



# The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

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# REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

For the Year 1956

# Annual Report of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

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To the Members—

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Council of the Society I now report on the Society's activities during the year ended 31st December, 1956.

## ROYAL SHOW

Many parts of the State suffered considerably from serious flooding during the year and it was thought that this would seriously affect the entries for our Show. In the circumstances, I consider that the entry of 21,560 was very satisfactory and a tribute to the great value which the exhibitors place on awards gained at our Royal Show.

The 1956 Show was staged from the 20th September to the 29th September and His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks, graciously agreed to officially open the Show. His Excellency was accompanied by Lady Brooks and they displayed great interest in viewing many of the sections of the Show.

Unfortunately, adverse weather conditions were encountered on several days of the Show and this to a large extent caused a decline in attendances which this year totalled 588,325.

The adverse weather conditions which affect our Show so often have given the Council cause to consider very carefully the practicability of altering the time of the Show. You can therefore rest assured that this matter is receiving very careful consideration.

The Council is particularly pleased and gratified to note the spontaneous support given to the Show by all sections of industry. It gives the Council great encouragement to feel that the Society has the goodwill of the various sections of both the primary and secondary industries of the State.

The Society has, over a period of years, adopted a progressive policy in staging a Show which is worthy of the great agricultural industry. I am sure that those who are fortunate enough to gain awards thereat value these very highly because it means they have achieved great heights in producing stock or produce of high quality.

The Dairy Industry Display which was instituted last year was again a most attractive exhibit. I am pleased to say that we were able this year to present a new feature demonstrating the bulk method of picking up milk and also a modern farm refrigeration unit. From our display this year, approximately 121,000 bottles of milk were bottled and disposed of to the public.

Although the excessive wet weather affected the fleece competition a very good competition was staged in a most attractive manner.

A revision was made of the Fat Lamb Competition and the entries received have given the Council encouragement and it is felt that this competition can be further developed in future years.

Apple packing competitions for juniors were held during the currency of the Show and these proved a most successful and interesting innovation.

With a view to overcoming the shortage of accommodation for dairy cattle, the yearling heifer classes were deleted from the Schedule of classes. Although it is realised that this was not popular with some sections, the position is being carefully watched by your Council.

For many years the sheep exhibitors were dissatisfied with one of the pavilions used for the accommodation of sheep. It was therefore decided by your Council to transfer the sheep into the pavilion previously used for poultry and accommodate the poultry in the pavilion previously used by the sheep. The changeover seems to provide very much better accommodation for the sheep whilst the poultry appear to be satisfactorily housed in the sheep pavilion.

A portion of the eastern section of the Sheep Shed was made available to the Nurserymen and Seedsmen's Association who staged an attractive Horticultural display.

Much interest was taken in the Butcher's shop in the Centenary Hall where demonstrations were carried out by competent tradesmen.

(Circular)



## The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

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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 Tuesday, the 12th March, 1957, 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 26th day of February, 1957.

H. T. C. WOODFULL,  
Secretary.

For list of nominations see back.

## LIST OF NOMINATIONS

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### MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

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BLACKBURN, Russell H., Mooroolbark.

BOOTHBY, W. B., "Old Boorhaman," Peechelba  
East.

BUCHANAN, J. M., Bass Street, Flinders.

COLES, E. B., 236 Bourke Street, Melbourne.

FISKEN, A. C., "Lal Lal Estate," Yendon.

HOWELL, G., Wollert, via Epping.

KNOX, D. W., "Westerfield," Frankston.

LYALL, H. L., 362 Glenferrie Road, Malvern.

RONALD, P. B., "Koo-man-goo-nong," Pakenham  
East.

SCOTT, F. E. S., "Yuulong," Scotsburn.

WILSON, G. P. H., "Wilson House," Berwick.

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

## COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1939	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Cottontails .. .. .	178	105	147	176	157	142	122	135	101	110	85	122
Truck and Lorry .. .. .	69	41	52	44	25	26	38	15	14	44	31	16
Trucks .. .. .	9	8	8	14	18	20	17	10	16	34	16	24
Tractors .. .. .	53	65	112	93	99	104	84	91	97	68	35	52
Tramways .. .. .	—	—	35	37	41	30	43	47	50	66	56	66
Ponies .. .. .	63	99	148	184	263	170	173	200	223	202	220	201
Saddle Horses, etc. .. .. .	583	786	956	809	896	681	1,082	1,146	1,363	1,416	1,368	1,469
Harness Horses, etc. .. .. .	251	208	271	187	243	190	144	190	184	186	186	156
*Riding Competitions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,046
*Novelty Horse Events .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	355
*Jumping Competitions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,226
Shorthorns .. .. .	91	76	104	104	104	111	117	134	134	157	113	140
Poll Shorthorns .. .. .	—	9	2	5	9	9	9	11	16	21	41	25
Herefords .. .. .	33	59	67	65	82	56	75	63	70	56	82	98
Poll Herefords .. .. .	16	35	37	43	60	45	69	74	92	97	133	117
Aberdeen Angus .. .. .	18	58	98	102	105	85	132	102	123	130	111	199
Devons .. .. .	13	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	9	13	19	16
Red Polls .. .. .	78	96	90	93	83	102	127	110	117	116	111	63
Grey Shorthorns .. .. .	99	84	127	190	158	139	132	162	161	156	166	164
at Cattle .. .. .	32	16	31	38	52	54	53	56	61	53	68	40
Murray Shorthorns .. .. .	70	141	182	235	224	207	187	177	201	220	170	200
Ayrshires .. .. .	209	170	299	299	303	263	249	205	256	248	279	221
Jerseys .. .. .	323	300	495	471	466	469	483	477	496	499	621	549
Guernseys .. .. .	65	97	146	188	221	199	183	189	176	207	254	163
Friesians .. .. .	82	39	82	193	208	156	209	172	246	245	212	246
Goats .. .. .	—	13	11	38	60	46	90	84	98	135	167	147
Lincolns .. .. .	78	76	49	25	28	4	16	11	10	14	10	8
Border Leicesters .. .. .	186	140	160	141	126	97	105	124	171	158	147	144
English Leicesters .. .. .	41	53	114	62	39	32	19	13	14	30	29	28
Romney Marsh .. .. .	48	110	113	128	159	122	102	113	114	133	94	93
Cotswolds .. .. .	—	9	20	15	18	21	30	34	34	53	50	81
Dorset Horns .. .. .	107	141	175	176	169	185	123	153	168	194	231	225
Shropshires .. .. .	73	21	17	27	13	14	19	21	8	15	7	7
Southdowns .. .. .	182	79	154	93	114	63	66	82	119	161	133	145
Suffolks .. .. .	29	12	6	19	15	26	31	20	32	28	13	24
Ryelands .. .. .	133	61	82	78	83	62	76	99	96	100	123	143
Dorset Downs .. .. .	—	2	—	3	—	4	—	—	—	2	2	—
Hampshire Downs .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	8	2	—	—	—
Corriedales .. .. .	89	66	89	76	64	106	54	77	70	93	66	69
Fat Sheep .. .. .	40	25	43	64	62	36	15	35	22	15	14	53
Pieces .. .. .	73	34	66	65	85	62	69	48	210	341	382	350
Sheep Shearing Competitions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92	67	66	40
Pigs .. .. .	519	395	589	570	468	501	560	600	700	801	659	561
Poultry .. .. .	1,301	1,588	1,981	2,105	2,016	2,010	1,900	2,170	2,034	2,167	2,195	2,058
Pigeons .. .. .	1,024	1,078	995	1,046	1,138	1,156	1,049	1,205	1,170	890	843	626
Budgerigars, etc. .. .. .	495	327	528	514	436	553	589	446	423	241	344	443
Wines, etc. .. .. .	263	192	377	370	407	467	429	441	472	497	486	637
Farm Produce .. .. .	402	151	262	320	362	279	188	193	169	173	173	213
Dairy Produce .. .. .	241	172	183	212	210	213	142	165	178	170	266	308
Apiculture .. .. .	—	29	59	52	103	105	102	41	76	57	75	69
Arena Contests .. .. .	2,800	3,246	3,657	3,827	3,790	3,603	4,036	3,984	5,758	5,470	4,879	—
Home Crafts .. .. .	1,676	1,095	1,760	1,954	1,770	2,114	2,491	2,414	2,558	2,377	2,618	2,509
Dogs .. .. .	1,620	1,419	2,306	3,283	3,097	3,248	2,853	3,051	3,178	3,112	3,265	3,545
*Sheep Dog Trials .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78
*Wood Chopping and Sawing .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	444	890	866	1,027	1,002
*Trotting Races .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	542
*Kodeo Events .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70
*Fruit Packing Competitions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
*Young Farmers' Competitions .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	278	349
<b>Total Competitive Entries ..</b>	<b>14,518</b>	<b>13,752</b>	<b>18,070</b>	<b>19,262</b>	<b>19,141</b>	<b>18,605</b>	<b>19,130</b>	<b>19,642</b>	<b>22,329</b>	<b>22,531</b>	<b>22,457</b>	<b>21,560</b>

\* Previously shown as Arena Contests.

## Educational Scholarships and Competitions.

The Society during the year, made available the sum of £1,000 to enable a Victorian farmer to visit England to study farming conditions and disseminate the knowledge gained on his return. Arrangements were made for a complete and adequate study of modern developments in England by courtesy of the Nuffield Foundation.

The winner of this year's award was Mr. K. A. Teese, a young dairy farmer from Warragul and he will leave in February to commence his term of education.

It is desired to place on record, the Society's keen appreciation of the generous donation of £500 by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to provide the expenses for a Victorian farmer to visit New Zealand to study fat lamb raising. The farmer selected was Mr. G. J. R. Coles of Mornington and the knowledge gained by him will, I am sure, prove a great benefit to the industry.

The annual Fodder Conservation and Wheat Crop Championships were again held and these continue to be of great interest in the various districts of the State.

## Official Journal.

The distribution of the Official Journal to members was discontinued in March last during which month the Society was advised by the publishers that the publication of the journal would cease as from the March issue.

## Development of the Showgrounds.

The area of the grounds was again further extended during the year and a considerable expenditure was incurred in new capital improvements. The new Members' Grandstand was not fully completed in time for the Show but this structure will, no doubt, when finished, add considerably to the comfort of both members and the public.

I am pleased to report that a modern Day Nursery was established during the year. This building operation was carried out by our own staff and small children and babies are now able to be accommodated under the most up to date and ideal conditions. During the year, the children in the areas surrounding the Showground are allowed to use this building as a Day Nursery. Considerable co-operation in this venture has been received during the year from the Victorian Association of Day Nurseries.

## Finance.

The Showgrounds, has, fortunately, between Show periods, been in fairly constant demand and it is pleasing to report that income from lettings during the year has risen to the peak figure of £18,807. Membership fees amounting to £17,341 also showed a considerable increase. Notwithstanding these increases, our revenue of £222,919 was not as high as last year, mainly due to the drop in attendances to which I referred earlier. I am pleased to say however, that our running expenses showed only a relatively small rise notwithstanding the increased cost of labour and materials. In order to cope with these rising costs, your Council is very careful to reduce expenditure to a minimum without prejudicing the necessity to maintain the grounds in good order and develop the Show along modern lines.

## Council.

It is with regret that I have to refer to the retirement from the Council of Mr. T. Luxton during the year. Mr. Luxton found that, due to pressure of business, he was unable to devote sufficient time to the Society's affairs and consequently felt he should retire. His position on the Council was filled by Mr. E. B. Coles.

Leave of absence during the year was granted to Messrs. W. J. T. Clarke and A. R. Creswick who travelled overseas. Mr. Creswick was manager of the Australian Equestrian Team who competed at Stockholm in the Olympic Games.

## Acknowledgments.

I would like to record the appreciation of this Society for the assistance given during the year by the Premier, the Hon. H. E. Bolte and all the members of the State Cabinet and also several members of Parliament.

Considerable assistance was given during the year by the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Mr. G. L. Chandler, the Director of Agriculture, Mr. P. Ryan, and also many members of the staff of the Department of Agriculture. The ready co-operation of the Department's staff is of great value to the Society both during the year and also particularly at Show time.

The Chairman of the Milk Board (Mr. Rankin) and the members of the Board gave most valuable help and assistance during the year in connection with the Dairying Industry Display and the thanks of this Society go to that body for their generosity. The Wool Bureau and Meat Board also rendered valuable assistance.

We are fortunate to have the support of the Lord Mayor, Sir Frank Selleck, and also the Mayor of Essendon (Cr. R. C. Reid) and his Councillors.

The Director of Education (Major Gen. A. H. Ramsay), the Chief Commissioner of Police, (Major General S. H. Porter) and members of their staff were also most helpful. Various Government Departments and Public Bodies have always readily assisted the Society and this year the officers of the Department of Health were most co-operative. The Navy and Army were both very helpful in providing arena attractions.

Special thanks are due to our judges, stewards and stewardesses who officiated in their various sections so efficiently. Many of these particularly the overseas and interstate judges give up valuable time to carry out their judging engagements and I feel that I should thank them on behalf of the members.

I would also like to thank the Press and Broadcasting Stations for the very important assistance which they rendered and the Breed Societies were also very helpful during the year.

I wish also to record an appreciation of the efficient work done by the members of the staff whose duties are so wide and varied and at times arduous.

On behalf of the Council,

T. N. MITCHELL, President.

# THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	
<b>ANNUAL EXHIBITION</b>		
To Prize Money, Cups and Trophies . . . . .	By Life Members' Subscriptions . . . . .	
.. Wages . . . . .	.. Ordinary Members' Subscriptions . . . . .	
.. Attractions . . . . .	.. Associate Members' Subscriptions . . . . .	
.. Catering . . . . .	.. Ladies' Tickets . . . . .	
.. Travelling Expenses—Judges . . . . .	<u>£17,328</u>	
.. Wood Chopping Expenses . . . . .	<b>ANNUAL EXHIBITION</b>	
.. 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 . . . . .	.. 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 . . . . .	
<u>£99,886</u>	.. Catalogue and Programme Sales . . . . .	
<b>ADMINISTRATION AND SHOWGROUNDS EXPENSES</b>		
.. Wages, Salaries, Superannuation, etc. . . . .	.. Weight Judging Competition . . . . .	
.. Long Service Leave . . . . .	.. Sundries . . . . .	
.. Advertising . . . . .	.. Clydesdale Produce Sweepstakes . . . . .	
.. Audit and Legal Fees . . . . .	.. Ayrshire Derby Sweepstakes . . . . .	
.. Commission on Advertising . . . . .	<u>149,071</u>	
.. Insurance Premiums . . . . .	<b>GENERAL INCOME</b>	
.. Donations . . . . .	.. Rent of Showgrounds and Buildings . . . . .	
.. Official Journal . . . . .	.. Donations . . . . .	
.. Fodder Conservation Competition . . . . .	.. Advertising . . . . .	
.. Hire of Tubular Steel Stands . . . . .	.. Interest—Trotting Control Board . . . . .	
.. Electricity—Office . . . . .	.. Commission . . . . .	
.. Office Rent and Cleaning . . . . .		
.. Postages . . . . .		
.. Printing and Stationery . . . . .		
.. Catering . . . . .		
.. Repairs and Maintenance . . . . .		

„ Motor Vehicle Expenses . . . . .	791	
„ Rates and Taxes . . . . .	3,560	
„ Payroll Tax . . . . .	2,161	
„ Travelling Expenses . . . . .	193	
„ Office Supplies . . . . .	92	
„ Cost of Secretarial Services to Herd Societies	5,969	
„ Telephone . . . . .	1,299	
„ Services for Tenants, etc. . . . .	535	
„ Wheat Crop and Farm Tree Championships ..	253	
„ Interest and Bank Charges . . . . .	6,682	
„ Scholarship . . . . .	500	
„ Sundry Expenses (including Members' Medalions)	2,747	
„ Depreciation of Plant, Furniture and Buildings	19,245	
		<u>111,163</u>
		<u>£211,049</u>
„ Surplus Transferred to Accumulated Fund . . . . .		12,140
		<u>£223,189</u>

„ Motor Parks . . . . .	397	
„ Sundries . . . . .	531	
		<u>56,790</u>
		<u>£223,189</u>

# THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Bank Overdraft, Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd. . . . .	Secretary's Advance Account . . . . .
£457,475	£200
T. H. Payne Memorial Trust . . . . .	Cash on Hand . . . . .
250	7
W. J. Dawkins Trophy Trust . . . . .	Showgrounds Stock on Hand at cost . . . . .
100	4,053
Capt. A. E. T. Payne Trust . . . . .	Sundry Debtors . . . . .
£10,000	16,536
Interest received . . . . .	Prepayments . . . . .
145	3,365
10,145	T. H. Payne Memorial Bonds . . . . .
Short Call Deposits . . . . .	250
73,111	Capt. A. E. T. Payne Trust, Inscribed Stock, etc. . . . .
Sundry Creditors and Accruals . . . . .	9,935
22,886	A. F. McNaughton Ayrshire Trophy Bond . . . . .
Deferred Liability—Dairy Machinery . . . . .	120
5,528	W. J. Dawkins Inscribed Stock . . . . .
Provision for Deferred Maintenance . . . . .	100
45,822	Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd.—Short Call Account . . . . .
Assets Revaluation Reserve . . . . .	73,111
1,042,003	Land, at Cost . . . . .
Accumulated Fund—	56,921
Balance, 1/1/56 . . . . .	Buildings and Improvements, at Valuation . . . . .
£312,765	1,740,863
Surplus for year . . . . .	Showgrounds Plant and Furniture, at Cost, less Depreciation . . . . .
12,140	42,597
Profit on Sale of Assets . . . . .	Office Furniture at cost less depreciation . . . . .
191	4,025
325,096	Trotting Control Board . . . . .
£1,982,416	£34,333
	Less Repayments during year . . . . .
	4,000
	30,333
	£1,982,416

### 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, 1956. 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 eleventh day of February, 1957.

A. J. COURT, F.C.A. (Aust.),  
 L. R. GILLAM, A.C.A. (Aust.),  
 Chartered Accountants (Aust.).

H. T. C. WOODFULL,  
 Secretary.