R.O.C.A. Digest

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

Volume 1. No. 1. August 1962

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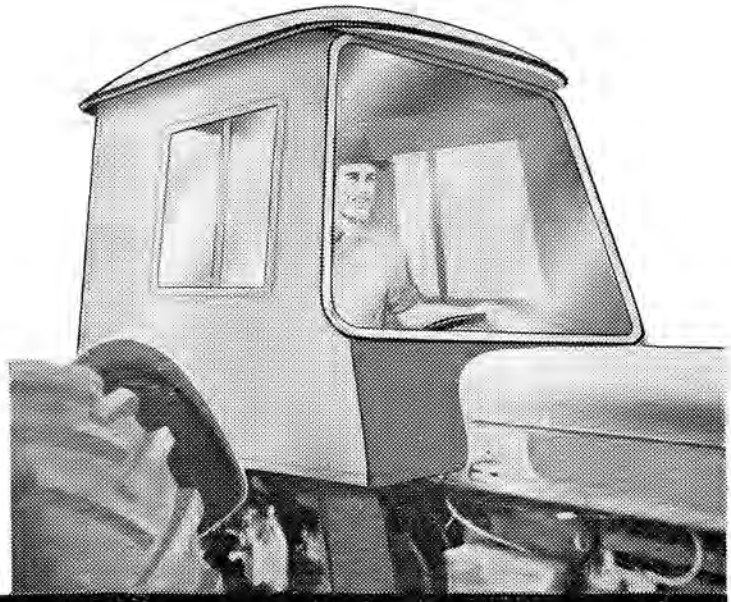
Get under a



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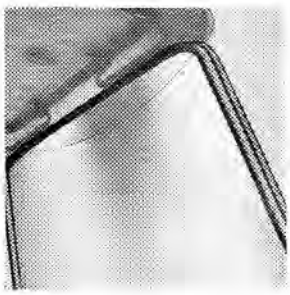

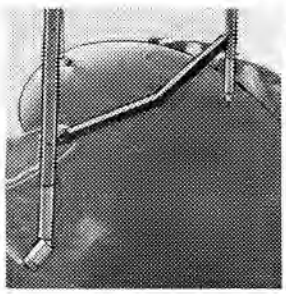

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ROCA *Digest*

Published Bi-Monthly: (AUGUST, OCTOBER, DECEMBER, FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE).

Editor: Ian R. Fry.

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F. D. Stacy

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"ROCA DIGEST"
10 White Avenue,
Kensington Gardens, S.A.

Founded 1962:

A Bi-monthly journal published by the OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION and in the interests of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association of South Australia.

Vol. 1 No. 1 AUGUST, 1962

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Subscription Rate: 1/6 per year included in membership subscription of R.O.C.A.
1/- per single copy.

Acknowledgments :

COVER BLOCK: By courtesy Department of Agriculture.

PERSONNEL BLOCKS: By courtesy Stock and Station Journal.

Advertising : All enquiries and material for advertising should be directed to—

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Foreword

I strongly commend the move of the Association in producing a magazine. All Associations whose members are spread widely through a community require some unifying influence such as this will provide. The members of the Association as protagonists for Roseworthy College do it credit in their various activities. Their assistance to the College will be more practical and better directed by this new move.

Roseworthy is the oldest Agricultural College in Australia. Some of its aspects are unique, particularly the Oenology Course, which is the only one in Australasia and which is well placed in a major wine producing State. In other respects, both in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Roseworthy has had distinguished success.

It is not, however, in these matters that we value the College so much as we do for the traditions which it passes on to its students. There must be few educational institutions who have more enduring traditions than Roseworthy possesses. Many of the events at the College from its earliest days are still well known to present-day students. The traditions of Roseworthy have combined to make it a strong influence upon those connected with it. This influence is greatly to the benefit of the community.

The record of the College as regards War Service is quite remarkable. Some of its members achieved great distinction during these wars and many lost their lives.

It is important that any educational institution has friends who will speak for it in later life. I am sure that the members of this Association will speak all the more effectively for Roseworthy as a result of this publication.

I wish the Association success in this move.

DAVID BROOKMAN,

Minister of Agriculture.

EDITORIAL

Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association has for years been without a satisfactory link between the Committee and the members. Apart from one or two regular circulars, presentation of annual reports at Annual General Meetings, and the section set aside in the "Student" for R.O.C.A., the connection does not exist. Admittedly the latter has been valuable, but falls a long way short of that which is desirable, for much of the material in this section is "stale" by the time it reaches the members of the Association.

Consequently, the regular publication of College activities, other information concerning Old Collegians and the workings of the R.O.C.A. Committee could well be the most valuable contribution this publication will make toward serving the Association.

It is not intended that the "R.O.C.A. Digest" shall become another scientific or "Man on the Land" publication; there are more than enough of these reaching the community at present, but the emphasis will be on endeavouring to make it a "newsy" publication of matters of particular interest to Old Collegians or with some connection with R.A.C. To do this the Management Committee will require our contributions and our full support through the medium of the Association Secretary.

The "R.O.C.A. Digest" has another valuable possibility. I refer to the employment of Old Collegians. The Principals for many years have, with the assistance of R.O.C.A., been able to be of immense help to graduating students and other Old Collegians in this regard, and each year a number of positions vacant are brought to the notice of the Principal. This could become a busy two-way traffic section of the Digest, and with a circulation of approaching 800 the "Positions Wanted" and "Positions Vacant" are sure of reaching a fair percentage of the community connected with agriculture in some way or other.

This wide and classified distribution may perhaps entice more Old Collegians to make use of the advertising space in the Digest.

This Editorial would not be complete without mentioning the good work of our Management Committee and the willingness of many people to contribute. We are indebted to The Honourable the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. D. N. Brookman, who showed his confidence in the success of the Digest by presenting a foreword for the first issue. A special mention also of Ian Fry, whose effervescent enthusiasm has made this issue possible. My thanks, and the thanks of all Old Collegians, Ian, for a job well done.

The "R.O.C.A. Digest" is now "launched", and it is up to you and I to see that the standard is at least maintained if not improved. This can only be done by our generous support to the Management Committee.

Good luck, "R.O.C.A. Digest", and also to those who manage it.

ROLAND P. DAY,
President,
R.O.C.A.

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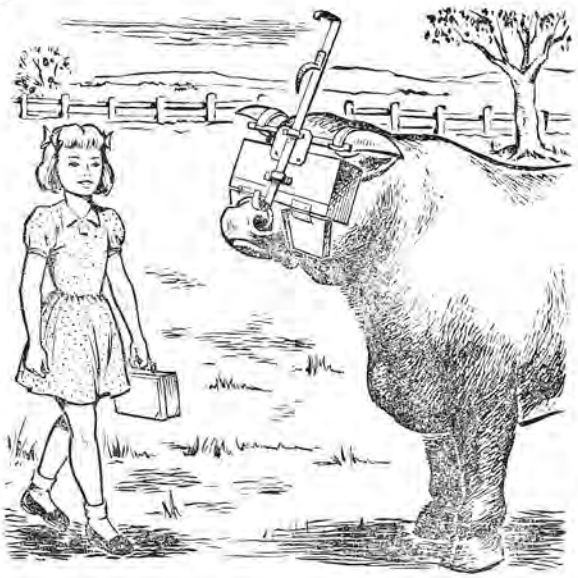

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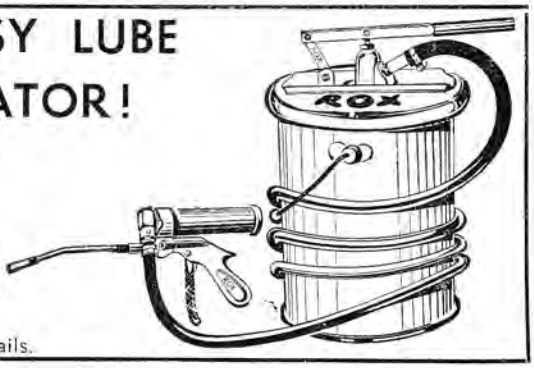

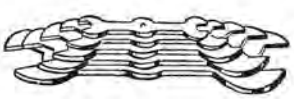

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Roseworthy Old Collegians Association

1962 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and Reunion

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, 8th September, at 5.00 p.m. at the South Australian Poultry Association Hall, Hanson Street, Adelaide.

BUSINESS:

(1) President's Report.

(2) Treasurer's Report.

(3) R.O.C.A. DIGEST Report.

(4) Alterations to the Constitution.

(5) Any other Business.

(6) Election of Officers.

Space will not permit printing the full Constitution, but the proposed alterations appear on pages 6 and 7. Copies of the Constitution will be available at the A.G.M. Most of the proposed changes are generally "tidying up" of the Constitution, but important changes are proposed to the formation of the Committee.

The Reunion will follow the A.G.M. at the Aurora Hotel, Pirie Street, Adelaide, and will feature:—

(1) Prominent speakers to propose toasts to "The College" and "The Association".

(2) The Presentation of the Award Of Merit.

(3) Reminiscences of R.A.C. 25 and 10 years ago.

(4) Jack Daly, who has retired from active work on the College.

(5) An attempt to allow more time for talking with mates.

The charge will be 22/6, payable in advance to the Treasurer.

Please fill in the following form and return it not later than the 1st September, 1962.

(Tear along dotted line.)

Mr. G. R. Norman,
Agricultural College,
Roseworthy, S.A.

Dear Sir,

I will / will not attend the Reunion on the 8th SEPTEMBER.

Please find enclosed £1/2/6 to cover the cost of the dinner, hire of hall, etc.

Yours faithfully,

.....

Fill in address here.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Your receipt will be required to gain admission to the dinner.

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CONSTITUTION OF THE R.O.C.A.

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS

Clause 3.

(1) Ordinary Members.

(a) The Principal and all Old Students of the College who have attended at least one academic year shall be eligible for ordinary membership, subject to the approval of the association.

(b) Agricultural Science Graduates and non-Graduates of the Adelaide University prior to 1956 shall be eligible for ordinary membership, subject to the approval of the executive of the association.

(Only slight alteration to wording.)

Clause 4.

(1) Executive—The Executive shall consist of the President, Immediate Past President, -Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Principal of the College.

(2) Committee—The Committee shall consist of:

(a) The Executive.

(b) Six other ordinary members.

1. One of whom shall be from the graduating class of the year.
2. One who left the College more than one year and not more than ten years ago.
3. Four other members.
4. If no nominations for 1 and 2, these positions to be filled from other ordinary members.

(c) One Branch Delegate or Proxy Delegate from each properly constituted Branch of the Association.

(Alterations as directed by the last A.G.M. Add Immediate Past President and get younger members on the Committee.)

Clause 5.

(a) The Executive and six other ordinary members of the Committee shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting of the Association for a term of one year. The President's term of office shall be for one year and cannot be extended beyond two consecutive years. Nominations in writing for these positions will close with the Secretary 14 days prior to the meeting. If insufficient nominations are received, nominations will be received at the meeting.

Clause 6.

(b) At all meetings the Chairman shall have a deliberate as well as a casting vote.

Clause 7.

(b) A Special Meeting of the Committee may be called at any time by the President, either at his own instance or on the request of two members of the Committee.

Clause 8.

(c) 20 Members shall form a quorum.

Clause 11.

(a) Subscriptions to the Association shall be ten shillings per annum, payable yearly in advance on the 1st July.

(b) Any member whose subscription shall be in arrears by 12 months shall not receive a Magazine, Digest or any other matter being circularized.

(c) Any member whose subscriptions are two years in arrears shall automatically have his membership cancelled. Such member can only rejoin by paying a double subscription for one year.

(This is the policy adopted at present with the addition of a penalty rate.)

Clause 12.

(4) Payments—All payments shall be made by cheque or orders jointly signed by any two of the Secretary, the Treasurer and one other appointed by the Committee. Such payments must be authorised or subsequently endorsed by the Committee.

Clause 14.

(a) An Ordinary or Associate Member or any person entitled to be an Ordinary or Associate Member may become a Life Member or an Associate Life Member on the payment of ten pounds (£10).

Clause 15.

(a) There shall be a life membership Reserve Fund. The Principal of this fund will be decided by calculating the number of current life members prior to 1-7-60 at £5 plus life members since then at £10.

(To cover the recent increase in subscriptions.)

Clause 16.

Branches of the Association.

(a) Branches of the Association may be formed as the Committee may determine. No branch shall accept as a member any Old Collegian who is not a member of the Association.

(This is the correct procedure.)

Clause 17.

R.O.C.A. Digest Committee.

(a) The Committee shall appoint a R.O.C.A. Digest Committee of five; at least four of whom shall be R.O.C.A. members. The Chairman shall be a member of the general committee.

Clause 18.

Alteration of the Constitution.

(a) The Constitution shall not be changed except at a general meeting of members.

(b) Notice of motion of proposed alterations shall be given to the Secretary at least two months prior to the date of the general meeting, and members shall be notified at least one month prior to the meeting.

(Period allowed so Digest can be used for notification.)

Clauses without explanation following are taken to be logical rules for any Association.

VISITING AND SPORTS DAY

CHANGED TO SUNDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER, 1962

The day will start with a Chapel service at 10.30 a.m., to be followed by a short talk on College changes, leaving time for visitors to go and look at what they want to.

The College will provide tea for lunch, and a few soft drinks will be on sale. Afternoon tea will be served. Some attempt will be made to entertain children.

If numbers permit we will field teams to compete against the present students in cricket, tennis, golf and rifles.

Matches to start at 1.00 p.m.

Spectators welcomed.

Return the form to a member of the Organizing Committee by the 24th SEPTEMBER, but don't stay away because you forgot to reply. Friends and families will be welcomed.

(Tear along dotted line.)

Messrs. C. Hooper,
G. Norman,
H. Stephen,

Agricultural College,
Roseworthy,
South Australia.

Dear Sirs,

I will / will not be present at the Visiting and Sports Day on Sunday, 30th September, 1962. I would be prepared to play in the following sports (indicate preference): Tennis.....

Rifles..... Cricket..... Golf.....

My party will consist of..... people.

Yours faithfully,

.....

CUT THIS OUT AND POST NOW!!

It is with regret that we announce that

WALTER JOHN SPAFFORD

Roseworthy student from 1904 to 1905 — former Principal for a brief period — wheat breeder — Director of Agriculture — Chairman of the Australian Barley Board — one of the greatest of South Australia's practical agricultural administrators — a man who probably had a bigger influence on S.A.'s agriculture than anyone since Federation — died in harness on the 31st of May. He was 78. An appreciation of his work and influence, with reflections by some of those associated with him will be published in the next "R.O.C.A. DIGEST".

The Award of Merit

You will recall that at the A.G.M. in 1960 it was decided that an Award of Merit should be introduced by the Association and awarded from time to time in recognition of outstanding service to Agriculture by Roseworthy Old Collegians.

It was decided that nominations would be called annually in May, and that awards would be made on the recommendation of a Selection Committee invited by the Association to determine the awards.

The first recipient of the award was Mr. Rowland Hill. He was presented with a medal to mark the occasion at last year's Reunion Dinner. A pen picture of Mr. Hill will appear in the next issue of the Digest.

The second recipient, whose award has just been announced, is Dr. D. S. Riceman, of the C.S.I.R.O. His award will be presented at the dinner on Saturday, September 8th. The story of the recipient and his work will be published in a later Digest.

The Association is pleased to acknowledge the work of the Selection Committee members, Mr. J. Sneyd (Chairman), Professor Donald, Mr. Strickland and Mr. W. S. Morrison.

Dr. McCulloch was at Roseworthy for 12 years. For 10 years he was College Principal. Hundreds of students who passed through the College in that time got to know him and respect him as a man of complete integrity.

This farewell to Dr. McCulloch has been written for the Digest by Leith Yelland.

R.O.C.A. SAYS FAREWELL TO DR. McCULLOCH

A man with a keen and subtle sense of humour and an extreme sympathy for the student cause is how associates have described the College's former Principal, Dr. R. N. McCulloch, M.B.E., D.Sc.Agr., B.Sc. (Oxon.).

According to the College Secretary and Accountant, Mr. B. C. Philp, the Doctor's actions were at all times motivated by this extreme sympathy for the student cause.

"He was always trying to do what he could to maintain the College reputation and standing," Mr. Philp said.

Even though the Doctor was sometimes very reserved, he was full of understanding of the frailties of human beings and earnest in his desire to be helpful.

The construction of the new third year accommodation block during his period as Principal emphasised the Doctor's policy to improve the students' living conditions.

Dr. McCulloch was born at Urana on the Riverina Plains of New South Wales, and underwent his schooling at Fort Street High, Sydney. In 1922 he entered the Agricultural Science Course at the Sydney University. His outstanding record at the University earned him the Rhodes Scholarship for New South Wales in 1926.

At New College, Oxford, Dr. McCulloch says he learned more about being a gentleman than anything else. In those days academic work at Oxford was of secondary importance to the job of moulding character and the observance of "the done thing".

During his term there the Doctor was a member of the rowing "eight"—a fact that accounts for the interest he took in fostering water sports at Roseworthy.

After his return from England, and during the period 1929 to 1942, he worked as an entomologist in the New South Wales Department of Agriculture. His major project during this period was the study of the sheep blowfly.

He enlisted in the A.I.F. in 1942 and served in the Australian Medical Corps. It was during this period of service that his interest in entomology paid big dividends. As Major McCulloch he discovered and developed the

use of anti-mite fluid for the control of scrub typhus—a scourge that together with malaria accounted for more casualties in the South West Pacific area than the enemy.

This work had a big effect on enabling troops to live and fight in the tropics and earned for the Doctor the award of Member of the British Empire. Its value as a scientific study prompted the University of Sydney in 1950 to confer on him the degree of Doctor of Science in Agriculture.

He came to Roseworthy in 1947 as Deputy Principal, and on the promotion of Dr. Callaghan to Director of Agriculture he then became Principal in 1949.

Not all his years at College were happy ones. The tragic loss of his wife in 1959 is remembered sadly by all his associates. It left him a lonely man and increased the difficulties of his work as Principal.

Throughout his stay at Roseworthy he did much to promote interest in all sports. Brought up to play Rugby, he freely admitted that he did not fully understand Australian Rules Football, but he rarely missed a match in

continued on page 11.

A BOOK REVIEW BY "THE STOCK JOURNAL" STAFF WRITER JASON HOPTON

NEW MANUAL HAS SOMETHING FOR ALL PRIMARY PRODUCERS

Very recently published and printed in Melbourne, "A Manual of Australian Agriculture" is a compendium of practical agriculture compiled from papers of 108 leading scientists.

Reaching out to touch all aspects of Australian agriculture, the manual should find its way to every library shelf of owners connected with this country's primary industries. It is a reference book of merit and potential asset for the man on the land.

This tool of trade was edited by Dr. Umre Molnar, assisted by Sir Samuel Wadham and a select committee, for the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, whose members rallied to contribute from their own special fields.

The manual will have answers for all associated with primary industry which still does provide 80 per cent. of our country's exports —and will continue to do so, we trust.

South Australians who helped in the make-up of the book included the Director of Agriculture, Mr. Strickland; Professor C. M. Donald, of the Agronomy Division at the Waite Institute; Dr. R. J. Swaby, also of the Waite Institute in the microbiology section; and the late D. C. Swann, entomologist at the Waite; Mr. Kelly, M.H.R., of "Merrindie", Tarlee; Chief Horticulturist, Mr. T. C. Miller, and Chief of the Division of Plant Industry, Mr. A. J. K. Walker.

The manual, with its charts and tables, will meet the needs of a wide range of readers from the city man with his side-line property to the irrigator, the fruitgrower, banker, land agent and jackeroo, too.

We feel that this book will prompt readers to look even further for information, and if they have to exert themselves in so doing, then this comprehensive book for the non-specialist is doing something for future prosperity.

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which the College team was playing, and was frequently known to lecture the football club when he detected any lethargy towards the game.

Under the guidance of the Doctor a Rural Youth Club was formed at the College to widen the scope of students' extra-curricula interests. He also gave every encouragement to student debaters, and while the A.B.C. conducted a series of Inter-Agricultural College debates Roseworthy was reasonably successful.

His concern for the well-being of staff and students alike is emphasised in an incident that Mr. Philp recalled.

A Steward by the name of Ray Morgan lost a leg in an accident that occurred after he had left his job at Roseworthy. In a letter to the Doctor (the accident occurred after Dr. McCulloch left Roseworthy), Mr. Philp mentioned Ray's misfortune. By return mail the Doctor asked for his address so that he could write to him to offer sympathy and encouragement.

Dr. McCulloch left the College to become Director of the newly established Tick Research Centre in New South Wales, and students past and present wish him good luck in his new appointment.

Cliff Hooper, Vice-President of R.O.C.A., and Sheep and Beef Cattle Instructor at R.O.C., is going to gather all the crumbs so that we can keep up to date with . . . .

College Chatter

The past few months have brought several resignations from the staff. Rex Kuchel has joined the staff of the Botanical Gardens as Botanist; Ed. Mann has returned to Ballarat as an executive with the firm in which he trained; Tony Carey has transferred to Adelaide as Nutritional Officer with Meggitt's Ltd., and Bas. Christie will be lecturing at the University.

Unfortunately not even Bill Bussell can start rumours about appointments to replace these staff members.

Seeding of wheat and oats was completed in June with 160 acres of wheat and 90 acres of oats. The dry spell following the rain permitted this seeding under almost ideal conditions. The barley (260 acres) had still to be planted when we went to press.

By mid-June paddock feed had made enough headway to supply stock, although breeding ewes are showing the effect of the season. Merino lambing gave a figure of 86%.

The Plant Breeding section is gradually expanding its programme. In the past Roseworthy has been used as the testing area for new varieties irrespective of the environment where the crop was to be grown. Possibly this method may have resulted in the discarding of some selections which would have proved themselves under other conditions. Further testing areas are being established at Stow (10 miles west of Balaklava), on sandy soil in 13" rainfall. This is a duplication of the Palmer Trials. Another area at Farrell Flat will be used for testing under wetter conditions. Two new oat varieties are to be further tested throughout the State by the Department of Agriculture, and their release or otherwise will depend on these trials.

The main project in hand at present is the building of the hammer mill shed on the old dairy site. Construction will be so that the battery of silos feeds into the building. Plans are being prepared for the expansion of the poultry unit to house 2,500 birds.

SPORTING

Football—Both teams are gradually settling down and have beaten all other teams except Gawler Souths. They appear likely premiers and we are waiting to meet them again in the second round of games to find out our own chances.

Tennis and Rifles—The Inter-Col. will be over by the time you read this. It is planned to be held in July, and our teams are said to be stronger than last year.

WORLD CRICKET TOUR IN 1964 BY AUSTRALIAN OLD COLLEGIANS' CRICKET TEAM

Applicants welcomed.
Entries close October 30th, 1962.
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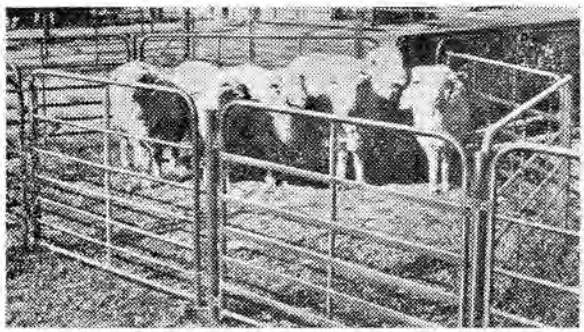

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In twenty-one years of extension work, Mr. R. I. Herriot has had a big influence on South Australia's agriculture. We anticipate that he will bring to Roseworthy the drive and energy which have characterised his whole career. When he interviewed him recently for the Digest, Leith Yelland found that . . .

Roseworthy's new Principal, Mr. R. I. Herriot, is a man who derives tremendous satisfaction from helping other people. For this reason more than any other he has enjoyed every aspect of his varied career—a career in which the keyword has always been education.

Essentially a modest man, Mr. Herriot maintains that his life has been "one of those easy passages". Despite the amount of hard work he has put in as a teacher, extension officer and administrator, he claims that his appointments have been a matter of luck.

"I've been lucky", he says; "I seem to have been at several spots at the right time".

Whether or not this is true, Mr. Herriot has been at more than "several spots". He has travelled widely in S.A. and knows this State thoroughly. In return the country people of S.A. know and respect him.

Strangely enough for a man who either directly or indirectly has been a teacher all his life, he cannot recall just when in his formative years he decided that he would like to teach. He does, however recall that, like many young men, he dreamed early of going on the land.

He was born in Adelaide in 1910, the year in which his father, who was a storekeeper, moved the family to Mount Pleasant. It was here that Mr. Herriot received his primary schooling.

In 1923 he commenced his secondary education at Adelaide High School. He spent

THE NEW COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

"LIKES TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE"

two years there, went back to Birdwood higher primary school for one year, and then returned to Adelaide High as an Education Department student.

He matriculated the following year with passes in eight subjects and credits in two—geography and physics.

The year 1928 saw his first step on the road to educating others—he started at the Teachers' College.

Mr. Herriot does offer one explanation as to why his thoughts turned towards teaching when he says with a smile: "I didn't want to leave school, but the old man couldn't afford to keep me any longer".

After spending 12 months doing a straight science course at the Teachers' College he began the new agricultural science course that was instituted in that year. In 1929 he made his first major contact with Roseworthy, because as part of the new course he was required to spend 12 months at the College and sit for all second and third year and some first year exams in one year.

This did not, however, mean that outside work on the farm was overlooked, and he was required to work over vacations and at other periods until he put in three months' practical work. Naturally this necessitated a considerable amount of week-end labour.

He also put in an additional three months on private farms.

The reward for his labours came at the end of 1932 when, with Mr. Ken Elliott, he graduated—the two men being the first two graduates from the new course.

In actual fact Mr. Herriot spent 1932 teaching in Balaklava High while he completed his final subject for the course.

Incidentally, during his student year at Roseworthy he and four other students lived for a period in the "Possum's Hut"—the cot-

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tage adjacent to the Principal's residence that is now used as a tool shed in conjunction with the College garden.

For four years he taught chemistry, physics, botany and agriculture to the leaving year at Balaklava. Then in 1936 he was transferred to Mount Gambier for a further 18 months of teaching.

In 1935 he married another of the teachers at Balaklava. She was a Miss Vera Burton from Adelaide.

His career took a big step forward in mid-1937 when he accepted a position on the then C.S.I.R. Division of Soils as an assistant research officer. His soil survey work meant that he was very often away from his family for three months at a time, but with Mr. Herriott it was a labour of love.

In March, 1941, he became the first soil conservator with the Department of Agriculture on a salary of £497 a year.

Mr. Herriot recalls that in the early days the soil conservation branch was very much a "one man show". For two years he worked on his own until joined by Mr. J. A. Beare.

According to Mr. Herriot those early war years were hectic but enjoyable. His travels took him all over the State, and very often meant long spells of night driving. These drives were hampered by civil defence regulations that would only allow slits for headlights and no road signs. In addition there was a vehicle speed limit of 30 m.p.h., the idea being, you may remember, to reduce tyre wear and conserve rubber.

Although he saw no active service he was on the Air Force reserve during this period but was not called up.

Although widely acclaimed as the man behind contour banking in this State, Mr. Herriot is none-the-less a little vague on just where the first banks were constructed. He recalls that early work was carried out on Mr. Bert Kelly's property at Tarlee and the late Mr. Ellis Wilsdon's property at Andrews. In those days Mr. Kelly was a member of the Soil Conservation Advisory Committee.

As the soil conservation branch grew, Mr. Herriot became branch head and further enhanced the reputation he had earned in soil conservation work.

It was this work that he really enjoyed. As he puts it: "The workhorse job in soil conservation was most satisfying".

Continued on Page 21

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"Those who have had the privilege of training at Roseworthy Agricultural College have ideal qualifications for . . . assisting South East Asian countries . . . and thus have a particular responsibility to seek an opportunity to assist."

This opinion is expressed by Mr. M. B. Spurling, M.Ag.Sc., our first Guest Writer, in this article on South East Asia. He tells us of the practical aid which Australia should be offering to our Asian neighbours.

Mr. Spurling, former Horticulturist at Roseworthy and now Senior Horticulturist with the Department of Agriculture, spent six months in Indonesia, Malaya, Burma and Thailand as a SEATO Cultural Relations Research Fellow. His task was to determine methods of increasing production from indigenous fruits, especially citrus.

He now introduces us to . . .

SOUTH EAST ASIA — PRESENT AND FUTURE

There should no longer be any need to convince Australians that the future of South East Asia is vitally important to **our** future.

However, if you still think we are geographically too far removed from South East Asia to be concerned, let me remind you that there is Indonesian territory less than 200 miles from Australia's shores and that Darwin is closer to Djakarta, the capital of Indonesia, than it is to our own capital, Canberra.

If you have not been particularly concerned by the territorial gain of Communist China in Tibet, Korea, Vietnam and Laos, just remember that Darwin is closer to Saigon the capital of Vietnam than to Hobart.

If your interests are in growing one of our export products, then South East Asia must concern you. At present Australia sends over one-third of her exports to the United Kingdom and Europe, and when the United Kingdom joins the European Common Market we will have to find markets in South East Asia for several hundred million pounds' worth of exports.

Then there are several less selfish reasons why we should be interested in South East Asian countries. Of all the western countries, Australia is in the best position to help development in these countries through providing higher education training for their students and by lending them trained personnel to help establish new industries or improve old ones.

THE FUTURE IS IN OUR HANDS

Whatever the reason for our interest in South East Asia, it is vitally important to our future that we be increasingly interested. In fact, as Dr. O. Frankel, addressing the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science recently said, what we do during the next 20-30 years to help the development in South East Asian countries may well determine whether we retain our identity in this part of the world or become submerged in an uncontrolled migration flood initiated by hunger.

Twenty-five per cent. of the world's population has a standard of nutrition equivalent to our own; a further 20 per cent. (most of Southern Europe, Latin America and parts of Africa) has a barely adequate diet; but 55 per cent. of the world's population has less than the desired minimum—and most of these people are in Asia on our doorstep.

It helps our understanding of the situation to remind ourselves now and again that whereas we usually finish our meals when we have had enough and often more than enough, millions of people to our north finish their daily meals when all the food available is eaten.

It is conservatively estimated that the population of Asia will treble in the next 40 years. At present the rate of increase in the production of food in those countries is just keeping

Continued on Page 16

pace with the rate of increase in the population. Our future depends on whether we can ensure a sufficient increase in the rate of development of the production resources in Asia, so that their expected vast increase in population will in fact be fed adequately.

Before we consider what we must do, let us get the facts straight on the present situation in South East Asia. There are several common mistaken ideas of what conditions are like in Asia. These concern population density, agricultural efficiency and the potential for increased agricultural production.

POPULATION DENSITY

The popular belief in Australia often is that Asia is one vast teeming ant hill of people, but this is not really the position.

There **are** some very densely populated areas in Asia. For example, in Java, with an area less than that of Victoria, there are 65 million people; while the areas of north-east India, along the Brahmaputra River, in eastern China along the deltas of the Yellow River and the Yangtze Kiang, and in north-eastern Vietnam along the Red River delta — these are all densely populated.

However, the average population density of South East Asia is only 138 persons per square mile, compared with an average in Europe of 212, and figures as high as 540 in the United Kingdom and 839 in the Netherlands (1957 figures).

Singapore island is a good example of the way of life in Asia. On this island with an area of about 220 square miles there are two million people.

Virtually all of these two million people (mainly Chinese) are concentrated by choice in about 1/10 of the island's area close to the harbour, while the rest of the island is largely uninhabited. Throughout Asia the cities and the rice plains are densely populated, but otherwise there are large areas only sparsely populated and large areas of potentially good agricultural land completely undeveloped.

AGRICULTURAL EFFICIENCY

A second popular misconception of Asia is that the efficiency of their agriculture is truly represented by our mental picture of the industrious Chinese vegetable gardener. In fact, except in several specific cases, their agricultural efficiency, however it is measured, is generally very low.

Agricultural efficiency can be measured in several ways. It may be in terms of the value of the production in pounds per acre or in the weight of crop produced per acre or in terms of the number of people maintained on a farm unit; or it can be measured by the food value in calories or the amount of protein produced per acre. However, probably the most critical measure is actual production as a percentage of the potential production in the particular situation.

When we appreciate that the production potential of a tropical climate is such that two or three crops of rice plus a crop of vegetables can be taken off the same land in 12 months and that much of the arable areas of places like Java, Sumatra and Malaya and the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan, consist of very fertile volcanic soils, the efficiency of their agricultural production is very low. Even including the several crops, rice yields, for example, are even higher in Australia than in Japan and three times those of Indonesia.

Only in Japan and Taiwan can the efficiency of the agriculture be said to be high. In both of these countries agricultural research and extension are well developed. Particularly is it significant that there is effective communication to farmers of improved techniques in these countries.

We in Australia need to remind ourselves of how much we owe to our high basic standard of agricultural extension throughout the country. Imagine the problems of agricultural extension in a country such as Indonesia with several hundred languages spoken and less than 50 per cent. literacy in any language among the population.

Until we are making the fullest possible use of what is offered to us in technical advice and services to increase our production, we are not fully deserving of the privileged standard of living which we enjoy.

In Japan and Taiwan fertiliser usage is high, and fish farming is an important part of their agriculture. In several other South East Asian countries, such as Malaya and Thailand, the fertiliser usage is increasing. However, it is characteristic of agriculture throughout Asia, when comparing their agriculture with ours, that the grazing animal is of negligible importance in their food production. Through religious beliefs, pig meat is not eaten by some, beef not by others, while many will not eat animal meat at all. Poultry products and fish foods do not come into the list of restricted foods and are more important than here.

The important thing is that although the agricultural pattern of South East Asia is very

different from our own because of climate, soils and sociological reasons, the production potential is comparatively much greater and at the same time very much under-developed.

UNDEVELOPED AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL

The most significant wrong impression many people have of Asia is that there is little or no room for expansion or of increasing agricultural production through land development.

In fact, the undeveloped agricultural potential of South East Asia could adequately feed more than three times the present population just by developing available arable land and without raising the efficiency of production. By raising the efficiency of production in the cropped area by the application of present "know how", the resultant food production could support not less than six or eight times the present population.

For example, in Burma there are only 16 million acres of cropped land out of a total potential area of arable land of 58 million acres—less than one-third. There are 34 million acres of potential grazing land completely untouched. Similarly in most of the South East Asian countries, land development has not got far past the cultivation of the most easily accessible areas.

The reasons for the lack of land development are several. Firstly, there is a resistance on religious grounds in Buddhist countries, particularly to the development of more land or the production of more food than is needed for day to day needs. Then there are problems of land tenure and land titles. But possibly the major hold-up is lack of communications—roads and rails services, and of transport vehicles.

COMMUNICATIONS

Perishable foods—fruit and vegetables—have to be largely produced within easy walking distance of markets; and even the hard foodstuffs—grains, for example—have to be produced close by transport routes. The made roads in Laos, for example, with an area greater than Victoria, total only a few hundred miles; while in Burma, with an area equal to 5/6th of that of New South Wales, has only 4,000 miles of made roads.

Water transport contributes substantially to the communication system of the coastal areas of some countries, such as Borneo; while inland rivers, such as the Irrawaddy, the Mekong and the Yangtze Kiang, play an important part in moving agricultural produce.

Continued on Page 18

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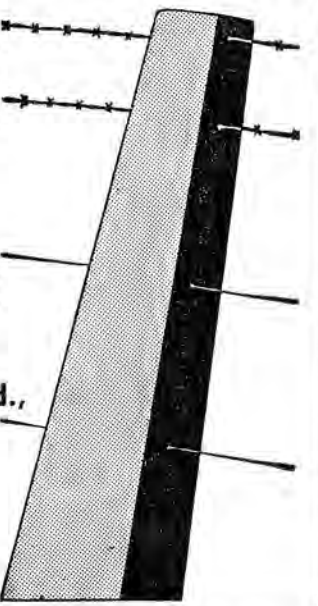

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In addition to the shortage of the means of transport for agricultural produce, the lack of communications creates a serious problem in the normal governmental administration of areas far from the major cities. This is particularly so in countries where there is an insurgent problem.

FAMINE AND FOOD SURPLUSES

The inadequacy of communications, both for transport and for administration, have a serious implication in times of food shortage in these countries. Partly because of a philosophy of life which discourages the owning or producing of more than one needs for day-to-day requirements, and partly because the normal availability of food is close to the subsistence level, any crop failure or calamities such as floods or storms very quickly result in food shortage in the affected area. Any efforts to relieve a famine area are seriously hampered by the inadequacy of the communications. Even if a surplus of food is available elsewhere in the country or is sent in as foreign aid, its distribution where needed is often quite beyond the local transport and administrative system.

The thought is often expressed that surely the surpluses of hard foods—grains in particular—from countries such as Australia and the United States of America, are the answer to famine in the under-developed countries.

In fact, estimates by United Nations indicate that if the total surpluses of the United States of America were given to the countries of South East Asia, there would only be enough to raise the average food intake per person by about 200 calories per day for about three years. In any case, the inadequacy of present means of distribution would make such a project impossible to execute effectively.

The principal food surplus in Australia is meat, and therefore of little use in South East Asia. In addition, it is insignificant in amount when compared with the problem, even if it were acceptable as a food. In fact, the total food surpluses of the developed countries of the world could only make a trivial contribution towards solving the problem of food deficiency in Asia.

The only answer to the problem is the increasing of food production within the countries concerned.

THE ANSWER IS SELF-SUFFICIENCY

As already indicated, the undeveloped potential for food production in South East Asia is more than adequate to meet the requirements of anticipated population increases in the foreseeable future.

How can the rate of increase in food production be kept ahead of the population increase?

In Japan the problem has been handled very successfully in the last 20 years. Their experience has shown that a two-pronged attack is necessary — population control by birth control to slow down the explosive rate of population increase initially associated with the improved standard of living of a developed modern society; and secondly, increased food production by the full utilisation of agricultural resources. The scientific "know how" is already available to achieve both of these requirements, but cannot be effectively applied until the basic standard of education is raised.

Until the population is largely literate, the difficulty of teaching the majority of the people the why and how of family size control and of getting through to the farmer the methods for increasing food production is obvious.

The fundamental first step towards developing self-sufficiency of under-developed countries is raising the basic standard of education. Foreign aid can develop new industries and start land development projects, but the improvements will not be permanent until the country can look after these developments.

The seriousness of the illiteracy in South East Asia can be gauged from the facts that even in Burma, which has the highest rate of literacy of any of the South East Asian countries, the percentage is only 70 per cent. In most countries the total percentage of the population which is literate is much lower, and then the literacy may be in one of several languages.

THE PROBLEM OF ILLITERACY AND AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

The problem of there not being a common language throughout the country is found in all Asian countries. In Malaya, for example, the agricultural extension service must be geared to contact farmers who can be Malays or Indians or Chinese.

The problem is probably worst in Indonesia, where there are several hundred different languages spoken and many hundreds of local dialects. At the time of the independence, in 1949, it was estimated that only 27 per cent. of the population was literate in any language. This figure has been raised to over 50 per cent. and a national language, Bahasa Indonesia, adapted, but the problem is still seriously hampering development.

There is a less obvious but nevertheless serious problem associated with the language difference in these countries. The most commonly used language of the scientific world—agriculturally and otherwise—is English. Thus the technical "know how" available to South East Asian countries is principally in English. It must not only be translated into the local language, but generally these languages, such as Bahasa Indonesia, just don't contain the necessary vobaculary for the adequate translation of technical material. Thus, there cannot be a ready flow into South East Asia of the scientific "know how" from the developed countries of the world.

As far as agricultural development is concerned, anyone familiar with the extension service available to farmers in Australia can visualise the immensity of the problem of getting information to the farmer when, because of illiteracy or the low standard of education, we cannot use all the extension methods we take for granted—radio and newspapers, periodicals, journals, bulletins and leaflets, or the various group media such as the Agricultural Bureau with its conferences, talks, discussions and field days. We take these exten-

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sion media for granted and cannot visualise the full implications of what it would be like to be without them.

The difficulties of extension have been overcome to varying degrees in different ways in several countries. In general, the research information is processed and distributed to District Extension Officers in an organisation similar to our own, except that the various languages must be represented. Thus in Malaya the language of the research workers is usually English, but the extension officers may be Malay, Indian or Chinese. In Taiwan the extension officers would represent one of several dialects of Chinese.

Between the District Extension Officer and the farmer must be another link—the Farmers' Group Representative. Because the normal written and spoken group communication media between extension officer and farmer cannot be used, farmers must be contacted individually. Thus the District Extension Officer in Malaya may service 1,000-1,500 farmers, but through 10-15 village head men, each of whom represent farmers' groups of perhaps 80 to 120.

In Taiwan the Farmers' Group Representatives are employed by the industry marketing organisations—fruit packing co-operatives, etc. In Thailand the government employs Assistant District Officers as the farmers' direct contact.

These various methods are all providing some degree of extension contact with the farmer, but the efficiency of the extension service possible cannot compare with that through the more direct contact possible with a literate farming population.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Besides the more obvious assistance through providing educational facilities for visiting students, there is the need for technical assistance within the South East Asian countries.

The immediate need is not for the highly academically qualified expert to carry out research work, but for the experienced, practically qualified technical adviser—the adviser who cannot only show by demonstration how to bud or graft or develop land, but who is willing to accept the responsibility of establishing a fruit tree nursery or a sawmill or an irrigation project or a poultry unit, using and training local personnel in the process.

This sort of assistance is not easily given, but is what is required if these countries are to be developed to be self-supporting.

Those who have had the privilege of training at Roseworthy Agricultural College have ideal qualifications for this work and thus have a particular responsibility to seek an opportunity to assist. There are various organisations through which technical aid workers can operate, and none of them can get sufficient suitably qualified agricultural people to undertake all the projects for which finance is available.

Finally, an observation on how we can assist visiting Asian students. The environmental resources of Australia are such that our agricultural production has always required a capacity on the part of the farmer for self-reliance, whether it be called pioneering spirit or initiative. Whatever it is called it is the essential basic requirement for getting the maximum out of our agricultural potential for the well-being of the country rather than for personal gain.

There are many hundreds of students representing most countries of South East Asia in training here. They are training in all technical fields from architecture to agriculture. While they are here there are many opportunities for us to introduce them to the advantages of this Australian spirit of self-reliance and desire for self-support and independence.

This is the essential basic character requirement for the leaders in all trades and professions for the successful development of the countries to our north. Too often our attitude to visiting Asians is one of patronising tolerance rather than constructive assistance in their technical and character development. Our future depends on their future, and we can do much more to determine their future.

NEW COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Continued from Page 14

As a soil expert on the Marginal Lands Committee in 1946 he studied conditions in S.A.'s marginal areas and made recommendations for the rehabilitation of much eroded country.

Among the many highlights of his work at that time is one example of a farmer's gratitude that typifies what Mr. Herriot considers made the work so gratifying.

A Mallee farmer was in trouble with his local council about sand drift from his farm that was encroaching on a council road. The farmer was hostile towards any soil conservation officer, and the branch was getting nowhere with him.

Mr. Herriot approached one of the local council members who was a particular friend of the farmer, and through him was able to offer the farmer a loan of £700 from the Government to clean up the drift. The farmer hopped in and worked like a Trojan.

A firm friendship developed between Mr. Herriot and the farmer. Some years later the farmer called into Mr. Herriot's office and paid back every penny of the loan.

The big thing was that the farmer did not have to repay the loan. In the terms of the agreement it was repayable on sale or transfer of the property.

In 1950 Mr. Herriot did a nine-month overseas trip that took him to the U.S.A., Canada, Great Britain and Holland. The primary aim of the tour was to study soil conservation and general extension methods used in those countries.

As a secondary consideration he also had a detailed look at overseas Young Farmers' organisations.

He considers that extension work as we now know it grew out of this trip, and in 1952 Mr. Herriot was instrumental in starting Departmental in-service training schools. Soon after this he was a leading light in the battle to create interest in farm management.

Toward the end of 1954 Mr. Herriot was appointed Chief of the Division of Extension Services and Information, and in 1960 he became the Deputy Director of Agriculture. It was during the time he was Chief of the Extension Services that he spent six weeks in New Guinea to attend an extension conference and have a good look around. That was in 1957. One of the reasons for this trip was to study more carefully the social side of extension work.

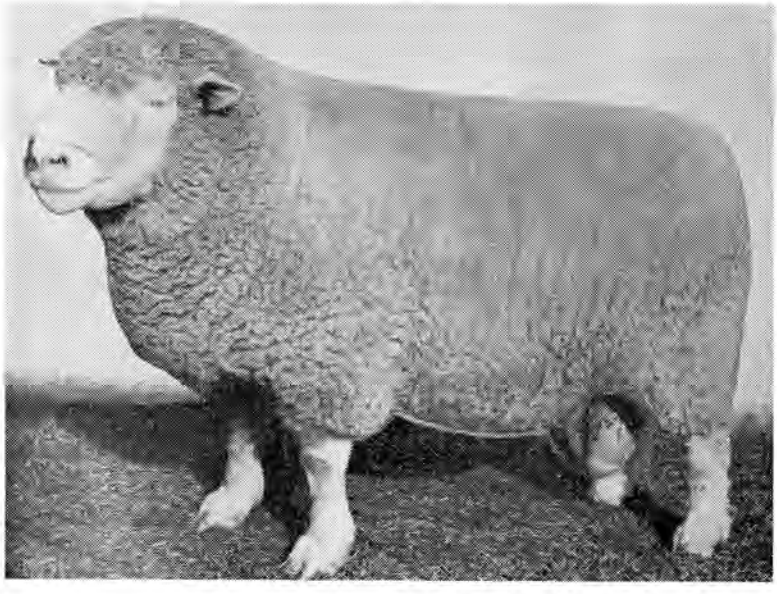
Although he has only been Principal at Roseworthy for some four months now, his realistic approach to some of the problems is already apparent.

One of these problems, he says, is the wide age range of the students—from "young" 16's to some in their mid and late 20's.

"The problems we encounter at Roseworthy are essentially the problems of modern youth as a whole", he points out.

"You've got to take the good with the bad.

"Very few people come through Roseworthy who are not better citizens for having been here".



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"The Grapevine"

by IAN FRY

Anyone here speak Spanish?

I got a letter the other day from Michael Frost. Mick is on a one-man goodwill mission in Paraguay at the moment. It seems that he got the travel bug and the urge to help people in some less fortunate part of the world at the same time, and managed to get a job over there. I gather he's a pretty good ambassador for Roseworthy and Australia, and he's certainly enjoying the experience.

In his letter Mick says: "Australia and our know-how is held in high regard over here, in spite of a powerful American influence. . . . One is very well received, and there is great interest here in young men who wish to go to Australia to see first-hand how we are handling our problems. Several young men have approached me and discussed a tour of Australia and asked my help. I have taken the liberty to give them your name, and should they contact you I would very much appreciate your helping them to learn something of our set up."

He goes on to say that, of course, not all of them will leave their country, but if some do arrive and contact me I'll do all I can to assist them. What better way could there be for them to "see our set up" than to spend a few days on an Old Collegian's farm? Perhaps you and your family would like to entertain a South American visitor for a few days? Yes?

Talking long distance reminds me that Steve Cho has returned to Malaya. He has a position with the Rubber Research Institute of Malaya. Before he left, Malcolm and Mary Dixon gave a party at their Leabrook home, and many of us from Steve's year had a chance to wish him well.

We'll always remember him as that friendly little table-tennis-playing tenor who never lost an impish grin. Steve completed a B.Sc. on top of his R.D.A., and then spent a year at Waite Institute before going home. We'll expect a newsy letter from Kuala Lumpur pretty soon now.

Cliff Hooper tells me that "Strawb" Freundt called in at the College about last Christmas. "Strawb" is in a spot that has had the headlines lately. He's an agricultural worker for the New Guinea Lutheran Mission at Wabag in the Western Highlands.

Well, I've decided the pastoral country isn't so good in the wet. I recently called at "Mundallio", via Port Augusta, to have a yarn with Tony and Isabel Miller just after the country had had two inches of rain.

I got stuck!

The first time in years, too, and only 400 miles on the clock of a new Station Sedan.

However, to compensate for this we had a great old chinwag, and I found a third bed in the house occupied. Tony and Isabel have a son—their first. Congratulations.

There always seems to be an Old Collegian on the move somewhere or other in the Department of Agriculture. At the moment they seem to be going everywhere.

Cec. Gross has come up from Mount Gambier, where he was Agricultural Adviser for several years, to Adelaide to replace Ray Taylor, who resigned to join the Commonwealth Development Bank some time ago. (Ray and "Andy" Michelmore, who was at Keith, resigned together to go to the same place.)

Don Stevens has gone from Kangaroo Island Research Centre, where he was Project Officer, to Keith; and Bob Hagerstrom (Project Officer—Barley Improvement) has gone down to Mount Gambier as District Adviser.

Don and Jenny are living in a private house a few miles from Keith while a new Departmental house is being built.

Max O'Neil has been promoted from Project Officer to Agricultural Adviser (Weed Control), but he hasn't been shifted from Adelaide.

Ian Waugh has also had a rise and is now a Dairy Factory Inspector.

Every student from 1950 onwards will remember Stan Green. He caused more backache for students than everything else put together. He was the shearing instructor!

Stan joined the D. of Agriculture about eighteen months ago, and is busy running crutching and shearing shed management schools. He's also available to discuss hand-

Continued on Page 27

From time to time Andrew Brown and Harold Nash will discuss what Old Collegians are doing in the livestock world—and perhaps what they **ought** to be doing.

In this issue Andrew has a look at the . . .

MERINO FIELD DAYS

THE STUD "SHOP WINDOW" AND THE CHANCE TO CATCH UP ON OUR NEEDS

Merino Field Days give us all an opportunity to see the type of sheep produced by the studs of this State. For most of us it is a chance that we cannot afford to miss. A visit at regular intervals keeps us in touch with improvements going on in the industry.

These displays have been termed the "Studs' Shop Window", and this is quite apt. By comparing the different bloodlines available we can find one that has the particular qualities suited to our own district.

It is disappointing to record that few R.O.C.A. badge wearers were noticed at this year's Field Days which were held in late March/April. Old Collegians should surely be aware of the benefits derived from attending them.

On a recent visit to Roopena Proprietors' holdings at Whyalla I talked with Don and Andrew Nicholson. They appreciate the need for a large, strong-boned ram which will be able to keep up with the ewes during the hot mating period in their country. As fly-struck hoggets are culled from the flock on this property the need for selecting rams without too much breech wrinkle needs no further emphasis.

These two Old Collegians say that particular attention must be paid to the backline where the most weather damage occurs. Open, wasty back wool suffers badly in lean times. Their good management avoids many of the problems usually associated with the pastoral country.

Most pastoralists will agree that good density and thickness of staple are necessary to avoid dust damage. However, density should not be selected for at the expense of staple length. It is worth remembering that each wool quality should have a certain minimum staple length—

Continued on Page 27

PRESENT-DAY CONDITIONS DEMAND MAXIMUM RETURNS

GALLOWAY CORRIEDALES

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Galloway Stud and Flock Rams, reared in 20 in. average rainfall under natural conditions, give buyers confidence of a good drop in first season.

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Letters to the Editor

Do you remember our appeal for contributions to the Digest in the back of the last "STUDENT"?

You do?

Well, here it is. Read it with interest. The one and only letter!

Thanks very much, John. Your letter was much appreciated. You have certainly led an unusual existence since you left R.A.C. I trust that things are looking much better up your way by now. Any chance of finding oil at 120 feet, too, do you think?

—Ed.

After you have read John Hayes's letter, why not sit down and put pen to paper yourself? We want to hear what you are doing, and so do all your old friends. Your experience may quite easily help someone else. Why keep it to yourself?

Remember, too, that this column is open as a forum for discussion or expression of ideas on any subject that comes under the broad heading of "agriculture".

ALICE SPRINGS LETTER

7 Mills Street,
East Side,
Alice Springs,
27-1-62.

Dear Sir,

Just a letter to let you know that I am in Central Australia and pleased to receive my magazine, the first as an old student.

My life has been quite varied since I left College. First, my father had a block of country 1,000 square miles in area on the fringe of the Simpson's Desert, some 250 miles due east of Alice Springs. Actually it is where the Plenty River floods out.

We left Alice in June to search for water. To get the boring plant down it took ten days. We had to cut and navigate 80 miles of country making a road. We had to join two ex-army blitzs together to pull the plant around the heavy sandy flats. It was impossible to cross the sandhills, and had to travel some 15-20 miles to get around them to gain 1-2 miles in our direction. Finally we arrived after doing the last 30 miles in three days.

We then set the plant up ready for boring, then had to cart water 30 miles to bore with. This took another two days. At last we started boring. Three days later we were down 120 feet with water, so we went on to 152 feet, then tested at 1,000 g.p.h. of excellent quality water.

On completion of this bore we went down 10 miles and put another down. This bore ended up at 250 feet and supply was about 1,000 g.p.h. The water was pumped from 120 feet, so it rose 100 feet. The water also was very soft and appears to be one of the softest bores in the Centre.

So we had our water problems solved. This, I might add, was exceptionally lucky, as boring in Central Australia averages about one in six tries. The country was in good heart, although it only received two inches of rain in 1961. So we immediately equipped with bores.

The first was a 17-foot Southern Cross Mill, 25,000 gallon tank, and 60 feet of troughing. The second was only a pumpjack and engine for a camp and 50 horses.

The next problem was to get cattle, as numbers have been dwindling fast in the last four years. We managed to get 400 only, which are now doing exceptionally well.

We also have built a wire yard to hold 1,000 cattle, which will be necessary once branding starts in a year or two.

In addition we have 800 cattle on agistment from a neighbour at 2/- per head per week. The station these came from has closed down temporarily until the drought breaks. They had only 80 points of rain again this year.

So far everything has gone according to plan, and this year we have had over eight inches of rain since Christmas.

Not only the rain will benefit us, but also there is a good bit of flood out country. So far the river has run a banker twice this month.

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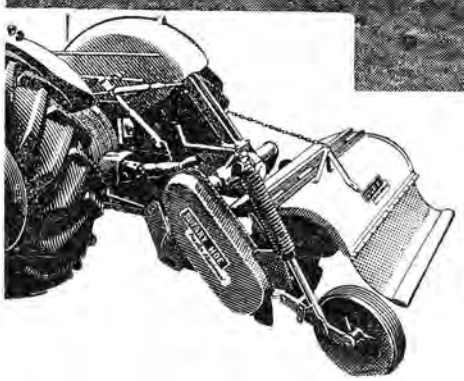

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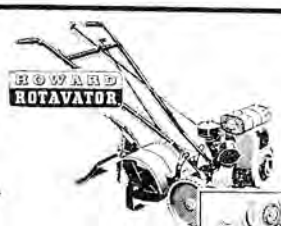

SELF-PROPELLED

BULLFINCH

Featuring low-revving, 4-stroke fan-cooled engine, with power drive both to wheels and rotor, and full range of attachments, "BULLFINCH" is a powerful and versatile machine — ideal for all important jobs around the garden.

The country consists of river flats some 15 miles wide and almost extend continuously along the river. Grasses mainly star grass, with patches of Flinders and Mitchell grass lagoons. Topfeed is scarce, but what is available is all accessible, being low and palatable, namely, whitewood, bloodwood, beefwood, ironwood and dessert mallee. No gidgea or mulga. The rest would be spinifex growing 4-5 feet high, rather soft and edible. Cattle do quite well on it provided they get a drink every day, more so noticeably when droving. No hills other than continuous, monotonous sandhills covered with spinifex.

Native animals are scarce, such as rabbits and kangaroos, a good few dingoes, and several hundred wild camels. It is important to note these animals only get a drink after the rains, and rely on any greenfeed to get their moisture requirements until the next rain.

This is a brief summary of my experiences in '61. Now I am back boring in Alice and surrounding stations. The drought still has not broken in the Centre on most stations, especially the older-established places. People have commenced cutting topfeed with McCullock chain saws to keep the rest of the cattle alive. Some have been carting water to cattle feeding on scrub.

The rain was good but the dust storms were better and cut most of the shoots off just like the Mallee areas in S.A. Erosion like never seen before. Hard-hilly country covered in sandhills. Roads covered with sand. It is all really unbelievable. Still some cattle continue to live.

Another interesting point, that people had to pay 30/- for a bale of hay from Stock Agents here.

There are very few jobs up here. Some people are working just for their keep at present. There is very little chance of anyone getting any more land around the Alice.

I must cast off here for the time. Regards.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN E. HAYES.

"THE GRAPEVINE"

Continued from Page 23

Someone mentioned the other day that Pat Auld has recently gone from the Smithfield Pastoral Co. to Brewarrina in New South Wales. The property he is now managing is owned by the same people, so it's really just a transfer.

Has anyone been over that way lately?

MERINO FIELD DAYS

Continued from Page 24

at least 3½" for 60s and 4" for a 58s count.

Many farmers in the agricultural country could improve the quality and evenness of their wool clips by paying more attention to their ram selection. Sheep in these areas have to withstand dust penetration and drying out from stubble and fallow grazing, and a dense, well-nourished fleece is required.

The "West Coasters" are becoming more aware of the particular need for more nourishment in their wool. This has in no small part been brought about by discussions at Hogget Competitions held in many centres.

Many Old Collegians seem to be attracted to the South East.

The improved pastures of perennial grasses, clovers and lucernes which cover thousands of acres of the Upper South East provide excellent dry feed and ground cover during the dry period. John Nicholls, Rex Anderson and Lionel Dawes, to name but a few, could tell us much about the virtues of this area for sheep raising.

On the other hand, those Collegians living further south often find themselves wading through their pastures! Sheep bred for these parts should be selected for their ability to withstand fleece rot and bacterial stain, but density and nourishment are important here, too. The Merino Strain Trials conducted by the C.S.I.R.O. indicate that the finer wool types are less susceptible to fleece rot than the stronger woolled strains.

No matter what part of the State we are in, the Field Days can show us something. Why not make it a date to meet some of your friends and see some good sheep at the same time at next year's "Shop Window"?

A regular visitor to College is recent graduate Laurie Gill, who is farming at Kangaroo Flat, only half a mile from the College. He's following Roseworthy's new fencing methods quite closely. Are they any good, Laurie?

It is with regret that we report the passing of Mrs. Eddie Van Hoof a few weeks ago. We extend our sincere sympathy to Eddie in his tragic loss. He is managing the dairy factory at Meningie.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

The Secretary,
Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association,
Agricultural College,
Roseworthy,
South Australia.

Dear Sir,

Please note that I have changed my address. My new address is given below. Please add it to your records and the "R.O.C.A. DIGEST" mailing list.

Name (Printed).....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Yours faithfully,

.....

(Tear along dotted line.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

MEMBERS! If you do not need it for a renewal yourself, tear this form out and hand it to the next Old Collegian friend whom you meet who is not a member of R.O.C.A. If you have finished with it, hand him your Digest too—he will be interested to read it, too.

(Tear along dotted line.)

The Treasurer,
Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association,
Agricultural College,
Roseworthy,
South Australia.

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed my cheque/money order/postal note for £...../...../.....

NOTE—Annual subscription is 10/- per year. Life Membership is £10.

Yours faithfully,

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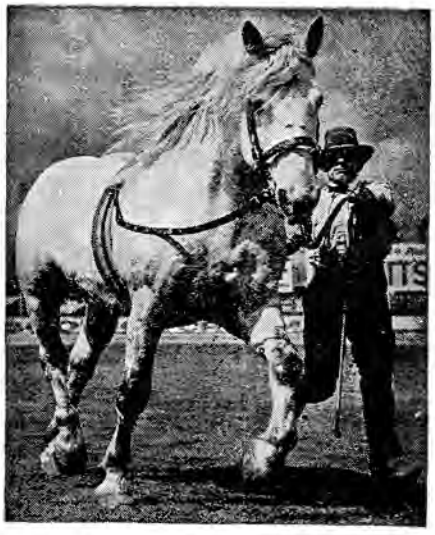

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