

Canadian geese are still plentiful. These birds, owing to their alertness, are very hard to obtain, but shooters who persevere can obtain good results.

Pukeko were plentiful.

The sum of £226 was realized from the issue of game-shooting licences. This represents a slight increase on the 1946 season.

(b) *Absolutely Protected Birds*.—Officers of the Department are vigilant in preventing the illegal taking of absolutely protected birds.

It is interesting to note that these birds are doing well in such areas as Paradise Valley (Glenorchy) and the Eglinton Valley.

Weka and blue, or mountain, duck have recently been observed in areas where they have not been seen for many years.

Rock wrens also appear to be increasing.

It seems evident that the consistent efforts to destroy vermin are resulting beneficially as far as these birds are concerned.

(c) *Vermin Control*.—Under the scheme operated by the South Island Vermin Control Board, bounties were paid on tokens as under:—

Stoats' tails	..	..	..	..	1,711
Stoats' skins	..	..	..	..	204
Polecats' tails	..	..	..	..	55
Ferrets' tails	..	..	..	..	1,686
Ferrets' skins	..	..	..	..	90
Hawk's feet (pairs)	..	..	..	..	1,666
Hedgehogs' snouts	..	..	..	..	408
German owls' heads	..	..	..	..	165

(d) *Ranging*.—Two offences only were detected, the persons concerned being prosecuted and convicted.

G. INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON RIVER POLLUTION

Further meetings were held and excellent progress was made with the compilation of a report on the collected factual evidence as to the present pollution situation. An explanatory statement as to the activities of the Committee was circulated to local authorities assisting the survey

H. GLOSSARY

Grey duck (*Anas poicilorhyncha*).
 Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*).
 Blue duck (*Hymenolaimus malacorhynchus*).
 Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*).
 Canadian goose (*Branta canadensis*).
 Black shag (*Phalacrocorax carbo*).
 Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio*).
 Californian quail (*Lophortyx californicus*).
 Chukor (*Alectoris chukor*).
 Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus* and *P. torquatus*).
 Guinea-fowl (*Numida meleagris*).
 Kea (*Nestor notabilis*).
 Hawk (*Circus approximans*).
 North Island weka (*Gallirallus greyi*).
 South Island weka (*Gallirallus australis*).

Rock wren (*Xenicus giliventrus*).
 Red deer (*Cervus elaphus*).
 Virginian deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).
 Wapiti (*Cervus canadensis*).
 Tahr (*Hemitragus jemlaicus*).
 Chamois (*Rupicapra tragus*).
 Wild cattle (*Bos taurus*).
 Wild sheep (*Ovis* spp.).
 Pigs (*Sus scrofa*).
 Goat (*Capra aegagrus*).
 Polecat (*Mustela foetidus*).
 Ferret (*Mustela foetidus*).
 Stoat (*Mustela erminea*).
 Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*).
 Opossum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*).
 Wallaby (*Wallabia rufogrisea*).