



R. O. C. A. DIGEST

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR: Ross J. Ford

EDITORIAL MATERIAL to:
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Roseworthy, S.A. 5371

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EDITOR'S PAGE

"DEEPER WATER AT OUR PORTS" - (taken from an A.B.C. talk given by Frank Pearson).

During 1967 we saw the Suez Canal closed to sea traffic - we heard something about giant oil carriers - we read a good deal about containerisation - we read about major sales of minerals to other nations, including Japan, which were all dependent on economic sea transport - and we recently heard about the devaluation of the pound sterling in Great Britain and the effect this had on shipping freight rates to and from Australia - and all of these things again showed us how dependent we are on transporting produce across the sea if we are to get overseas purchasing power as a result of our exports.

All of this has a bearing on our agricultural future in South Australia. If we are to keep our place - and possibly improve it - in a changing world we have got to keep pace with this same world and the developments which are taking place within it.

And part of this future, which we have to give serious thought to today, is in keeping up with sea transport changes.

The relative proximity of our cereal growing districts to our outports has given us fairly low haulage costs for export grain - it has given us comparative freedom from cereal transport congestion - and it has given us a number of places into which ships can call to load grain.

But many of the 10-12 thousand ton cargo hauliers of relatively shallow draught built before and during the War are becoming unsafe and uneconomic to run and their labour costs and insurance premiums are rising rapidly - and they are being replaced by bigger ships which travel more quickly from place to place and so do more trips in a year if they are not tied up too long in port - which carry more cargo for each crew member working on them - and which all have a greater depth under the waterline to carry their bigger loads.

Because of this increasing size in ships most of our outports in South Australia are becoming somewhat outdated, they have not sufficient depth of developed sea way to safely take in bigger ships of the future in all conditions of weather and state of tide.

If some quick development to meet the new position is not forthcoming in South Australia then we could within a few years find our cereal export markets restricted to only these countries who are prepared to take in small shipments and/or pay higher sea freights.

When such a position will occur is uncertain, but now is the time to do some strong thinking about the situation, followed closely by action.

THERE'S A 'HAPPENING' AT PORT LINCOLN

It is hoped that as many ex Roseworthians as possible have made a certain New Year resolution viz "to attend the Eyre Peninsula Branch, R.O.C.A. Annual General Meeting and Dinner on February 24th followed by the family picnic next day".

Arrangements for the functions are well in hand with planning right up to schedule. At the recent committee meeting the last of the wrinkles was ironed out with the location for Family Day decided upon. It is to be held on Louth Bay at the mouth of the Tod River. "Admiral" Ken Hayman's new flagship will "pleasure trip" the bay with "Commander" Mo. Barry's flotilla of small craft in attendance.

A January letter from Mr John Macaulay confirms his visit as Guest Speaker for the occasion. The title of the talk is "Some Stock Diseases Exotic to Australia". Emphasis will be on the diseases Foot and Mouth, Blue Tongue and Rabies. Recognised as a world authority on exotic disease Mr Macaulay with his first-hand experience will undoubtedly crown the night with success.

Mrs Macaulay will accompany her husband and will be entertained at dinner by the local ladies.

Yes, everything is again progressing satisfactorily towards a very successful and enjoyable weekend. The organising committee asks only that as many old scholars as possible attend to warrant Mr Macaulay's effort and journey as well as generally assisting to make the function worthwhile and so ensuring its future.

The Eyre Peninsula old collegians wish all Digest readers elsewhere the very best for 1968.

UPPER MURRAY & MURRAY MALLEE R.O.C.A. ACTIVITIES

BY TOM DAVIDSON

Lately there doesn't seem to have been any Births, Deaths or Marriages amongst old scholars in this area. I guess we can't blame the drought for this. Most of the activities brought to my notice are employment changes or transfers.

Rodney Pfeiffer has been appointed to teach Agriculture at Balaklava High School. He will be replaced at Loxton High School by Colin Krause. Rod will be missed by the Upper Murray R.O.C.A. Association as he was one of the keenest of our members.

Tony Goodchild left shortly before Christmas to manage a property in Northern NSW. He previously worked for Storey's Irrigation Industries at Renmark.

Neville Miles spent Christmas holidaying at Barmera with his family. Neville is one of the few South Australian Agricultural Advisers in Fiji.

Jim Townsend has recently set up an office at Waikerie. He is now Fertilizer Sales representative for the district.

Kelvin Westbrook has been chosen to learn to defend our country. He will be leaving for Puckapunyal shortly.

I will be transferring to the Department of Agriculture in Port Lincoln in March. Steven Hogg will be coming from Adelaide to Loxton in an attempt to improve the Weed Situation here.

Roger Inglis is now well settled in at Loxton, with one of the dark young ladies from Northern N.S.W. His official title is Agricultural Economist with the Department of Agriculture.

Wanbi in the centre of the Murray Mallee is now the home town of Tony Morris. He has settled in very well despite the season. Tony replaces Paul Guerin as Manager of Wanbi Research Centre.

A few members of the Department of Agriculture have recently been on interstate trips. Peter Mowatt (Agricultural Adviser: Loxton) spent a few days interstate gaining practical experience on the use of river flats for agricultural purposes. Bill Baskett (Horticultural Adviser: Loxton) and Dick Hilder (Manager: Loxton Research Centre - a Wagga Diplomate) spent a week looking at Horticultural properties interstate.

John Jennings (Horticultural Adviser: Waikerie) intends spending five weeks in California. His main reason for the trip is to attend a symposium concerned with "The Citrus Situation".

R.O.C.A. AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATIONS

Award of Merit nominations are due with the Hon. Secretary by the 31st May, 1968. This Award is to any member of the Association who has made a meritorious contribution in any field of Agricultural activity including Association affairs.

Previous recipients of the Award are:

Rowland Hill, Len Cook, Frank Pearson, W.J. Dawkins, Dr A.R. Callaghan, Bob Herriot.

Nominations must be set out and include the required information as indicated on the Statutory Form shown below. If there is any doubt about any of these points, contact the Hon. Secretary, R.O.C.A., at the College.

Further details on the old student being nominated will be supplied where possible, on request.

STATUTORY FORM

- 1. NAME:
- 2. ADDRESS:
- 3. AGE:
- 4. PERIOD AT ROSEWORTHY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE:
- 5. Supporting data on employment, career, occupation since leaving Roseworthy Agricultural College, other organisations and committees on which nominee has served, papers published, honours other than academic bestowed on nominee.
- 6. ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

PROPOSED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DATE:

DINNER DANCE - SATURDAY, 18TH MAY, 1968

The R.O.C.A. dinner dance will be held on Saturday, 18th May at HOTEL ENFIELD, commencing at 6.30 p.m.

As the booking is required one month in advance by the Hotel, all acceptances must be with the Hon. Secretary by 5th April.

The price is \$4.50 single, which includes the dinner, dancing and good floor show.

This function is not only for R.O.C.A. members and their wives or girlfriends, other couples will be made most welcome:

FILL IN AND RETURN TO HON. SECRETARY BEFORE 5th APRIL, 1968.

Mr J.A. GURSANSKY,
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
ROSEWORTHY. S.A. 5371

Please book places at the dinner dance to be held on May 18th at the Hotel Enfield.
Find enclosed \$. to cover the cost at \$4.50 per person.

NAME..... (Please print)

ADDRESS.....

.....

COLLEGE CHATTER

Although I have complained in previous digests about the season, when one looks around we are in a far better position than many others.

By cutting into our cereal crops we put 220 tons of hay into the shed and with due care this should see us through. Although this reduced the area for harvesting, it also raised our grain yields per acre.

Harvest returns were:-

Oats -	1300 bushels with OXB6 yielding 29 bushels from 12 acres.
Barley -	3750 bushels with Maltworthy giving nearly 15 bushels from 33 acres.
Wheat -	4100 bushels - Galive returned nearly 26 bushels from an area of 55 acres.

This means the purchase of a considerable quantity of grain to carry stock through.

To reduce feed requirements, stock numbers have been reduced with other cattle on agistment at Wanbi.

Stock Numbers:	Sheep	1200
	Beef Cattle	35
	Dairy Cattle	56

John Gursansky reports that Apricots yielded about half of last year, Peaches about Normal as the trees are young, Pears about average and grapes are expected to be very good.

From Poultry Tim Luckhurst has expanded the cage unit to 1200 birds. Poultry numbers are roughly the same as last year but the proposed increase has been postponed for the present.

On the student front, applications for entrance are possibly higher than last year with a higher entrance standard than previously.

For the first time, all Diploma exams were completed before Christmas - probably students enjoyed the celebrations better than in past years. Supplementary exams will be held at the end of January and the new term will commence at Speech Day.

Exam wastage is lower, especially in first year, which is rather a welcome change. Thirty-two students sat for the Diploma Exams which will give us the biggest number of Diploma Awards for many years.

Of interest is the point that possibly 18 of the 32 students will continue their education - either the fourth year at Roseworthy, Teachers College or University.

There are one or two things to report on the Staff. The position of Research Officer, Animal Production Laboratory, was not filled as stated in the last Digest. This position plus an assistant for Ken Leske, to cover the extra lectures in the Fourth year course, have recently been advertised. An Assistant Farm Manager will probably be appointed at an early date.

Mrs Hillman, wife of the late Fred Hillman, died during December - Mrs Hillman was always a great supporter of Roseworthy College.

Graham Mitchell called in during January, his first visit for 5-6 years, and marvelled at the changes which have taken place. He gives his address: C/- Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Royal Melbourne Hospital, P. O., PARKVILLE, MELBOURNE.

FUTURE PREDICTIONS

The United States Secretary of Agriculture, Mr O. L. Freeman, made some interesting comments on future developments that could be expected to take place by 2067.

"Livestock probably will be raised, without ever seeing the sun, in multi-storey, climate controlled structures housing cattle on the lower floors, and pigs, sheep and poultry on the upper levels."

"The standard livestock ration in 2067 may well be forage, preserved by freezing or gamma radiation, plus synthetic amino acids and fats. Hens laying 350 to 400 eggs per year, and meat animals that grow to maturity in a third less time, on a third less feed will be commonplace."

FUTURE PREDICTIONS - continued

"Dairymen will use hormones to start or stop lactation according to market demands - and to maintain cows in peak production for three or four years. And they may be delivering milk in sanitised pipelines from cows to processing plants to consumers."

Mr Freeman also says that by 2067 crops will have been bred that use little water and containing more of the protein essential for human nutrition.

Another prediction is the use of chemicals and controlled lighting to bring crops to maturity as needed.

Spacecraft are also mentioned. These will be used to predict crop production, to identify soils best adapted to each crop and to inventory soil and water resources.

The above are only some of the amazing predictions made, which agricultural scientists already had some knowledge of.

FOURTH YEAR AT ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE

This year will see the commencement of a fourth year which will be offered only to Diplomates who have passed the final written examinations for the diploma with an average mark of 60% or better. Diplomates from years prior to 1965 will be required to sit for a special entrance examination.

The course includes two compulsory subjects, viz:-

- (1) EXTENSION THEORY AND PRACTICE which includes a general course on Educational and Social Psychology, Extension Philosophy and Methods, and Sociology.
- (2) FARM MANAGEMENT which includes General Economic Theory, Agricultural Economic Analysis, and Practical Farm Management Studies.

Plus one from the following alternatives:-

- (a) ANIMAL SCIENCE consisting principally of Animal Physiology, Veterinary Hygiene, Nutrition and Breeding with one third of the course given over to elected subjects from Sheep, Beef, Pig, Dairy or Poultry Husbandry.
- (b) PLANT SCIENCE including considerable depth in Crop Physiology, Plant-soil relationships, Crop Ecology with one third of the course given over to special studies in either Field Crops and Pastures or Horticulture.

Students who satisfactorily complete this year will be awarded the Roseworthy Diploma of Agricultural Technology (R.D.A.T.)

It is anticipated that there will be approximately six to eight students doing the course this year.

THE GRADUATION BALL

The Graduating Students of 1967 wish to bring to the notice of all friends of the College the Annual Graduation Ball to be held on the evening of Graduation Day. This is now an annual event sponsored by the graduating year and we hope that Old Students and those associated with the College will use it to keep in touch with the College and the students. This year the Ball is being held in the Port Adelaide Footballer's Club, Queen Street, Alberton, the date being Tuesday, 5th March, 1968. The formal reception period is from 8.15 p.m. - 9.15 p.m., with the guests being met by the Official Party.

Below is a form in which party numbers (if a party is desired) can be specified and a table will be reserved for groups of guests; please state the name of the party organiser. Supper and liquid refreshments are included in the charge of \$5.00 per double ticket. WE HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND!

Tickets available from:

Gav. ECKERSLEY, 524 Cross Roads, GLANDORE, S.A. 5037 (Phone: 53 6091)

Mark BABIDGE, 24 Vauxhall Street, ERINDALE, S.A. 5066 (Phone: 3 4781)

Mr A.T. Footer, Secretary, Agricultural College, ROSEWORTHY, S.A. 5371 (Phone: Roseworthy 57057)

I _____ of address _____

request _____ double ticket/s. Please find enclosed \$ _____.

If party. Numbers _____ Organiser _____

PHILPY'S MEMOIRS, PART VCOMPILED BY ~~RAY~~ NORTON

We left our friend reminiscing about a character McKeown who lived in what is now called South 4. This led to the thought expressed by Philpy that changing the old paddock names, indicating from whom the land was purchased, such as Crouch's, Flett's, Grainger's, Nottle's, etc., robbed the College farm of a lot of its identity. He is not alone in this, as I have heard the present Principal and many others express the same view. To people who knew the college then, this must be most obvious.

Philpy himself, can remember old Ben Crouch who owned paddocks now known as the East paddocks. These were bought after the section surrounding the Kangaroo Flat school was sold; being too far away to work with horses.

Mr Crouch was apparently one of the old type farmers for whom nothing was right. One day when he was grizzling about the poor season, someone said to him, "That's not a bad crop you've got there, Ben!" "Aw no" says this character, "but look at the goodness it's taking out of the ground!"

The place must have abounded with characters. One Mr Phillips on the staff, and I didn't find out what he did, had a house built for him on the Wasleys Road; the one with the tennis court in front. He preferred not to live in it however, but to travel each day from Glenelg if you please, by train to Victoria Square, walk to the Adelaide Railway station and then after another train ride mount his belt-driven motor-cycle and at a full 20 knots, proceed to his place of employment. He was one of the "Never on Sunday" cult, doing this on only 6 days of the seven days.

This traveller of the first order had an assistant, a Mr Eric Stevens, who in Philpy's own words was a "pretty smart fellow but a bit eccentric". I somehow doubt the former, for one day at the pool a group of students made him a small wager that he wouldn't be game to drive into the pool fully clothed and with a bag over his head. Eric collected!

He apparently had an affinity for the swimming pool, for one day to save walking around it, he leapt fully clothed into a makeshift galvanised iron canoe and paddled northward. Midway she sank, as did Eric, still convinced that, had he made it, a great amount of time would have been saved.

At the same time, a Mr Jack Egan was Laboratory Assistant and Librarian. Apparently all the soil analysis for the State was done at the College, before the Department of Chemistry was in existence. A special storage room existed on the southern end of the corridor in which to store the soil samples.

On the western side of the corridor was an underground room known as the Bee House, a relic of an Apiarist course of many years before. This course was continued in Philpy's time with the distant blessing of Mr Colebatch who had no great love of bees.

It seems that most of the characters that come to mind were all staff members and, although all past students will agree that this is logical, there were many students worth a mention.

When Philpy first came to college, "Narridy" Freebairn, "Johnny" Randford, "Sarah" Thomas, Colin Preece, who later managed Great Western for Seppelts, and "Katie" Robins were all students.

"Sarah" (E. B.) Thomas took over the captaincy of the football from Dolph Baker. "Narridy" Freebairn had a reputation as a wild man, and apparently played football exceptionally well, when "not quite sober". Colin Preece "let nothing worry him and enjoyed life". Going to Great Western with that outlook must have been an asset, and he retired from there.

George Fairbrother was one that Philpy remembered well, who one day leapt onto the back of a horse and sitting backwards with no saddle or bridle trotted off into the distance. One of the student chores then was to go to Roseworthy three times a week to get the meat rations. This was done by a student after the evening meal, and on returning he stored the meat in the underground room in the kitchen.

One student, by the name of Lynch, from Gawler was injured and subsequently died through an accident with the horse and dray. This would be one of the rare fatalities under circumstances which bristled with accident prone situations. The ambulance in this instance was one of the old hay trolleys with mattresses on it. They certainly were rugged in those days.

THE GRAPEVINE

The Formation Committee of the Australian Diplomates Association meets early in February this year, so we will have a report of this meeting in the next issue. Frank Pearson, who is chairman of this Committee, is the R.O.C.A. representative.

Des Habel has sent me the minutes of a recent committee meeting held to make final arrangements for their Reunion Dinner at Port Lincoln and, believe me, every little detail has been attended to. As well as notices being sent out to local members and the one in this issue of the Digest, local papers and the radio are to give a coverage of the forthcoming meeting, dinner and family day. A photographer will be at the dinner for official photographs, and boats have been arranged to add to the enjoyment of Family Day. Plenty of other things have been arranged that I haven't space to mention, but a good time is guaranteed for all.

Congratulations to Ian Holman who was elected to the Committee of the Eyre Peninsula Branch at the meeting mentioned above. Ian takes the place of Tom Green who has shifted from the district and is now working at Kybybolite Research Centre just out of Naracoorte.

Those old students to rate a mention on the back page of the Advertiser recently are:-

<u>Engagements:</u>	Bruce Wigney		
	John Herriot	to	Dianne Schmidt
	Dick Fewster	to	Ann Bennett
	John Flynn		
	Phil Waldeck	to	Maria Kowal
<u>Marriages:</u>	Ian Watt	to	Claire Cowell
	John Obst	to	Katherine White
	Bruce Thyer	to	Kylie Mitchell
	Bernard Swaby		
<u>Births:</u>	Trevor and Helen Hemer	-	a daughter
	David and Beth Lykke	-	a daughter

Ian Watt was seen walking around the College the morning after his 'bucks' show, minus one false tooth. Jack Wood has been contacted at Bolivar but as yet no report has been received of the tooth having shown up.

John Obst's wedding reception was held on the lawns at Turretfield Research Centre where Henry Day and his wife had all looking 'spick and span'. Besides Henry Day, other old scholars present were Ian Young, Reg Radford, Dick Bucket, Ken Holden and yours truly. Ken Holden was called upon for a joke late in the evening and came good with a beauty. I'd publish it if I knew it would get past the censor.

Ken Folliet visited the College at the end of October with his wife and two children. Ken was down from Brisbane on holidays. He is with I.C.I. travelling in pharmaceutical supplies - as there are only two representatives to cover Queensland it means a great deal of travelling. Like everybody else Ken was impressed by the recent additions at the College and says that the best thing that ever happened, as far as R.O.C.A. is concerned, is the Digest. He feels he keeps in regular touch.

D. J. Morris Smith writes from Bairnsdale, Victoria. He is now employed as a Field Officer in the Sheep and Wool Branch of the Victorian Department of Agriculture based at Bairnsdale, and is finding the work most interesting.

Daryl Hicks and Ian Young visited the College early in the new year. Daryl has left the Education Department and will be teaching at Immanuel College this year. Ian has just returned from a world tour with his wife, and will be resuming his teaching job at Orange, N.S.W.

Cliff Hooper and John Gursansky were busy at the Third Year Dinner recruiting new members for the Association and it is anticipated that all of the graduating year will be members of the Association by Graduation Day.

Mention was made in the last issue that a Student Association has been formed. Their first newspaper known as "Rachis" was published during December and was compiled by the Roseworthy students. Students of each College will take their turn at publishing the paper which will be produced every four months.

Peter Winter, since leaving the Army, has taken up a job on an Aboriginal Mission station at Arnhem Land, Northern Australia.

John "Phantom" Eyre is reported to be preparing for his two years' service in the Army which commences shortly.

OENOLOGY NEWSLETTER

BY PHIL TUMMEL

Unfortunately there is nothing new to report on the proposed Oenology Society; we are still awaiting the final constitution draft.

A couple of items of interest, Tony Herbert, one of the famous rehab. students (a room mate of Bill Edge) has left McWilliams of Hanwood to take a very high position with S. Wynn Pty Ltd. We wish you all the best Tony.

Norm. Hankel, an R.D.A. who saw the light and became a convert to Oenology, has taken on a complete new venture of initiating a new 500-acre vineyard and winery in the Hunter Valley. We know Norm will make a complete success, as his work with Yalumba development is so well known. It is with regret we of S.A. say farewell to Joy and Norm.

We all welcome the generous government grant for a new winery at the College, and one realises this must be due to the zeal and approach of Bob Baker. Keep up the good effort Bob, as we certainly need plenty of graduates.

R.O.C.A. DIGEST

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DATES TO REMEMBER

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|---------------|---|--|
| February 24th | - | Eyre Peninsula Branch R.O.C.A. Annual General Meeting and Dinner at Port Lincoln. |
| March 5th | - | Graduation Ball to be held in the Port Adelaide Footballers' Club, Queen Street, Alberton. |
| May 18th | - | Dinner Dance at the Hotel Enfield. |
| May 31st | - | Nominations for the 1968 R.O.C.A. Award of Merit due in by this date. |