



The
Royal Agricultural
Society of Victoria

ANNUAL REPORT

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(Circular)



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria will be held in the Council Room, Administrative Building, Plummer Avenue, Royal Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, on Wednesday, the 10th March, 1965, at 12.30 p.m.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect members to fill the vacancies on the Council.
4. To appoint two Auditors.

Dated the 24th day of February, 1965.

H. T. C. WOODFULL,
Director.

For list of nominations see back.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

CRESWICK, A. R., "Kent Park", Lower Ferntree Gully.

CUNNINGHAM, L. S. K., 5 Hollingsworth Avenue, Hawthorn.

HUNTER, ROBERT, "Northwood Park", Seymour.

JOHNSON, C. C., M.B.E., "The Camp", Whorouly South.

KELLY, J. W., Caramut North, Caramut.

McARTHUR, COL. M. H., Melrose Farm, Wollert.

MOORE, C. OWEN, "Chechingurk", Mornington.

NICHOLAS, LINDSAY G. C., "Cooring Yering", Lilydale.

STEELE, P. J. R., 2 Gordon Grove, South Yarra.

WARD, J. W. D., Mitford Estate, Flinders.

WILCOX, THE HON. V. F., M.P., 76 Broadway, Camberwell.

NOTE:—The nominations not being in excess of the vacancies, there will be no poll.

ANNUAL REPORT

Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

To the Members—
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Council of this Society I have pleasure in submitting to you a report on the Society's activities for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

ROYAL SHOW

It is with gratification that I record the fact that the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency Major General Sir Rohan Delacombe, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., officially opened our 1964 Royal Show.

We were also honoured to have with us on this occasion Lady Delacombe, the Honourable The Premier Mr. H. E. Bolte, M.L.A., and Mrs. Bolte, C.B.E., His Worship. The Lord Mayor, Councillor L. Curtis, Major General T. S. Taylor, M.V.O., M.C., and Mrs. Taylor, and His Excellency Herr Ritter, K.C.V.O., the German Ambassador and Frau Ritter.

The First Armoured Regiment, Royal Australian Armoured Corps supplied the Guard of Honour. Southern and Central Command bands added to the colour of the Opening Ceremony which was an attractive forerunner to what proved to be a most successful Show.

This year our entries passed the 27,000 mark for the first time thus creating an all-time record. In some sections such as horses and dairy cattle entries were so heavy that we had to reject some because of an excess of numbers over accommodation. It was unfortunate that this action became necessary, but all accommodation was taxed to the limit.

Particulars of all entries will be found appended to this report, but it is of interest to note that record entries were received in beef and dairy cattle, fat cattle, sheep, dogs and Young Farmers sections.

Each year we endeavour to improve our Show and I feel sure that the general opinion was that this year's Show had so many new features that we had progressed substantially.

This, however, could not be achieved without careful planning, hard work and the valuable co-operation of many people, and it is therefore with considerable gratification that I am able to record that this was received by the Society from all sections of the community.

BUILDINGS, IMPROVEMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

The new Wool Court and Meat Hall were well patronised by the Show visitors and proved big attractions.

Situated close to the Dairy Industry Display this area has now developed into one of the most important on the Showgrounds.

These three industry displays enable producers, processors and manufacturers to get together and come to grips with problems concerning their specific industry. We are indebted to the Australian Wool Board and the Australian Meat Board for their co-operation in making finance available for these two important projects.

The K.C.C. is to be commended for its assistance in the building of the new elevated committee room in the Dog Section.

Other improvements include additional lofts in most stock pavilions, a new programme office, a new floor in the Homecrafts Pavilion, new turnstiles in the Sheep Pavilion area, the resurfacing of roads and general brightening up of pavilions, halls and horse stalls.

ATTENDANCES

The attendance at this year's Show totalled 708,325, and was the second highest aggregate on record.

There is little doubt that but for extremely bad weather on one day we would have beaten all records for attendance. As it was new records were set for the first Thursday and Friday, the second Friday evening and the last Saturday.

An important feature of Royal Show attendance figures in recent years has been the increasing number of children attending the Show on family

tickets or educational excursions; it is gratifying to record that these figures again increased this year.

ARENA ATTRACTIONS

I consider our arena programme this year provided excellent entertainment and this without doubt was responsible for some increase in attendance figures.

The reintroduction of the rodeo, tree-climber Kelly Stanley and his Victorian challengers, the Marching Girls Association, the tent pegging contests, the Central and Southern Command bands and Army ferret cars, the Victorian and South Australian Mounted Police, the Victorian Mobile squad and the bullock team—all of these expertly dovetailed into an outstanding equestrian programme and well managed Grand Parades, made the 1964 Royal Show top-class entertainment.

OTHER SHOW FEATURES

The jewellery and flower fashions displays and demonstrations conducted in Centenary Hall added a novel section to the fleeces display and shearing contests which now have such a strong following.

We were fortunate to be the host Society for the National Fleece Competition this year with an all-time record entry of 306 fleeces from all Australian States and New Zealand.

The "Sun" Show Girl Competition was conducted in the new Wool Court this year and 68 representatives from Victorian and interstate Agricultural Societies faced a panel of three judges.

The winner, Miss Susan McGrath, represented the Barham (N.S.W.) Agricultural Society. Miss McGrath assisted the Society during the Show in a most generous manner.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without complimenting the Department of Agriculture on the excellent display in the Government Pavilion. The presentation of the display this year caused much favourable comment.

Many Government Departments and Boards, such as The Milk Board, The Egg Board, The Wool Board, The Meat Board, The Forestry Commission, The Country Roads Board and several other Government and semi-Government organisations staged educational and attractive displays.

The farm equipment and machinery exhibitors again drew very big crowds of farmers and townspeople to their stands, as did the motor vehicle exhibitors.

The outside showmen (sideshows) and amusement ride proprietors all assisted with Royal Show "atmosphere".

VISITORS

In addition to the distinguished guests present at the official opening we had the pleasure of entertaining the members of the State Cabinet and their wives, besides Parliamentarians representing all parties, Sir Harry Winneke, Kt. O.B.E., LL.M., Q.C., and Lady Winneke, Air Vice-Marshal C. D. Candy, C.B.E., and Mrs. Candy, Commodore R. L. Shimmin, A.M.I., and Mrs. Shimmin, The Hon. C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., Minister for Primary Industry and members of the State Development Committee.

We were also most happy to welcome The Lord Carrington, K.C.M.G., M.C., and Lady Carrington, Mr. S. C. Stout, British Trade Commissioner, The Rt. Hon. The Lord Glendevon, P.C., and two members of the Royal Commonwealth Society, and Asian students.

It was especially pleasing to see the Presidents and Councillors of other Royal Societies, and many presidents and secretaries from our own country agricultural societies.

JUDGES AND STEWARDS

No Show is able to function without judges and stewards, and this Society is greatly indebted to all the judges, stewards, stewardesses and other officials for the service they rendered. Many of these devote considerable time to the Show and we are very grateful to them all for their valuable support.

Amongst the judges from overseas we had Dr. A. E. Darlow from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, U.S.A., judging Poll Herefords; Mr. Ross Segsworth, from Burlington, Canada, judging Friesians; Mr.

G. R. Stown, Manutaki, New Zealand, Jerseys, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert M. Van Court from Los Altos, California, U.S.A., who judged the dogs. Besides the international judges we were fortunate in having skilled interstate judges, adjudicating at our Show.

This service of providing top judges is one which we jealously guard, and feel sure that the exhibitors appreciate.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Progeny Testing: An important extension of the Show-ring beef cattle competitions was the Cattle Feeding (progeny testing) competition.

The competition began on May 20 and concluded on August 21, and was well supported with 19 pens of all breeds of beef cattle.

The highlight of this competition was the relation between economy, rate of gain and carcass quality, to respective sires.

We are grateful to all those who entered, and indebted to the Reserve Bank (as sponsors) of this competition.

Farm Management: Solid support was received for the 1964 Farm Management and Improvement Competition. This year the competition was divided into three groups embracing all sections of the primary industry.

The first group with a capital investment of up to £25,000 — the second group was for farmers with a capital investment of more than £25,000 but below £40,000, and the third group for farmers with capital investment of more than £40,000.

As in former years, the judges selected as the winners of the contest those persons "who, in the opinion of the judges, having regard to their available resources, financial and otherwise, have over the past three years made the most worthwhile increase in the productivity of their farms".

Again we express our thanks to the Commonwealth Banking Corporation for the interest shown in sponsoring this excellent competition and to the hard-working judges.

The Wheat Crop Championships; Fat Lamb Competition; Fodder Conservation Competition; District Fleece and Lambs Wool Competitions were all again conducted and received support both from entrants and various sections of Primary Industry to which they refer. The Victorian Department of Agriculture assists the Society in most of these Competitions and we sincerely thank them for their generous attitude in this respect.

Journalists' Tour: The pre-Show Journalists' Tour, sponsored by the Shell Company of Australia Ltd. and Shell Chemical (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., covered the North-West area of the State.

Many property owners and Agricultural Societies assisted this Society in making the Tour a success, and we thank all concerned for their valuable contribution towards publicising the Show through the press, radio and television personnel who were present on the Tour.

Thoroughbred Horse Show: The Fourth Annual Thoroughbred Horse Show was conducted at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds on March 8 and attracted the very good entry of 94 horses. The Society is most grateful to the Racing Clubs and other donors for sponsoring prize money to the value of approximately £1,000 for this attraction.

Beef Symposium: In association with the Victorian Department of Agriculture, and the United Stud Beef Cattle Breeders' Association, the Society welcomed the opportunity to hold the 1964 Beef Symposium at the Showgrounds.

This very valuable meeting attracted a capacity crowd of commercial and stud beef cattle breeders, primary producer representatives, consumer representatives, wholesale and retail butcher interests and top beef research workers.

Papers were presented on Herd Management, Herd Improvement, Markets and Marketing.

All those associated with this project are to be congratulated on its success.

BREED SOCIETIES

During the past twelve months the Society has again carried out the administrative work for 30 Breed Societies and other associated organisations.

It is regretted that due to the increase in costs which have occurred during the year we have had to increase our charges for secretarial

work but it is trusted that the various societies will appreciate that wage increases and similar matters are outside the control of this Society. Even in view of these increases, the R.A.S.V. will still be bearing the cost of the secretarial work to the extent of some thousands of pounds.

ARTIFICIAL BREEDING ASSOCIATION

This Association has made quite spectacular progress over the past few years.

From sixteen units in 1959 the organisation has now grown to 44 units plus two individual farmers' herds in 1964.

It would appear as though most of the large cow population areas in the State are now being serviced by the established centres—most of which are now farmer-owned co-operatives. Those farmers who were not convinced of the advantages of A.I. initially are now joining established units.

The R.A.S.V. is pleased to be associated with an organisation such as the A.B.A. in the furtherance of its assistance to the man on the land.

SENIOR YOUNG FARMERS OF VICTORIA

Steady progress of the Senior Young Farmers movement continues.

It is a source of satisfaction to me to record that this organisation has increased the number of clubs by nine in 1964 to an all-time record of 144 clubs throughout the State of Victoria.

This movement enjoys excellent publicity and is doing a great deal for the rural youth of Victoria.

We offer congratulations to the leaders of the Senior Young Farmers and sincere appreciation to the Supervisors.

The R.A.S.V. is most happy to be able to assist by carrying out the administrative work for such an organisation.

CHANGES IN COUNCIL

During the year Mr. J. Bott was appointed a Life Councillor, after having given 20 years' continuous service.

The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox, M.P., was elected to the Council during the year. Mr. Wilcox has close associations with agriculture and is a most welcome addition to our Council.

FINANCE

It is pleasing to report that our income rose this year by £28,524 due mainly to the increases we made in admission charges. On the other hand our expenditure increased by £23,659, this being occasioned mainly by increases in wages, maintenance of the grounds, publicity for the Show and arena attractions. The Council feels that we have had a satisfactory year from a financial point of view but the heavy expenditure we are faced with each year makes it difficult for us to carry out many of the new works and improvements which we wish to do to bring our Grounds up to modern exhibition standard. It is anticipated however that we will be able within the next year or two to replace the present tubular steel stands surrounding the arena with modern concrete structures.

VICTORIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION

This new Association was launched early in December and promises to be of untold assistance to the country Agricultural Societies throughout Victoria.

The Royal Agricultural Society welcomes the move by the Chamber of Agriculture in setting up the V.A.S.A. and trusts that the organisation will prove of value to country Societies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is with considerable pleasure that I place on record the Society's appreciation of the continued assistance afforded us by the Premier of Victoria and members of his Cabinet, particularly the Minister of Agriculture, The Hon. G. L. Chandler, C.M.G., M.L.C., and during his absence the acting Minister for Agriculture, The Hon. V. O. Dickie, M.L.C.

I am sure I speak on behalf of all members when I say that we are gratified to learn that Mr. Chandler has now recovered sufficiently to enable him to return to his duties as Minister.

I would especially like to thank the Director of Agriculture, Mr. F. M. Read, and the officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture, who are

always most helpful and ready to assist this Society at any time throughout the year.

To Mr. O. R. Browne, the Milk Board Chairman, and members of the Board we express thanks for the assistance during the year. I would also like to extend congratulations to Mr. Browne on his re-appointment as Chairman of the Milk Board for a further five years, and we look forward to a long and happy association with him and his Board.

I would like to thank the Milk Publicity Committee for the new homogenizer installed in the Dairy Industry Pavilion for our Show.

It is with sincere regret that we record the passing of Mr. Jack Welsh.

The late Mr. Welsh, as secretary of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Milk Distributors Association, was associated with our Dairy Pavilion from its inception and his advice and assistance was invaluable.

To his successor, Mr. Murray Walsh, we offer our congratulations and look forward to continued co-operation with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Milk Distributors Association.

The Society places on record its appreciation to the Australian Wool Board and the Australian Meat Board in staging displays and demonstrations throughout the Show on a scale never previously seen in Australia. The effective use of the new Wool Court and Meat Hall was of the highest value both to the industries in particular and to agriculture in general.

Special thanks is due to Mr. Ivan Wade, President of the Meat and Allied Trades Federation for his work in the preparation and presentation of the Meat Hall display, to Sir William McDonald, Kt., Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, for officially opening the Meat Hall, and to Mr. J. L. Shute, Chairman of the Aust. Meat Board, who was also present at the official opening.

This year the Victorian Egg Board again presented a most attractive and interesting display and also organised the Egg Packing Competition which proved a big draw for the Centenary Hall. This Competition, open to proprietors of authorised packing stations and registered producers, attracted 22 entries from Melbourne and country areas and was undoubtedly a great success.

Of the many Government Departments and Boards represented in various ways, the foremost were those mentioned earlier and the Country Roads Board, the Railways Department, The Tramways Board, the State Electricity Commission and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. The Police Department and the Department of the Army again rendered us considerable assistance.

I would like to make mention of the co-operation we have received from the Victorian Racing Club during the year, particularly in connection with parking matters; we sincerely appreciate this friendly assistance.

Many commercial firms were most generous in sponsoring the competitions or other activities and to these firms I wish to express the thanks of the Society. Their numbers are too great to mention in detail but I would nevertheless like them to know just how much we appreciate their valuable support.

Members of the Press, Radio and Television gave prominence to Show preparations, and during the Show devoted more space and time to exhibits, competitions and events than ever before. Over 140 newsmen, feature writers, photographers, radio and T.V. commentators and cameramen and other news personnel attended the Royal Show in a working capacity, and I take great pleasure in thanking all concerned for their valued contributions towards the Show's success.

I wish to record my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council who serve the Society in a very efficient and enthusiastic manner and spend so many hours working in the interests of the Society. They have given me loyal and solid support during the year and have been most generous in expending their time and energy to further the interests of the Society.

I should like to make special mention of the valuable assistance given to me during the year by the Vice-Presidents, Messrs. F. E. Selwyn Scott, M.B.E., J. M. Gardiner and L. S. K. Cunningham.

May I also take this opportunity of expressing my warmest appreciation to the staff, under the Direction of Mr. H. T. C. Woodfull, for the efficient attention they have shown to their respective duties and the manner in which they have assisted the Society during the year.

G. P. H. WILSON, President.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1964

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Current Liabilities — Bank Overdraft £320,305 Sundry Creditors — Accruals 1,988 £322,293	Current Assets — Cash on Hand £40 Secretary's Advance 200 Prepayments 1,491 Sundry Debtors £22,821 Less Reserve 1,025 21,796
Short Call Deposits 235,487	Showground Stock on Hand at cost 5,602 £29,129
Deferred Liabilities — Fodder Conservation 359	Short Call Deposits as per contra — Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd. 235,487
Trust Accounts — T. H. Payne Memorial £250 W. J. Dawkins Trophy 100 Provident Fund 850 Australian Pig Society 3,000 Capt. A. E. T. Payne 10,000 C. P. Fairbairn 200 14,400	Deferred Assets — Trotting Control Board — Grandstand Advance £172,521 Deposit State Electricity Commission 634 173,155
Members' Funds — Accumulated Fund — Balance at 1/1/64 £416,634 Transfer from Income and Expenditure Statement 5,392 £422,026	Trustee Investments as per contra 14,400
Reserves — Assets Revaluation1,042,003 Grandstand 242,123 Buildings 51,726 1,757,878	Fixed Assets — Showground Services and Utilities £253,850 Land at Cost 61,532 Building and Im- provements at valuation £1,539,538 Less Depreciation 26,586 1,512,952
	Showgrounds Plant and Motor Vehicles £50,728 Less Depreciation 5,048 45,680
	Office Furniture £4,668 Less Depreciation 436 4,232
	1,878,246
£2,330,417	£2,330,417

AUDITORS' REPORT

We wish to report to the members that we have audited the books and accounts of the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA for the year ended 31st December, 1964. We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required, and, in our opinion, the above Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs and that the accompanying statement of Income and Expenditure is properly drawn up so as exhibit a true and fair view of the results of the operations of the Society for the year, according to the best of our information, the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Society.

Dated at Melbourne this 16th day of February, 1965.

A. J. COURT, F.C.A. }
 L. R. GILLAM, F.C.A. } Chartered Accountants

H. T. C. WOODFULL, Director.

COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Previous	Best
Clydesdales	154	120	124	139	142	106	271	1924
Farm and Lorry	25	22	16	24	20	34	75	1934
Arabs	32	31	54	36	40	46	54	1961
Trotters	46	42	44	32	24	28	112	1947
Galloways	69	57	85	78	83	94	85	1961
Ponies	273	290	289	335	317	332	335	1962
Horses (Led)	—	—	—	47	47	53	47	1962
Saddle Horses, etc.	1,597	1,577	2,196	2,157	2,011	2,123	2,196	1961
Harness Horses, etc.	176	190	204	220	205	212	271	1947
*Riding Competitions	1,136	945	1,259	1,279	1,225	1,237	1,279	1962
*Novelty Horse Events	324	517	575	593	455	520	593	1962
*Jumping Competitions	861	694	980	696	1,233	1,229	1,233	1963
*Wood Chopping and Sawing	904	944	957	853	936	922	1,027	1955
Sheaf Tossing	21	17	46	53	59	42	59	1963
Tug-O'-War	—	—	—	16	21	16	21	1963
Beef Shorthorns	140	180	165	167	153	137	180	1960
Poll Shorthorns	6	31	38	46	48	73	46	1962
Herefords	83	117	91	102	108	101	117	1960
Poll Herefords	115	113	143	151	148	167	151	1962
Angus	186	208	259	278	237	231	278	1962
Devons	16	17	15	15	7	7	19	1955
Santa Gertrudis	6	10	—	2	4	2	10	1960
Galloways	—	—	—	—	5	10	5	1963
Murray Greys	—	—	—	—	14	28	14	1963
Herdmen's Competition	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	—
Red Polls	35	39	52	71	76	79	159	1934
Dairy Shorthorns	168	181	204	173	184	167	204	1961
Fat Cattle	84	41	87	64	86	118	113	1926
Aust. Illawarra Shorthorns	121	163	140	169	150	134	235	1948
Ayrshires	172	211	225	167	188	204	503	1922
Jerseys	556	595	702	699	751	795	751	1963
Guernseys	264	268	332	277	231	280	332	1961
Friesians	263	289	339	318	369	368	369	1963
Lincolns	6	—	5	6	4	6	219	1918
English Leicesters	44	46	46	40	36	31	114	1947
Border Leicesters	163	189	187	230	215	169	230	1962
Romney Marsh	91	92	81	107	91	82	159	1949
Cheviots	194	207	208	137	144	104	208	1961
Southdowns	160	178	183	162	156	117	196	1938
Shropshires	16	9	7	5	6	6	92	1934
Suffolks	39	22	20	17	21	25	60	1937
Dorset Horns	228	236	241	237	239	209	254	1958
Ryelands	143	120	98	149	108	119	160	1957
Hampshire Downs	6	—	—	—	—	6	8	1952
Dorset Downs	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	1950
Poll Dorsets	64	101	157	221	250	267	250	1963
Corriedales	69	42	52	42	42	38	124	1934
Fleeces	348	394	347	398	514	591	514	1963
*Sheep Dog Trials	115	104	87	84	83	87	117	1957
Sheep Shearing Competitions	37	25	28	70	78	78	92	1953
Goats	145	154	109	131	135	155	170	1958
Pigs	557	784	739	702	664	743	801	1954
Poultry	1,974	1,984	2,059	1,934	2,050	1,930	2,195	1955
Eggs (Commercial)	—	—	—	—	—	185	—	—
Pigeons	1,312	1,047	949	1,292	1,225	1,260	1,312	1959
Budgerigars, etc.	856	971	886	894	973	777	973	1963
Wines, etc.	707	696	685	764	867	808	867	1963
Dairy Produce	324	338	357	336	337	301	357	1961
Farm Produce	155	151	196	227	233	208	431	1930
*Fruit Packing Competitions	120	90	102	126	120	108	126	1962
Apiculture	56	148	96	135	76	114	148	1960
Home Crafts	3,409	3,248	3,846	3,723	3,578	3,370	3,846	1961
Dogs	3,615	3,060	3,633	3,933	4,011	4,133	4,011	1963
† Young Farmers' Competitions	63	64	103	124	149	192	349	1956
*Trotting Races	535	342	432	337	288	319	717	1957
*Rodeo Events	—	—	—	—	—	23	70	1956
Cats	—	427	375	473	671	583	671	1963
Total Competitive Entries	23,384	23,178	25,955	26,295	26,941	27,058	—	—

* Previously shown as Arena Contests.

† Competitive Classes in Young Farmers' Pavilion discontinued after 1957 Show.

