

ROCA A.G.M. HELD AT UNIVERSITY STAFF CLUB ON 9/9/83

President, Ian Rice welcomed 21 members at 5.50 p.m.

Apologies were received from 18 members.

Minutes of the 1982 AGM were read and confirmed on the motion of Dr. Barrie Thistlethwayte and seconded by B.C. Philp.

Business from the minutes:

1. The Pool had been named the "Robert Claude Hay Pool" after discussion with the SUC.
2. \$300 is being transferred to the SUC as a contribution from ROCA
3. We have had an intake of over 100 new members as a result of the Centenary publicity.

Correspondence had been dealt with by Committee Meetings.

1. A return thanks card received from Mrs. Robin after the death of Mr. C.B. Robin, who graduated in 1919. He was the son of one of the first students at R.A.C.
2. An invitation from VOCA to attend their Dinner on 23rd Sept.

President's Report (copy herewith) was presented by Ian Rice. The adoption of the Report was proposed by Ian Rice, seconded by Tim Prance and carried.

Treasurer's Report (copy herewith) was presented by Peter Fairbrother. This had been Audited by B.C. Philp, and was seconded by Peter Lewis and carried.

In answer to questions, the Treasurer explained that Life Membership subs go into a Reserve account and the interest is available for operating. Annual subs can be used annually.

Postal charges are increasing annually and cost of printing Digests are also escalating. Peter Lewis moved that the Committee look at reviewing the Digest in the light of rising costs of printing and postage with a restricted income. This was seconded by Tim Prance.

Tim Prance spoke against cutting the number of Digests in an effort to reduce costs. Regular contact with members is necessary.

Brian Jeffries suggested we look at a Newspaper style of publication.

John Jones queries the possibility of getting back to "Category B" if we leave it.

The Motion was put and carried.

General Business

1. Degree Course and Farm Practice.

Ian Rice read a report on the situation and drew attention to the report from the Committee as printed in the August 1983 Digest, and two sheets of comparative figures (copies herewith).

Reg. Hutchinson was invited to present the motion as printed in the Digest. He pre-ambled this with his interpretation of the facts of the issue. (These have been recorded in recent issues of the

Digests). He referred to some of the Reports from the Faculty of Agriculture as an Orchestrated Litany of Lies.

Reg Hutchinson put the Motion which was seconded by Ross Dawkins.

Ken Hayman spoke on the reducing work load on the modern farm. We must allow the Faculty to manage the Course and he recommended that they be given freedom.

Reg replied that many aspects of practical work had been reduced.

Tim Prance spoke against the motion after speaking to present and recent students and Staff.

He stressed that we must look to the quality of work experience rather than quantity as expressed in total hours.

Barrie Thistlethwayte spoke against the motion and commended the summary as presented in The Digest. He is concerned that the Motion states figures aimed at one component. He stressed that ROCA should aim at looking at the whole cause. He reminded us that substantial changes can be made with continued co-operation between ROCA and Staff at R.A.C.

Brian Jeffries spoke on principles of agricultural education. Students would get more out of the course if they had prior agricultural experience. Problems of finding practical work farms for students is a problem the industry will have to face in the near future. If work can't be found before the course, it should be done during the course.

Bruce Eastick spoke against the Motion. The main points had been discussed and decisions made by the Council after full consideration of the facts and listening to points raised by students.

Ian Young stressed that the fact that students did not need practical experience prior to entry to Roseworthy was one of the attractions which helped students decide to go to Roseworthy.

Graham Brookman spoke in sympathy with the Motion. He rejects the 30% flexibility of the course and though Reg's figures were close to correct. Ian's figures are finite - there is a limited amount of work to be done on one farm. He queried a report in the Stock Journal that Old Boys provide employment for students. He quoted that only three Diplomates were employed at Roseworthy. He sees off College experience as an essential concession of practical work training.

Jim Pocock stated that the Document had been inspected carefully and passed by the Course Advisory Committee. He stressed that we must get closer to Industry and meet the needs.

Ian Lewis supported a lot of points made, but it seems we must find 150 approved farms for practical work experience.

Brian Jeffries moved an Amendment:-

1. That Members of ROCA recommend to the Agricultural Courses Advisory Committee that practical farm operations and husbandry skills be sufficient to ensure that Students can be assessed as competent to perform these operations and skills.
2. That students in Agricultural Production, Farm Management and the proposed Degree Courses be required to spend a year on approved farms related to their disciplines before the final year of the course.

Part 1 was put and carried.

Part 2 was put and lost.

A further amendment was put by Graham Brookman and seconded by Brian Jeffries:

That ROCA recommend to the Course Advisory Committee that a system of off College work be developed to give students no less than 6 months off College farm experience. This was put and Carried.

2. Staff Members

In accordance with the constitution a nomination, signed by six members has been received, nominating Hugh Grundy as an Associate Member.

Peter Lewis Proposed, Graham Brookman seconded that Hugh Grundy be received as an Associate Member - Carried.

A recommendation was received from the Committee recommending that past Director Dr. Don Williams be accepted as a Member of the Association. Proposed by Peter Lewis, seconded David Tuckwell and Carried.

Election of Officers

Barrie Thistlethwayte was invited to conduct the Election of President.

Harry Stephen and Ian Rice had been nominated. Harry declined and Ian was declared elected.

Vice President: Nomination was received for Bardy McFarlane, Ken Hayman and Harry Stephen. Bardy had expressed a wish to drop from the Committee. Ken preferred to stay on the Committee as Eyre Peninsula rep. but accepted the nomination. Harry Stephen elected.

Secretary: Andrew Michelmores nominated and elected.

Treasurer: Peter Fairbrother nominated and elected.

Auditor: B.C. Philp nominated and elected.

Committee: Graduating year Phil May nominated and elected subject to his approval.

1-10 year group Bob Mitchell nominated and elected.

Ordinary members: Peter Lewis, Dale Manson, Bardy McFarlane, Jeff Tidswell, Reg Hutchinson.

Bob Mitchell, Harry Stephen nominated.

Bob Mitchell and Harry Stephen already on the committee and Bardy McFarlane declined. Remaining four elected.

Ken Hayman and Jack Richards to be EP reps.

Meeting Closed at 7.55 p.m.

The Dinner, which was attended by approx. 180 members and wives, the D of Merit was presented to Ralph Hewett Jones.

Read & Confirmed

S. H. Rice 7/9/84