R.O.C.A. Digest

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

Volume 1. No. 3. December 1962

1/-

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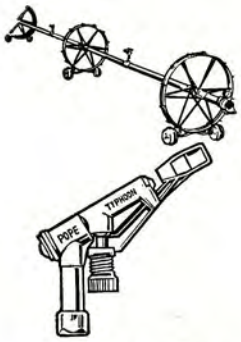

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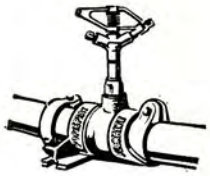

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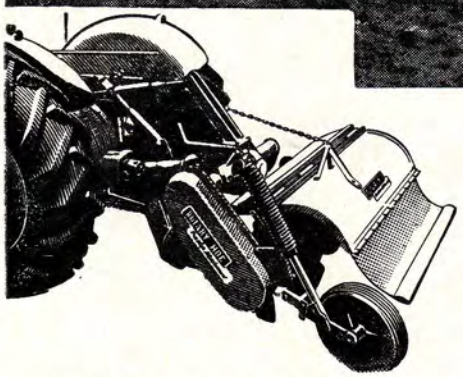

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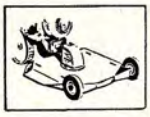

EDITORIAL

Recently when I called at the College one week-end to see our Secretary, Harry Stephen, I found him training with staff and students on the Mudla Wirra District E.F.S. Unit which is housed at the College.

Training and preparation for the bushfire season had begun well in advance of normal seasonal requirements.

We see in this venture an excellent example of community effort and co-operation between the College and the District, as well as a great improvement on the system which had operated "in my day".

Even as we prepared to go to press with this Christmas Digest there had already been major bushfires on Kangaroo Island and in the South-East. Coupled with several early bursts of heat, exceptionally high winds and severe dust storms this presents a disturbing picture of what may lay ahead.

Harvest is well advanced—school holidays have begun—and Christmas is almost with us.

As we reflect on the terrible fire tradgedies which too often mar the festive season we ought remember the contribution the College and its students are making towards fire security in their district. Spurred on by this thought we may decide to make a greater effort towards fire prevention and control in our own districts—as our Christmas gesture to the community.

R.O.C.A. extends to its members, students, staff and friends the Compliments of the Season. May you have a Happy Christmas and a Bright Prosperous New Year—free from the worries of fires.

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THE OLD TIMER'S LAMENT

(with apologies from Max O'Neil)

These bloody young diplomates aren't worth a bob—a dead loss, in fact. A head full of cocky chaff and very little grain.

Only last week I said to one of them, "Which machine would you use on this crop?"

"Well, at the College," he said, "we would use the Big E."

Good Lord! I worked it myself (when I was there 30 years ago), and it wasn't new then. Robertson of Ballarat would be pleased about this. He'd expect it to be in a museum.

Now Jack Daly's a bloke for an earthy opinion. I winced as I said, "Jack, what's with the kids?" . . . You would, Jack? That's a bit drastic . . . you could justify that?"

"Well, thanks, Jack, but I doubt if the editor will print any of it!"

Now we all know Jack Daly. He can speak as he pleases. He'd be the first to shear an outsider eyebrow offensively raised.

Shorn from all the picturesque language, Jack (if I'd asked him) could have said something like this—and what's more we agree.

"Could any of them plough a furrow to the far side fence and avoid the magpie on the sight peg? Plough it straight as Fred Hillman could do, even though the mare in furrow might be linear planning pregnancy?" Belligerently — "Could they?" "Well, could they?" "Not on your bloody life!"

"But they're clever with old bombs. The evidence was there when they left for the inter-year break. Motors, chassis and spare parts all over the place — enough to build several more, in fact. But I doubt if the junk will be there this time when they get back."

Well, we are all agreed that the standard is down; the place isn't what it was in our time. But what's constructive to do? Hang on a moment, I'll ask Jack.

"Well, Jack, what's with the bloody young cubs?" His reply, surprisingly, we could print. He said simply, "Let's leave it to Bob."

VISITING AND SPORTS DAY

The change to Sunday, September 30 appears to have been a very successful move, as we had a far better attendance than in the previous few years. It was very pleasing to see the Chapel almost full when the Rev. D. I. Telfer (1930-32) took the service at 10.30. Our thanks are due to this Old Collegian, who, at very short notice, organised his Sunday to take this service. He was pleased to be here and we were very pleased to have an Old Collegian in the pupit.

After the service, Mr. Herriot welcomed the visitors. There was no conducted tour this year and the visitors were invited to inspect whatever area was of interest to them. Actually, there was very little time between the service and lunch followed by sporting events, where we put up a very creditable performance.

RESULTS

Cricket:

Old Scholars, 158 (Johnny Gore 85, Peter Gratton 29, Bob Connor 3/20).

Students, 102 (Jim Wiese 35, Don Brown 2/0, Rex Krause 3/22).

Rifles—Teams of 5:

Students, 177 (Top Score: Peter Ford, 39).

Old Scholars, 164 (Top Sore: Bill Ashenden, 37).

Tennis:

Students, 9 sets; Old Scholars, 6 sets.

David Masterman and Rex Anderson won their doubles and followed this up by winning their singles.

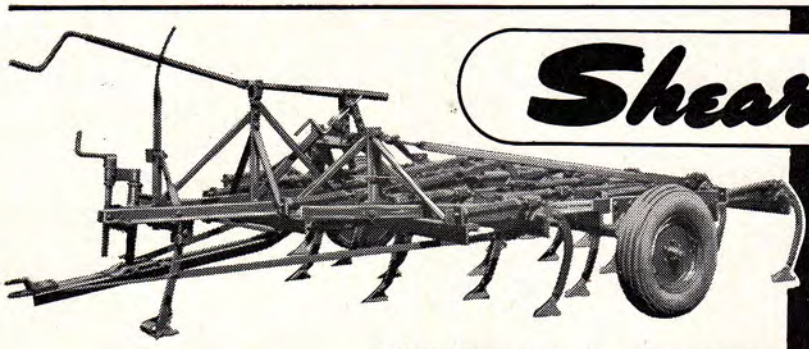
Golf:

I could not get exact scores, but they were all triers!

It was very pleasing to see amongst our visitors such a large group of our older members. Doing the rounds I noticed Col. D. Fulton, E. C. Gwynne, L. Cook, R. Hill, C. M. Thomas, F. R. Sangster, E. O. Brown, E. L. Orchard, E. Clark, R. R. Bartholomew (Snr.), H. Catt, W. A. Lewcock, J. L. Wiliams, and B. Hocking. (I apologise if anyone has been omitted.)

We would like to thank these members for their support at our Annual Dinner, and also on our Annual Visiting Day. Perhaps we should have a Bowling Green so that some of them could enjoy a game.

Perhaps reading of these members, some of our younger group may feel a bit guilty about not putting in an appareance at our functions. If so, make it a date for 1963.



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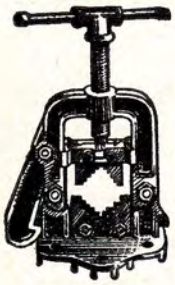

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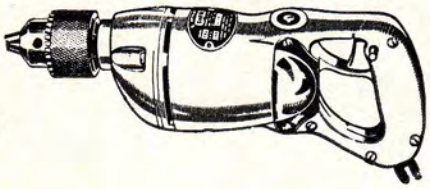

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Letters to the Editor

Hot on the heels of Volume 1, November 1, I received a long and interesting letter from one of our oldest surviving members, Mr. N. Miles Pearse, who was a student from 1899 to 1902. Mr. Pearse, now 79, is living at Joslin. His reminiscences of former students, and the "goings on" of his day will interest us all. Extracts of the letter will be included in the February Digest.

Thank you for your letter, Mr. Pearse.

More recently a note came through the post from Leith Yelland after a Tasmanian holiday, and I met Clive Mathews, who had lived down there for a few years. Clive was most enthusiastic about the place, and may be we will "needle" a few paragraphs out of him some time.

To the Editor,

Sir,

Tasmania may not be over-populated with native-born Roseworthy graduates, but those who are farming in the "Island State" are really making their presence felt.

Take Simon Pitt for instance, who is currently in charge of stud work at "Glen Dhu," Ouse—a family property where Merino sheep and Hereford cattle are bred. I spent a little time at Glen Dhu recently. Main reason for the visit was the wedding of Simon's younger brother, Philip, who old scholars of more recent vintage may remember, spent a year at Roseworthy in 1957.

On the Midlands highway linking Hobart with Launceston lies the small hamlet of Mangalore. It is here on his father's property, Mangalore Farm, that Phil Loney, still reasonably "fresh" out of College (he graduated in January, 1960), is establishing improved pastures with a vengeance.

One of the many things Phil learnt at Roseworthy is the value of extension work and how the practical farmer can apply research results. On the pasture work, Phil operates "hand-in-glove" with his district agricultural adviser, while Brian Jefferies (ex Roseworthy and S.A. Department of Agriculture) assists Phil with his sheep management problems.

Phil is proud of the fact that an entry of hoggets from Mangalore Farm was recently placed equal-first in the Brighton hogget competition.

Further south at Sorrell, Richard Ramsey, who also graduated in 1960, is getting a dairy herd established at the family property—"Sunnyside". Richard is particularly proud of his registered Friesian sire, and when I spoke to him in Hobart he told me he was preparing the bull for the Hobart Show.

Yours faithfully,

LIETH YELLAND.

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Doug Mellor needs no introduction. We all know him either from our College days, when he tried to drive some mechanical sense into us, from his many newspaper articles, or as Sales Supervisor with the S.A. Tractor Co. Periodically he will have a look at developments in the tractor and implement fields with us. He begins in this article by discussing . . .

THE RIDDLE OF THE HORSEPOWER

While in daily contact with tractor users it is inevitable that the subject of horsepower should be frequently raised, and it is with some degree of alarm that one realises the extent of the confusion existing over the expression "horsepower". There is no doubt that much of it is the result of efforts on the part of some tractor distributors to encourage the public in the belief that the power of their particular tractor exceeds by far that of any other make. It would seem to be increasingly important that all concerned with the buying, selling and using of tractors should be aware of the classification of horsepowers quoted in order to make a sound comparison.

Most of us know that the word "horsepower" was introduced in England in connection with water-wheels and steam engines. These units took over much of the work previously done by horses, so it was appropriate to express their working power in terms of the number of horses they replaced. As the result of experiments, it was concluded that a heavy horse could travel at the rate of 2½ miles an hour and at the same time could raise a weight of 150 lbs. by means of a rope led over a pulley. This is equivalent to 33,000 foot/lbs. of work in one minute, and it became the universal standard and the brief definition of mechanical horsepower.

The most common general reference to "horsepower" is that applied to road vehicles for the purpose of calculating registration. The calculation involves only the bore and the number of cylinders. The bore (in inches) is squared and multiplied by the number of cylinders, then divided by 2.5. As no account is taken of the stroke, this calculated horsepower has little practical application to the actual performance of an engine. It is used by the Motor Vehicles Department in the course of determining registration charges.

Brake horsepower is another well-used term. It can be determined at any revolving shaft, and until recently it was usually measured at the belt pulley when the "belt horsepower" of a tractor was required. Brake horsepower is conveniently measured by an electric or hydraulic dynamometer, and the figure obtained will obviously be greater if the point of reading is closer to the engine crankshaft, because friction loss is reduced. This fact has not escaped tractor manufacturers, and recently many amazingly high but genuine brake horsepower figures have appeared. These have been derived from readings taken directly from the end of the crankshafts of tractor engines especially prepared for the occasion by having all unnecessary extras removed. The engines are tested on a bench and they are bereft of such items as the generator, fan and clutch. The resulting figure is the highest possible "horsepower" that can be quoted for the tractor, but although it is a genuine "brake horsepower" of the engine it does not necessarily indicate the tractor performance.

It is logical to suggest that the power exerted at the drawbar of a tractor is of vital importance, because it is here that the tractive effort is concentrated. The "drawbar horsepower" (d.b.h.p.) is measured by reading the lbs. pull at the drawbar over a known distance in a recorded time. For many years the d.b.h.p. was accepted as the standard for comparison and, indeed, its reliability remains unquestioned. However, it is awkward to ascertain because of the need for an actual field test, using a dynamometer throughout an accurately measured distance, with the test timed by a stop-watch. As a result it is seldom that a tractor is tested to see how it compares with official figures such as Nebraska Test figures for that model.

It is because d.b.h.p. and belt h.p. have been neglected by some manufacturers in favour of the much higher and more attractive engine h.p. that much of the confusion exists.

In a determined effort to set a standard horsepower which will give a satisfactory comparison throughout all makes of tractors, the tractor trade in the U.S.A. has agreed to adopt the brake horsepower as read at the power-take-off shaft—to be known as "p.t.o. horse-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

College Chatter

The rumours have died. Most of you will have noticed the long list of vacancies advertised in early September, until the applications are received and handled, there will be nothing to report.

Mick O'Halloran will be leaving hospital shortly to take up a position at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, which leaves our Chemistry Laboratory very short handed. Ross Ford, Field Officer with Plant Breeder, has transferred to the Weeds Branch of the Department of Agriculture. Perhaps those increased salaries should put in an early appearance to possibly stop this gradual decrease in staff numbers.

SPORTING

Our "A" Grade cricket team is near the top of the Premiership table with three wins. Unfortunately, the "B" Grade are having rather a struggle to get the necessary runs to give them a chance of winning.

The tennis team, playing in "B" Grade, have only won one match, but could have won three others with a little extra luck.

Three records were bettered at the Annual Athletic Sports—Max Seppelt won the Cup for the fourth successive year and broke his own record in the shot-put. Stephen Gee extended the javelin throw another 24 feet.

CROPS AND STOCK

Like most of the State the season has altered considerably, and we appear likely to get an average yield, we were in the fortunate position of having a good supply of hay and grain and only made a small stack of silage and baled the headlands.

The new poultry sheds are in the course of construction, and you will see big changes in this section on your next visit.

Stock are in good order with numbers slightly higher than usual for this time of the year.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

power". This may appear to add to the confusion because it is a new designation of horsepower. But it is undoubtedly a useful and a fair figure to quote, and it should clarify the situation for all concerned with tractors. It has the distinct advantage of being easily measured with a standard type of dynamometer and without the need to even partly dismantle the tractor. This enables a serviceman to quickly check the performance of a tractor and relate the figure to the known factory figure.

So it appears that some sort of order is emerging. Provided the expression "p.t.o. horsepower" is stipulated, there need be no further confusion over what is being conveyed.

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W. V. SECKER

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Have you ever tried to summarize South Australia's agriculture in a few words?

Like me, I'll bet you have, and you didn't make a very good fist of it either! We all think our general knowledge of our state is pretty good until an interstate visitor gives us cause to use it.

Well Frank Pearson recently had to give a group of Rural Youth visitors from Overseas and Interstate an introduction to our agriculture. He scribbled off a few notes as the basis of his talk. They are brief and accurate. Knowing they would be useful to you I managed to get my hands on a copy.

Here they are.

Ed.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA IN BRIEF

AREA OF THE STATE: 380,000 square miles.

The rainfall is generally low with only 62,000 receiving more than 10in. of rain a year. The remain- square miles (approximately 40 million acres) ing 318,000 square miles (83%) receives less than zones is as follows:—

10in. and much of this has only 5in.-6in. of rainfall a year. The area of country in the different rainfall

Over 25" per year	4,000 sq. miles	1.2%
20"—25" per year	10,600 sq. miles	3%
15"—20" per years	14,200 sq. miles	4%
10"—15" per year	33,400 sq. miles	9%
Under 10" per year	318,000 sq. miles	83%

The population is nearly one million people with just over half of these (550,000) in the Adelaide metropolitan area.

From settlement the bulk of the income of the State has come from Primary Industry. In recent years development of the brown coal deposits at Leigh Creek, reservoirs wherever water flows, and major pipelines from the River Murray to Adelaide and Whyalla, secondary industry development has been energetically fostered. In spite of this the State is still very largely dependent on primary industries. Wool and other sheep products, cereals, dairying, fruit growing, mines and quarries, and soft wood forests are the main sources of income.

The pastoral industries produce about £55 million a year of which some £45 million comes from wool. Agriculture, including cereals, horticulture and allied industries, brings in some £50-£55 million. Mines and quarries bring in £20-£25 million and pine forest products £4-£5 million a year.

The State's primary industry gross income varies between £140-£160 million a year and £80-£100 million of this is exported.

producing some 200 million lbs. of wool a year. Something like 14 million of these are Merinos and the bulk of the rest are Merino-British breed cross-breds. With an 80% lambing, some six million lambs are marked each year and about 1½ million of these are sold as fat lambs.

Some five million acres of crops each year produce an average of 30-35 million bushels of wheat; 25-30 million bushels of barley; 7-8 million bushels of oats; and small quantities of rye, field peas, linseed, etc.

Of the 600,000 cattle, over half are of beef breeds. The dairy cows (260,000 of all ages) produce about 100 million gallons of milk, 25 million lbs. of cheese and 20 million lbs. of butter a year. Worth £9 million a year. In addition, we produce 12-13 million lbs. of bacon and £4-£5 million of eggs and other poultry products.

There are some 60,000 acres of vineyards, part of these irrigated from and adjacent to the River Murray and in addition to 25 million gallons of wine a year, something like 15,000 tons of currants and raisins are dried each year.

Fruit production, fresh and dried, is worth about £7 million a year. The main contributors to this are oranges £2 million, apples £1½ million, apricots £1 million and peaches £¾ million.

Vegetables worth some £5 million a year are grown.

There are something like 150,000 acres of softwood forests planted (pinus radiata mostly) in the higher rainfall districts of the South-East and these bring in £4-£5 million a year.

There are several 100-250 mile long water reticulation pipelines leading into low rainfall country and to Adelaide. These have an important effect on living conditions and production in several districts. The agricultural production of Eyre Peninsula and the iron ore and ship building industries at Whyalla were developed on long distance reticulated water.

The important districts are:—

1. **The agricultural lands north of Adelaide.** Largely a mixture of red brown earth and mallee sandy loam soils with rainfall varying from 20in. near Adelaide to 8in. in the north—these consist of some 16 million acres which are largely occupied with mixed cereal and sheep farms. In the Barossa Valley and near Clare are large horticultural and viticultural centres.

   The district carries about 6½ million sheep; 250,000 cattle of which 45% are dairy types; produces some 15-20 million bushels of wheat; 15-18 million bushels of barley and 2 million bushels of oats a year.

2. **Eyre Peninsula.** With sandy soils shallow over clays; mallee loams and calcareous coastal sand dune areas interspersed with stony flats. Rainfall varies from 20in. in the south to 8-9in. in the north and west. With 17-18 million acres, about half still covered with mallee scrub, the district carries some 2¼ million sheep and 25,000 cattle. It produces 9-10 million bushels of wheat; 5-7 million bushels of barley; 2½-3 million bushels of oats a year.

3. **South-East.** Partly sandy soils over clay, partly sandy loams and with large areas of naturally winter flooded heavy rendzina soil flats, the South-East carries 4 million sheep and 200,000 cattle on its 6 million acres. About 2 million acres are still to be developed by drainage,

GARDEN PARTY AND OPEN HOUSE ON NOVEMBER 3

This very sucecssful function shows what can be done with a co-operative effort. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Herriot and her committee of ladies for instigating this function and for their work in organising it; and to the students who so whole heartedly co-operated and worked for its success.

In addition to the money raising it was a successful attempt to bring people to the college and interest them in its functioning and possibilities for training students. Although the display did not by any means cover all college activities, it showed a very good cross section.

It was pleasing to have with us the Premier of South Australia, and Sir Thomas has promised Government support in our appeal. Possible ways and means of raising our portion of the money will need to be discussed at an early date.

Many Old Collegians were noticed amongst the guests, including some who had not joined in our functions for some time. Parents and friends of students, ex staff members and local people helped to make it a happy and enjoyable day.

We hope that you and your friends will join us in future similar functions.

Continued from Previous Page

land clearing and fertilising. Very little cropping is done in this district and cheese production and pine forest production are important in the southern portion. The rainfall rises from 18-19in. a year in the north to 30in. in the south.

4. **Murray Mallee** consists mostly of mallee sandy loams, with 30-40% of the district still uncleared. Rainfall varies from 15-17in. in the south to 8-9in. in the north. Carries some 1½ million sheep and 30,000 cattle and produces 3 million bushels of wheat, 6 million bushels of barley, and 1 million bushels of oats from its 9 million acres. Bounded on the north by the River Murray along which most of the irrigated fruit and vine orchards of the State are situated.
5. **Northern pastoral districts.** Most of the 318,000 square miles in this district are calcareous desert soils, sandy rises or stony wastelands with some limited areas of arid brown earth. The rainfall varies from 5-10in. a year and the trees are largely mulga and native pines and similar types and there are large areas of salt bush, blue bush, spinifex and the spear grasses. The district is solely pastoral and carries some 1½ million sheep and 150,000 cattle.

F. B. PEARSON.

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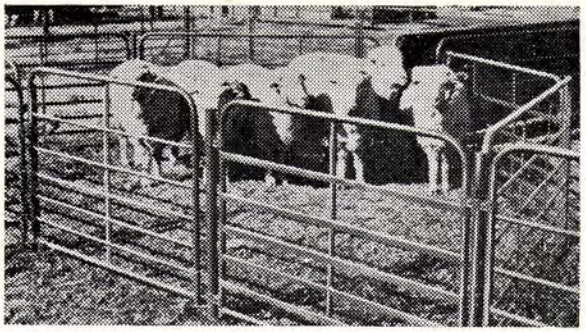

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All of us are concerned with, or affected by, the wool industry to some extent—many of us depend on it almost entirely. We follow wool and stock prices very closely, but probably most of us will never actually see our wool sold. To help overcome this deficiency, Leith Yelland, an Old Collegian Staff Writer with the Chronicle, takes us on a visit to . . .

The wool sales—

a word of explanation

The public gallery at the Adelaide Wool Exchange in Brookman Building, Grenfell Street, is usually crowded with woolgrowers and other country visitors who happen to be in town when the wool sales are being conducted.

Growers may come to see their own wool or their neighbour's wool sold, or may watch purely out of interest.

Because of the speed at which the lots are sold and the noise and confusion that sometimes prevails in the selling room, onlookers easily become confused. A grower often finds that after taking down his own prices as the sale progresses his figures differ from those supplied to him by his broker after the auction.

A few points on selling procedure and other information about the sale may therefore be of interest to people who, from time to time, have been bewildered at the apparent confusion in the sale room.

The wool selling "season" runs the duration of one financial year and, in South Australia anyhow, usually includes 12 sales. This does not, however, mean that sales are held every month.

This season, for example, there was no sale in April but the equivalent of two in February.

The five brokers in S.A., Elder, Smith and Co. Ltd., Goldsbrough, Mort and Co. Ltd., Bennett and Fisher Ltd., Dalgety and N.Z. Loan Ltd. and the S.A. Farmers' Co-op. Union Ltd., sell over three days—the sale opening on Tuesday and concluding on Thursday.

In the two and a half years I have been attending wool sales I can only remember one instance when the sale was not held over this three-day period. On that occasion the sale was held from Monday to Wednesday because of exceptional circumstances.

Trading commences at 1.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and at 12 noon on Thursdays. The early start on Thursdays is mainly to allow buyers from interstate to make their various plane connections.

Fleece wools and other "big" lots are sold in the main room under the various growers' brands, while star lots and interlots are sold simultaneously in another room.

Basically the system of selling is no different from any other auction—it is just the speed at which the lots (which may consist of any number of bales from two to 30) are sold than can be confusing.

Recently I timed one leading auctioneer and found that over a period of sustained selling lasting for about one and a half hours he sold an average of one lot every seven seconds.

At this pace you can't afford to lose concentration.

The auctioneer will call the number of the lot and then his company's valuation of that particular wool. The bidding may start at that figure or from an offer called from one of the buyers.

Normally the bids go up in farthings, and this is where confusion among onlookers may occur. The auctioneer may, for example, call "60d." and then "1, 2, and 3" as he picks the bids.

If the lot is knocked down on the last bid it does not mean the wool brought 63d.—it brought 60¾d.

Normally, of course, the auctioneer will call the selling price before dropping the hammer, but this may not be clearly heard—at least not by the untrained ear of the grower.

It must be remembered that on top lines of wool when a number of buyers are interested they will shout out their bids to make themselves heard above the others. This adds to

the noise and, to the onlooker, the confusion.

I don't want to mislead you, however. The confusion is only obvious to the visitor. The buyers, brokers and clerks don't miss a trick, and mistakes are very rare.

Nevertheless, buyers may inadvertently bid on the wrong lot. When this happens, and provided the buyer brings it to the attention of the room before another 10 lots have been sold, the lot can be offered again.

If this happens, the auctioneer re-offers the lot.

The reserve placed on a line of wool by the grower is respected by the broker, and if the price is not high enough the wool is passed in, to be re-offered at a later sale. It cannot be offered again at the same sale.

After each lot is sold the auctioneer will call out the name of the buying company. This means very little to the grower—he, of course, is only interested in the price.

The number of buyers present and the speed at which sales are conducted has often prompted visitors to enquire as to how the auctioneer knows all the buyers.

Normally the same representative will buy for his company at each sale, and in time the auctioneers and brokers get to know them. In addition to this, each buyer has the name of his company attached to the back of his seat. The auctioneer can't read the name, but it means that the buyers sit in the same position at each sale.

The seats are in tiers all looking down on the auctioneer's bench, which means that everybody can be seen from the bench, and similarly all the buyers can clearly see the auctioneer.

But all this can be seen by paying a visit to the wool exchange during a sale. You don't have to be a grower to be allowed into the public gallery.

I recommend to anyone who has not yet seen wool being sold that if he or she happens to be in the city during a sale they have a look.

It is well worthwhile.

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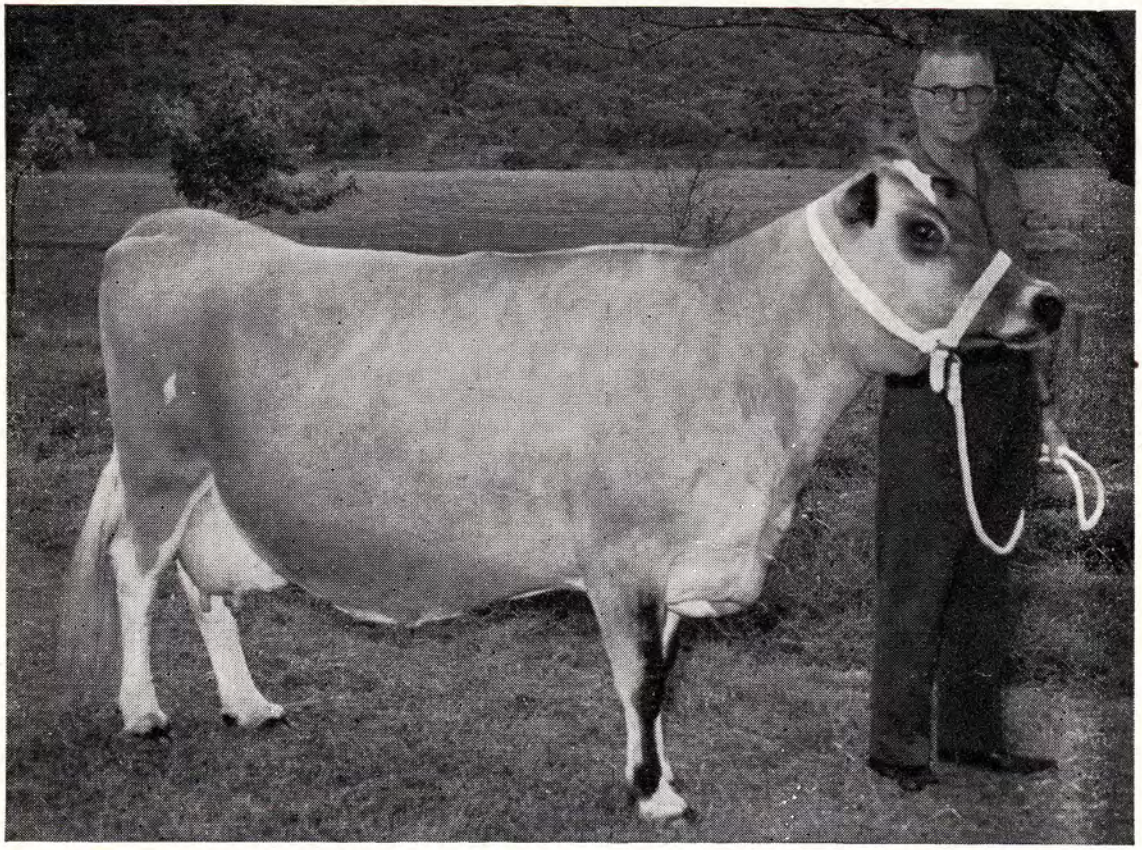
AUSTRALIAN RECORD Vynette Gadget's Dainty, who completed her 1962 lactation with 638 lb. fat, has established an Australian Jersey lifetime production record with 8,594 lb. fat from 13 lactations. This is only 341 lb. below the all breeds' lifetime record. Dainty was 14 years and 7 months when she finished her lactation on September 1. Breeders and owners are Messrs, M. R. & J. E. McKenzie of Tooperang, S.A. — stud breeders and holders of many Blue Ribbons and production records.



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"The Grapevine"

by IAN FRY

This is the £2,500 problem.

"Determine if the leaf thickness of wheat and rye grass has anything to do with yield in relation to light energy."

But you don't have to tackle it—Don Puckridge does.

Don has just been awarded a Commonwealth Post Graduate Scholarship. He'll be studying at the University of Reading, and this is his task. He hopes that in about two and a half years it will gain him a Ph.D. We trust that it will. The scholarship is worth about £1,000 per year.

Don and Janice and their one-year-old daughter, Sarah Jane, will be sailing from Melbourne on the "Castel Felice" on February 4. They are due to arrive at Southampton on April 9. This sounds like a wonderful long holiday to me, as the ship will call at Sydney, Auckland, Singapore, etc.

When he left R.A.C. in 1953 Don worked on a property at Naracoorte for two years, then joined the Department of Agriculture. He took leave in March, 1958, to study full time for a degree which he completed in 1961, liberally sprinkling it with Distinctions and Credits, and followed it with an Honours Degree. At the moment he is at Waite Institute on a C.S.I.R.O. Studentship and hopes to gain an M.AgSc. for work on the effect of competition for light on plants in a wheat crop before he leaves for England.

We congratulate Don and wish he and Janice all the best for the years ahead.

Just out of Tintinara there is a property called "White Forest" Merino Stud. I called in there recently to have a yarn to "old boy" Jack Martin of 1934 vintage. Jack spent three years share-farming at Georgetown before the war and, after the war, decided to have a crack at Tintinara. He bought the present property and established the stud in 1958. At present he's selling about 100 rams a year.

We chatted about some of the students of his time who included Allan Lawes, who is on a Soldier Settler block at Wanilla, Harold Chaimberlain, Doug Mellor, Dennis Muirhead and Lex (Johnny) Walker. I discovered that at one time Jack had a stallion which won prizes at the "Royal". When tractors came along he couldn't bear the thought of selling it and offered it to the College. It was "Talisker Johnny". Do you remember him?

From Jack Martin I learned that Jack Makirdy, who is managing "Emu Springs", is captain-coach of the Tintinara football team and won the Mail Medal in 1961.

Phil Young, who was with the Land Development Executive until 1952 and has his own block at Kybybolite, is now with Hugh W. Robinson & Co., Agricultural Consultants. Hugh's operations are based on his property "Desert Downs", at Keith. He is also an Old Collegian.

The Gawler Rotary Club had an address on "Gemology" at an early November meeting. The speaker was R.O.C.A. committee member W. S. (Bill) Edge. Bill is president of the S.A. Gem Association.

To Frank Pearson we offer our congratulations. Frank was recently gazetted as Senior Agronomist in the Department of Agriculture. This follows a distinguished term as Senior Agricultural Adviser, during which he was Acting Chief Agricultural Adviser for an extended period. Quite a few of the younger officers of the Agriculture Branch have relied heavily on Frank's guidance wide experience and sound judgment. We are "using him up" quite a lot on the Digest management committee.

There is quite a den of inquiry down in Naracoorte. Kevin Tuckwell and Trevor Dillon are "flatting" together—so what more could you expect? Kevin is with International, selling tractors. Trevor is with Southern Cross.

How do I know? Well, Michael Scott and I caused "minor inconvenience" to othetr road users while we parked on a bend by the Gumeracha Weir and had a yarn.

Michael is also in the tractor game—with Massey-Ferguson. He had just received a letter from Bruce Cree who is at Ruakua, South Island, New Zealand. Bruce is engaged to a New Zealand lass and they will settle down over there. He has joined a veterinary supply company and is training to be a district representative.

In his new capacity as Senior Advisory Officer (Agricultural Bureau) Geoff Robinson is keeping himself very busy. He recently spent four days on the West Coast and attended five meetings including the inaugural meetings of two new Bureau Branches, at Poochera and Wirulla.

Since his shift to Adelaide from Balaklava, Geoff and family (four children) have moved into a new home at Lower Mitcham. I hear he's frantically planting lawns all over the place.

Cupid has been quite busy lately.

John Fuss, engaged to Janice Rodda, is in the news again.

Ross Ford became engaged the weekend he left the College Staff to join the Department of Agriculture. His fiance is Athalie Knauerhase.

David Hirst, working as a propagator in an Adelaide nursery, was engaged recently.

Ian Donald is the proud father of a set of twins.

Andrew Brown is a father again, second time, second son.

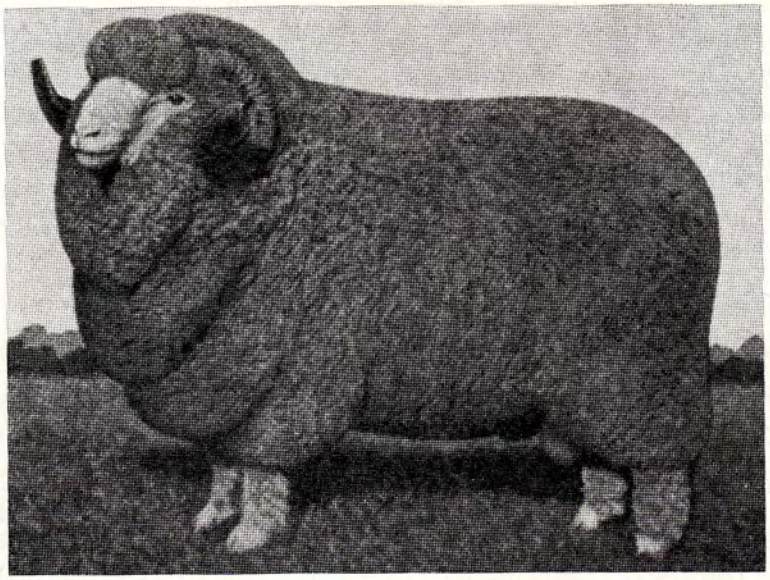
Malcolm and Mary Dixon have named their four month old son Micheal. He's a brother for Andrew.

Our congratulations and best wishes to them all.

Continued on page 23

MARTINDALE STUD MERINOS

Reg. Flock No. 121



The Martindale Stud, founded in 1855-56, produces sheep noted for their large frames and plain bodies, producing soft-handling wool of medium quality, commanding high fleece value. Repeat orders are a feature of the Martindale Stud, which is now recognised as practically pure Peppin blood.

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SECRETARY'S NEWS

A Committee meeting was held on 16/11/62. The main business of general interest was:

1. The Roseworthy Dairy Technologist Association is becoming a Branch of this Association, and we look forward to "Milky Whey" news appearing in the Digest.
2. There is another hotel in Adelaide that can cater for our Reunion. Negotiations and investigations are continuing.
3. The 1963 Visiting and Sports Day will be held on a Sunday in September, similar to the successful 1962 day.
4. The Association has been asked by the Student Representative Council if it will assist in raising money to build a new swimming pool at the College. This has been put on the Agenda for the next meeting in February.

SOUTH-EAST BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER

The Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association (S.E. Branch) held another successful annual reunion dinner meeting at the Kingcraige Hotel, Naracoorte, on September 21.

It was an R.O.C.A. dinner with a difference. Last year at the annual reunion held at the Kalangadoo Hotel, it was decided, due to the poor attendance at that meeting, to invite wives and girl friends to this year's dinner. At a pre-dinner meeting, the Old Boys brought the subject up again and very strong arguments were brought before the Chairman (Alec Greive) for and against continuing with a mixed evening. It was decided eventually to hold the 1963 dinner in the Kingcraige once again and return to a stag evening.

Very little other business was discussed. Alec Greive was returned as President. Kevin Tuckwell was elected to take Allen Emerson's position as secretary, and Steve Ward, Dick Winser, Hilary Ryan and Phil Young are on the committee.

Drinks were served during the meeting and after the business was completed, members escorted their wives into the dining room where a very attractive and delicious array of food, buffet style, was prepared.

Mr. Bob Herriot, Principal of the College, was guest speaker and Mr. Rowley Day, Immediate Past President of R.O.C.A., was his travelling companion. In Mr. Herriot's address, he stressed the need for more promotion of the college as an educational institution for young men and compared Roseworthy with other Agricultural Colleges where there are long waiting lists of students trying to do the agricultural course. More could be done by past students to keep the college full and the standard "High".

Sixty members and wives attended the dinner and had a very enjoyable evening discussing old times and the future at Roseworthy Agricultural College.

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ROGUES' GALLERY

Would you like to meet the gang responsible for this publication?

If you haven't liked it you can hang 'em, but before you hang 'em tell 'em what's wrong with it and how they can make the next one better.

Actually, I heard on the grapevine that they have a few new ideas tucked away for the next issue already, but any ideas which you have will be very welcome.

Publishing a magazine didn't turn out to be as simple as some people expected it to be. Growing pains, wasted efforts, and scrapped articles litter the path to the printing press, but the rogues think it has all been worth it and that "R.O.C.A. Digest" will be an achievement to be proud of and will give a boost to the Association and the College.

Originally it was planned to publish Volume I, Number 1, several months ago, but it just didn't work out that way. However, it's a reality at last! It is planned to publish on the first day of August, October, December, February, April, June, and so on ad infinitum.

The three people who did the initial hack work of investigations, etc., and prepared the "Terms of Reference" for the Management Committee were Geoff Roe, Wyn Gilchrist and Ian Fry.

Geoff is a member of the Land Board. Until last year he was Superintendent of Land Development and had a big hand in War Service Land Settlement on Kangaroo Island, the West Coast, and the South East. His "term" at Roseworthy was from 1937 to 1940.

Wyn is Superintendent of Irrigation in the Lands Department, and our members "up the River" see quite a lot of him. He escaped after three years' "sentence" in 1936.

Ian is of quite recent vintage. When he left in 1955 he went to the Weeds Branch of the Department of Agriculture, but recently other fields looked greener and he has now joined P. G. Rehn and Associates in Local Government inspection work in weed control, health and building.

Following the investigations by this group, a Management Committee was established to actually publish a magazine and conduct its normal business.

This Management Committee consists of Ian Fry as Chairman and Editor, Frank Pearson, Arthur Hooper, Ralph Jones and Don Stacy.

Frank Pearson is well known as Senior Agricultural Adviser. There is hardly a square inch of the State which he doesn't know personally. He was a student from 1922 to 1925.

As Senior Rural Youth Adviser and a former Dairy Adviser in the Mid-North, Arthur Hooper is also well known. His student days were 1923 to 1926.

The C.S.I.R.O. is Ralph Jones's domain. Ralph is Manager of the Glenthorpe Experimental Station at O'Halloran Hill, and an ever-expanding experimental programme keeps him pretty busy. Ralph was at College from '31 to '34.

Don Stacy's work on the Management Committee is especially valued, as he is not an Old Collegian. Don is Editor of Publications

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in the Department of Agriculture. His prime responsibility is the Journal of Agriculture. He has a keen interest in the College, which is no doubt brought about by years of close contact with the College and the hordes of Old Collegians in the Department of Agriculture. I am afraid that the Management Committee looks to Don quite a bit, and the work of the others would be more difficult without him. Thanks, Don.

In addition to those already named, a number of Old Collegians have agreed to write more or less regularly, or on request. Not all of them have a contribution in this issue, but you will hear from them from time to time. They are:

Doug Mellor—former College lecturer and now Sales Supervisor, S.A. Tractor Co.—student '34-'37.

Jack Mertin—Technical Adviser to S.A.F.U. — Past President of R.O.C.A. — student (degree) 1943.

Leith Yelland — staff writer with the Chronicle—student '56-'59.

Eric Crawford—Plant Introduction Officer in the Department of Agriculture — student '46-'49.

Andrew Brown—former wool classer and now Livestock Adviser in the Department — student '53-'56.

Cliff Hooper—College Instructor in Sheep and Beef Cattle—student '25-'28.

Harold Nash—Livestock Adviser in the Department—student '58-'61.

Peter Angove—Senior Extension Officer in the Department of Agriculture—student '31-'34.

Geoff O'H. Giles, M.L.C. — Stud Cattle breeder at Mount Compass and Member of the Legislative Council for Southern District —student '46-'49.

Left until last, but by no means least, are your Association President and Secretary.

Roly Day is in his second year as President. He farms at Reeves Plains. Roly was a student from 1940-41. He is one of those who enlisted for war service at the end of his second year and unfortunately did not complete his Diploma. However, he doesn't seem to have suffered any permanent disability because of this—he's very successful.

Harry Stephen, currently Secretary, has also served as Treasurer. Harry is Poultry Instructor at the College and was for a while on the Animal Production Laboratory Staff. His student days were 1945-48.

Well—there you have them.

From time to time guest writers will also be invited to contribute. The first of these is Mr. M. B. Spurling, whose article on South East Asia you have already read in this issue.

There remains only one other contributor:–

Y O U !

Remember that we would like some notes on where you are, what you are doing, who you have met, and your thoughts on anything and everything rural. Your fellow members are waiting — and so are we.

Review :

"ALL ROUND" BOOK ON PIGS

Price, W. T. (Ed.): "The Pig, Modern Husbandry and Marketing," Geoffrey Bles, London, 1962. 275 pages, Aust. price 53/9 posted.

Modern developments and scientific techniques in the many branches of the pig industry have been so complex in the years since the last war that it is now hardly possible for one man to produce a book on the pig that is at the same time comprehensive, practical and up-to-date. So each chapter of this book has been written by an authority in his own field—a specialist who is not merely a scientific expert but widely experienced on the practical side. The book has been carefully edited to avoid overlapping and ensure that the text is easily understandable to the unscientific reader. Chapters include economics, breeding, housing, nutrition, disease control and marketing. They are illustrated with useful photographs, plans and diagrams.

The book, being English, obviously has different views on some points than one written purely for the South Australian pig keeper. For example, a big housing problem overseas is keeping pigs warm in winter. Great attention is given to insulation, draught exclusion and moisture condensation. While winter cold can be a worry here, our housing also has to provide for keeping pigs cool and comfortable in summer.

However, these differences are obvious. When due allowance has been made for them, the book can be seen as well balanced and useful, particularly as it gives sound advice on the control of common diseases.

"The Pig" could be the answer to the frequent enquiries for an "all-round" pig book. It goes more thoroughly into principles and is much more modern nutritionally than the Australian textbooks. This makes the book a valuable source of additional information, not only to the pig raiser but to the adviser, teacher and student.

Note.—Copies of this book are **not** available from the Department of Agriculture.

From time to time as original reports on tractor and engine tests are available they may be published in the Digest. In this issue we begin with the

ASIAC Report on the Landmaster 150

TEST DATES or PERIOD. 3 months, December 15, 1959-March 15, 1960.

TEST. Complete breakdown test, rough conditions.

WEATHER. Machine was operated under conditions varying from cold and rain to heat of over 100 deg. F.
Four hours of continuous operation at this temperature failed to overheat the machine.

STARTING. Machine started easily under all conditions of the test.

PETROL. Standard grade.

OIL. Two stroke. Engine stopped three times in fifty hours' operation due to carbon deposit on spark plug gap.
Mobiloil "D". Using this oil, the engine operated 150 hours without stoppage due to carbon deposit. Ratio 1-16 was used throughout the tests.

POWER UNIT. J.A.P. 160 c.c. 4½ h.p. governor controlled, air cooled two stroke. This engine provided ample power under all conditions and could not be stalled in even the heaviest going.

STARTER. Recoil type. This starter proved efficient and contributed to the easy starting of the unit.

CLUTCH AND TRANSMISSION. Positive, idler V belt type.
Simple and efficient. No maintenance or adjustment was required throughout the tests. There was no apparent slip at any time, ample power was transmitted for all work.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM. No faults of any kind were evident, and no stoppages occurred even when a hose was played on the unit while in work.

FUEL ECONOMY. Average fuel consumption throughout the tests, operating machine under full throttle, with governor control:
4 hours 22 minutes per imperial gallon of petrol oil mixture.
During special fuel check using 33 in. rotary hoe, dry conditions, 8 in. depth, full throttle, governor control.
4 hours 46 minutes per gallon petrol oil mixture.
23,760 sq. ft. were cultivated to a depth of 8 in. on 1 gallon of fuel = .54 acres per gallon.

ACREAGE-TIME FACTOR. 5 acres can be plowed and rotary hoed in 40 hours.

SOIL CONDITIONS OF TEST. Stony clay loam, covered in couche grass, tall weeds and lucerne. 30 in. lucerne was cut up without clogging the blades.

Let's be frank . . .

Whatever your age, means of livelihood or marital status, it is a duty to those you love and cherish to make a Will. But make a PROPER Will. Avoid unnecessary hardship and delay through loose phrases, omissions and oversights. Contact this company for free specialised advice and guidance. Let us help you . . .

MAKE YOUR WILL NOW

WHEN YOU MARRY

It will be necessary to draw up a completely new Will conforming with the new status of the Testator.

GL44

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Write or phone for a representative to call at any time, or ask for our FREE booklet—"HAVE YOU MADE YOUR WILL?"

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MACHINE EFFICIENCY. This machine is simple and robust, no mechanical trouble of any kind was encountered during the test series, and it is considered by the Council to be a well-thought-out and efficient agricultural tool, well suited to Australian conditions.

CONCLUSIONS. Landmaster 150 can cultivate between one and two acres per day at a fuel cost of less than 8/-.
During three months of test no replacements were needed.

RECOMMENDATION. This Council hereby recommends the Landmaster 150 as a suitable machine for use by farmers, orchardists, market gardeners, nurserymen and blockholders of up to 20 acres, for plowing, weeding, rotary hoeing, watering and other general farm work under all types of Australian conditions and in soils varying from sandy loam to heavy clay.

CERTIFICATION. I certify that the test results in this report are the actual findings obtained in tests, conducted in accordance with good engineering and agricultural practice, on the machine herein specified and under the conditions and rules of the International Academy of Science, whose seal appears hereon.

Australasian Scientific International Advisory Council.

WHY FEED RABBITS?

This is the question asked by a leaflet published by the C.S.I.R.O. in conjunction with State rabbit control authorities.

In commenting on the distribution of this pamphlet, the Acting Minister of Lands (Hon. D. N. Brookman) said that with the decreasing effectiveness of myxomatosis it is even more necessary than ever to capitalize on the present, relatively low, rabbit numbers.

The leaflet points out that with recently developed methods of control (the outcome of a great deal of scientific research) it is now possible to achieve, economically, a very high level of control. Further, it indicates that in many parts of Australia landholders are co-operating in an effort to achieve district-wide control.

This leaflet, which is illustrated by a series of pictures showing a rabbit gradually being replaced by crops and livestock, is intended for every landholder in those parts of Australia where rabbits occur.

In South Australia the District Councils in their desire to stimulate interest in rabbit control are arranging to have one of these leaflets reach every landholder in their districts. Similarly, the Department of Lands is arranging for copies to be forwarded to those landholders outside of District Council areas.

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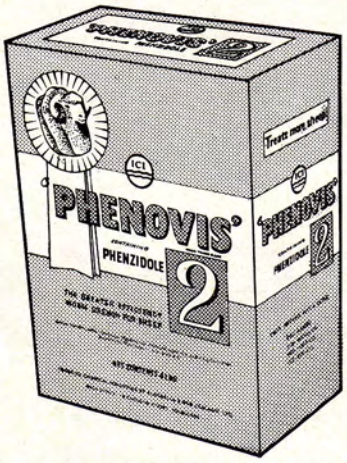

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PHE. 122. 1247

Continued from page 15

"The Grapevine"

Friends of the College—

Do you remember seeing Mr. V. N. Rathjen's advertisement in the October Digest? Jerilderie Corriedales? Well, I popped in on him the other day in the middle of cutting some excellent phalaris hay. Mr. Rathjen is a member of the Gumeracha District Council. One of his sons, Tony, spent his term at Roseworthy as a University student a couple of years ago, and completed his degree in 1961.

Tony is now at St. John's College, Cambridge, working under Sir Joseph Hutchinson on genetics and plant breeding—the evolution of the french bean —with an M.Ag.Sc. on the end of it.

By coincidence, Mr. Rathjen had sat at a desk with Allan McArdle as a student at the Birdwood School, and Mr. Herriott was there at the same time —a year or two ahead. It seems that Birdwood produced quite a few "notables", because Mrs. Rathjen, who was a school teacher for some years, taught both Jack Mertin and Rex Krause. (Little horrors, too, I'll bet!)

Among the guests at the Swimming Pool Appeal Garden Party was Mr. A. D. ("Bob") Radford, of "Glenora Station", via Burra. Quite a few staff and students get to know "Glenora", because Mr. Radford is working with both the College and the Department of Agriculture on livestock investigations. He helps to entertain quite a few overseas visitors, too, and has Colombo Plan fellows staying with him from time to time. Mr. Radford is Chairman of the Burra District Council, and the other day over lunch such names as Kieth Hutchinson, Rex Brady, Joe Fearn and "Sandy" Hayward bobbed up occasionally.

A serious shortage of qualified woolclassers is developing. This is causing concern among stock firms, because the standard of wool classing generally must rise, and they are wondering where tomorrow's classers are going to come from.

I learned this from Mr. M. R. Abell, Old Collegian Wool Classing Instructor at the Institute of Technology, after I had just missed knocking him down on North Terrace the other day. He had just been up to "Udnapinna", and said that although the north-east areas are good, the rest of the far north and north-west is very patchy.

. . . and this is the new

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990 "IMPLEMATIC"

More power than ever before
Multi-speed P.T.O.

THE 1962 SENSATION IN THE 50-60 H.P. CLASS

David Brown's new, powerful 990 "Implematic" tractor is designed for the broadacre farming areas. Introduced only a short while ago, the 990 has already made a name for itself as an outstanding tractor in the 50-60 h.p. field by reason of its phenomenal performance. Powered by a David Brown engine with many new features, the 990 has a multi-speed P.T.O. (540 and 1100 r.p.m.), button-on two-speed pulley, all-purpose hydraulics, and all the other features that are characteristic of the David Brown "Implematic" range . . . the 850, the 950—and now the 990. For further details enquire of any David Brown dealer or direct to:

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NEW BOOK ON SHEEP MANAGEMENT

Jordan, J. W.: "Practical Sheep Farming in Australia".
Brisbane, Jacaranda Press, 1961. Price £3/3/-. 310 pages.

According to the publishers, "Practical Sheep Farming" was written primarily for those who know nothing about sheep. The book certainly achieves this aim admirably. It is full of really practical advice on many points in the care, handling and management of sheep.

The chapter on sheep habits and behaviour will be particularly useful to the newcomer to sheep. It includes many of those helpful little points which seldom appear in textbooks and have to be learned by painful experience. Reading this book, it quickly becomes clear that the author really knows sheep, has worked among them and understands how to handle them.

The style of writing, too, makes the book easy to read. It is simple, straightforward and to the point.

As well as being a valuable guide for the beginner, "Practical Sheep Farming" has much useful information for the established sheep owner. There are chapters on breeding, on seasonal operations such as crutching, lambing and lamb marking; on wool characteristics and on shearing and classing. In the concluding chapters on diseases the emphasis is on prevention as much as on treatment.

The four chapters on permanent improvements give a wealth of practical advice on dam sinking, windmills and pumps, fencing, shearing sheds and yards. The only topics that seem to have been given little attention are fodder reserves and hand feeding. These are dismissed in few paragraphs.

From a technical point of view there are minor inaccuracies in a few places, although none of these are serious.

All in all "Practical Sheep Farming" should be a most useful textbook for those connected in any way with the handling of sheep and wool.

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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Signature.....

Name (Printed).....

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