

1919.  
NEW ZEALAND.

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# BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

(REPORT OF THE) FOR THE YEAR 1918-19.

*Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.*

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## REPORT.

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The Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Wellington.  
SIR,—

30th June, 1919.

I beg to submit herewith a report summarizing the work of the Board of Agriculture for the past year.

During the period under review the Board held several meetings, besides a number of conferences with yourself in connection with matters that came before us for consideration from time to time, and the Board desire to record their pleasure at your attendance at our meetings for the purpose of discussing such matters of moment to the agricultural interests of the Dominion.

Our Board was also represented at two conferences held in March and April of last year between the Prime Minister and those interested in the purchase by the New Zealand Government on behalf of the Imperial Government of slipe wool, hides, and skins.

### REORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Last year the Board repeated their opinion that the Department of Agriculture should be reorganized. It gives us great pleasure to know that this is now being done, and as a Board we would like to congratulate you on the active steps you have taken in this very important matter, and on having appointed Dr. Reakes as the Permanent Head of the Department.

The following resolution in connection with this matter was forwarded to you :—

“ That the Hon. Minister of Agriculture be advised that the Board congratulate him upon his determination to reorganize the Department of Agriculture, and they learn with satisfaction that Dr. Reakes has been appointed Director-General of the Department. The Board are further of opinion that the scheme of organization as laid before them by Dr. Reakes is on the right lines, and they will be pleased to render him every assistance in their power to carry it out successfully.”

### EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.—INQUIRY INTO EXISTING WORKING-CONDITIONS.

In response to your request the Board made careful inquiries into the present working and financial conditions of the various farms controlled by the Department of Agriculture, particularly with regard to the following points :—

- (1.) The practical value to the farming community of the objects aimed at by the experimental work now being carried out.
- (2.) The conduct of the existing general farming operations apart from the strictly experimental work, and its value to the farming community as an object-lesson in good farming.
- (3.) The suitability of existing buildings and plant for the purposes of Government farms, from the standpoint that these farms should be object-lessons in the best farm practice in this respect.

### *Ruakura and Weraroa Experimental Farms.*

In company with Dr. Reakes members have now visited Ruakura and Weraroa Farms, inspected the stock, and generally made themselves fully conversant with the work going on at each place as well as with the aims of the management. After our inspection we went fully into matters of

detail in connection with the existing working-conditions at each place, with the result that a line of policy for the conduct of the farms has been arrived at in conjunction with Dr. Reakes.

*Te Kauwhata and Tauranga Horticultural Stations.*

We also visited Te Kauwhata and Tauranga Horticultural Stations with Dr. Reakes, and went over the whole of the grounds included in both. After we had discussed the matter subsequent to our inspection we were agreed that Tauranga Station should be continued for a further period of five years before coming to a conclusion as to disposing of it.

The following resolution was passed and forwarded to you:—

“That there is an idea amongst the fruitgrowing settlers at Te Kauwhata that the policy of the Government was to sell the whole property in small fruit-farms, and that thus the whole farm would be a fruit settlement. The report the Board had from a fruit expert was that there was no move in the district to develop the fruitgrowing industry, and on the inspection of the station made by members of the Board they can endorse this. The Department has demonstrated that the land is suitable for general farming, and it is understood that the neighbouring farms are paying under general-farming methods. The vineyard at the station has proved successful and profitable. Considering the demand for land in the district, the Board is of opinion that as the station has served its purpose of demonstrating the capacity of this and similar land, the farm should be disposed of. The receipts from such disposal could be much more profitably employed in connection with fruit demonstration or other farms elsewhere, and should be reserved for this purpose.”

*Report on Moumahaki Experimental Farm.*

Most of the members have also visited Moumahaki Farm. At our last meeting we had before us some valuable suggestions about this farm, furnished by one of our members who had recently visited the property. As a result of the information supplied a discussion ensued as to the growing of swedes and of rape in the Taranaki District. It was stated that rape grows well but does not seem to ripen, and it does not fatten stock as in other districts. We requested Dr. Reakes to inquire whether anything had been done by his Department in the way of an analysis of swedes and turnips grown in the Taranaki District to ascertain whether the percentage of water in these crops is higher in the North Island than in the South.

The question of lucerne-growing was also fully discussed. The opinion was expressed that as lucerne would prove to be one of the most payable food crops available for stock, further experiments should be carried out at Moumahaki Farm, and it was suggested that these should be in the direction of testing the grazing-qualities of lucerne as compared with ordinary grass pasture, as well as its feeding-value for cattle; also its suitability for pig-feeding either for grazing or ground into meal, and for lamb-feeding chaffed, and in the form of lucerne hay.

**TURNIP, SWEDE, AND RAPE SEED SUPPLIES.**

At our May, 1918, meeting the Board went very exhaustively into the question of the supply of turnip and swede seeds, as inquiries from merchants had shown that the stocks were seriously below the probable requirements for the coming season. The following cables to and from the High Commissioner in London in connection with this matter were referred to us for consideration:—

(1.) From Prime Minister to High Commissioner, dated 23rd February, 1918:—

“Government without definite information that British shipping permits will be granted for supplies of turnip and rape seeds for 1919 season. Matter extremely important, and unless New Zealand Government assured no difficulty obtaining these seeds from overseas sufficient turnip and rape will have to be sown in New Zealand to supply whole our requirements for 1919 season. Ascertain position from Shipping Controller and reply by telegram as soon as possible.”

(2.) From High Commissioner to Prime Minister, dated 27th February, 1918:—

“With reference to your telegram 23rd February, seeds, have continuously pressed for release of full quantities ordered, and have obtained export license in all cases for upwards of 50 per cent. Attitude authorities is that there is shortage in supply of seeds of food plants, and the necessity for reserving sufficient to meet Home requirements compels restriction of export even to British possessions, but they assure me New Zealand's application will receive most sympathetic consideration. Mustard, clover, cauliflower, brussels sprouts, leek, parsnip, onion entirely refused. Some further applications now under consideration, and some others have yet to be submitted. Will telegraph result when decisions in all cases have been given. Meanwhile impossible to obtain assurance that all orders will be released in full. Shipping Controller is not affected: seeds are controlled by Food-production Department.”

Mr. Pope, Secretary of Agriculture, informed us that on the suggestion of Mr. Cockayne, Biologist of the Department, a census of the Brassica seed held by merchants in the Dominion as at April, 1918, had been taken, and the following information had been obtained:—

	Amount held in Store in New Zealand.	Amount ordered direct from United Kingdom for 1918 Requirements.	Usual Annual Requirements.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Turnip	2,647	4,133	6,671
Swede	1,273	2,224	3,202
Rape	9,564	3,104	12,170

In consequence the Department had deemed it desirable to cable the High Commissioner advising him that inquiries from merchants showed that stocks of turnip and swede seeds were seriously below requirements for 1918 sowing, and that orders for over 200 tons of turnip-seed and 100 tons of swede-seed which had been sent to England had not yet arrived. Sir Thomas Mackenzie was requested to ascertain and advise urgently what proportion of these had been shipped or would be shipped up to the end of July, and further asked to use every effort to secure shipment of all orders for turnip, swede, and rape seeds by the date mentioned.

We therefore decided that it would be necessary to issue a warning to farmers through the Press of the Dominion advising them that there would probably be a shortage of turnip and swede seeds for 1918 sowing, and to make the suggestion that they should reserve a portion of their crop for seed purposes.

So far as rape was concerned, there appeared to be a better supply in store to fulfil the 1918 requirements, but there was every indication that the 1919 supply would have to be largely made up from locally-produced seed.

#### WAIRARAPA FARM SCHOOL.

A proposal from the Wairarapa district to establish a farm where returned soldiers might receive some training in farming matters, which had been referred to us by Cabinet for a report, was very carefully considered. It was mentioned that the farm in question, which had already been secured, had cost nearly £20,000, and was suitable for stud sheep and agricultural farming. The Wairarapa people themselves were giving the farm, which contained 736 acres of land, as well as the stock, and they wished the Government to assist in providing the cost of buildings, equipment, and maintenance. When the time came that the farm was not required for training soldiers the institution could be utilized as a farm school for the sons of settlers for all time. It was suggested that the institution should be under the control and management of a Board of Governors, to be selected by the Government, the donors of the land, and the local agricultural and pastoral associations.

After fully discussing the matter the Board considered that the generous and patriotic offer of the Wairarapa people should be accepted, and that their efforts, which were in keeping with the other good work they had done for the benefit of returned soldiers, should receive all the help that could be given to the movement, and a resolution was forwarded to the Hon. the Acting Prime Minister accordingly. We further considered that the various matters connected with the arrangements for the working of such a farm should be referred to a conference of a Committee of the Council of Education, of the National Efficiency Board, of the Board of Agriculture, and of representatives of the subscribers to the fund, so as to formulate a scheme for the management of this farm, and of other similar farms in various places throughout the Dominion, of which they hoped the Wairarapa farm would be the forerunner.

Accordingly a meeting of these bodies was held. Dr. Reakes and Dr. Anderson (Director of Education) were also present. After an exhaustive discussion it was agreed to inform you that the Board recommended the payment of a subsidy of £9,000, to be utilized in the provision of buildings, dwellings, yards, fencing, implements, horses, library, &c. It was further recommended that the control of the institution be under a Board of Trustees (namely, two from each agricultural and pastoral association concerned), selected locally, to hold office for six years, one to retire at the end of every three years, and two to be nominated by the Government, and that the staff of the farm should consist of a manager (to have a general knowledge of farming and stock, who would also be competent to control the finance of the farm), an agricultural foreman, a dairyman, and a stockman and shepherd.

Dr. Reakes has recently informed us that the necessary conveyance of the property from the donors to the Government has now been completed, the management committee has been selected, and arrangements are in hand for the obtaining of buildings for the farm. It is indeed gratifying to know that matters are well in train in connection with this farm, and there would appear to be nothing now to prevent it from going right ahead, and proving of great value in the training of returned soldiers for settlement on the land.

#### WHEAT QUESTION.

The following resolution was passed and sent on to you :—

“That the Hon. Minister of Agriculture be written to and informed that the Board consider that the prospect of growing sufficient wheat for next season is being very seriously endangered by the uncertainty in farmers' minds that prevails owing to the price to be paid for the crop not having yet been gazetted. Also that the Government be recommended to follow the procedure established by the British Government of guaranteeing to farmers a fair price for a term of years, so as to ensure a sufficient quantity of wheat being grown to meet the requirements of the Dominion.”

The wheat question was discussed very fully with you when you met our Board and the National Efficiency Board in conference in September last, when you detailed the steps taken in connection with the purchase of 4,000,000 bushels of wheat in Australia, and informed us that the price paid for the whole quantity was 5s. 7½d. per bushel, f.o.b.

The conference, after having given the question the fullest consideration, sent you the following joint letter :—

“Wellington, 13th September, 1918.

“At your instigation a conference was held on the 10th and 11th September between the Board of Agriculture and the National Efficiency Board, with a view to determining whether any announcements should be made in respect to the frozen-meat and dairy

industries, and the opportunity was then taken to discuss the question of wheat-production. With that object the conference obtained from you the facts as regards the present position.

"The conference decided that it is in the best interests of the Dominion that as early as possible, and certainly not later than November, the Government should announce its policy in clear and concise terms, stating whether it is prepared to guarantee wheat-farmers in the production of wheat, and if so to declare definitely what rate per bushel would be guaranteed, and under what conditions.

"The conference is of the opinion that farmers are justified in requiring that a continuous policy should be adopted, as it is essential for the growing of wheat in a systematic and economical manner that the farmer should be able to make arrangements for a long period ahead. Grass lands may have to be broken up in order to produce the necessary acreage, and it is especially essential that the small farmer should carry out the growth of wheat as a portion of a proper rotation of crops. This has been recognized in Great Britain, where a guarantee has been given for a period of three years, and it is also recognized in the United States of America as well as in other countries.

"When the Government have determined what terms and conditions they are prepared to offer, and have announced same, then a census should be taken of owners and occupiers of lands suitable for the growth of wheat, and it should be ascertained how far the offer made will produce the cultivation of a sufficient area to give effect to the national policy.

"The conference is of opinion that it is essential that the country should grow a sufficiency of wheat for its own requirements, and that such terms and conditions must be fixed as will ensure this. For that purpose it is necessary that suitable arrangements be made to achieve this result. In the opinion of the conference the uncertainty of the position in the last few years has resulted in an increasing disinclination on the part of farmers to grow wheat.

"Should the Government affirm as its policy that it is a national duty for the people to provide for their own food, then it should also by experiments in the economical working of the land find out and demonstrate to the farmer how far the use of modern mechanical appliances will increase economy of production.

"The conference especially draws your attention to the fact that the experience of the last two or three years has shown the serious danger of any country being dependent upon other countries for its bread-supply, and therefore trusts that such steps may now be taken as will in this respect render New Zealand independent.

"JAS. G. WILSON,

"President, Board of Agriculture.

"WM. FERGUSON,

"Chairman, National Efficiency Board.

"The Hon. W. D. S. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture, Wellington."

#### STORAGE-SPACE AND SHIPPING OF WOOL, MEAT, AND DAIRY-PRODUCE.

This very important question in one phase or another has come before us at every meeting, and we have given it fullest consideration in the interests of all concerned.

The position as disclosed to us regarding the shortage of shipping, and the necessity there would be for providing winter feed for carrying over stock that could not be slaughtered, was deemed of such importance that after the matter had been fully discussed it was decided to send you the following resolutions, and to urge that such important matters receive immediate and special attention in view of the fact that the position was a much more serious one than the public was aware of:—

(a.) "That, having regard to the serious shipping question and the possible necessity of carrying over sheep which would usually go into the freezing-chambers, it will be necessary for farmers to prepare for such contingency by providing large areas of winter crops. This Board would therefore ask the Government to immediately point out to the Military Service Appeal Boards the necessity of adjourning *sine die* the calling-up of any ploughman or farmer who does his own ploughing; also that the Government take whatever steps may be deemed necessary to make this at once known throughout the Dominion."

(b.) "For the same reason the Board think that, as it is announced that the number of men to be sent away is to be curtailed in the meantime, steps should be at once taken to ascertain the name of any ploughman or trained harvest hand already in camp. If they have not been sent when the time arrives either for spring ploughing or harvest they might be released from camp to assist in this most essential work for, say, three months."

You again met us in September, 1918, in conference with the National Efficiency Board, and supplied us with figures relating to the frozen-meat and dairying industries, having regard especially to the cold-storage problem as affected by the shortage of shipping. We thoroughly discussed the following matters with you, Dr. Reakes, and Mr. Cuddie, and Mr. Taylor (of the Department of Imperial Government Supplies), viz.: The canning of second-quality meat, and the purchase of the resultant product by the Imperial Government; financial assistance by the Government to increase the existing canning plant; placing restrictions on the disposal of available supplies of tinplate for other than meat-canning purposes; warning farmers to provide additional

winter feed for the requirements of stock to be carried over to next season; provision of financial assistance by the Government for companies to provide additional storage-space; and the necessity for increasing the storage accommodation for cheese. Our deliberations resulted in the following joint memorandum from both Boards being sent to you :—

“Wellington, 11th September, 1918.

“The Board of Agriculture and the National Efficiency Board have carefully examined the figures in returns which have been furnished to them, relative to the output of meat, butter, and cheese, the quantity of produce in store at the present time, the cold-storage capacity in the Dominion, and the proposed additions thereto.

“We have had the benefit of two interviews with yourself, and in addition have had the advantage of long conferences with Dr. Reakes, Mr. Cuddie, and Mr. Taylor, who gave valuable information on the various subjects under consideration.

“*Meat.*—We have to report that we think the figures *re* meat compiled by the Department of Imperial Government Supplies provide safe estimates of the amount of storage and production. The number of carcasses likely to be shipped up to 31st December was substantiated, provided the vessels promised arrived safely. The latest information available shows that the additional cold storage which is being provided is even greater than was at first estimated. In estimating the number of freight carcasses likely to be shipped after 1st January there are only the number of vessels provided last year as a guide. Should the same number of vessels be available this year as during the corresponding period of last year, there would (at the end of the season) be left more carcasses in store than there are at present, which might result in a precarious position for the following season, and for which preparation should be made.

“The freezing companies are in many cases making arrangements for extra storage, which unless the annual production very largely increases may not be fully required in normal times. Where additional storage is necessary, the producers should assist such companies by providing further capital for such purpose.

“There is no guarantee as to the number of vessels which will be available from 1st January onwards; therefore ordinary prudence dictates that preparation should be made by producers to meet a possible suspension of slaughtering and freezing operations before the end of the coming season.

“*Dairy-produce.*—The information furnished shows that sufficient storage for cheese has been, or is being, provided for in the South Island, but that in the North Island it would be prudent to provide some addition to the storage beyond that already arranged for.

“The evidence in respect to butter is more satisfactory, as the additional freezing accommodation now being provided will afford reasonable safety.

“Those interested in the production of dairy-produce should, like the meat-growers, contribute towards the capital required for such increase in storage.

“We are therefore of opinion—

“(1.) That the Minister should take such steps as may be necessary, in the event of a congestion of storage becoming sufficiently acute, to provide for the canning of second-quality meat.

“(2.) That, in order to conserve storage-space, it is desirable that companies should be encouraged to can a larger proportion of suitable meat than usual, and with a view to aiding in this matter a further endeavour should be made to induce the Imperial Government to purchase the canned product.

“(3.) That companies should be urged to provide for an increase in the present canning plant, and the Government should give every possible assistance to enable them to obtain such additional plant.

“(4.) That, to provide for such a contingency, freezing companies which have a supply of tinplate for canning purposes should, by regulation, be prohibited from disposing of it for any other purpose without the consent of the Minister.

“(5.) That farmers should be warned that there may be a necessity to carry over a proportion of sheep and lambs, and that they therefore should make due provision for additional winter feed.

“(6.) That the Government should meet in a generous spirit such freezing companies as are prepared to increase their storage-space, but require financial assistance from the Government to enable them to do so.

“(7.) That, with regard to butter, sufficient cold-storage space is likely to be available if the number of ships that are expected do arrive.

“(8.) That, with regard to cheese, additional cool storage for approximately 50,000 crates should be provided, principally in the Taranaki and Wellington districts, distributed as may be advised by the Dairy Division of your Department.

“In conclusion we would specially point out that while the aggregate storage-space which will be available in the Dominion as a whole indicates a margin, it must be borne in mind that conditions vary in different districts, and while there may be sufficient space available in one district, in another district the stores may become seriously congested. Companies should therefore utilize the available storage-space to the best possible advantage.

“We again emphasize that the producers should make all necessary preparations to meet whatever position may arise in the carrying-over of stock through the coming winter.

“JAS. G. WILSON,

“President, Board of Agriculture.

“WM. FERGUSON,

“Chairman, National Efficiency Board.

“The Hon. W. D. S. MacDonald, Minister of Agriculture, Wellington.”

#### PURCHASE OF WOOL-CLIP BY THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

In connection with the purchase of the wool-clip by the Imperial Government the following resolution was passed and forwarded to you:—

“That, from the full information that has been placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture regarding the wool position, the Board wish to express their satisfaction with the terms offered by the Imperial Government, and to state that they consider that the acceptance of this offer by our Government is in the best interests of the Dominion.”

#### FLOCK-BOOK REGISTRATION MATTERS.

We received a letter from the New Zealand Sheep-breeders' Association (South Island) stating that the council of the association was of opinion that the system of having one flock-book for each Island, containing under one cover the purebred flocks of all breeds, with reciprocation between the two associations, was the ideal system for New Zealand, certain breeds being distributed over the whole Dominion. We were advised, too, that the association was heartily in accord with the proposal that a National Live-stock Association be formed with representatives from the several breed associations. We discussed this proposal, and made the following recommendation:—

“That both the North Island and the South Island Sheep-breeders' Associations be communicated with, and it be suggested to them—

“(a.) That the South Island Association take over and include in its flock-book all the flocks of the following breeds now appearing in the North Island flock-book—namely, English Leicester, Border Leicester, Shropshire, and Ryeland;

“(b.) That the Southdown flocks be retained in the North Island flock-book, the flocks of this breed appearing in the South Island flock-book to be transferred to the North Island book; and

“(c.) That the Lincoln flocks at present registered in the South Island flock-book be transferred to the New Zealand Lincoln flock-book.”

It was pointed out to both associations that the adoption of these suggestions would give effect to the resolution unanimously agreed to at the meeting of representatives of all the breed societies in the Dominion held with the Board last year, and subsequently endorsed by the Council of Agriculture at its 1918 conference.

#### *Uniformity of Flock-book Rules.*

As mentioned in our last report, the sub-committee which had been appointed to draw up a uniform set of rules for the flock-books of New Zealand submitted a draft. The draft as finally agreed to, of which a copy is appended, was forwarded to the various sheep-breeders' associations with a recommendation that it be adopted by the associations concerned.

#### EARMARKING AND BRANDING OF STOCK.

Three schemes for earmarking stock were referred to us, and we were also asked for an opinion regarding a suggestion from the Live-stock Division of the Department of Agriculture that earmarking-pliers should be standardized, and supplied to stockowners in the Dominion through the Department at cost price. A sub-committee was set up for the purpose of investigating and reporting upon these matters, and as a result of the report submitted by it we passed a resolution recommending the adoption of the earmarking system suggested by Mr. Bruce, Assistant Director of the Live-stock Division. We also endorsed the resolutions passed in September, 1916, at a meeting of Registrars of Brands, with the following additions—viz., That marks under the present system be retained, and that approved age-marking be allowed on the back or front of the free ear, or a mark to identify bought sheep.

#### NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT AMENDMENT.

Dr. Reakes laid before us a draft of a Bill amending the Noxious Weeds Act, 1908. The Bill as drafted placed on the local authority the onus of deciding what weeds in the schedule should be noxious weeds within its jurisdiction. Dr. Reakes suggested that it would be better to place the onus of taking any weeds out of the compulsory schedule upon the local authorities, and with this view members agreed. It was also agreed that horehound and inkweed should be included in the schedule. After the provisions of the Bill had been fully gone into it was decided to forward to you the following resolution:—

“That the Bill as drafted be agreed to provided that it be amended in the manner suggested by Dr. Reakes. The Board are also of opinion that, as it frequently happens that in one part of a district it would be useless to enforce the Act whilst in another part there is great necessity for its strict enforcement, clause 5 (c) of the Act should be amended giving the local authority the power to declare the provisions of the Act to be in force in such portions of the district under its jurisdiction as it considers necessary that they should be enforced in for the time being.”

The difficulty of the administration of the Noxious Weeds Act in connection with the control of blackberry received our consideration. The extent to which this noxious weed was spreading throughout the Dominion is causing much concern to farmers, as in many places good land is being overrun by the weed, and in some cases farmers' land is being rendered unproductive thereby. The provision regarding the cutting of this weed contained in the Noxious Weeds Act, 1908, really rendered any attempt to compel the destruction of blackberry by legal enforcement absolutely nugatory. The following resolution was therefore passed and sent to you:—

“That the Board of Agriculture view with alarm the serious menace of the noxious weed blackberry spreading over much good land in New Zealand, and urge on the Government the necessity of bringing in an amendment to the present law compelling the eradication of blackberry on the better private land.”

#### SEEDS BILL.

A draft Bill to control the sale of seeds for agricultural and pastoral purposes was exhaustively considered by us.

It was finally agreed that Dr. Reakes should confer with his departmental officers, and bring the subject forward again, and we have good reason to hope that a Seeds Bill will find its place on the statute-book at an early date.

#### RABBIT NUISANCE.

In accordance with a resolution passed at the last Agricultural and Pastoral Conference Dr. Reakes proposed that amendments be made to the Rabbit Nuisance Act—(1) reducing the area from 200,000 to 25,000 acres for ratepayers' Rabbit Boards, and (2) increasing the limit of the rate from  $\frac{3}{16}$  d. to 1d., the Government subsidy to be still calculated on a rate of  $\frac{3}{16}$  d. It was further suggested (3) that provision should be made to allow of a Rabbit Board being constituted on the petition of twenty-five ratepayers, and (4) that section 15 of the Fencing Act should be repealed, making a rabbit-proof fence a legal fence without any restrictions.

We are pleased to note that in the Rabbit Nuisance Amendment Act of last session proposals (1), (2), and (3) were dealt with.

It was brought under our notice that experience of the working of Part III of the Rabbit Nuisance Act (relating to Rabbit Boards elected by ratepayers) had shown that the method under which contributions are levied from farmers whose land is included in the Rabbit Board area required alteration. After much discussion it was decided to recommend that a better and more equitable means of levying the contribution would be at a rate per acre, instead of on the rateable value paid by the farmer on his land, as at present.

Another point raised was in connection with rabbit-proof fences. It was pointed out that as the law at present stands a farmer may request his neighbour to pay half the cost of a rabbit-proof fence, but this cannot be enforced, as if the matter is brought before a Magistrate he cannot compel payment of half-cost of such a fence unless it is proved that it is going to benefit both parties. After much discussion it was therefore decided to recommend that the law be amended so that in any district which a Magistrate, after hearing evidence, may declare to be a “rabbit-infested district” any owner or occupier who wishes to erect a rabbit-proof fence to protect himself should be able to compel his neighbour to pay half the cost. Resolutions on both these points were accordingly sent you.

#### WOOL-PACK AND CORN-SACK SHIPMENTS.

We have throughout the year kept in close touch with the Union Steamship Company in the matter of the shipment of wool-packs and corn-sacks from Calcutta to prevent any shortage.

At our conference with the National Efficiency Board in September last you informed the meeting that the Government had taken steps to secure corn-sacks for the next year's crop, and that the sacks would be sold at a uniform price all over the Dominion. We understood from you that so far as 1918–19 requirements were concerned inquiries made by the Board of Trade showed that there appeared to be plenty of sacks in New Zealand.

#### IMPROVEMENT IN DAIRYING AND IN THE MANAGEMENT OF DAIRY HERDS.

This matter was discussed with Mr. Cuddie, Director of the Dairy Division, who stated that in place of addressing farmers on the subject experience had shown the Department that the best way of dealing with it was to visit farms and give owners instruction there in the handling of milk and cream. Mr. Cuddie further stated that he had reported very fully on the subject, and had urged the appointment of ten additional instructors in the butter- and cheese-making industries. It was proposed that these men should start at the factories and ascertain what suppliers were delivering an inferior article, and then explain to them what should be done to effect an improvement. Instruction should go before compulsion, but if necessary compulsion would have to be resorted to. Members approved of Mr. Cuddie's suggestion and agreed to support it.

#### EXPORTATION OF POTATOES.

In February last the Board discussed the question of embargo upon the export of potatoes, and expressed the opinion to you that it was not needed.

#### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION OF YOUNG FARMERS—THE JOSIAH HOWARD REQUEST.

The matter of agricultural education at the different Government experimental farms was brought before the Board by Dr. Reakes. What was required was men combining high scientific and technical attainments with sound practical knowledge to undertake this work, and therefore

the necessary funds would be required. He thought that perhaps some of the funds provided by the Smedley Estate in Hawke's Bay could be utilized for this purpose, as it was the wish of the late Mr. Josiah Howard in making the bequest to the Government to provide facilities for farmers' sons to be given the best training possible in connection with farm-work. The amount bequeathed by the late Mr. Howard was a very large one, the estate being valued at over £100,000, and there was a considerable sum of money which would be almost immediately available.

#### RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LINCOLN COLLEGE.

We were informed by Dr. Reakes that he had met the Lincoln College authorities and discussed with them the possibilities of the Department co-operating with the College in the improvement and breeding of new kinds of seed wheat and oats. At that meeting a proposal had been made that the Department contribute a substantial sum annually either by way of a subsidy or by paying the salary of an assistant to the plant-breeder, and co-operate with the College in this work, the College to carry out the initial work in conjunction with the Department, and any new varieties of seed that would be available for distribution would be supplied to selected farmers in the Canterbury District under the supervision of the Department's officers. It was accordingly resolved to advise you—

“That the Board, having heard Dr. Reakes's statement *re* reciprocal arrangements with Lincoln College as to the selection and growth of seed wheat and oats, thoroughly endorse the view that the Government should assist in this work in a substantial manner.”

#### IMPORTATION INTO NEW ZEALAND OF CATTLE FROM TASMANIA.

We were asked for our views as to the advisability of permitting the importation of cattle from Tasmania into New Zealand. It was thought that a certain amount of hardship had been suffered by some breeders in that they were not allowed to import cattle from that State.

It was agreed to recommend that, provided the sanction of the Minister was first received, their importation into New Zealand should be permitted.

#### CALIFORNIAN QUAIL.

A request was received from the Auckland Acclimatization Society (through the Internal Affairs Department) for permission to capture within the society's district 1,000 quail for transmission to other parts of New Zealand and to Fiji. The proposal was discussed, and full inquiries made; it was decided to reply that the Board knew of no objection to the society's request being given effect to.

#### TICKS AFFECTING CATTLE.

The Masterton Branch of the Farmers' Union forwarded the following resolution:—

“That the Board of Agriculture be written to drawing their attention to the danger of the cattle-tick spreading all over New Zealand, and asking them to investigate the matter thoroughly and have the infested districts quarantined.”

We discussed the question exhaustively with Dr. Reakes, who gave us a full account of the nature and habits of the ticks, and of the extent of their possibilities in causing loss to stockowners in the Dominion. He informed us that the tick which acts as a carrier of tick-fever in Queensland is of a variety known as *Boophilus bovis* or *Boophilus australis*. In North America the same disease is conveyed by a tick termed *Boophilus annulatus* or *Rhipicephalus annulatus*. The ticks found on cattle in New Zealand are named *Ixodes ricinus* (popularly termed the “castor-bean” or dog tick), and another (the most common of the variety) known as *Hæmaphysalis*.

Dr. Reakes further stated that the Department has carried out thorough and exact investigation and experimental work both on practical and scientific lines, and has verified its conclusions as to the identity of the tick by submitting specimens of them to first-class authorities in Great Britain.

It was realized that, as ticks act as conveyors of tick-fever but are not in themselves capable of setting up this disease, the presence of these parasites in New Zealand does not constitute an immediate menace in the form of causing or spreading tick-fever (which has never gained entrance into New Zealand) or any other serious disease of cattle. At the same time, apart from serious disease, they can, if they become numerous enough, cause depreciation in the value of stock; and moreover, although the stringent quarantine regulations now in force render it unlikely that tick-fever should ever get into the Dominion, yet if it did these ticks would doubtless afford a medium for spreading it, in the same manner as the ticks of a different variety though of similar habits present in Queensland act as carriers there. After a lengthy discussion as to the best means to be adopted to cope with the trouble it was decided to forward to you the following resolution:—

“That the Hon. Minister of Agriculture be recommended to have regulations made making it compulsory in the case of the North Island for any owner of cattle to notify the Inspector of the district if he has reason to think that any of his cattle are infested with any form of ticks; that on the Inspector of the district stating that the cattle are so infested, making it obligatory on the owner to dip them in an approved dipping solution, or otherwise so treat the cattle under inspection as to destroy all ticks upon them.”

To carry this out regulations are necessary, and proposals regarding these were discussed.

#### PROPOSED INTRODUCTION INTO THE DOMINION OF ALPACAS, VICUNAS, AND LLAMAS.

The Secretary of Agriculture wrote the Board asking for our opinion as to the advisability of permitting the introduction into the Dominion of vicunas, alpacas, and llamas. It was pointed out that both llamas and alpacas had been imported some years ago, and they had proved of no



commercial value, and did not appear to have become acclimatized in their new surroundings. As inquiries pointed to the conclusion that little if any good (and possibly harm) might result if the animals were imported, we decided to recommend that it was not advisable to grant permission to introduce the animals into New Zealand.

#### PROPOSAL TO STOCK GREAT ALPINE RANGE WITH OPOSSUMS.

We received a letter from the Director-General of Agriculture, forwarding a copy of a report from the Crown Lands Ranger at Dunedin on the proposal of the Otago Farmers' Union that opossums might be suitable for stocking the waste forest and scrub lands of the Great Alpine Range. It was pointed out that, although in some districts opossums were very plentiful, few complaints were received regarding their depredations, and it was agreed that the introduction of the animals might prove a considerable source of revenue to the country (as it was stated that black-opossum skins were worth £1 each) if the black or brown varieties were introduced, provided that every care was taken to prevent their introduction into districts where they might become dangerous to the fruitgrowing industry. The following resolution was accordingly carried:—

“That the Board heartily support the proposal to liberate opossums in the waste forest and scrub lands of the Great Alpine Range of the South Island on the condition that in all cases only the brown or black varieties be liberated (owing to the value of their skins), and not the grey variety; and, further, that the Board do not recommend their introduction into any district in which they might become a menace to the fruitgrowing industry.”

#### TRAINING OF SOLDIERS IN ENGLAND TO FIT THEM FOR TAKING UP POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Attention was drawn to the fact that a school had been established in England for the purpose of training maimed soldiers for various occupations, amongst which wool-classing was mentioned. This would be a very good opportunity for New-Zealanders in England to acquire training of this kind, and the following resolution was sent on to you:—

“That the Hon. Minister of Agriculture be recommended to make arrangements to enable some of the New Zealand soldiers in Europe to obtain such a training in agricultural science and practice as will fit them for taking up positions in the Department of Agriculture on their return to New Zealand.”

#### TREE-PLANTING BY FARMERS.

The question of tree-planting by farmers was discussed, and it was decided to advise all landowners, through the medium of the Press, throughout the Dominion to immediately plant more quick-growing timber-trees. It was pointed out that in three years these trees would provide shelter for stock, in ten years good firewood, and in less than twenty years useful fencing-material; and, further, that where bramble or other weeds occupied rough and inferior areas trees planted close together would be found to be the best growth to smother them. It was also decided to remind the public that a leaflet giving full particulars as to the best trees to plant, and a list of trees and seeds for sale, from the Whakarewarewa and Tapanui nurseries, could be procured on application.

#### SCIENTIFIC FORESTRY.

We received a letter from Sir James Allen, Acting Prime Minister, stating that the Board's letter urging the setting-up of a Forestry Department under the control of a scientifically trained forester had been referred to the Hon. Sir Francis Bell, who would act as Commissioner of State Forests, and who has under his consideration the organization of scientific forestry in the Dominion. Sir James Allen further stated that it was probable that no effectual steps could be taken in the direction advised by the Board until Parliament had granted further authorities for payment and expenditure.

The setting-up of a Department under a trained forester is urgently wanted, and the Board hopes that such an appointment will no longer be delayed.

A few of the more important minor matters dealt with by the Board, but which are not specially mentioned in this report, might also be named. They are—

- Extension and improvement of our education system, with particular reference to rural education;
- Establishment of a State hydro-electric scheme for the Dominion, and the passing by the Government of the Electric Power Board Bill;
- Institution of a vigorous scheme of afforestation on waste areas, in view of the depletion of native timbers;
- Training of New Zealand soldiers in England in agri-motor work;
- Settlement of returned soldiers on the land;
- The export of white-pine;
- Planting of suitable timber for making cheese-crates and butter-boxes;
- Treatment of foot-rot in sheep;
- Investigation into dry-rot in turnips;
- Registration of sheep-dipping mixtures offered for sale in the Dominion;
- Granting of assistance by the Government in connection with agricultural and pastoral shows;
- Introduction of new features in connection with agricultural and pastoral shows with a view of increasing their usefulness in educational matters;
- Price of butter for the local market; and
- Importation of rabbit-netting.

I have, &c.,  
J. G. WILSON, President.

## NEW ZEALAND SHEEP-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.—SUGGESTED RULES.

## NAME.

1. The name of the association is the New Zealand ——— Sheep-breeders' Association (Incorporated).

## OFFICE.

2. The registered office of the association is ———.

## OBJECTS.

3. The objects for which the association is established are—
- (a.) To maintain the purity and improve the breed of the ——— sheep in New Zealand.
  - (b.) To incorporate into one association the whole of the purebred flocks of ——— sheep in New Zealand.
  - (c.) To compile and publish periodically a flock-book containing such particulars and information regarding the breed of ——— sheep in New Zealand as the association may think necessary or desirable.
  - (d.) To collect from members and others periodically such returns and information as the association may require, and to publish as much of this information as the association may think fit.
  - (e.) To offer prizes for ——— sheep to ensure the representation at important shows in New Zealand of a number of the best specimens of the breed, and to contribute from the funds of the association towards the expenses of the carriage of animals recommended for exhibition by the association.
  - (f.) The organizing and holding of shows or exhibitions of ——— sheep; the raising or providing of funds for the expenses thereof; the undertaking or managing of combined members' sheep-sales; and the appointing of auctioneers and agents for the conduct of such sales.
  - (g.) The arrangements of classes, and the donation or augmentation of prizes and awards of certificates of merit at various shows, and the appointment or recommendation of judges thereof.
  - (h.) The investigation of cases of doubtful or suspected pedigrees.
  - (i.) The undertaking of the arbitration upon and settlement of disputes and questions relating to or connected with ——— sheep, and the breeding thereof, and for other subsidiary purposes.
  - (j.) To provide rooms and other facilities for holding or conducting meetings for the objects or work of the association.
  - (k.) To purchase, take on lease, hire, receive by way of gift, or otherwise acquire, and also to sell, let, or dispose of, any real or personal property for the purposes of the association.
  - (l.) To borrow from time to time any moneys required for the purposes of the association, upon such security as may be determined.
  - (m.) To promote information with reference to sheep-breeding, by lectures, discussions, books, correspondence, or otherwise, and for any of the objects of this paragraph of Rule 3 to co-operate with any university or college, or professor or lecturer thereof.
  - (n.) To consider all questions affecting the interests of sheep-breeders; to initiate and watch over, and if necessary to petition Parliament or any other authority, or to promote deputations in relation to measures affecting sheep-breeders; and, where necessary, to procure changes of the law affecting sheep, and the promotion of improvements in the administration thereof.
  - (o.) To co-operate with any other society having similar objects, and to procure from and to communicate to such society such information as may seem likely to promote the objects of this association.
  - (p.) To join with other Breeders' Associations within New Zealand to form a governing body that will have jurisdiction over all the Breeders' Associations affiliated with it.
  - (q.) To co-operate with New Zealand Department of Agriculture or any other Government Department to advance the interests of the association and all breeders of live-stock generally.
  - (r.) To collect subscriptions and other payments for the general purpose of the association, and to invest the moneys of the association not immediately required upon such securities as may from time to time be determined.
  - (s.) To procure the association to be registered or recognized in any place or country beyond New Zealand.
  - (t.) To superintend and advise upon sales, private or by auction; to make any regulations and by-laws for the government of the association; and generally to do all other such lawful things as may be incidental to the above objects or any of them, or that may be calculated to protect and further the interests of breeders of pedigree sheep.

## MEMBERS.

4. It is declared for the purpose of the incorporation that the number of members of this association shall not be limited, but must not be less than ———.

5. Any person taking an interest in sheep who shall signify to the association his desire to become a member, and who shall be proposed by some existing member of the association, shall, on approval by the association, be admitted as a member, and entered on the register of members. Any member may at any time retire from the association on giving notice in writing to that effect to the secretary, provided that, if an annual member, he shall be liable and be required to pay any subscription or other payment which may be due from him and unpaid at the date of his retirement. Every member shall be either a life member or an annual member. A life member shall pay on admission a subscription of £10, or such other sum as may be from time to time prescribed. An annual member shall pay on admission an annual subscription of £1, or such other sum as may be from time to time prescribed. Annual subscriptions shall be payable in advance of the 1st day of January in each year.

6. Any member of the association who shall fail in the observance of any lawful rule, regulation, or by-law made by the association, or whose conduct in any respect shall be, in the opinion of the association, derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the association, may be removed from the association (and if an official of the association) by a resolution to that effect passed by a majority of at least three-fourths of such members as shall be present and vote at a special or ordinary general meeting, of which not less than fourteen days' previous notice, specifying the intention to propose such resolution, shall have been sent to all the members of the association.

7. All breeders being the members of the ——— shall be eligible to join.

8. No member who is in arrears for membership or for fees shall enjoy the rights and privileges of membership while arrears remain unpaid.

## COUNCIL.

9. The management of the business of the association shall be vested in a council elected from the members of the association in the manner hereinafter provided.

10. The council of the association shall consist of ——— councilmen, one of whom shall be president, and two vice-presidents.

11. The number of councilmen may be varied from time to time as may be determined by general meeting.

12. The first councilmen shall be ———.

13. At the annual general meeting in each year one-third of the councilmen, or, if their number is not a multiple of three, then the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third, shall retire from office. A retiring councilman shall retain office until the dissolution of the meeting at which his successor is elected.

14. The councilmen to retire from office in each year shall be those who have been longest in office since their last election. As between members of equal seniority the councilmen to retire shall (unless such members of equal seniority agree among themselves) be selected from among them by ballot.

15. At the annual general meeting in each year the association shall supply the vacancies arising from the retirement appointed to take place at such annual general meeting by electing a like number of members to be councilmen. A retiring councilman shall be eligible for re-election.

16. With regard to councilmen, the mode of their election shall be as follows: The council shall, with the notice convening the annual general meeting, cause to be sent to every member the list containing the names of the retiring councilmen, and such other names as may have been proposed for election, such names to be printed in a form of voting-paper to be approved by the council. Such voting-paper shall be filled up and returned to the council by a date to be fixed by the council, and must retain neither more nor less than ——— uncanceled names; and the council shall appoint two scrutineers to inspect votes, and report in writing to the meeting the names of the ——— persons having the highest number of votes. Such persons shall then be declared elected by the chairman of the meeting, and shall be deemed members of the council, after which the voting-list shall be forthwith destroyed by the scrutineers. In the case of equality of votes, the names of the candidates who have an equal number of votes shall be submitted to the meeting, and a second ballot shall be taken at the meeting. A member may propose the name of any member or members for election on the council by submitting the same to the secretary not less than one month before the annual general meeting. Names so submitted shall be included on the list printed on the voting-papers.

17. The council shall, within one month of the date of the annual general meeting in each year, elect from amongst their number a president, who shall hold office for one year. The council shall at the same time elect two members of the

association to the position of vice-president for the ensuing year—one from the North Island and one from the South Island—to hold office for one year only. The council shall also at the same time appoint a treasurer to hold office for one year.

18. Any vacancies which may occur in the office of president, vice-president, or in the council, between the annual general meetings, may be filled up by the council. But any person so elected by the council shall retain his office so long only as the member in whose place he is appointed would have retained it if no vacancy had occurred.

19. In all meetings of the council one-third shall be a quorum.

20. The council shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties for which the association has been established, and shall have full power to do all such things as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects of the association mentioned in these rules.

21. In particular, but without prejudice to the last preceding article, and subject to the provisions of the rules, the council shall have and may exercise and perform the following powers and duties:—

- (a.) They may from time to time convene and hold general meetings of the association.
- (b.) They may from time to time make, alter, and rescind rules, regulations, and by-laws for registering the names and addresses of members, for conducting the business and carrying out the objects of the association, and for conducting the business of the council; and they may impose fines for breach of any such rules, regulations, and by-laws: Provided, nevertheless, that no resolution of the council shall be varied or rescinded unless the resolution varying or rescinding the same shall be passed at one meeting of the council and confirmed at a subsequent meeting.
- (c.) They may delegate any of their powers or duties (except the appointment and removal of members of their body, and of the association) to committees of any number (not less than three) of members of their body, and from time to time make, alter, and rescind regulations and by-laws for conducting the business delegated to such committees.
- (d.) They may acquire for the association any pedigrees or publications, with the copyright therein respectively (if any), the possession of which they may deem likely to be in any way advantageous to the association; and may establish any new publications devoted to or bearing on any subject of the association. The copyright of every publication acquired or established by or on behalf of the association shall be vested in the association.
- (e.) They may continue any contract with the printers or publishers of any publication acquired by the association that may be subsisting at the date of such acquisition, and may enter into and make any new or altered contracts, or arrangements with the same, or any other printers and publishers, for the printing, publication, distribution, sale, or management of such acquired publication, or of any publication whatsoever of the association.
- (f.) They may from time to time regulate the nature, form, and contents of, and also the terms and conditions as to entries in, and also the time, mode, and terms of issue of, any publication of the association, and all arrangements and details connected therewith, and in particular they shall have power, so far as they may not be fettered by any subsisting contract or engagement, from time to time to fix and alter the price of any publication of the association and the charges to be levied for the insertion therein of entries relating to sheep and other matters.
- (g.) They may accept annual or other subscriptions of money from members of the association, or any other person or persons in payment for any publication of the association, and they may make arrangements for supplying any such publication to any member or other person during his life, or for any other period, on the terms of receiving a lump sum of money in advance or on such other terms as they may think fit. They may from time to time levy from members for the purposes or any purpose of the association, and in addition to the subscriptions mentioned in Rule 5, such money contributions not exceeding in the whole — from each member in any one year, as they may think fit, subject to the approval of the annual general meeting.
- (h.) They may purchase, hire, or take on lease for the purpose of the association any lands, tenements, houses or parts of houses and chattels, and they may sell, let, and dispose of the same when and as they may think fit.
- (i.) They may from time to time appoint, employ, and remove a secretary of the association, an editor or editors of any publications of the association, a treasurer of the association, or any other officers, clerks, and servants, at such salaries and wages respectively, and with such respective duties and spheres of employment, and generally upon such terms, as they may think fit.

(k.) They may borrow money for the purpose of the association at any rate of interest not exceeding 7 per cent. per annum, and may give security for any such moneys upon any property of the association, and for this purpose may execute on behalf of the association any deed of mortgage or other instrument of security.

(l.) They may place any moneys of the association not required for immediate use upon deposit at interest at some bank, and they may invest any such moneys and generally deal with the property of the association in such manner as they may think fit, and may for the time being be empowered to do under these rules.

#### HONORARY MEMBERS.

22. The association may at any time elect as an honorary member any person whom they consider to have advanced, or to be calculated to advance, the objects of the association. Honorary members shall have all the rights and privileges of annual members.

#### MEETINGS.

23. The council shall convene and hold a general meeting of the association within six months after the incorporation of the association, and at such place as they shall appoint. They shall convene and hold annual general meetings of the association in such month and on such day and at such place as they shall from time to time appoint.

24. The council may whenever they think fit, and they shall upon a requisition made in writing by not less than one-tenth in number of the members of the association, convene a special general meeting.

25. Any requisition made by members shall express the object of the meeting proposed to be called, and shall be left at the registered office of the association.

26. Upon receipt of such requisition the council shall forthwith proceed to convene a special general meeting. If they do not proceed to convene the same within twenty days from the date of the requisition the requisitionists may themselves convene a special general meeting.

27. Any meeting may be adjourned as the members present thereat shall resolve.

28. The president of the association, or in his absence the vice-president, or in their absence any member then elected for the purpose by the members present, shall take the chair at all general meetings.

29. All questions and matters brought before general meetings, except the election of members of council, which shall be decided as hereinbefore provided, shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present, each member having one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote in addition to his vote as a member.

30. The minute-books of the association shall be open to the inspection of members at all reasonable times.

31. A notice may be served by or on behalf of the association upon a member personally, or by sending through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to the member at his registered place of abode.

32. At a general meeting of the association a quorum shall be 7 per cent. of the membership up to 100, and 5 per cent. of the membership in excess of 100.

33. Fourteen days' notice shall be given of all meetings.

#### FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS.

34. The income and property of the association, from whatever source derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the association as set forth in these rules, and no part thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever, by way of profit to the members of the association or any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any salaried officer, nor the award of any prize given by the association to any member, or prevent the *bona fide* borrowing of money by the association from any member thereof at any rate of interest not exceeding 7 per centum per annum. No member shall derive any pecuniary gain, except as a salaried officer, from any of the property or operations of the society.

35. If upon the dissolution of this association there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the association, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the association, to be determined by the members of the association, at or before the time of dissolution, or in default thereof by such Judge of the Supreme Court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

36. The funds of the association shall be applied as follows, namely:—

- (a.) In payment of the legal and other preliminary expenses incurred in the formation of the association.
- (b.) In payment of the current expenses and other disbursements of the council in the conduct of the business of the association, or in relation thereto.

- (c.) In payment of the salaries and wages of the secretary, editor or editors, and other officers, clerks, and servants for the time being of the association.
- (e.) In paying the purchase-money or rent of any house, lands, goods, chattels, or effects purchased or hired by the association, or any repairs or other outgoings in respect to such premises, and to paying for any other property required by the association.
- (f.) In payment of the interest and repayment of the principal of any moneys borrowed by the association, or in constituting a reserve fund to meet future contingencies, or in reducing the price charged for any publication of the association, or generally upon or for any object or purpose expressed or implied by the rules; but the council shall have power (subject always to the provisions of Rule 34 and to subsisting engagements) from time to time to vary the applications of the funds of the association in such a manner as they shall think fit.
37. True accounts shall be kept of the sums of money received and expended by the association, and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditure takes place, and of the assets, credits, and liabilities of the association, in books of accounts, which shall be kept at the registered office of the association, or at such other place or places as the association thinks fit. At the first general meeting, and subsequently at the annual general meeting in every year, two auditors shall be appointed by resolution, who shall hold office till next annual general meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election. The auditors shall audit the accounts of the association previously to the annual general meeting, and a statement showing the financial position of the association, and examined and certified by the auditors, shall be sent to each member, and laid before every annual general meeting.
38. The secretary shall keep the books of the association and conduct the correspondence, attend all meetings, and receive members' subscriptions, and enter up the minutes of all meetings, and shall pay all moneys received for or on account of the association to the treasurer within seven days from the receipt of same.
39. The treasurer shall receive all moneys from the secretary, and bank the same to the credit of the association, and shall sign all accounts of the association.
40. Every member of the association undertakes to contribute to the assets of the association in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is a member, or within one year afterwards, for payments of the debts and liabilities of the association contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a member, and the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up the same, and for the adjustments of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £2.

#### SHEEP QUALIFIED TO ENTER.

41. All breeders of sheep having their flocks entered in Volume — of the New Zealand — shall be invited to join and transfer their flocks to —, provided —.
42. Sheep shall be eligible for entry in the — when transferred from a flock registered therein, or imported sheep when accompanied by a certificate from its recognized Flock-book Society.
43. Imported sheep will be admitted to the New Zealand — only on production of the certificate issued by its Flock-book Society, where such has been permanently established. If no such society's certificate is forthcoming its admission will be left to the discretion of the council.
44. Both rams and ewes purchased from a registered flock must be transferred by the vendor, re-entered, and fees paid by the purchaser before the expiration of six months from the date of purchase. If application be made after the expiration of six months, double fees shall be charged. After the expiration of twelve months from date of purchase the application shall not be entertained.
45. All registered ewes sold, except those already officially marked —, by inspectors appointed by the council must be inspected, marked, reported upon, and approved by the council before transfers are recorded in the flock-book, and the cost of such inspection be borne by the vendor. It shall be optional for any breeder to have his shearling ewes or his whole flock (other than lambs under twelve months) inspected and marked when desired, the cost of such inspection and marking to be borne by the owner.
46. No rams may be used in the registered flock of any member of this association except from a flock also registered in this association's flock-book, or imported — rams, subject to Rule 43. Any infraction of this rule will entail exclusion of the progeny. All rams so used must be entered singly, and must be identified by label or tattoo. It shall

be obligatory for members selling stud rams to make out a single entry of same in their own names.

47. No new flock will be admitted for registration by the council unless it consists of ten flock-book ewes as the minimum number for the foundation of the flock (single pedigree ewes excepted).

48. No single entries will be made of stud rams unless the name or number of the registered sire be given.

49. No single ewe entry will be accepted showing only one sire.

50. For the purposes of this flock-book, lambs shall be considered to be bred by the owner of the ewes at the time when the lambs are dropped.

#### INSPECTORS.

51. The said council may appoint one or more competent men in such districts as they may consider necessary, who shall inspect and count flocks whenever instructed by the council. Should these inspectors consider any such flock not fairly representative of its kind, the council may expunge the said flock from the flock-book.

#### FLOCK RETURNS.

52. All registered flockowners shall make their annual returns in each year, before some date to be fixed by the council, and upon the association's printed form. Any such owner not complying with this rule or in arrears with his subscription or fees shall be omitted from the flock-book, and shall cease to be a member of the association, and shall not be readmitted until such returns are supplied, together with double subscriptions and fees.

53. There shall be compiled and published annually by the association the breeding returns of all registered flocks, omitting therefrom those flocks which have been dispersed, or whose owners have omitted to make their annual returns, or who have not paid their fees and annual subscriptions.

54. Such publications shall be made as soon after the date referred to in Rule 52 in each year as practicable, and under the direction of the executive committee of the council, and shall give the number of ewes tupped, and the number of their lambs marked during the past year.

#### COMMON SEAL.

55. The association shall have a common seal bearing the words —, which seal shall be fixed to all deeds and documents required to be sealed, and to all notices required to be authenticated. Such seal when required to be fixed to any deed or document shall be fixed thereto by two members of the council of the association in the presence of the secretary, and such seal shall be kept at the registered office of the association in the custody of the secretary.

#### PUBLICATION SALES.

56. The council, when it thinks fit, may publish particulars of sale.

#### EXPORT.

57. A registered flockowner, on production of a written document that he is exporting a portion of his registered flock for export, may demand an export certificate from the council, which shall be signed by the owner and endorsed by the president and the secretary of the association. In the case of stud rams, they shall be entered singly in the association's next volume if not already entered, and that all sheep for export must be inspected and passed by an inspector appointed by the association and bear the association's mark. The inspector may refuse to pass or mark any sheep which he considers not typical of the breed or unfit for export.

Fees for granting the foregoing export certificates shall be as follows, payable by the vendors: For every ram or ram lamb, 2s. 6d. each; for every ewe or ewe lamb, 1s. each.

#### EXPULSION.

58. If any inaccuracy be discovered relating to any entry, such entry may be cancelled by the council, and the flock may be expunged from the association's flock-book. Should it at any time be proved that any entry is based upon any fraudulent statement or history, such entry may be cancelled in like manner, and the flock expunged from the flock-book.

#### TRANSFER, ETC., FEES.

59. The following fees shall be paid by members of this association when entering their flocks: Transfer of sheep already registered, per 100 ewes or part thereof, £1; registration of single sheep, 1s. each. Flocks on separate properties must make separate entries. The council may, if it find it necessary, alter the membership, annual subscription, entrance, and other fees to such a sum as may be required to meet expenses.

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