



*The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.*

AFFILIATED WITH  
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

SILVERS

MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION

OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED

ANNUAL REPORT 1988/1989

11th October, 1989

Mountain Cattlemens Association of Vic Inc  
Post Office Box 294  
MANSFIELD VIC 3722





*The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.*

AFFILIATED WITH  
THE VICTORIAN FARMERS' FEDERATION

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11th OCTOBER, 1989

MR. DAVID TREASURE

The past year has been a difficult one for the Mountain Cattlemen. With the constant publicity concerning the greenhouse effect and the hole in the ozone layer, radicals within the conservation movement have become increasingly strident in their demands, as they sense a growing public concern.

Lazy politicians unimpressed with the issues of "right or wrong" willingly throw countless millions away in the hope of winning votes, and as a smoke screen to divert public attention away from the disastrous monetary vortex which rapidly approaches our nation.

Because of the State Government's desperate need for extra funds, the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands is attempting to raise as much revenue as possible from Crown Land rentals. This was to be achieved via the pricing panel chaired by Malcolm Lee (CF&L, Ballarat), whose major priority seemed to be to complete matters before departing for a holiday in the south seas.

The panel turned out to be a "Kangaroo Court" and doubt

must be cast on the professionalism of those who favoured its decision to charge \$18.00 a head for alpine grazing. However, at the time of writing, negotiations are continuing with little regard for the panel's recommendations.

The Alpine National Parks extension bill has passed through the Legislative Council after capitulation by the Liberal Party. However some very useful amendments were achieved on behalf of the Cattlemen. Graeme Stoney, who worked very hard on this matter, will elaborate further in his report.

Congratulations to the Omeo Branch for one of the most successful Get Togethers ever. And many thanks to all those who contributed towards that great weekend.

The Bogong rally focussed peoples' attention on the plight of the eleven families to be evicted from their Alpine Grazing leases. The attention of the "anti eviction committee" should now concentrate on keeping the issue alive, remembering that the next State election will be around 1991, and that there is a good chance of a change of Government.

The Public Land Council is now up and running, the Chairman is Heather Mitchell, it is hoped that some of the load

presently carried by the M.C.A.V. will be shared by this new organization. We wish Heather and the Council all the best in their endeavours.

The last few months have been unusually busy creating extra loadings on our finances, we will need to budget carefully during the next year. I believe that we should, before starting any new project, cost out all components relating to that project, including our own operating costs, e.g. secretarial, communications, President's and Executive Officer's expenses, so that more definite planning of our costs can occur. We also need to look carefully at the percentage or proportion of our income that we allocate to various areas, retaining as our priority the basic running of our Association. The matter of honorariums and expenses needs to be addressed, as the organization has outgrown the point where most of its functions can be performed voluntarily.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who worked so hard during the previous year. The Get Together, the Bogong Rally, the Alpine National Park extension bill, and the pricing issue were all times of great input by certain members, without whom we would not have been able to achieve what we did. In particular thanks to Sue, Graeme, Annie, Keith and Jim. *Geoff Bennowes*  
*Hinda + Deb.*

The next twelve months will not be short of challenges or difficulties. We have not shirked in the past, in fact adversity has tended to bind us together, and so it shall be in the future.

David Treasure  
President  
11/10/89





# *The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.*

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## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

11TH OCTOBER 1989

My role within the M.C.A.V. is to help initiate and then coordinate, political lobbying, public awareness and education and to monitor the activities of the mainstream conservation groups.

It has been an extraordinary year in these areas as the M.C.A.V. made the conscious decision, early this year, to publicly oppose the phase-outs.

The reintroduction, in April, of the Alpine National Parks Bill muddied the thrust of our phase-out campaign, and we also had to divert our attention and resources to the Bill at a critical time in the post Bogong period.

### PHASE-OUTS

To highlight our opposition to the phase-outs we considered holding a Public campaign and rally in the Kosciusko Park to highlight the stupidity of removing grazing from Alpine areas in Victoria. After a careful look at Kosciusko we decided that the Victorian public would have trouble understanding the message if we went to New South Wales. A rally on Bogong was organised and this was announced at the Gibbo Park Get Together.

I am sure most of you are familiar with the success of the Bogong Rally, and I acknowledge and thank all those who offered help and advice, and in particular the most valuable assistance of Geoff Burrowes.

We had 400 horses, and over 1,000 people walked into Watchbed Creek to attend the Rally. Approximately 40 media representatives were on hand - television and radio coverage

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was very good, however we had some reservations over the coverage from the print media, as those reporters focussed on our professionalism in presenting our case during the rally, rather than the message we were trying to get to the public. This was unfortunate, but it points to the fact that it has become a lot harder for us to get our message across.

After the Bogong rally it quickly became apparent that we needed some hard scientific facts to back up our general statements on cattle grazing. We set about getting this organised, but this important issue was put on the 'back burner' because of the Park Bill. To be frank, Sue, David, Jim and I all found our M.C.A.V. workload too high during the first half of the year, and we simply had to catch up with our own lives. A further complication at this time was the lease charge issue which was raised again, and took all our energies - particularly for Jim and David.

Tim Barker has now formulated a proposal to collate and fine tune scientific research which supports the wider view of the use of Public land. This will be based on Dick Condon's paper which has now been drafted. If we can get enough of this material together, we think we should hold a seminar in a few months time. This could then be followed by a visit to Bogong and Kosciusko with representatives of the press, and scientists who could explain our position. Coupled with this is the grant of \$25,000 from the Australian Farmers Fighting Fund, and the "long shot" of a study initiated by Melbourne University, and funded by a Federal special rural research grant. The subject of



such a study would be the wider implications, effects and benefits of the use of Public land. It is hoped such a review would balance the narrow botanical based views now used and pushed by the conservation movement.

#### ALPINE NATIONAL PARK

As you all know, the Liberal party decided to support the Alpine National Park Bill for political reasons. An hour after this decision was announced, David and I had a meeting with Jeff Kennett and Rob McLellan. It was obvious that unless we pulled something out of the hat we would be left with nothing except the National Park. However, with the help and advice of several good friends we have in Parliament (from the three parties, I might add) we started to apply pressure to have some amendments agreed to by the Upper House. After many weeks of constant negotiations, some amendments were agreed to. They are far from perfect, and the Liberals could have done far more to help, without affecting their decision to pass the Bill.

All we really achieved was to have written into Legislation, that the cattlemen have certain rights, and that they actually exist. The big plus in my opinion, was the enlargement of the Alpine Advisory Committee. The spirit behind this, was to make the Committee more representative of Alpine user groups, that it be an ongoing entity, and be able to comment freely. However the wording agreed to in the Legislation was ambiguous and unfortunately we may see the Committee phased out after a time.

I must make mention of Lou Lieberman, David Evans, Rosemary Varty, Bruce Evans and Geoff Coleman. Without their advice and help we would not have salvaged anything from the mess.

4.

After such a year it is a little hard not to be pessimistic about our future, as the tide is not with us. Within the last weeks we have had a Government report implying that cattle could endanger the pygmy possum!

Apart from all these issues, one major concern is the enormous workload and financial loss suffered by key personnel in the Association as they represent the interests of the members. Whilst I acknowledge that an honorarium is paid, and expenses reimbursed, neither reflects the actual position. Rather members should consider that the extent of expenses claimed clearly reflects the enormous amount of time spent solely on M.C.A.V. matters, for example I spent virtually 3 weeks straight in Melbourne over the Park Bill, and organising and coordinating the Bogong Rally took virtually all of February for David and myself. Obviously during these times all other business is put aside. I feel that there is a need for more input from all members, and that we should carefully consider the future operation of the Association. Without some change I fear that there will soon be nobody to do the jobs that the key personnel undertake (at their loss) on behalf of the Association.

I would like this subject brought up during the discussion on honorariums and expenses at this meeting.

Graeme Stoney

Executive Officer,

11th October, 1989.



# *The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.*

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## MARKETING REPORT

11th OCTOBER 1989

Taken overall, the 1988/89 year was successful, yet fairly lacklustre.

Our marketing year begins with the Royal Melbourne Show. In 1988 the Show was a non-event so far as profit was concerned due to a poor situation made poorer by the fact that the shop was closed off from the public for about 2 hours daily. We came out about even.

The Get Together at Gibbo was very successful for marketing. As well as selling our normal logo goods, the special singlets (Gibbo 89) and stubby holders went off very well.

As the only space at the Melbourne Show this year was the same as last year with the added disadvantage that the building had been demolished, and we would have had to hire a portacom, the rent for the vacant space was the same amount as the previous year, so we declined. It is only worth attending the Melbourne Show if a good site is available.

We have recently introduced a new hat badge, and hope that this will be a successful seller.

Opportunities for marketing over the past year were reduced due to lack of attendance at a number of the smaller Agricultural shows. I hope this situation can be reversed this year. Each Branch should be prepared to support a local show, or similar activity in its area.

2.

In general the year was quite satisfactory with sales increasing slightly while expenses were contained. The result is an increase in profit over 87/88 of some \$3,500.

Anne Whittam

Marketing Officer

11th October, 1989



*The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Inc.*

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SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

11th OCTOBER 1989

Membership of the Association, both full members and associate members continues to grow slowly. There are now 82 full members of the Association, and 1800 associate members. The Association has associate members in all States of Australia, and there are associate members in the United Kingdom, and the U.S.A.

This last year has been a busy one as usual. The tempo increased quite dramatically in January with the organisation for the Bogong Rally plus the Get Together. It became obvious that our communication system needed expanding, and thanks to Peter Arnouts an associate, we installed two new facsimilie machines, one for the Executive Officer, and one for me. At the same time Jim Commins had access to a machine, and thus the link-up between us all made life a great deal easier. The Bogong Rally was an emotional experience for all concerned, the organisation of the event was a massive exercise and it was pleasing to see associate members once more making a great effort to support the Association.

The Omeo Branch Get Together at Gibbo Park was a terrific success, both socially and importantly, financially. Congratulations must to to each and every member and associate involved, however a special thanks to the effort of John

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Cook and his family which was quite outstanding. The M.C.A.V. Fighting Fund was announced at Gibbo Park, and the donations poured in. This, and subsequent donations were banked by the Association's Solicitors in their Trust Account until the more formal Trust was established. This Trust Deed has now been drafted and should be executed within the next couple of months.

The tempo around the Bogong Rally was fast, but nothing compared to that surrounding the reintroduction of the Alpine National Park Bill. It was at this time that the true worth of our updated communication system was shown. As proposed amendments were drafted in Mansfield/Dargo/Ensay/Melbourne and various other areas, they came down to me in Melbourne, were then able to be immediately retyped, and sent back. In fact on one occasion I was still sending faxes to the President at 3:00a.m.! Members should be forever grateful to their Executive Officer who was the prime mover in getting the amendments to the legislation which, we hope, will protect the Mountain Cattlemen and high country grazing. Graeme Stoney spent 3 weeks in Melbourne, mostly at Parliament House, and was still negotiating and suggesting amendments whilst the Bill was being debated in the Legislative Council. It must have all been too much for him, as he left for Canada the day after the Bill went through and stayed away for a month.

3.

The new pricing panel set up by the Minister has been a very costly experience for the Association, and to date has not seemed to be able to reach any sensible figure for the coming year. Jim Commins and David Treasure have spent far too much of their valuable time travelling up and down to Melbourne. The cost both to the Association and to Jim and David personally was enormous. I feel the attention of the Minister should be drawn to this fact.

Apart from dealing with the usual volume of correspondence and requests from members of the public I have received this year, 109 requests from students asking for detailed information to assist them with assignments. It is interesting that these requests usually come from Years 11 and 12, and tertiary students. Whether the weight of their material is getting through to the educators or not is something I cannot comment upon. However, in March this year the Association was contacted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Board inviting the M.C.A.V. to participate in a consultation process for the new VCE Environmental Studies. The draft study design was presented to us last month for comment. We found it generally negative in approach, and disagreed that political policy should form part of the subject. It will be interesting to see whether any of our suggestions are taken by the Board. In any case the M.C.A.V. is nominated to assist both students and teachers with information to assist in the course.

In September I sent a memo to all members and associate members advising that I had moved from Melbourne to Mansfield. It was therefore necessary to re-locate the office as well. As my house in Mansfield is very small and does not yet have electricity connected, it was realised that for the first time, an office for the M.C.A.V. would have to be found. To economise on rental we thought that it would be best to share accommodation, and to my great pleasure Graeme Stoney learned that space was available at the rear of a shop owned by Shirley Fry. Shirley and her husband Graeme are great supporters of the Mountain Cattlemen, and it was Graeme who carried the Australian Flag at the Bogong Rally, so in a way the office is a home away from home! It is working out very well indeed, phone and fax are connected and I am fully operational.

Financial statements are attached. You will notice that this year we have had an excess of payments over receipts. Expenses have risen dramatically. This is entirely due to the busy year - to the Bogong Rally, the preparation of scientific papers, the Alpine National Park legislation and the Crown Land rentals. An increase was also incurred with the purchase of the 2 fax machines and the caravan. Postage and printing have increased, printing by some \$4,500, and once again this is due to the Bogong Rally.

Sue Silvers,  
Secretary/Treasurer.

11/10/89.



*Wm. G. Crump,* FASA CPA

CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT

17 Mayfield Court  
MOAMA NSW. 2731

Telephone: 054 82 6388

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO P.O. BOX 256 MOAMA N.S.W. 2731

AUDITORS 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 1989 and in my opinion the attached Income and Expenditure Statement and Statement of Receipts and Payments show a true and fair view of the operations of the Association for the year ended thereon and that the Statement of Assets and Liabilities shows the state of affairs as at that date.



WILLIAM G CRUMP FASA CPA  
Certified Practising Accountant  
Registered Company Auditor

2 October 1989

## THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

## MARKETING ACCOUNT

## TRADING &amp; PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1989

Sales		38011.18
Less Cost of Sales		
Stock on Hand 1 July 1988	10113.20	
Purchases -		
Windcheaters, T Shirts, etc	16971.93	
Books, Stickers, etc	3530.05	
Port	4130.00	
	-----	
	34745.18	
Less Stock on Hand 30 June 1989	12974.84	
	-----	
Cost of Goods Sold		21770.34
		-----
GROSS PROFIT		16240.84
		-----
Add Other Income		
Interest Received	669.98	
Royalties - Thomas Cook	781.00	
	-----	
		1450.98
		-----
		17691.82
Less Operating Costs		
Bank Fees	65.28	
Credit Card Charges	66.45	
Freight	81.20	
Newsletter	493.50	
Petty Cash	28.45	
Secretarial Fees	93.06	
Stationery	40.95	
Telephone	360.00	
	-----	
		1228.89
		-----
NET PROFIT		\$ 16462.93
		=====

## THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS &amp; PAYMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1989

## Receipts

Advance - Fighting Fund	6067.49
Bank Interest	246.42
Bequest - Beveridge Plaque	300.00
Donations - General	432.00
- Rutherglen Show	100.00
- R M Williams - re Heritage Award	250.00
Marketing Sales - Branches (Net)	624.00
Net Proceeds - Get Together	35339.05
Subscriptions - Members	8412.50
- Associates	18155.00
Thomas Cook - re Advertising	5000.00
Transfers - Marketing	7000.00
- Mansfield	1180.23
	-----
	83106.69

## Payments

Advertising	1154.00
Artwork & Photographs	1012.58
Audit Fees	675.00
Badges	750.00
Bank Fees & Govt. Charges	235.09
— Branch Expenses - Sundries	374.00
Catering & Hall Hire - re Meetings	534.00
Consultancy - Policy Consultants	21111.00
Capital Purchases-	
Facsimile Machines (2)	4010.00
Answering Machine	315.65
Caravan	1000.00
Expenses - President	6359.80
- Executive Officer	8020.10
- Marketing Officer	351.92
Fees & Subscriptions	2513.00
General Expenses	1770.06
Honorariums - President	3500.00
- Executive Officer	3500.00
- Secretary	6000.00
- Marketing Officer/Ass. Secretary	1750.00
Insurance	2758.72
Legal Fees	2908.27
Postage	3669.24
Printing & Stationery	9983.94
— Protest Rally - Bogong	3835.60
Repairs - Office Equipment	65.00
Sundry Expenses - Wreaths, Flowers etc	260.50
Telephone	1911.23
Transfer - Term Deposit - Mansfield	1800.00
Travelling Expenses - General	250.00
	-----
	92378.70

EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS

\$ 9272.01

VIDEO - BOGONG  
VAN HORGAN  
VIDEO FOR MLC'S

## THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS &amp; LIABILITIES AS AT 30 JUNE 1989

## Assets

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Cash at Bank -		
Central Account	334.20	
Marketing Account	4717.44	
Social Account	117.91	
Branches - Mansfield	117.93	
- Omeo	1168.27	
- North East	1034.06	
- Gippsland	322.28	
	-----	7812.09
Sundry Debtors - Marketing		557.00
Stock on Hand - at cost - Marketing		12974.84
Fixed Assets - at cost		
Cash Register (1988)	431.00	
Facsimile Machine (1988)	3288.61	
Typewriter (1988)	299.00	
Photocopier (1988)	1100.00	
Toilets (1988)	554.40	
Facsimile Machines (2) (1989)	4010.00	
Caravan (1989)	1000.00	
Answering Machine (1989)	315.65	
	-----	10998.66
		-----
TOTAL ASSETS		32342.59

## Liabilities

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Trade Creditors - Marketing		1508.30
		-----
NET ASSETS		\$ 30834.29
		=====

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INCORPORATED HELD AT THE VICTORIAN FARMERS FEDERATION BOARD ROOM, 24 COLLINS STREET MELBOURNE, ON FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER, 1988.

The Meeting was opened at 10:50 a.m. by the President, Mr. David Treasure.

PRESENT: D. Treasure, S. Silvers, A. Whittam, G. Stoney, C. Lovick, T. Murphy, R. Brown, C. Hodge, L. McCready, G. Connley, K. Higgins, D. Kneebone, B. Hicks, K. Heywood, P. McCormack, J. Cook and K. Whittam. Attending: W.G. Crump, L. Dawson, B. Sandman, G. Sandman, Dana Kneebone, R. Andrews, J. Andrews, B. Powell, J. Bird, M. Jordan and C. Haapakoski.

APOLOGIES were received from L. Lieberman, M.L.C., Bill Cumming, M. Blair, D. Evans, M.L.C., B. Fitzgerald, J. Commins, J. Rogers, J. Lovick, H. Ryder, John Lovick and G. Burrowes.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The President Mr. David Treasure presented his 1987/1988 report. He thanked all members and associate members for their loyal support over the past 12 months. Pressure on Alpine Grazing had continued from the Government and the conservation groups, but despite this, the resolve of the Association had remained firm and morale high. Mr. Treasure said that the proposed phase-outs of grazing from the Bogong Plains and the Bluff was rapidly approaching and a campaign was being developed to convince the Government to alter its decision. Action separate from this course was necessary regarding the Broadbent country on the Snowy, and Frank Ryan's lease near Whitfield. Mr. Treasure stated that the purchase of the Wonnangatta Station by the Department of CF&L, and the subsequent closure of the surrounding grazing leases was a great disappointment to all who knew the area, and understood the management problems involved. The greatest loss, however, was the loss to our heritage by the closure of this historic grazing property. Mr. Treasure commented on the continuing problem of pricing for the leases, but said that the Department had accepted, that day, the pricing panel's recommendation for \$3/head/season for the backlog of unpaid accounts. Mr. Treasure also reported on a two day seminar he attended in May organised by the Weed Science Society of Victoria. He expressed concern at what lay ahead regarding the Flora and Fauna Conservation legislation. Mr. Treasure reported on the concept of "High Country Beef" and told the meeting the reasons this Association was not prepared to become involved with the project. He discussed the R.M. Williams Heritage Award and said he regretted that he had omitted to bring the award with him to show to members and friends.

The President thanked all those who helped at the Showgrounds, and all those who had contributed to the success of the Get Together at Castleburn. In concluding he also thanked the Branch Presidents, Executive Officer and Secretary for their work over the past year.

MINUTES OF  
LAST ANNUAL  
MEETING:

The Secretary read the Minutes of the last Annual meeting. Moved Lyn Dawson seconded G. Connley that the Minutes be confirmed.

EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER'S  
REPORT:

Mr. G. Stoney presented the Executive Officer's report for 1987/1988. He reported on the current colour booklet produced by the CF&L called "Victoria needs an Alpine National Park" and more particularly the section relating to grazing.

Mr. Stoney reported on publicity obtained during the year on the following issues: Wonnangatta, Merambego Station, articles in the Adelaide Advertiser, Brisbane Courier Mail, features in the Age, radio talkbacks and television, and a major promotion in theatres in conjunction with the filming of the Man from Snowy 11. Mr. Stoney also reported that information regarding the Mountain Cattlemen had been provided to the Australian Heritage Commission, and discussed his co-ordination of the R.M. Williams Heritage award. Mr. Stoney then reported on a meeting called to discuss involvement in the State election and the reasons why the Association decided not to become involved.

Moved C. Lovick seconded R. Brown that the Executive Officer's report be adopted. Carried.

C. Hodge commented that Government Policy regarding conservation had been discussed at Branch level and made it clear that such policy was not working.

VISITOR:

Mr. Treasure introduced and welcomed Mr. John Andrews to the meeting. Mr. Andrews was the proposed purchaser of Wonnangatta Station.

Mr. Andrews addressed the meeting on the subject of Wonnangatta. He described his plans for restoring the Station to full working order, and refuted claims that he was prepared to make it into a tourist venture. He stated that he deeply regretted not having been successful in his bid to purchase the Station.

At the conclusion of his address Mr. R. Brown thanked Mr. Andrews for his time in attending the meeting.

SECRETARY/  
TREASURER'S  
REPORT:

The Secretary reported that at the Council meeting on 27/5/88 the fee structure of the Association had been changed. Full member subscriptions had been increased, and associate memberships changed to Family (2 adults, 2 child-

ren) \$30, single \$20, student/pensioner \$10. Currently 78 full members, and 1,500 associate members. Associate members 2 years overdue have been taken from the register. Financial statement as presented showed total assets of \$31,783.50. Liabilities - nil. Resolved that the Financial Statements in respect of the year ended 30th June, 1988 be adopted. Moved T. Murphy seconded C. Hodge. Carried.

MARKETING  
OFFICER'S  
REPORT:

Mr. R. Brown reported on a very busy year in in the marketing department. Sales at Castleburn were excellent. The Show was going very slowly and perhaps needed to be re-examined. He thanked Anne Whittam for her work over the year. Moved Marketing Officer's report be adopted L. McCready seconded T. Murphy. Carried.

ELECTION OF  
OFFICE  
BEARERS:

Mr. G. Connley took the Chair for the election of the following office bearers for the year 1988/1989.

President: Mr. David Treasure nominated by C. Hodge. Elected.

Senior Vice President: Mr. Graham Connley nominated by Mr. C. Lovick. Declined.

Mr. Charlie Lovick nominated by Mr. G. Stoney elected.

2nd Vice President: Mr. Graham Connley nominated by Mr. C. Hodge. Elected.

3rd Vice President: Mr. Ken Heywood nominated by Mr. D. Treasure. Declined.

Mr. T. Murphy nominated by Mr. C. Lovick. Declined.

Mr. Harry Ryder nominated by Mr. C. Hodge subject to his acceptance. Elected.

Executive Officer: Mr. Graeme Stoney nominated by Mr. David Treasure. Elected.

Marketing Officer: Mrs. Anne Whittam nominated by Mr. Ross Brown. Elected.

Special Projects Officers: Mr. Lyle McCready nominated by Mr. T. Murphy. Elected.

Mr. Jim Commins nominated by Mr. G. Stoney. Elected.

Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs. Sue Silvers nominated by Mr. K. Whittam. Elected.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Anne Whittam nominated by Mr. C. Lovick. Elected.

AUDITOR:

Moved G. Stoney seconded C. Lovick that Mr. W. G. Crump be appointed auditor for 1988/1989. Carried.

FIXING OF  
HONORARIUMS:

President: Moved Mr. C. Hodge seconded Mr. L. McCready that the Honorarium be \$3,500 plus expenses. Carried.

Executive Officer: Moved Mr. K. Whittam seconded Mr. C. Hodge that the Honorarium be \$3,500. plus expenses. Carried.

Marketing Officer: Moved Mr. R. Brown seconded Mr. G. Connley that the Honorarium be \$1000 plus expenses. Carried.

Secretary/Treasurer: Moved Mr. L. McCready seconded Mr. J. Cook that the Honorarium be \$6000 plus expenses. Carried.

Assistant Secretary: Moved Mr. G. Stoney seconded Mr. K. Higgins that the Honorarium be \$750 plus expenses. Carried.

After discussion it was moved Mr. R. Brown seconded Mr. T. Murphy that future Honorariums be set to C.P.I. figures with special extra projects paid on their merits. Carried.

GENERAL  
BUSINESS:

Mr. C. Hodge moved a vote of appreciation to Mr. Don Treasure and family for allowing the 1988 Get Together to be held on their property. Seconded Mr. L. McCready.

Mr. Tim Barker of the Policy Consultants was introduced by the President and asked to outline his proposal for 1988/1989.

Mr. Barker proposed a retainer (for the provision of policy advice, monitoring, and attending meetings) at \$2,500.

Fee for service at the rate of \$60 per hour (this would include tasks that would involve the preparation of written material. Naturally the Association would always be in control of the work undertaken).

Major projects at set project fees negotiated at the time.

The preparation of Newsletters (obtaining, preparing and editing the material) \$300 x 6 editions - \$1,800.

Moved Mr. C. Hodge seconded Mr. D. Kneebone that the proposal as written be accepted. Carried.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. David Treasure welcomed Mrs. Heather Mitchell President of the Victorian Farmers Federation. Mrs. Mitchell addressed the meeting on various issues put to the three major parties as part of the Victorian Farmers Federation pre-election campaign. In summary Mrs. Mitchell said the V.F.F. would expect to be more closely involved in the development of policy and priorities in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs regardless of which party won; that the Rural Finance Commission continued to enjoy strong support from all major political parties; that financial skills of farmers should be increased; all parties support the provision of assistance during drought; all parties acknowledged some problems with the municipal rating system but none prepared to support its abolition; that all parties supported the need for an expanded rural watch programme. All parties agreed proper



funding should be provided for control of pest plants and animals. In respect of the Office of Rural Affairs the parties differed, it was supported by the A.L.P., Liberals would review its operations, and National Party considers that it has been misused by the Government and used as a propaganda unit. In respect of weeds on roadsides the parties differed. National Party agreed CF&L should be responsible, A.L.P. did not agree and stated that current arrangements should continue, Liberals stated that CF&L should take responsibility for prohibited and priority weeds, agreement to be reached in other areas. On the subject of multiple use of public land the parties differed - ALP did not support the concept; Liberals supported the concept in general, and Nationals fully supported the multi use principle. All parties substantially agreed that conservation strategies should be implemented, wherever possible through education, advice and incentives rather than be the subject of bureaucratic regulation.

Mr. G. Stoney proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Mitchell for her address and thanked her for the support of the V.F.F. for the Cattlemen over the years, and hoped the association would continue in the future.

CLOSURE: The meeting closed at 1.00 p.m.

Confirmed as a correct record:

.....Chairman.

