



The Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria

**REPORT OF
PROCEEDINGS**

For the Year 1955

Annual Report of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

To the Members —

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Council of your Society now reports on the Society's activities during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

ROYAL SHOW

The Society's 1955 Show, which was staged from 22nd September to 1st October, was officially opened on Friday, 23rd September by His Excellency, the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks who was accompanied by Lady Brooks.

The Council is most appreciative of the keen interest displayed by Sir Dallas and Lady Brooks in our Royal Show.

An excellent entry of 22,457 was received for the Show and the exhibits displayed were generally of a very high standard.

The early part of the Show was marred by adverse weather which greatly affected the attendances on these days but despite this 648,137 people visited the Show. This total is 29,324 less than the all-time record for 1954.

Over 7,000 children took advantage of the Council's offer of admitting at half the usual price, parties of school children accompanied by their teachers.

The Arena programme, although somewhat up-set on the first Friday by wet weather, was well organised throughout the Show. Special Arena attractions were not all of a standard required by the Society but every effort is being made to improve these attractions for 1956, which should encourage greater patronage from our City people.

Public reaction to the Navy Display featuring the Helicopter and the finish of the Warrnambool to Melbourne Bicycle Race indicates that both of these events are well worthy for consideration for the 1956 Show. The Grand Prix Jumping Contest and the special night for Night-Trotting also brought very favourable comments.

These are the type of events which should greatly help our Arena program.

The Wood-chopping events in a separate Arena again provided good competitive entertainment for a large number of spectators. The new "Baker" judging machine proved most successful and will benefit the Society in future years by allowing more axemen to compete in the various heats thus saving log supplies.

The new Dairying Industry Display was an outstanding attraction and was a step further in the desire of the Council to give practical demonstrations of the workings of major primary industries of Victoria.

The mechanical section of the display showed in full scale the operations connected with the production of pasteurized bottled milk. Approximately 65,000 bottles of milk were bottled in the display and all were disposed of in the Milk Bar. The Dairy Display Sandwich Bar was well patronized and over 150,000 sandwiches were sold. The special Dairy Sample Bag stand completely sold out the 60,000 bags prepared.

One third of the space was made available to the processing section of the industry and through their Dairy Industry Committee they staged a colourful display of all milk products made in Victoria.

Homogenised flavoured milk was introduced in Victoria at two special milk bars. 30,000 bottles were sold and it is anticipated that this new milk drink will develop extensively in this State in the near future.

The International Fleece Competition was again well supported and made an attractive display in the Centenary Hall.

A larger area was made available for an aquarium and the display staged by the Association proved a good public attraction.

The demand for stands at the Show was again far greater than the space available. The 1955 Standholders, by erecting new buildings and extending and generally improving existing stands, helped to add much colour to our Show.

(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 Thursday, the 16th February, 1956, at 12 noon.

BUSINESS

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

Dated the 1st day of February, 1956.

H. T. C. WOODFULL,
Secretary.

For list of nominations see back.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

ANGLISS, Sir William, Aberdeen House, 528 Collins Street, Melbourne.

BOTT, John, "Naranghi," Yarrowonga.

CRESWICK, A. R., 127 William Street, Melbourne.

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

DAHLENBURG, A. E., Brougham Street, Nhill.

GREAVES, S. A., "The Landing," Bass.

GREAVES, W. C., Caldermeade Estate, Caldermeade.

JOHNSON, C. C., "The Camp," Whorouly South.

MOORE, C. O., "Chechingurk," Mornington.

McGARVIE, K., "Greenwood," Pomborneit.

SMITH, D. Sutherland, 503 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

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

COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1938	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Clydesdales	181	178	105	147	176	157	142	122	135	101	110	85
†Suffolk Punches	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	†	†	†	†	—
†Percheron	3	5	—	1	2	—	—	†	†	†	†	—
Tram and Lorry	41	69	41	52	44	25	26	38	15	14	44	31
Arabs	8	9	8	8	14	18	20	17	10	16	34	16
Thoroughbreds	10	9	7	4	13	7	9	—	—	—	—	—
Trotters	38	53	65	112	93	99	104	84	91	97	68	35
†Cobs	15	17	13	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	—
Galloways	—	—	—	35	37	41	30	43	47	50	66	56
Ponies	55	63	99	148	184	263	170	173	200	223	202	220
Saddle Horses, etc.	483	583	786	956	809	896	681	1,082	1,146	1,363	1,416	1,368
Harness Horses, etc.	216	251	208	271	187	243	190	144	190	184	186	186
Shorthorns	76	91	76	104	104	104	111	117	134	134	157	113
Poll Shorthorns	—	—	9	2	5	9	9	9	11	16	21	41
Herefords	20	33	59	67	65	82	56	75	63	70	56	82
Poll Herefords	14	16	35	37	43	60	45	69	74	92	97	133
Aberdeen Angus	17	18	58	98	102	105	85	132	102	123	130	111
Devons	10	13	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	9	13	19
Red Polls	73	78	96	90	93	83	102	127	110	117	116	111
Dairy Shorthorns	62	99	84	127	190	158	139	132	162	161	156	166
Illawarra Shorthorns	13	70	141	182	235	224	207	187	177	201	220	170
Ayrshires	181	209	170	299	299	303	263	249	205	256	248	279
Jerseys	195	323	300	495	471	466	469	483	477	496	499	621
Guernseys	74	65	97	146	188	221	199	183	189	176	207	254
Friesians	72	82	39	82	193	208	156	209	172	246	245	212
Testing Competitions	16	18	11	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fat Cattle	28	32	16	31	38	52	54	53	56	61	53	68
Goats	—	—	13	11	38	60	46	90	84	98	135	167
Lincolns	85	78	76	49	25	28	4	16	11	10	14	10
Border Leicesters	111	186	140	160	141	126	97	105	124	171	158	147
English Leicesters	45	41	53	114	62	39	32	19	13	14	30	29
Romney Marsh	55	48	110	113	128	159	122	102	113	114	133	94
Cheviots	—	—	9	20	15	18	21	30	34	34	53	50
Dorset Horns	103	107	141	175	176	169	185	123	153	168	194	231
Shropshires	74	73	21	17	27	13	14	19	21	8	15	7
Southdowns	196	182	79	154	93	114	63	66	82	119	161	133
Suffolks	26	29	12	6	19	15	26	31	20	32	28	13
Ryelands	97	133	61	82	78	83	62	76	99	96	100	123
Dorset Downs	—	—	2	—	3	—	4	—	—	—	2	2
Hampshire Downs	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	8	2	—	—
Corriedales	67	89	66	89	76	64	106	54	77	70	93	66
†Polwarths	5	12	—	—	—	—	—	†	†	†	†	—
†Merinos	—	—	—	—	37	24	†	†	†	†	†	—
Fat Sheep	32	40	25	43	64	62	36	15	35	22	15	14
Fleeces and Skins	59	73	34	66	65	85	62	69	48	210	341	382
Pigs	475	519	395	589	570	468	501	560	600	700	801	659
Poultry	1,217	1,301	1,588	1,981	2,105	2,016	2,010	1,900	2,170	2,034	2,167	2,195
Pigeons	892	1,024	1,078	995	1,046	1,138	1,156	1,049	1,205	1,170	890	843
Budgerigars, etc.	466	495	327	528	514	436	553	589	446	423	241	344
Dogs	1,441	1,620	1,419	2,306	3,283	3,097	3,248	2,853	3,051	3,178	3,112	3,265
Farm Produce	395	402	151	262	320	362	279	188	193	169	173	173
*Schools' Competitions	840	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—	*—
Dairy Produce	181	241	172	183	212	210	213	142	165	178	170	266
Wines, etc.	317	263	192	377	370	407	467	429	441	472	497	486
Fruits, etc.	566	365	182	277	377	460	207	244	234	170	225	168
Apiculture	—	—	29	59	52	103	105	102	41	76	57	75
Wool Exhibition Comptns.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	378	382
Arena Contests	2,379	2,800	3,246	3,657	3,827	3,790	3,603	4,036	3,984	5,758	5,470	4,879
Judging Competitions, etc.	339	337	510	481	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—
Sheep Shearing Competitions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92	67	66
Horticulture Exhibits	5	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	58	90	—
Home Crafts and Speed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knitting	1,482	1,676	1,095	1,760	1,954	1,770	2,114	2,491	2,414	2,558	2,377	2,618
Young Farmers' Competitions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	278
Total Competitive Entries	13,854	14,518	13,752	18,070	19,262	19,141	18,605	19,130	19,642	22,329	22,531	22,457

†Section deleted.

*Section deleted in favour of a non-competitive display in Young Farmers' Pavilion.

MEMBERSHIP

The Medallions made available for full Membership of the Society this year brought favourable comments from many members.

DIVISION OF CATTLE BREEDS

Owing to the compulsory demolition of part of No. 2 Cattle Pavilion to make way for the New Grandstand it was decided to divide two Dairy Cattle Breeds i.e. Australian Illawarra Short-horns and Guernseys at the 1955 Show. This move appeared to be satisfactory and further consideration will be given to this matter.

DEVELOPMENT OF GROUNDS

The additional land with buildings at the western end of the Show Grounds purchased during the year and the demolition of the old houses in Leonards Crescent will give the Society the opportunity of further developing the Grounds.

OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP

It is desired to place on record the Society's keen appreciation for the generous gift made by the Trustees of the H. V. McKay Trust in making available sufficient funds to enable a Victorian farmer to travel overseas.

With the co-operation of the Nuffield Foundation Organisation, the Society has arranged for a Victorian farmer to travel abroad early in 1956.

The successful applicant for this first Scholarship was Mr. R. M. Butler of Newstead.

The Society feels that Mr. Butler will prove a worthy representative and that he will, on his return, be able to impart his knowledge to other farmers in our State.

COUNCIL

At the annual election of office-bearers, Mr. T. N. Mitchell was re-elected President of the Society and His Honour Judge Mitchell, Messrs. J. Bott and L. M. Dugdale were re-elected Vice-Presidents.

It is with deep regret that the deaths of Capt. A. E. T. Payne and Mr. J. A. Beattie are recorded.

Capt. Payne was elected to the Council of the Society in 1908 and was a Trustee of the Society from 1921 to 1949. He also occupied the position of Vice President on several occasions. His great assistance and enthusiasm in connection with the Society's activities will always be remembered and valued.

The late Mr. Beattie was elected to the Council in 1911 and his efforts over these years are greatly appreciated.

Leave of absence, during various stages of the year, was granted Messrs. A. R. Creswick, K. G. Luke and T. Luxton, Jnr. who travelled Overseas during the year.

NEW GRANDSTAND

Satisfactory progress is now being made in connection with the erection of the New Grandstand and it is anticipated that the first section of the Stand will be available for use early in the new year. When completed the stand will provide members of the Society with much greater facilities during the Show period.

FINANCE

The financial statements and Balance Sheet for the year ended the 31st December 1955 are attached to this report. The revenue has been considerably increased due to some extent to the increased use of the grounds between Shows for Night Trotting, storage and soccer. The expenditure of the Society has however, shown an increase due mainly to increased costs of labour and materials and improvements made to the grounds.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Council's appreciation is recorded for the presence of the Premier, The Hon. Mr. H. E. Bolte and members of the State Cabinet and many other members of the State Parliament, also the numerous members of the Federal Government, who visited our Show.

Special thanks are due to the Lord Mayor (Sir Frank Selleck) and the Mayor of Essendon (Cr. E. B. Basford) for their interest in our Royal Show and also to the Minister for Education (The Hon. Col. W. W. Leggatt) and the Director of Education (Major General A. H. Ramsay) who again permitted parties of school children to visit the Show on various days.

The Overseas Judges were Captain and Mrs. Will Judy of U.S.A. who judged a number of the dog classes, Mr. L. Sherriff of New Zealand who judged Aberdeen Angus and Mr. D. Holden also of New Zealand who judged in the Horse Section and together with the many other judges, Stewards and Stewardesses, carried out their duties most efficiently.

It is desired to record thanks to Mr. A. H. Mullett who recently retired as Director of Agriculture for the co-operation which he rendered to the Society during his term in Office.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. P. Ryan who has been appointed as Mr. Mullett's successor.

Thanks are extended to the various Breed Societies, Public bodies, the Press and Broadcasting Stations for their great part in making our Show such a success.

The Council also desires to record its appreciation of the splendid work done by the members of the staff during the year.

On behalf of the Council,

T. N. MITCHELL, President.

H. T. C. WOODFULL, Secretary.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	
ANNUAL EXHIBITION		
To Prize Money, Cups and Trophies	By Life Members' Subscriptions	
„ Wages	„ Ordinary Members' Subscriptions	
„ Attractions	„ Associate Members' Subscriptions	
„ Catering	„ Ladies' Tickets	
„ Travelling Expenses—Judges	————— £14,517	
„ Wood Chopping Expenses	ANNUAL EXHIBITION	
„ Printing	„ Admission Tickets sold:—	
„ Cartage	At Railways	
„ Cleaning	At Gates	
„ Public Address Equipment Expenses	At Grandstands	
„ Police and Fire Services	At Motor Parks and Cloakrooms	
„ Payroll Tax	At Wood Chopping Arena	
„ Kennel Control Council Surcharge Refund	At Sales Ring	
„ Advertising and Publicity	„ Rain Insurance	
„ Electricity and Gas	„ Premiums on Refreshments and Catering	
„ Medical and Veterinary Officers' Fees	„ Entry Fees	
„ Loss on Stock and Produce Sales	„ Ground Rents	
„ Straw for Sheep	„ Commission on Stock Sales	
„ Other Show Expenses	„ Lunch and Afternoon Tea Tickets	
————— £90,876	„ Catalogue and Programme Sales	
ADMINISTRATION AND SHOWGROUND EXPENSES		
„ Wages, Salaries, Superannuation, etc.	„ Weight Judging Competition	
„ Advertising	„ Sundries	
„ Audit and Legal Fees	„ Clydesdale Produce Sweepstakes	
„ Commission on Advertising	„ Ayrshire Derby Sweepstakes	
„ Insurance Premium	————— £163,740	
„ Official Journal	GENERAL INCOME	
„ Fodder Conservation Competition	„ Rent of Showgrounds and Buildings	
„ Hire of Tubular Steel Stands	„ Donations	
„ Electricity—Office	„ Advertising	
„ Office Rent and Cleaning	„ Interest—Trotting Control Board	
„ Postages	„ Commission	
„ Printing and Stationery		
„ Catering		
„ Repairs and Maintenance		

„ Motor Vehicle Expense	1,299
„ Rates and Taxes	2,818
„ Payroll Tax	1,720
„ Travelling Expenses	309
„ Office Supplies	342
„ Cost of Secretarial Services to Herd Societies	8,826
„ Telephone	1,192
„ Services for Tenants, etc.	824
„ Wheat Crop and Farm Tree Championships	252
„ Interest and Bank Charges	4,278
„ Sundry Expenses (including Members' Medallions)	2,566
„ Depreciation of Plant, Furniture and Buildings	18,431
„ Provision for Deferred Maintenance	10,000
„ Surplus Transferred to Accumulated Fund	18,269
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	£231,039
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„ Motor Parks	393
„ Sundries	201
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	£231,039
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THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Bank Overdraft, Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd. £249,199	Secretary's Advance Account £200
Government Loan No. 1 11,939	Cash on Hand 4
Government Loan No. 3 3,883	Showgrounds Stock on Hand 5,753
T. H. Payne Memorial Trust 250	Sundry Debtors 10,890
W. J. Dawkins Trophy Trust 100	Prepayments 1,814
Short Call Deposits 60,968	T. H. Payne Memorial Treasury Bond 250
Sundry Creditors and Accruals 9,090	A. F. McNaughton Ayrshire Trophy Bond 120
Provision for Deferred Maintenance 30,000	W. J. Dawkins Inscribed Stock 100
Accumulated Funds and Reserves:—	Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd.—
Revenue Account Balance 1/1/1955 .. £294,495	Short Call Account 60,968
Surplus for year 18,269	Land 50,921
312,764	Buildings and Improvements 477,385
£678,193	Showgrounds Plant and Furniture 31,867
	Office Furniture 3,588
	Trotting Control Board £38,333
	Less Repayment during year 4,000
	34,333
	£678,193

AUDITORS' REPORT

We beg to report to the members that we have examined the books and accounts of the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA for the year ended 31st December, 1955. 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 correct view of the state of the Society's affairs and that the accompanying statement of Income and Expenditure is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct 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 26th day of January, 1956.

A. J. COURT, F.C.A. (Aust.),
D. R. S. McGREGOR, F.C.A. (Aust.),
Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

H. T. C. WOODFULL,
Secretary.