



The
Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria

ANNUAL REPORT

1969

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS, 1969

Patron-in-Chief:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON. SIR PAUL HASLUCK, G.C.M.G.

Patron:

**HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ROHAN DELACOMBE,
K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.**

President:

G. P. H. WILSON, Esq., C.M.G.

Vice-Presidents:

**P. B. RONALD, Esq.
J. M. GARDINER, Esq.
G. R. STARRITT, Esq.**

Trustees:

**A. C. FISKEN, Esq., C.M.G., O.B.E., M.C.
HON. SIR WILLIAM McDONALD, M.P.
His Honour JUDGE MITCHELL, C.M.G.
G. P. H. WILSON, Esq., C.M.G.**

Life Councillors:

**J. BOTT, Esq.
W. J. T. CLARKE, Esq.
A. R. CRESWICK, Esq.
A. E. DAHLENBURG, Esq.
W. C. GREAVES, Esq., O.B.E.
H. L. LYALL, Esq.
T. N. MITCHELL, Esq., C.B.E.
P. B. RONALD, Esq.
D. S. SMITH, Esq.**

Members of Council:

W. A. ANGLISS, Esq.	C. C. JOHNSON, Esq., M.B.E.
W. B. BOOTHBY, Esq.	J. W. KELLY, Esq.
J. M. BUCHANAN, Esq.	DAVID W. R. KNOX, Esq.
Sir RUPERT W. J. CLARKE, Bart., M.B.E., M.A.	SIR KENNETH LUKE, C.M.G.
SIR EDGAR COLES, A.A.S.A.	D. S. MacGREGOR, Esq.
L. S. K. CUNNINGHAM, Esq., A.A.S.A.	Colonel M. H. McARTHUR, O.B.E.
L. J. DOOLING, Esq., LL.B., B.Com., F.A.S.A.	C. O. MOORE, Esq.
K. A. DRUMMOND, Esq.	LINDSAY G. C. NICHOLAS, Esq.
Prof. H. C. FORSTER	K. P. PALMER, Esq.
R. B. GERRAND, Esq.	R. F. SANDERSON, Esq., C.B.E.
W. McL. GREAVES, Esq.	F. E. S. SCOTT, Esq., M.B.E.
J. G. W. HEAD, Esq.	J. H. SLEIGH, Esq.
G. HOWELL, Esq.	P. J. R. STEELE, Esq.
ROBERT HUNTER, Esq.	S. A. TURNER, Esq.
	J. W. D. WARD, Esq.
	The Hon. VERNON F. WILCOX, M.P.
	H. F. YUNCKEN, Esq.

Director: H. T. C. WOODFULL, O.B.E.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

ANGLISS, W.A., "Marnong", Mickleham, 3047,

CLARKE, SIR RUPERT, A.M.P. Tower, 535
Bourke Street, Melbourne, 3000.

DRUMMOND, K. A., "Talgarno Park",
Private Bag, Wodonga, 3690.

GARDINER, J. M., "Karalee", Tungamah, 3728.

GERRAND, R. B., Box 31, P.O., Sale, 3850.

LUKE, SIR KENNETH, 505 St. Kilda Road,
Melbourne, 3004.

MACGREGOR, D. S., "Dalmore", Baringhup,
3463.

SANDERSON, R. F., C/- Wm. Haughton &
Co. Ltd., 545 Little Collins, Melbourne, 3000.

STARRITT, G. R., "Kelso Park", North West
Mooroopna, 3629.

TURNER S. A., "Woodlands", Huon, 3695.

YUNCKEN, H. F., "Birkenmoor", Lower
Plenty, 3093.

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

(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 Tuesday, the 3rd March, 1970, 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 10th day of February, 1970.

H. T. C. WOODFULL, O.B.E.

Director.

For list of nominations see back.

Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

President's Report to Members

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure on behalf of the Council to present to you the report of the Society's activities for the twelve months ending December 31, 1969.

Over the past year substantial progress has been made by the Society in Showgrounds improvements, additional work for breed societies and farm competitions administration.

The main improvements carried out by the Society over the period included the new Wilson Stand, replacing the old tubular stand between the Arts and Crafts Pavilion and the A. G. Hunter Stand. This new 11 plat concrete structure was not fully completed for the 1969 Royal Show but the main seating area was made accessible to the public over the Show period. However it is now completed and with modern cafe and bar facilities incorporated on the ground level, will prove a big asset to the Society at future Shows.

General improvements were effected in most pavilions, arena equipment renewed, and additional 3-decker seating provided. The road sealing programme has continued, and roadways and walkways, are in the main, better than ever before.

In all, approximately \$300,000 has been expended during the year in new works, improvements and alterations.

THE 1969 ROYAL SHOW

In my opinion the 1969 Royal Melbourne Show was one of the very best the Society has staged, and in spite of the adverse weather on four of the 10 days, we were still able to create a new attendance record of 780,139 which exceeds the 1968 record by 13,125.

This is the third successive year in which attendance records have been broken and the second successive year to pass the 750,000 mark, and this is again evidence that the Royal Show has an established place in the lives of the members of the Victorian community.

The Official Opening was performed by His Excellency, The Governor of Victoria, Major General Sir Rohan Delacombe, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., K.St.J., accompanied by Lady Delacombe, and we were also honoured to have with us Sir William McDonald, representing the Premier, and Lady McDonald; The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor E. W. Best and the Lady Mayoress; Major General C. E. Long, C.B.E., General Officer Commanding Southern Command, and Mrs. Long, and the Chief Commissioner of Police, Mr. Noel Wilby.

The arena programme throughout the Show was one of the best balanced, and most entertaining ever presented. Highlights included The Mexican Birdmen (Flying Aztecs); Kiteman, Bill Moyes; The Australian Gold Cup Tent Pegging series; Grand Prix Dressage; Victoria Police demonstrations, mounted and mobile; excellent horse events and many other novel attractions.

As in the past we received generous co-operation from Government, Semi-Government, commercial agricultural and industrial sources.

Displays and exhibits by the Victorian Railways, the Department of Labour and Industry, the Bureau of Meteorology, the State Electricity Commission, The Forest Commission and the Department of External Territories all carried an educational theme and proved popular.

Primary industry displays by the Australian Wool Board, the Australian Meat Board, and the Victorian Egg Board again drew a high degree of interest from the public.

The display by the Department of Agriculture in the Government Pavilion again had much to commend it, whilst wide public interest was renewed in the Dairy Industry Pavilion with the introduction of carton containers for milk, and the cheese distributors' stands.

Horticultural displays in Centenary Hall, both competitive and trade, again had their enthusiasts, as did the shearing competitions. This year the Society conducted the Australian Shearing Championship and supported this with the Australian Strong Wool contest and Young Farmers competitions.

The high standard was maintained in the fleece competitions and entries were extremely good in all sections.

The commercial farmers demonstrations were again most successful and full-day programmes were provided on five days of the Show.

These in association with the beef cattle judging demonstration and competition are becoming firmly established at the Royal Show.

ENTRIES

The entries for the 1969 Royal Show increased considerably on those for 1968.

All breeds of dairy cattle showed an increase, except Jerseys, which equalled last year's figure.

The overall numbers in dual purpose cattle increased, with the entry for Dairy Shorthorns equal to the best ever figure of 204.

With the exception of the Galloway breed, which recorded entries equal to those of last year, all other breeds of beef cattle had higher entries than 1968. Herefords, Brahmans and Murray Greys all produced best ever entry figures. In this regard I think I should say that all agreed that never before had there been such great interest in the Beef Cattle Judging.

The Fat Cattle Classes caused more than usual interest and it is obvious that this Section of our Show is about to take big strides ahead. With this in view we intend making new arrangements for the exhibition and judging of this section of the 1970 Show.

In the sheep section there was a total increase of 36 with eight of the 13 breeds showing increases.

Entries in the goat section were the best ever, and there were increased entries in pigs, poultry, cats, pigeons, arts and crafts, apiculture, spirits, liqueurs and aerated waters.

The new section for photography had 983 entries and the dog section with 4,809 entries created still another all time record.

The horse section entry again attained such proportions to require compulsory reductions for accommodation purposes.

The only decreases were in wines, ciders, dairy and farm produce and woodchop contests.

CATTLE JUDGING ARRANGEMENTS

For the past two years there has been a deviation from the traditional first Thursday judging of some breeds of dairy and dual purpose cattle. However, for the 1969 Royal Show the Council, after close liaison with breed societies, decided to revert to the first Thursday as the Judging Day for all breeds of cattle.

JUDGES AND STEWARDS

The invaluable part played by our judges, honorary stewards, stewardesses and other officials is well known by all, and on your behalf I extend to them our sincere thanks and appreciation.

Five international judges accepted invitations to judge at the 1969 Royal Show. Mr. Arthur Zane, of Hawaii made a welcome return to judge the big dog entry with Miss M. E. Siebern of New York; Mrs. P. J. Hoskins, of Hereford, England, judged the Ryeland sheep in this their Golden Jubilee Year; Mr. A. McGaffin, of Palmerston North, New Zealand, judged the Angus on their 50th Anniversary, and Major F. M. Symonds, M.C., of Hereford, England, judged the Hereford breed. Besides the overseas judges, the Society was again most fortunate in gaining the services of many of this country's best judges.

OTHER ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

Competitions

1. Farm Competitions Association

At the annual meeting of the Association at Royal Show time, the Victorian Department of Agriculture made it clear that it would not be in a position to continue to carry out the administration and secretarial duties and approached the R.A.S.V. with a request to take over these duties. Rather than allow this long standing Association to decline, the Society agreed to carry out the secretarial duties for a period of two years.

The R.A.S.V. has been associated with the wheat, oat and barley crop competitions conducted by the Association for many years and has provided prize money at local and district level.

This year 48 organizations affiliated with the Farm Competitions Association covering close to 900 entries in the five Zones throughout the State.

2. The Pasture Improvement and Fodder Conservation Competition was again conducted in association with the Victorian Department of Agriculture, and again proved most successful.

3. The Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition was well received and had 47 entries. The Victorian Agricultural Societies Association was again responsible for judging the Competition up to and including Group level.

This Competition has attained a very high standard and is now recognised as the top contest of its kind in the nation.

4. The District Fleece Competition is still most popular with country agricultural societies, and along with the Australasian Lambs' Wool Competition, has a large following at our Show. The proceeds from the sale of the District Fleeces has materially assisted Legacy over a number of years.

The R.A.S.V. is most grateful to all sponsors, judges and supporters of these competitions and in particular, extends appreciation to the officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture and country agricultural societies for their assistance and co-operation in conducting the competitions.

JOURNALISTS' TOUR

The annual R.A.S.V./Shell Journalists' Tour was conducted through the far Western area of the State in early August and could be considered one of the most successful yet conducted.

With a full complement of 40 international, interstate and Victorian representatives from press, radio and television media, a wide area was covered with visits to many prominent Royal Show exhibitors, land development schemes and local industries.

This tour was responsible for exceptionally good pre-Show publicity in weekly rural press, country and interstate publications, radio and television services.

R.A.S.V. Council Member Mr. John Kelly, was the leader of this very successful tour.

Breed Societies

In the past twelve months the Society has added five new organisations to bring the number of breed societies and kindred organisations to a total of 38 for which secretarial duties are administered.

The Society welcomes members of the Victorian Stud Merino Sheepbreeders' Association; the Victorian Romney Marsh Sheepbreeders' Association; the Australian Palomino Horse Breeders' Association; The Charolais Society of Australasia, and the Farm Competitions Association.

The Society is happy to announce that after a long period of discussions between the two organisations interested in Charolais cattle, an amalgamation has been reached and the Charolais Society of Australasia is now recognised as the official organisation to cater for the needs of breeders of Charolais.

The R.A.S.V. has been given the task of carrying out the administrative work for the new Society and Mr. Anthony Hordern, Jr., of New South Wales, has been elected President.

The costs involved in administering the above societies and Associations have risen beyond all expectation and although these organisations have paid secretarial fees the unexpectedly large deficit has had to be met by the R.A.S.V. The rising costs in this regard will make it necessary for us to increase Secretarial fees to cover increases in wages and other costs.

FINANCE

Unfortunately the Council deemed it necessary to raise the admission charges for the Show in order to keep abreast of increases in wages and other costs. I am happy to say however that we had a successful year financially and we have been able to pay for the cost of the new Wilson Stand without raising a special loan for this purpose.

We have therefore in the last few years replaced both the temporary tubular grandstands with modern structures. We will still be faced with improvements which must be made in various sections of the Showgrounds and there appears to be little doubt that our expenditure will continue to rise in the future.

CHANGES IN COUNCIL

During the 12 months under review the Council has been pleased to welcome Mr. John H. Sleight to its ranks.

Mr. Sleight fills the vacancy created by the elevation of Mr. P. B. Ronald to Life Councillor.

Over the same period I regret to record the death of Mr. Keith McGarvie, and I am sorry to say Council has thereby lost one of its most capable and valued members.

The late Mr. McGarvie was elected to Council in April 1940, and was created a Life Councillor in 1960. He was chairman of the R.A.S.V. Dairy Cattle Committee and Steward-in-Chief of Dairy Cattle for many years. He was highly respected in many avenues of life and his knowledge, particularly of the dairying industry, will mean a great loss to this Council and to the Primary Industry of Victoria.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The functions of the Society would be very restricted if it were not for the assistance given by many organisations and individuals and on behalf of the members of the Society and Council, I wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Premier of Victoria, Sir Henry Bolte, along with members of his Cabinet, and particularly the Minister of Agriculture, The Hon. G. L. Chandler, C.M.G., M.L.C., for their co-operation and continued assistance; the Director of Agriculture and officers of his Department; members of the Australian Wool Board, the Australian Meat Board, the Victorian Egg Board—the Chairman and members of the Milk Board and the Meat and Allied Trades Federation.

I would also express thanks to the numerous Government and semi-Government Departments and Boards which have been so generous with their co-operation and support over the past year.

To the Victoria Racing Club for co-operation, especially in connection with vehicle parking facilities during the Show, and assistance in organising our free bus service—I wish to record sincere thanks.

Special thanks is due to the Press, Radio and Television personnel for the excellent reporting of our Show.

To our many donors, sponsors, standholders, exhibitors and other public and private bodies, we are most grateful for continued support.

All will realise that it is quite impossible to acknowledge all the assistance we receive in detail, nevertheless we do want them all to know that their help and support is of immense value to our Society, and greatly appreciated.

I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to the members of Council for continuing to serve the Society in such an efficient and enthusiastic manner. They have been most generous with their time and talents in furthering the interests of the Society, and have extended to me loyal and solid support.

The Vice Presidents of the Society, Messrs. J. M. Gardiner, P. B. Ronald and G. R. Starritt, are deserving of special thanks for the outstanding assistance given to me over the past year.

In conclusion may I take this opportunity of expressing my warmest appreciation to the Director, Mr. H. T. C. Woodfull, and to the staff for their efficient and zealous attention to the Society's affairs.

G. P. H. WILSON, President.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1969

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Current Liabilities—	Current Assets—
Bank Overdraft 594,887	Cash on Hand 343
Sundry Creditors—Accruals 4,328	Secretary's Advance 400
599,215	Prepayments 10,580
	Sundry Debtors 68,870
	Showground Stock on Hand
Short Call Deposits 222,453	at cost 9,021
	89,214
Deferred Liabilities—	Short Call Deposits as per contra—
Mitchell Grandstand Loan 200,000	Commercial Banking Co. of
Fodder Conservation 543	Sydney Ltd. 222,453
200,543	
Trust Accounts—	Deferred Assets—
T. H. Payne Memorial 500	Trotting Control Board
W. J. Dawkins Trophy 200	Grandstand Advance 236,575
Provident Fund 1,700	
Australian Pig Society 6,000	Trustee Investments as per contra 29,040
Capt. A. E. T. Payne 20,000	
C. P. Fairbairn 400	
A. F. McNaughton 240	
29,040	
Members' Funds—	Fixed Assets—
Accumulated Fund—	Showground Services and
Balance at 1/1/69 828,368	Utilities 538,073
Transfer from Income and	Land at Cost 133,339
Expenditure Statement 11,387	Building and Im-
839,755	provements at
	Valuation 3,278,777
Reserves—	Less Depreciation 57,204
Assets Revaluation 2,084,006	3,221,573
Grandstand 484,247	Eastern Stand 99,460
Buildings 204,409	Showgrounds Plant
2,772,662	& Motor Vehicles 90,842
	Less Depreciation 10,900
	79,942
	Office Furniture . 15,271
	Less Depreciation 1,272
	13,999
	4,086,386
<u>\$4,663,668</u>	<u>\$4,663,668</u>

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, 1969. 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 9th day of February, 1970.

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

H. T. C. WOODFULL, Director.

COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	Previous Best	
Clydesdales	106	125	136	112	125	120	271	1924
Farm and Lorry	34	24	24	25	21	17	75	1934
Arabs	46	64	45	83	84	78	83	1967
Trotters	28	41	41	41	48	58	112	1947
Galloways	94	89	68	91	67	64	94	1964
Ponies	332	315	296	302	253	284	335	1962
Horses (Led)	53	52	44	54	37	39	54	1967
Saddle Horses, etc.	2,123	2,362	2,467	2,434	1,813	1,773	2,467	1966
Stallions	—	86	63	73	83	86	86	1965
Harness Horses, etc.	212	271	222	215	219	213	271	1965
Riding Competitions	1,237	1,145	1,044	1,282	1,150	1,229	1,282	1967
Novelty Horse Events	520	642	648	428	383	330	648	1966
Jumping Competitions	1,229	651	672	668	613	659	1,233	1963
Wood Chopping and Sawing	922	878	822	918	888	731	1,027	1955
Sheaf Tossing	42	44	60	62	41	—	62	1967
Tug-O'-War	16	14	16	18	16	16	21	1963
Beef Shorthorns	137	122	124	119	114	144	180	1960
Poll Shorthorns	73	91	68	72	42	64	91	1965
Herefords	101	86	97	99	97	126	117	1960
Poll Herefords	167	147	166	158	148	165	166	1966
Angus	231	234	257	218	221	261	278	1962
Devons	7	—	—	—	—	—	19	1955
Santa Gertrudis	2	2	2	—	—	5	10	1960
Galloways	10	5	5	15	17	17	17	1968
Murray Greys	28	30	45	59	53	62	59	1967
Brahmans	—	4	5	3	6	17	5	1966
Herdmen's Competition	19	18	10	11	12	10	19	1964
Red Polls	79	96	55	52	74	64	159	1934
Dairy Shorthorns	167	199	199	198	175	204	204	1961
Fat Cattle	118	145	229	116	101	174	229	1966
Aust. Illawarra Shorthorns	134	165	163	165	96	128	235	1948
Ayrshires	204	206	218	216	188	212	503	1922
Jerseys	795	826	673	777	711	711	826	1965
Guernseys	280	301	291	333	240	239	333	1967
Friesians	368	379	423	395	384	420	423	1966
Lincolns	6	12	6	—	—	3	219	1918
English Leicesters	31	27	30	14	—	7	114	1947
Border Leicesters	169	182	161	160	178	198	230	1962
Romney Marsh	82	79	72	62	66	47	159	1949
Cheviots	104	105	111	70	73	73	208	1961
Southdowns	117	136	148	87	77	69	196	1938
Shropshires	6	5	6	—	5	7	92	1934
Suffolks	25	30	32	31	28	27	60	1937
Dorset Horns	209	216	240	181	164	183	254	1958
Ryelands	119	120	102	103	106	144	160	1957
Hampshire Downs	6	9	4	4	—	—	9	1965
Dorset Downs	—	—	2	3	—	—	4	1950
Poll Dorsets	267	286	342	313	329	306	342	1966
Corriedales	38	33	35	40	35	36	124	1934
South-Suffolks	—	—	6	7	5	2	7	1967
Trade Lamb Competition	—	—	—	20	9	39	20	1967
Fleeces	591	389	409	352	331	318	591	1964
*Sheep Dog Trials	87	82	95	47	90	78	117	1957
Sheep Shearing Competitions	78	62	109	76	68	93	109	1966
Goats	155	140	190	207	191	254	207	1967
Pigs	743	751	673	612	686	767	801	1954
Poultry	1,930	1,943	1,538	1,252	1,271	1,400	2,195	1955
Eggs (Commercial)	185	182	129	153	170	189	185	1964
Pigeons	1,260	1,257	1,169	869	910	1,002	1,312	1959
Budgerigars, etc.	777	1,054	513	371	586	485	1,054	1965
Wines, etc.	808	917	877	973	937	893	973	1967
Dairy Produce	301	326	281	265	286	281	357	1961
Farm Produce	208	228	194	122	228	205	431	1930
Floriculture	—	—	—	20	51	66	51	1968
Apiculture	114	106	103	158	123	129	158	1967
Arts and Crafts	3,370	3,133	3,308	3,211	2,876	2,899	3,846	1961
Photography	—	—	—	—	—	983	—	—
Dogs	4,133	4,312	4,334	4,435	4,777	4,809	4,777	1968
Young Farmers' Competitions	192	149	159	204	147	141	349	1953
Trotting Races	319	262	253	248	325	300	717	1956
Farm Gadgets	—	41	71	68	55	40	71	1966
Cats	583	656	737	606	608	636	737	1966
Total Competitive Entries ..	27,058	27,243	26,137	25,156	24,311	25,829		



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