

# The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

# ANNUAL REPORT

# The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS, 1967

#### Patron-in-Chief:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HON. LORD CASEY, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.H., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J.

#### 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:**

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#### Trustees:

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#### Life Councillors:

RUSSELL H. BLACKBURN, Esq. J. BOTT, Esq.
W. J. T. CLARKE, Esq.
A. E. DAHLENBURG, Esq.
W. C. GREAVES, Esq., O.B.E.
H. L. LYALL, Esq.
K. McGARVIE, Esq.
T. N. MITCHELL, Esq., C.B.E.
D. S. SMITH, Esq.

#### **Members of Council:**

W. A. ANGLISS, Esq. W. B. BOOTHBY, Esq. J. M. BUCHANAN, Esq. Sir RUPERT W. J. CLARKE, Bart., M.B.E., M.A. SIR EDGAR COLES, A.A.S.A. A. R. CRESWICK, Esq. S. K. CUNNINGHAM, Esq., A.A.S.A. L. J. DOOLING, Esq., LL.B., B.Com., F.A.S.A. K. A. DRUMMOND, Esq. Prof. H. C. FORSTER R. B. GERRAND, Esq. G. HOWELL, Esq. ROBERT HUNTER, Esq.

C. C. JOHNSON, Esq., M.B.E. J. W. KELLY, Esq. DAVID W. R. KNOX, Esq. SIR KENNETH LUKE, C.M.G. D. S. MacGREGOR, Esq. Colonel M. H. McARTHUR, O.B.E. C. O. MOORE, Esq. LINDSAY G. C. NICHOLAS, Esq. K. P. PALMER, Esq. R. F. SANDERSON, Esq., C.B.E. G. R. STARRITT, Esq. P. J. R. STEELE, 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

- \* Resigned November, 1967
- Deceased August 22, 1967
- † Deceased January 26th, 1968



# 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 12th March, 1968, 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 20th day of February, 1968.

H. T. C. WOODFULL,
Director.

For list of nominations see back.

# LIST OF NOMINATIONS

### MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

CRESWICK, A. R., 414 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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, Colonel M. H., O.B.E., "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.

# Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria President's Report to Members

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present this report of the Society's activities for the twelve months period ending December 31, 1967.

The past year has been a memorable one for the Society in that an all time attendance record of 738,196 was created for a Royal Melbourne Show, and the new Mitchell Grandstand was completed and in use for the Royal Show period.

The "Mitchell" Grandstand was officially opened by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. G. L. Chandler, C.M.G., M.L.C., on Monday, September 25, 1967, and the "A. G. Hunter" Grandstand was named and the plaque unveiled by Mrs. A. G. Hunter, on the same day.

To make way for the new Mitchell Grandstand it was necessary to demolish the old carriage shed. This old building was one of the original buildings placed on the Showgrounds in 1883.

For the 1967 Royal Show the area occupied by the old carriage shed was levelled and used for amusements but the long term programme will be to develop the space as a picinic area.

Another major constructional change included a permanent grandstand at the woodchop arena capable of seating up to 400.

Although there was a reduction in the ground staff over the year, maintenance was held at a satisfactory level.

#### 1967 ROYAL SHOW

I have no hesitation in saying that the 1967 Royal Show, in my opinion, was the best Show staged by the Society over the last decade.

Blessed with fine weather for the whole period, it would have been disappointing had we not created an all time attendance record. Day and evening records were established on the first Friday evening; the evening of Peoples Day; the second Friday evening; the last Saturday, day and evening.

The ring programme was one of the most entertaining ever presented. Highlights were the Bell Rocket Belt team; the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry Band; the Australian Gold Cup Tent Pegging series; the dressage demonstrations; demonstrations by the Victoria Mounted Police and Mobile squad; the Obedience Dogs demonstrations; excellent horse events and many other novel attractions.

The Official Opening was performed by His Excellency, Major-General Sir Rohan Delacombe, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., K.St.J. and we were honoured to have with us on this occasion, Lady Delacombe; The Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Sir Henry Bolte, K.C.M.G.; the Minister for Primary Industry, The Rt. Hon. C. F. Adermann, M.P.; The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor R. Talbot, and the Lady Mayoress; the General Officer Commanding Southern Command, Major-General R. W. Knights, C.B.E., and Mrs. Knights.

It was my pleasure, on your behalf, to welcome to the Royal Show on Peoples Day, the President of the Republic of Italy, Signor G. Saragat, and his Foreign Minister, Professor the Hon. A. Fanfani, along with the officials accompanying them on their Australian visit.

The President and his official party stayed for lunch and then viewed the Grand Parade before departing.

Mention must be made of the excellent displays, demonstrations and exhibits organised and presented by primary industry bodies—the Wool Board, Meat Board, Egg Board and Dairy Industry. These displays and demonstrations were again well received, as was the excellent display in the Government Pavilion. The Victorian Railways staged a completely new model train exhibit with exact models of their carriages and other rolling stock. This proved to be a marvellous new attraction to the public.

To add to the interest in horticulture, the Society introduced competitive and exhibition floral arrangements in Centenary Hall this year, and this move proved quite successful and it is hoped to increase this next year. Supported by the Melbourne City Council display, the floral clock, an outstanding display of vegetables and nurserymen's displays, the Centenary Hall this year provided the best floral display for a number of years.

The Victorian Shearing Championship, the Australian Strongwool Shearing contest and others provided shearing enthusiasts with the action they have come to expect from the stage in Centenary Hall.

The display of fleeces was arranged in a new venue in Lennon Avenue, used last year as a fruit hall. This move also proved satisfactory as it brought the fleeces display into a well established agricultural area.

Continuing the Society's policy of service to the commercial farmers, a full programme of demonstrations, lectures, and discussions was presented at the Commercial Farmers site on each day of the Show.

#### **ENTRIES**

In spite of the extended dry conditions throughout the State, entries were not greatly affected. The beef cattle entry showed an overall decrease of 26, but best ever entries were recorded in Murray Greys and Galloway Sections.

The dairy cattle entry was 118 better than last year, with a record entry of Guernsey cattle.

There was a drop of 223 entries in the sheep section, with all breeds but two showing a decrease.

Wines, sheaf-tossing, dogs and goat entries all recorded best ever figures; but poultry, pigeons, caged birds and cat classes were down on those of last year.

#### JUDGES AND STEWARDS

No praise is great enough for the valuable support given to this Society by honorary stewards, stewardesses and other officials over the Show period. Their able and unselfish assistance is greatly appreciated by the Society. Four overseas judges headed the list of 267 judges invited to officiate at the 1967 Royal Melbourne Show. The Jersey cattle section was judged by Mr. A. Mourant, of Jersey Island; Messrs. Virgil D. Johnson, of Georgia, U.S.A., and Maxwell Riddle, of Ohio, U.S.A., judged the record dog entry; and Mrs. Elizabeth Towe, of Sussex, England, judged the cats.

Besides the international judges we were again most fortunate in gaining the services of many skilled judges from all States of Australia.

#### DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING CHANGE

All breeds of dairy cattle were judged on Monday, September 25, this year instead of the traditional first Thursday.

The request for the change came from the Registered Dairy Cattle Breeders Association of Victoria on behalf of dairy cattle breeders and exhibitors, who desired the change to enable exhibitors to arrive at the Showgrounds with their cattle only a day or two before the Show opened thus shortening the total period away from their properties.

The request from the Registered Dairy Cattle Breeders Association of Victoria was granted by the Society for this year as a trial, subject to the dairy cattle societies undertaking to co-operate with the R.A.S.V. regarding Grand Parades and keeping the rugs off the cattle in the pavilions during the day, up to judging day.

However, since the Show a questionnaire has been sent to exhibitors of all dairy and dual purpose breeds to ascertain whether they were in favour of Thursday or Monday judging. The result of this questionnaire revealed that a big majority of exhibitors with the exception of the Jerseys and A.I.S. voted strongly in favour of a return to Thursday judging. In view of this the Council has decided to revert to Thursday judging of dairy cattle with the exception of Jerseys and A.I.S., which breeds shall be judged on the Monday of the 1968 Royal Show.

#### OTHER ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

The eleventh annual R.A.S.V./Shell Journalists Tour covered the near Western District area of the State, where contact was made with a number of Royal Show exhibitors.

The tour this year created much valuable publicity and goodwill for the Society.

The Wheat Crop Championship, Pasture Improvement and Fodder Conservation Competition, District Fleeces and Lambs Wool Competitions were again conducted during the year, but almost without exception were affected by the extended dry season. This especially applied to the Wheat Crop Championship. We were again pleased to co-operate with V.A.S.A. in the Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition.

The Society thanks all sponsors and judges for their support, and extends appreciation to officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture and country agricultural societies for their assistance and co-operation in conducting these competitions.

Over the past twelve months the Society has again carried out the secretarial duties for 31 breed and kindred organisations, and by this means we are pleased to be of service to stud breeders and commercial farmers of the agricultural and pastoral industries. The cost of administering the work for these Associations and Societies is continually rising due to the almost regular increases in wages. The Associations and Societies will therefore have to take regular steps to increase their income.

It is gratifying for me to report the continued progress and growth of the Senior Young Farmers of Victoria. This organisation now has 159 clubs and 22 district councils with membership just on 5,000.

An exchange of supervisors was carried out in the past year between the S.Y.F. of Victoria and the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs of Great Britain. Mr. Bill Glover, from Victoria has been in the East Riding region of Yorkshire for just on twelve months and Miss Margaret Mitchell of Yorkshire has taken over Mr. Glover's area here in Victoria.

This is the first supervisor exchange to be carried out in Australia, and it is expected that the experiment will be of great benefit to both the Victorian and United Kingdom bodies.

#### FINANCE

Due to our large attendance and increased admission fees, it is pleasing to report that our revenue has this year been the highest in the history of the Society. However, costs are unfortunately always increasing, and the cost of the new Mitchell Stand is expected to be in the region of \$500,000. As we have another tubular stand which must be replaced in the next year or two we will need to exercise caution in our expenditure.

#### CHANGES IN COUNCIL

The Council suffered a severe loss with the death of Mr. Russell Hartley Blackburn, on August 22, 1967. He was elected to the Council in May, 1942, and after 20 years of outstanding service on the Sheep, Horse and Arena, and Working Sheep Dog Committees, was made an Honorary Life Councillor of the Society in 1962.

Also, since the last annual meeting, Mr. H. A. Mullett, I.S.O., has tendered his resignation which was accepted by the Council with regret.

Mr. Mullett joined the Council as a Government nominated Trustee in 1934 on his appointment as Director of Agriculture, and has served the Society for 33 years. We are extremely sorry to lose his services.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I wish to thank the Premier of Victoria, Sir Henry Bolte, and members of his Cabinet, particularly the Minister of Agriculture, The Hon. G. L. Chandler, C.M.G., M.L.C., for their co-operation and continued assistance; the recently retired Director of Agriculture, Mr. F. M. Reid, and his successor Mr. D. Wishart; Mr. O. R. Browne, Chairman of the Milk Board; members of the Australian Wool Board, the Australian Meat Board, the Victorian Egg Board and Meat and Allied Trades Federation; the many Government departments and Boards which have worked and co-operated closely with the Society over the past year.

I also express thanks to the Victoria Racing Club for its assistance and co-operation, especially in connection with vehicle parking facilities.

To the Press, Radio and Television media, I also express thanks for their support of our Show.

We are always most grateful to our many donors, sponsors, stand-holders, and other public and private bodies for continued support and co-operation. We receive such extensive support that it would be impossible to mention all the assistance we receive in detail. Nevertheless we do want them all to know that their help is greatly appreciated by us and is of immense value to our enterprise.

To the Members of Council and its committees who serve the Society in a very enthusiastic and efficient manner, I express thanks and gratitude. They have given me loyal and solid support during the year and have been most generous with their time and energy in furthering the interests of the Society.

Especially would I like to thank the Vice-Presidents, Messrs. F. E. Selwyn Scott, M.B.E., J. M. Gardiner, and P. B. Ronald for the valuable assistance given to me over the past twelve months.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express to the Director, Mr. H. T. C. Woodfull, and members of the staff, my warmest appreciation for their loyal and efficient service throughout the year, especially during the exacting period of the Show.

G. P. H. WILSON, President.

Since writing the above report, I am sorry to say that a former President of the Society, Mr. Cecil Newton McKay, passed away on January 26, 1968.

The late Mr. McKay was elected to the Council in February, 1933, was President from 1947 to 1957, and a Trustee from 1948 up until the time of his death.

Over a period of 35 years, Mr. McKay was extremely active in the affairs of the Society, especially during his term as President, which was at a time shortly after the transition from R.A.A.F. occupation of the Showgrounds back to the Society.

These were difficult years for the Society, and the late Mr. McKay, by his drive and leadership, did much to re-establish the functions of the Society.

His loss will be keenly felt by everyone associated with the R.A.S.V.

- G. P. H. WILSON.

# THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE,

# FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967

EXPENDITURE	INCOME
ANNUAL EXHIBITION	ANNUAL EXHIBITION
Wages <td< td=""><td>Admission—       271,124         Railways       74,676         Grandstands       333         Motor Parks and Cloak       293         Rooms       250         Ground Rents       143,804         Entry Fees       48,511         Premiums—       Refreshments and Catering       18,202         Catalogue and Programme       320         Sales       4,493         Commission Stock Sales       1,497         Sundries       609</td></td<>	Admission—       271,124         Railways       74,676         Grandstands       333         Motor Parks and Cloak       293         Rooms       250         Ground Rents       143,804         Entry Fees       48,511         Premiums—       Refreshments and Catering       18,202         Catalogue and Programme       320         Sales       4,493         Commission Stock Sales       1,497         Sundries       609
309,42	3
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION  Wages, Salaries, Superannuation \$111,926 Repairs and Maintenance . 52,067 Interest and Bank Charges 26,917 Insurance Premiums 20,712	GENERAL INCOME  Rent of Show Grounds and Buildings 68,575 Donations
Sec. Services to Herd       7,192         Societies       7,192         Rates and Taxes       14,221         Motor Vehicle Maintenance       4,565         Office Cleaning       3,560         Telephone       4,311         Postage       3,129         Office Supplies       6,395         Catering       1,847	Motor Parks
Audit and Legal Fees       900         Travelling Expenses       1,286         Sundry Competitions       456         Loose Tools       143         Sundries       7,831         Members' News Letter       521         Depreciation       64,028	SUBSCRIPTIONS         Members       40,578         Associate Members       6,917         Ladies' Badges       1,926         Junior Members       1,644
Depreciation	51,065
Balance transferred to Accumulated Fund 30,33	Surplus on Sale of Asset 670
	\$723,344 = \$723,344

#### THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

LIABILITIES	ASSETS
Current Liabilities—	Current Assets—
Bank Overdraft 639,907 Sundry Creditors 6,566 — 646,478	Sundry Debtors 53,084 Showground Stock on Hand
Short Call Deposits 161,728	at cost
Deferred Liabilities—	
Mitchell Grandstand Loan 200,000	Short Call Deposits as per contra— Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Ltd
Trust Accounts—	Bydney 25d
T. H. Payne Memorial	Deferred Assets— Trotting Control Board Grandstand Advance
C. P. Fairbairn	Trustee Investments as per contra 29,040
Members' Funds—       Accumulated Fund—         Balance at 1/1/67 805,210       Transfer from Income and Expenditure Statement 30,331         Expenditure Statement 835,541         Reserves—         Assets Revaluation 2,084,006         Grandstand 484,247         Buildings 113,869         Replacement of Tubular         Stand 50,000         2,732,122	provements at Valuation 3,357,725 Less Depreciation 52,433  Showgrounds Plant & Motor Vehicles 100,026 Less Depreciation 10,588
\$4,604,904	\$4,604,904

#### 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, 1967. 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, 1968.

A. J. COURT, F.C.A. Chartered Accountants

H. T. C. WOODFULL, Director.

# COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section			1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	Previou	usBest
Clydesdales			139	142	106	125	136	112	271	1924
Farm and Lorry			24	20	34	24	24	25	75	1934
Arabs			36	40	46	64	45	83	64	1965
Protters			32	24	28	41	41	41	112	1947
Galloways			78	83	94	89	68	91	94	1964
Ponies			335	317	332	315	296	302	335	1962
Horses (Led)			47	47	53	52	44	54	53	1964
Saddle Horses, etc.			2,157	2,011	2,123	2,362	2,467	2,434	2,467	1966
Stallions				_	2,120	86	63	73	86	1965
Harness Horses, etc			220	205	212	271	222	215	271	1965
Riding Competition			1,279	1,225	1,237	1,145	1,044	1,282	1,279	1962
Novelty Horse Ever			593	455	520	642	648	428	648	1966
Jumping Competition			696	1,233	1,229	651	672	668	1,233	1963
Wood Chopping and			853	936	922	878	822	918	1,027	1955
Sheaf Tossing.			53	59	42	44	60	62	60	1966
T		٠.	16	21	16	14	16	18	21	1963
Tug-O'-War Beef Shorthorns	, .		167	153	137	122	124	119	180	1960
			40.00							
Poll Shorthorns			46	48	73	91	68	72	91	1965
Herefords	, .		102	108	101	86	97	99	117	1960
Poll Herefords			151	148	167	147	166	158	166	1966
Angus			278	237	231	234	257	218	278	1962
Devons			15	7	7		_		19	1955
Santa Gertrudis			2	4	2	2	2	-	10	1960
Galloways			-	5	10	5	5	15	10	1964
Aurray Greys			*****	14	28	30	45	59	45	1966
Brahmans			-	-		4	5	3	5	1966
Herdmen's Competi	tion		-		19	18	10	11	19	1964
Red Polls			71	76	79	96	55	52	159	1934
Dairy Shorthorns			173	184	167	199	199	198	204	1961
Fat Cattle			64	86	118	145	229	116	229	1966
Aust. Illawarra Sho			169	150	134	165	163	165	235	1948
Ayrshires			167	188	204	206	218	216	503	1922
lerseys			699	751	795	826	673	777	826	1965
Guernseys			277	231	280	301	291	333	332	1961
Friesians			318	369	368	379	423	395	423	1966
Lincolns			6	4	6	12	6	_	219	1918
English Leicesters			40	36	31	27	30	14	114	1947
Border Leicesters			230	215	169	182	161	160	230	1962
Romney Marsh			107	91	82	79	72	62	159	1949
Cheviots			137	144	104	105	111	70	208	1961
	6.5		162	156	117	136	148	87	196	1938
Southdowns		, ,			6		6	01	92	
Shropshires	1.		5	6		5	32	31		1934
Suffolks			17	21	25	30			60	1937
Dorset Horns			237	239	209	216	240	181	254	1958
Ryelanda			149	108	119	120	102	103	160	1957
Hampshire Downs					6	9	4	4	9	1965
Dorset Downs			2				2	3	4	1950
Poll Dorsets		٠.	221	250	267	286	342	313	342	1966
Corriedales			42	42	38	33	35	40	124	1934
South-Suffolks			-		-		6	7	6	1966
Frade Lamb Compe	tition						-	20		
Fleeces		٠.	398	514	591	389	409	352	591	1964
Sheep Dog Trials			84	83	87	82	. 95	47	117	1957
Sheep Shearing Com	petitic	ons	70	78	78	62	109	76	109	1966
Foats			131	135	155	140	190	207	190	1966
Pigs			702	664	743	751	673	612	801	1954
Poultry			1,934	2,050	1,930	1,943	1,538	1,252	2,195	1955
Eggs (Commercial)				*****	185	182	129	153	185	1964
0.			1,292	1,225	1,260	1,257	1,169	869	1,312	1959
		* *	894	973	777	1,054	513	371	1,054	1965
Budgerigars, etc.			764	867	808	917	877	973	917	1965
Wines, etc				337	301	326	281	265	357	1961
Dairy Produce			336		208	228	194	122		1930
Farm Produce	• •		227	233	208	448	194	100	431	1930
Floriculture				-	-	100	100	20	140	1000
Apiculture			135		114		103	158		1960
Arts and Crafts			3,723	3,578	3,370	3,133	3,308	3,211	3,846	1961
Dogs			3,933	4,011	4,133	4,312	4,334	4,435	4,334	1966
Young Farmers' Con	apetiti		124	149	192	149	159	204	349	1953
Protting Races			337	288	319	262	253	248	717	1956
Farm Gadgets					_	41	71	68	71	1966
			473	671	583	656	737	606	737	1966
Cats										

