



The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.

AFFILIATED WITH
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

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ANNUAL REPORT - 1994/1995

29th September, 1995



MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

NOTICE OF MEETING

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 1995 IN THE BOARD ROOM, VICTORIAN FARMERS FEDERATION, (6TH FLOOR), FARRER HOUSE, 24 COLLINS STREET MELBOURNE, COMMENCING AT 11:00 A.M.

AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

President's address

To receive reports from:

Executive Officer
Secretary/Treasurer
Marketing Officer

Setting Membership & Associate Membership fees.

Fixing Honorariums:

President
Chairman
Executive Officer
Secretary/Treasurer
Marketing Officer
Special Projects Officer

Election of Office Bearers:

President
Senior Vice President
2nd Vice President
Executive Officer
Special Projects Officer
Secretary/Treasurer
Marketing Officer
Appointment of Chairman

Appointment of Auditor

Any other business.

Lunch will be provided for all members and associate members after the meeting.

In order to assist with catering arrangements please advise the Secretary, P O Box 294 Mansfield 3722, or phone 057 751 600, if you propose to attend.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

As our Association moves towards the year 2,000 we need to define and formulate our strategies for the future. If we want high country grazing to be strong and effective and with relevance to the Australian cattle industry over the next decade and beyond, policy and planning must now be formulated, and strong commitment given by each and every member of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria.

We must harness the support of our young Mountain Cattlemen. Our future will be in their hands. So today I appeal to them. Stand tall and proud in the reflection of your parents and your grandparents. Take the time to listen to the older members of the Association, but don't be afraid to put your thoughts and ideas forward when it comes to making decisions on new management practices. Join in discussions and let us all hear your views.

Our Association can only be as effective and efficient as our members are prepared to make it. Our strength can only come from lively debate at our grass roots level, and this means Branch meetings. These are the forum for all members, and importantly our younger members, to put forward ideas and suggestions for discussion. Elected Branch delegates are then responsible for putting these ideas to our Central Council. Central Council meetings are held on a regular basis some five or six times during the year. We need proper cooperation and commitment from all members, or our Association will fail.

We should all try to give our best in the coming year.

We congratulate Mansfield Branch which hosted the 1995 Get Together at the picturesque site of Mountain Bay on the weekend of 14th and 15th January. The small but energetic band of Mansfield members did an amazing job. Your efforts on behalf of the Association were greatly appreciated. The innovative idea of a 'farmers auction' masterminded by Philip Sansom of NuFarm Limited was a real winner, and contributed both to the financial and entertainment success of the Get Together.

The pilot scientific study has been completed, and decision time is at hand. Certain recommendations have been made, and the Association must move forward with them.

Members of our Association have been concerned in the past, with the lack of uniformity in regulations governing the droving of livestock on Victorian roads. Earlier this year we provided a Discussion Paper for the VicRoads Advisory Board, and had an opportunity to place our concerns directly to that Board. We had a good hearing and believe that the matters raised gave the Board a clear insight into problems we encounter

when droving our livestock to the High Plains. Board members expressed their appreciation and gave their encouragement. We have also provided a copy of the Discussion Paper to the Local Government Department, and had further discussions with the Municipal Association of Victoria. We discussed with them a proposed draft model local law. There are difficulties in forming one set of local laws to cover all situations, however we feel that with good will and determination, we can contribute to a satisfactory outcome. I would like to thank Allan Brewer and Sue Silvers who have supported me throughout these meetings. This has been a major undertaking for the Association during the year.

My thanks to Jim Commins, who in spite of indifferent health these past few months has contributed magnificiently to our many projects. Your work on the Eastern Forest Region is moving closer to final resolution.

To Allan Brewer, our Executive Officer, thank you for your tireless work for the Association, and the amount of time and travelling you put into it. Your help and support have been much valued by me.

To Linda Barraclough, Debbie Squires and Don Porter for your very professional help in the compilation and publishing of the Voice of the Mountains. The magazine is one all members are proud to share with the community.

Thanks also to the Central Council delegates and our Chairman Doug Treasure who gives our meetings wise direction, my gratitude for your on-going committment.

To all our members and associate members whose continuing support and enthusiasm breathes life into the Association, my sincere thanks.

To our Secretary, Sue Silvers who has now completed ten years of dedication and service to the Association, my personal thanks accompanies those expressed by all MCAV members.

I know you would wish me to especially mention the Connley and Kelly families whose lives have been touched with sorrow for the loss of sons this year. I offer the Association's condolences.

In conclusion I would like to thank all present for their attendance here today. Our country has presented a constant and exciting challenge since the earliest days of settlement. Let us all go forward to meet this challenge with hope and enthusiasm.

Thank you.

September, 1995

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

The past year has certainly flown, and has been a busy and successful year for the Association.

After much hard work and perseverance, the seven year licences for Bush Runs are to be issued shortly. This is good news for members.

Although the Association has not had the front page headlines, or television coverage, there has been an enormous amount of behind-the-scenes work done.

We are now to be proudly sponsored for the next three Get Togethers by NuFarm Limited.

MCAV together with the VFF have played a major role in the Travelling Stock legislation. This will see a marked improvement in the recognition of livestock producers' rights to move stock on roads in Victoria.

Mansfield Branch are to be congratulated on conducting an enjoyable and successful Get Together.

To all full members - now is the time to get in and support the Association. It concerns me that the same members seem to be doing the bulk of the work and too many sitting back and enjoying the fenefits.

If younger members are not prepared to accept responsibility and take over some of the workload, then I fear for the future of this Association/

As to the support from our associate members, again it was fantastic and thanks to you all. The running of our Get Togethers would be impossible without your help.

Our President and Secretary are to be commended for their continuing work and dedication to the Association. Thank you Mary and Sue.

I wish all members and associates all the best for the year ahead.

Allan Brewer
September 1995

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

I now present to you my 10th annual report. Next month will mark the eleventh anniversary of my involvement with the Mountain Cattlemens Association of Victoria. By any standard this is a long time - over a decade, and I will firmly resist the temptation to look back nostalgically over those years because I believe a more positive approach is to look forward to the future, and to work for the future.

In 1997, two years from now, the 7 year alpine grazing licences will come up for renewal. I cannot stress too heavily how important it is for each licensee to adhere to the licence conditions. Licence fees must be paid on time, allocation numbers must not be exceeded, MCAV strongly recommends that allocations should be filled, and licensees must take all reasonable steps to contain stock within the boundaries of the licence area. Furthermore, stock on the run must belong to the licensee. There is no clause in the licence requiring the Department to warn licensees in regard to proper performance. If a licence is cancelled, it may very well be impossible to have it reinstated.

The Association has been notified that 7 year bush grazing licences will be issued on the 1st October, 1995. This is the fulfilment of an obligation given by the previous Government in 1989, and only acknowledged by the present Government in 1993. Indeed some members of the Department of Conservation bureaucracy denied the obligation, and we are pleased that this issue has now been resolved. The bush grazing licences will retain their current status for the next two years, during which time MCAV will be working with the Department to fine tune some of the details. Is it coincidence that these two years of negotiation will end in 1997 at the time the alpine licences come up for renewal? Perhaps it is, maybe not. MCAV will certainly be seeking to protect the rights and interests of its members.

In October 1994 MCAV took part in the Talk to the Animals Expo. This event took place at the Caulfield Racecourse over four days, and each Branch agreed to attend for one day to demonstrate the art of packing. Mansfield Branch chose to bring a special 'Snowy River' horse, and this created great interest. Unfortunately not all the Branches rose to the occasion, and Clive Hodge's son Chris, came to the rescue on at least one day. The public showed great interest in the MCAV display despite the fact that the site was not ideal. However with a total crowd in excess of 80,000 there was quite enough to keep Sue Beeton and her helpers busy, and MCAV must thank the associate members who gave up their time, and those of the Branches which made a special effort they agreed was well worthwhile.

Members expressed enthusiasm for joining in the 1995 Talk to the Animals Expo, however as it is to be held

this year in late November, the timing will not be convenient for members who will be getting ready for the annual trip to their high country leases.

Mansfield Branch organised a marvellous Get Together in January, not an easy task for such a small Branch and I know that they appreciated the assistance they received from other members and associate members. For the first time all the financial and accounting side of the Get Together was run through the Central Account which not only assisted the Branch, but pleased our Auditor who has recommended that this system be carried on in the future. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank our new sponsor Nufarm Limited which has generously agreed to assist with sponsorship for the next three years.

Our President has commented today on the need for uniformity in local laws regarding travelling stock on Victorian roads. This has been a particularly difficult and tough issue to tackle. Mary Goldsworthy has been the prime mover, and has stuck to it tenaciously with strong back up from Allan Brewer and the Central Council. The problem of formulating a model local law regarding travelling livestock is a minefield of conflicting interests. The desire of Mountain Cattlemen to travel from 'A' to 'B' with the single purpose of taking cattle from home properties to high country runs could very easily have been overlooked, but not with Mrs Goldsworthy in the driving seat! The Association looks forward to a satisfactory outcome.

MCAV through the work of Jim Commins has brought forward for discussion with the Department the concept of an Eastern Forest Region. This concept which has been mentioned on and off for many years, finally got off the ground in April/May with a detailed submission being presented to the Department of Conservation. The submission proposed that cattle be counted on the old per head basis, that the licence fee should be calculated by multiplying the number of cattle that represents the unimproved carrying capacity by the recommended fee, the recommended fee to be derived by direct negotiation based on previously acceptable charges, the term of the licence to be 99 years and various other details. The submission received a very lukewarm reception. At a later meeting DCNR discussed their desire to move to uniformity across the State rather than the present system of regions. Finally the Department agreed to a further meeting prior to which MCAV will provide its reasons for requesting an Eastern Forest Region, and provide DCNR with agenda items for consideration. There will need to be a good deal of consideration given to this issue if it is to be progressed further.

We are still working with the Department on the Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land, and provided a detailed submission on the Draft code in June. Of 11 recommendations for change made by MCAV in the

Draft, only one was accepted. There is an opportunity, however, to have the other recommendations reviewed by a panel, and we shall be taking advantage of this further chance to have more input into the final document.

During mustering this year, one of MCAV members encountered difficulties when he arrived at his hit late one evening. MCAV has raised this matter with the Chief Ranger, Alpine, Mr Bob Jones, who in turn took the matter to the Australian Alps Liaison Committee which is preparing a Code of Etiquette for the use of high country huts by the general public. It has been pointed out by MCAV that its members have a legal right to the use of their huts in respect of their grazing operations, and that Cattlemen might very well arrive at their hut at any time during the day or night, and at any time of the year. We are asking that this information be included in the Code and also in the huts, perhaps by way of a sign. This problem was also raised through the Public Land Council of Victoria, and members of that body were asked to highlight the Cattlemens rights in their newsletters and publications.

MCAV is still supplying kits to schools for students undertaking their VCE. I have mentioned this item each year for several years, as the burden of printing and postage is considerable. Nevertheless it has been a very important vehicle for getting information regarding alpine grazing into schools. At present our school kit information is with Linda Barraclough for editing before being put onto disc and sent off to VicNet, which is part of the Internet. When this is done all MCAV information for schools will be accessible through individual and school computers, and will make a great difference to our printing and postage bills. I would like to thank Linda for taking on this extra work.

The new Alpine Advisory Committee met for the first time in March, and there have been two further meetings. The Committee is not carrying out a wholesale review of the Alpine Park Management Plans, but is addressing single issues raised from time to time by various interests. It has recommended a number of transfers of grazing licences, and has considered issues such as horse riding in specific areas, dog sledding for people with disabilities as a means of experiencing winter in the Park, and Howqua huts. Issues can be put forward to the Alpine Advisory Committee either directly to it, or through any of the Committee members.

The Public Land Council has met regularly throughout the year, and I have attended the meetings as the MCAV representative. The PLCV has addressed a number of issues, and had some excellent successes, one of which was to have a PLCV nominee selected to the Land Conservation Council. A copy of the PLCV 1994/95 Review is available here today.

The 1994 MCAV Annual Meeting decided to trial a new

system of payment of subscriptions by full members. This was to add \$1.25 per head over the first 100 head in order to calculate the individual subscription. This system has had mixed success. It is easy to see which households own a calculator! I recommend that members reconsider this system. A more simple method might be that the subscription be based on the licence allocation, while still keeping the minimum fee.

I present to the members the 1994/1995 accounts and financial statements. MCAV is in a very good position financially, and members should be very pleased in this regard. I would like to mention that Bill Crump is also marking his tenth anniversary this year as the Association Auditor. Bill has had the task of training me, as Treasurer, in the correct and best way to keep the financial records of the Association. I thank him for his marvellous professional care and attention over the past decade.

In conclusion I would like to thank members and associate members for making the last ten years very happy ones, and in particular thanks to all Central Council delegates and our President, Mary Goldsworthy, for the support they have given over the past year.

September 1995

MARKETING REPORT 1994/1995

Continuing the trend of recent years, the past year has seen a slowing down of marketing turnover, from \$28,811 in 1993/94 to \$24,138. The difference being reflected by the fact that a Bush Dance was not held this year. However the dance itself has not been a great earner, with an increase in net profit in 1994/5 to \$7,124.65 from \$6,626.89 in 1993/4.

Much of this profit was due to the fact that stock levels were still relatively high for many goods, requiring limited purchasing in the past year, apart from t-shirts and windcheaters. Numerous lines have been run out in order to introduce some new specialty items in the future, thus altering the range of items available to members. The need for some new, low-priced items has been recognised through many requests, particularly from the younger members of the Association.

Event sales increased by \$925, with wholesale business dropping by \$1,600. However, miscellaneous sales which incorporates mainly mail orders was up by approximately \$500.

Events attended this year were the Talk to the Animals Expo, the Four Wheel Drive Show and the Get Together. The Talk to the Animals Expo proved to be popular with families and children, and as reported in the newsletter, was a great opportunity for the cattlemen to educate and demonstrate their skills. Marketing income was over \$1,500, an average amount for this kind of event. The Four Wheel Drive Show was relatively quiet this year, but this was most likely due to the exceptionally hot weather experienced throughout the time it was on - attendance figures were significantly lower with all exhibitors complaining of reduced business. A special thank you must go to the stalwarts who came to our assistance for that particular show - it was not an easy one!

Sales at the Get Together were consistent with previous years, with the Get Together Port and t-shirts proving to be their usual success. Both seem to have reached the status of collectors items.

The arrangement with Thomas Cook to manufacture our windcheaters has come to an end, with Cooks claiming that their stock holdings are too great in comparison to the amount of sales generated. This is a little confusing as those wholesalers who have tried to obtain stocks from Thomas Cook will attest to the small amount of stock they carried. We are currently negotiating to produce the windcheaters direct with the manufacturers, which should give us more control over the quality which has been a little erratic.

The wholesale network has grown this year, with a number of the tourist information centres around the state

stocking MCAV goods. These centres are particularly interested in seeing an increase in the range of the smaller value items, as mentioned above.

As always the Marketing Department cannot operate without the enthusiastic support of the team of helpers. Thanks to everyone who helped over the past year, including Tess and Pat Coleman, Geraldine Morgan, Roger Hollis, Wendy Symons, David Shelton, Norma and John Marshall, Frank Sedgman, Paul and Judy Dix, and many others. A special thankyou to Shirley Smith and Frank Hill for their fantastic support and assistance at the Get Together - we'd not have made it without them, especially on the Sunday when they had to be my voice.

It is with great sadness that I must tell you I am unable to continue in the marketing role, however commitments which have grown over the past 12 months threaten to overtake me, and I find that I have not been able to give as much to the task as I feel it required. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Association in a practical way. I look forward to continuing to assist at the Get Togethers whenever possible.

Sue Beeton
September 1995.

William G. Crump FCPA
CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT

72 Mayfield Court
MOAMA NSW 2731

Phone : (054) 82 6388
Facsimile : (054) 82 6388

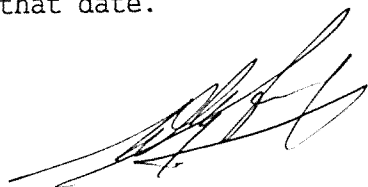
ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO P.O. BOX 256 MOAMA NSW 2731

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members:

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

I have examined the records of the Association for the year ended 30 June 1995 and in my opinion the attached Trading & Profit and Loss Statement and the Statement of Receipts & Payments reflect the operations of the Association for the year ended thereon and that the Statement of Position shows the state of affairs as at that date.



WILLIAM G CRUMP FCPA

11 September 1995

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1995

RECEIPTS

Advertising - V.O.M.		690.00	
Donations		100.00	
Entries - Photographic Competition		178.00	
Get Together - Gross Proceeds	40,803.60		
Less Expenses	<u>19,924.61</u>	20,878.99	
Proceeds - Auction		6,480.64	
Sponsorship		7,392.00	
Interest on Investments		2,899.16	
Investments Redeemed		30,000.00	
Refund Insurance		964.70	
Refund Postage		52.85	
Subscriptions - Members	9,870.00		
- Associates	<u>11,022.16</u>	20,892.16	
Sundry Sales		741.50	
Transfers - Omeo (Contra)	500.00		
- Marketing	<u>7,515.60</u>	8,015.60	
Advance - Fighting Fund		<u>6,208.82</u>	
TOTAL RECEIPTS			105,494.42

PAYMENTS

Advertising		198.95	
Audit Fees		1,050.00	
Bank Fees & Govt Charges		895.65	
Catering & Hall Hire re Meetings		2,152.70	
Consultants Fees		3,951.10	
Donations		50.00	
Electricity		406.00	
Expenses - President		672.00	
- Secretary		1,625.10	
- Other		275.00	
- Secretary re Motor Vehicle		2,000.00	
Fees & Subscriptions		1,197.95	
Framing - Certificates etc		155.00	
Freight & Couriers		22.00	
Honorariums - President	3,000.00		
- Exec. Officer	1,000.00		
- Secretary	12,000.00		
- Marketing	1,000.00		
- Special Projects(2)	<u>2,000.00</u>	19,000.00	
Insurance		2,700.20	
Investments - Term Deposit		40,000.00	
Legal Fees		160.00	
Marketing Van - Registration		28.00	
Postage		2,172.50	
Printing & Stationery		7,039.65	
Purchases for Resale		283.65	
Rates		998.90	
Rental - Office		3,120.00	
School Video		156.95	
Sundry Expenses - Funerals etc		349.02	
Telephone & Facsimile Expenses		3,853.38	

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 1995

MEMBERS FUNDS

Total Members Funds \$ 96,133.31
=====

Represented by:-

ASSETS

Cash at Bank -		
Central Account	8,464.01	
Branches - Mansfield	400.98	
- Omeo	457.54	
- North East	197.89	
- Gippsland	618.89	
Debtors re Auction	270.00	
Term Deposit - Central Account	<u>64,000.00</u>	
		74,409.31
Net Assets - Marketing		12,759.11
Fixed Assets - at cost		
Cash Register (1988)	431.00	
Facsimile Machine (1988)	3,288.61	
Typewriter (1988)	299.00	
Photocopier (1988)	1,100.00	
Toilets (1988)	554.40	
Facsimile Machines (2) (1989)	4,010.00	
Caravan (1989)	1,000.00	
Answering Machine (1989)	315.65	
Desk (1990)	140.00	
Adding Machine (1990)	269.00	
Facsimile Machine (1991)	1,190.00	
Facsimile Machine (1994)	800.00	
Office Furniture (1994)	267.70	
Answering Machine (1995)	129.00	
Display Screen (1995)	<u>25.00</u>	
		<u>13,819.36</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		100,987.78

LIABILITIES

Advance - Fighting Fund 4,854.47

NET ASSETS

\$ 96,133.31
=====

=====

\$ 7,846.72

97,647.70

2,000.00
25.00
129.00
280.00
700.00

EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS

TOTAL PAYMENTS

200.00
500.00
Transfer - Gippeland
- Omeo (Contra)
- Fighting Fund
Capital Purchases - Answering Machine
- Display Screen
Reinvested Term Deposit Interest

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

MARKETING ACCOUNT

TRADING & PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1995

Sales

Events & Shows	18204.40	
Wholesale	2305.10	
Miscellaneous	<u>2451.08</u>	
		22960.58

Less Cost of Sales

Stock on Hand 1 July 1994	9785.41	
Add Purchases	<u>16456.79</u>	
	26242.20	
Less Stock on Hand 30 June 1995	<u>9939.00</u>	

Cost of Goods Sold		<u>16303.20</u>
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GROSS PROFIT		6657.38
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Add Other Income

Royalties Received	1170.00	
Interest Received	<u>7.09</u>	

NET OTHER INCOME		<u>1177.09</u>
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7834.47

Less Operating Costs

Bank Fees	105.17	
Events Expenses	294.65	
Postage & Freight	210.00	
Petty Cash	<u>100.00</u>	

709.82

<u>NET INCOME</u>		\$ 7124.65
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THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

MARKETING ACCOUNT

STATEMENT OF POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 1995

Opening Balance - 1 July 1994	13149.86
Add Net Income - Year ended 30 June 1995	7124.65
Add Membership Fees - Contra	<u>580.00</u>

20854.51

Less Transfer to Central Account	7515.40
Transfer to Central - Membership	<u>580.00</u>

8095.40

NET FUNDS

\$ 12759.11

=====

Represented by:-

Cheque Account - NAB	2820.11
Stock on Hand	<u>9939.00</u>

NET ASSETS

\$ 12759.11

=====

William G. Crump FCPA

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT

72 Mayfield Court
MOAMA NSW 2731

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Facsimile : (054) 82 6388

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO P.O. BOX 256 MOAMA NSW 2731

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees:

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION FIGHTING FUND

I have examined the records of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 1995 and in my opinion the attached Income & Expenditure Statement reflects the operations of the Trust for the year then ended and that the Balance Sheet shows the state of affairs as at that date.



WILLIAM G CRUMP FCPA

11 September 1995

THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION FIGHTING FUND
INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1995

INCOME

Interest Received 115.31

EXPENSES

Accountancy re Tax Return 180.00
 Audit Fees 100.00
 Bank Fees & Govt Duty 12.61
 292.61

DEFICIENCY TO CORPUS \$ 177.29
 =====

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 1995

TRUST FUNDS

Settled Sum 20.00
 Corpus -
 Balance 1/7/1994 5031.76
 Less Deficiency 177.29
 4854.47
NET FUNDS \$ 4874.47
 =====

Represented by:-

ASSETS

Cash on hand 20.00
 Advance - Central Account 4854.47
TOTAL ASSETS 4874.47

LIABILITIES

NET ASSETS NIL
 \$ 4874.47
 =====



