in contact with Mr. Ferguson and are convinced that his identification was correct. According to Mr. McKay it is quite rare for broadbills to be washed onto the beach and our thanks go to Inspector Fletcher for reporting this incident.

APPLICATIONS FOR FISHING BOAT LICENSES

Forms applying for fishing boat licenses will be necessary again during the 1969 licensing year. Each copy of the December issue of "F.I.N.S.", which is issued free to every licensed fisherman in this State, will contain one of these forms.

Further copies of the forms will be distributed among the district offices as soon as they are available.

Old stocks of forms are not to be used as they are significantly different from the latter form which is prefixed with "1969" in big numbers.

The Director has agreed to collect this information because a single census of this nature is of limited value because it does not measure the growth of the industry or changes in the composition of the fishing fleet. Availability of data over a period of years will provide the basis for a statistical series from which trends in sizes, types, gear etc. can be studied. In addition, similar censuses of fishing boats and gear and equipment have been established on an annual basis in all other States and the provision of information for Western Australia on the same basis will enable an Australian series to be compiled.

RESTRICTION UNDER THE FISHERIES ACT

The Moore River has been closed to all fishing nets, except prawning nets, from the Boobabbie Bridge to the mouth of the river and that part of the ocean within one half mile radius of the river mouth.

The whole of the Greenough River has also been closed to the use of all nets except prawning nets of not more than 9 feet in length and having meshes of not less than $\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

* * * *

SHE: "I'm going to speak my mind?"

HE: "Ah! Silence at last!"

RARE FISH FOUND IN NULLARBOR

Tiny, blind fish have been discovered by an Adelaide group of pot-holers - in the Nullarbor.

Members of the group were exploring some Nullarbor caves when they saw fish swimming in subterranean pools.

They caught some of the 2in.-long fish and took them to the South Australian Museum for identification, thinking them to be a variety of eel.

The museum identified them as blind gudgeon - one of the rarest varieties in Australia.

The fish had been found before only on a remote part of North-West Cape in Western Australia.

The fish are thought to have been carried to the Nullarbor along one of the underground streams proved by geologists to run under the dead heart of Australia.

The fish spend all their lives underground and have evolved to the point of not needing eyes.

AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES NEWS LETTER

Over the past year the editor of the Australian Fisheries Newsletter, Mr. P. Pownall, has published a series of articles called 'Unit Fisheries'.

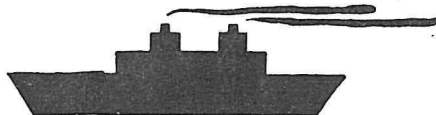
These articles took one Australian fishery (e.g. prawns) and gave the distribution effort and extent of the fishery throughout Australia. All these articles have now been published in one "Newsletter" which is now available to the staff.

While our Extension and Publicity Officer, Mr. A.C. Waldon was in Canberra recently he was kept busy conferring with members of the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Primary Industry. Mr. Waldon says that Primary Industry are now thinking along the lines of doing an article on the fisheries of each State in coming Newsletters and eventually reprinting them as a whole similar to the articles on unit fisheries.

OFFENCES UNDER FISHERIES ACT AND FAUNA PROTECTION ACT

| OFFENDER | D.O.O. | D.O.H. | COURT | OFFENCE | FINE |
|--------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| Baker W.N. | 29. 7.68 | 11.11.68 | Frem. | U/Sale Fauna | \$20 |
| Bass G.C. | 14. 8.68 | 15.11.68 | Geraldtd. | Obstruction | \$100 |
| Civitella A. | 14. 1.68 | 30. 9.68 | Frem. | Taking P/F | \$40 |
| Civitella D. | 14. 1.68 | 30. 9.68 | Frem. | Taking P/F | \$40 |
| Cook B.E. | 21. 5.68 | 29. 8.68 | Perth | Closed wtrs. | \$20 |
| Correia J. | 6.12.67 | 16.10.68 | Geraldtd. | U/S crays | \$2000 |
| Fallara A. | 30. 6.68 | 11.11.68 | Frem. | Taking P/F | \$25 |
| Florias D. | 12. 7.68 | 18.10.68 | Geraldtd. | No E/Gaps | \$100 |
| Frenis N. | 5. 5.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U/S crays | \$200 |
| Frenis N. | 5. 5.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | Obstruction | \$100 |
| Garces J.A. | 6.12.67 | 19. 7.68 | Geraldtd. | U/S crays | \$2000+\$314 |
| Gennings A. | 4. 3.68 | 26. 9.68 | Perth | U/W c/tails | \$100+\$14 |
| Hesketh W. | 11. 6.68 | 20. 9.68 | Geraldtd. | Closed wtrs. | \$20 |
| Hinds V.J. | 9. 8.68 | 19.11.68 | Albany | Unlic. S/F | \$20 |
| Holden S.J. | 23. 5.68 | 29. 8.68 | Perth | Closed wtrs. | \$40 |
| Howell T.A. | 4. 3.68 | 29. 8.68 | Frem. | U/S crays | \$100+\$64 |
| Hudson E.G. | 3. 5.68 | 29. 8.68 | Perth | Excess pots | \$15 |

cont.....



| OFFENDER | D.O.O. | D.O.H. | COURT | OFFENCE | FINE |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| Hunter E.A. | 11. 6.68 | 20. 9.68 | Geraldt. | Closed wtrs. | \$20 |
| Isidoro M. | 6.12.67 | 15.10.68 | Geraldt. | U/S crays | \$2000 |
| Kenworthy R. | 21. 5.68 | 29. 8.68 | Perth | Closed wtrs. | \$20 |
| McMahon J. | 18. 9.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U/S crays | \$400 |
| McMahon J. | 18. 9.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U.Processing | \$25 |
| McMahon J. | 23. 9.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U/S crays | \$400 |
| McMahon J. | 23. 9.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | Obstruction | \$100 |
| Mundy E.J.R. | 20. 4.68 | 26. 9.68 | Perth | Taking F.C/S | \$20 |
| Patroni G. | 26. 7.68 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U/W c/tails | \$152 |
| Servaas J.J. | 5. 5.68 | 29. 8.68 | Perth | Closed wtrs. | \$200 |
| Stockdale L. | 9. 6.68 | 20.11.68 | Narrogin | Taking F.C/S | \$10 |
| Vinci P. | 8. 1.68 | 2.10.68 | Perth | U/S crays | \$200 |
| Wakelin V.J. | 2. 7.68 | 17. 9.68 | R/ham | U/S crays | \$100+\$196 |
| Wooley A.W. | 19.12.67 | 12.11.68 | Perth | U/S crays | \$154 |

U/Sale = Unlicensed sale

P/F = Protected Fauna

U/S = Under size

E/Gaps = Escape gaps

Unlic.S/F = Unlicensed sale of Fauna

Taking F.C/S = Taking Fauna during closed season.

U.Processing = Unlicensed processing

The Town Of Yawn

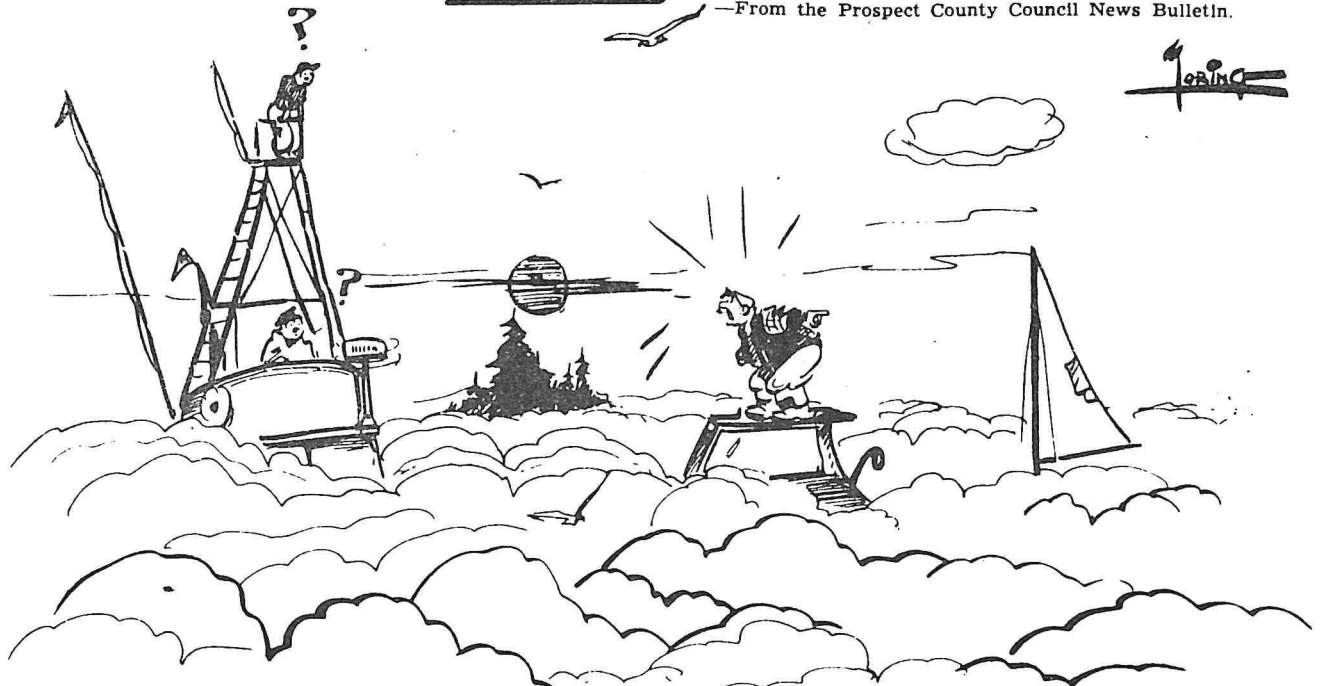
Have you heard of the town of Yawn, my friend,
 On the banks of the river Slow,
 Where the Waitawhile flower scents the air
 And the Sometimeothers grow?

It lies in the valley of Whatsheuse
 In the province of Letitslide.
 It is there that the tired Putitoffs
 And the Idontcares reside.

The weeds all round called Passthebuck
 And the Plentyoftime grow free
 Induce a feeling of Itwilldo
 In a day or two or three.

If ever you visit the town of Yawn
 And its suburb of Letsgoslack
 Be sure that you do not linger there,
 It may easily get you the sack.

—From the Prospect County Council News Bulletin.



"Seal Rock is dead ahead — you can't miss it!"