

30th June, 1940

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION (INC)

In review of the Association's activities for the year ending June, 1940 due consideration should be given to the difficulties met with owing to the war and loss of the services of prominent workers, who have enlisted, or who have been occupied with war service of one kind or another.

During the year changes have taken place in the Executive by Mr J.O. Marshall enlisting in the A.I.F. and Mr D.H. Wollaston enlisting in the Garrison Btn.

Mr J.A. Halliday was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr Marshall's resignation. In the Central Council changes have also taken place.

Mr W.E. Thomas who for years was the District Secretary of the Upper Torrens Valley District and this year was also a delegate to the Central Council, enlisted in the Garrison Btn at its inception. Mr W.A. McCormack was appointed in his place. At the end of the financial year Mr W. Craton, a delegate from River Murray enlisted in the A.I.F. Soon after war broke out the General Secretary was called up for service and attended camp for one month, and again in 1940 he attended camp for a period of three months. During the latter period arrangements had to be made to carry on the necessary office and organising work and to enable this to be carried out Mr D.H. Wollaston (member of Executive) was appointed Acting Secretary and as such worked three days a week. In addition to Mr Wollaston a junior clerk was engaged to do ordinary routine work and at the same time keep the office open.

The financial membership this year is not quite as good as last year.

This is due mainly to the foregoing reasons, as local district and branch Secretaries have had less time to go round and make personal interviews with members. Another factor was the General Secretary's absence during the vital period of the financial year.

To overcome this in future, endeavours are now being made to obtain the subscriptions through the procurement order system. By this method members have agreed to have their subscriptions deducted annually from their account sales. Since the middle of May to the end of June the General Secretary personally interviewed and obtained the signatures of 145 members for the payment of their subscription by this method.

During the year two Bills affecting the industry came before Parliament viz. "Margarine" and "Cattle Compensation". With regard to margarine every effort was made to have a special color included in the Bill, but a number of members of Parliament who had given their promise to vote for a "Saffron color" failed to support the measure when it came before the House. The Bill that is now in operation is not all that can be desired, but it does give the Government some control over this butter substitute and the only firm now manufacturing Table Margarine in this State is on a quota which is declared by the the Government. During recent weeks it was discovered that a certain margarine firm had come over to ~~the~~ South Australia from the Eastern States and was making approaches to the Government for a license to manufacture in this State.

Your Association immediately made an appointment with the Premier, and at the interview after submitting the views of the Association Mr Playford stated that he would not grant a further license for the manufacture of Table Margarine.

The Association also pointed out to the Premier that our members are definitely antagonistic to the manufacture and sale of table margarine and asked him not to permit an increase of the present quota.

It must be realised that the margarine interests have a powerful organisation behind it and notwithstanding the Bill that now controls the manufacture of Table Margarine in this State, sales will increase unless we constantly fight against this menace to our butter trade, as this State has no control over the manufacture of margarine in other parts of Australia. It seems ironical that in a primary producing State with a surplus of butter, there should be a butter substitute on the Market. When it is realised that every ton of Table Margarine sold

displaces a ton of butter and every ton of butter displaced is sold overseas costing the producer approximately £30 per ton it will readily be seen how great is this menace to our industry.

This menace has to be constantly fought and your Association has always been alert in its activities to check the increased sales of this butter substitute.

Cattle Compensation

With regard to the "Cattle Compensation Bill" it has been the earnest desire of the Association over a period of years to obtain a Bill whereby a fund would be built up to compensate owners of cattle when losses had been suffered through contagious diseases in their stock. The two main diseases causing loss are 'pleuro-pneumonia' and 'tuberculosis'. In the past all losses sustained was borne by the owner. Under the Bill that was successfully passed through both Houses, cattle that have been destroyed by order of an inspector and after inspection the disease is found to be there present, the owner is compensated to the extent of three-quarters of the market value, but after destruction the cattle are found to be free from disease then the full market value will be paid, provided that the market value of any one head of cattle for the purposes of the Act shall be deemed to be not more than Twenty Pounds (£20).

A stamp tax on all cattle sold will be one penny in the pound (£), but in no case will the tax on any one head of stock sold singly or as part of lot, exceed 1/8d.

Briefly the maximum compensation on any one head will be £20 and the maximum tax on any one head will be 1/8d. To get this Bill through, it entailed a volume of work for the Association, numerous letters were written, statistics were compiled, members of both Houses constantly interviewed and during its passage through the House it was necessary for the General Secretary to be present on all occasions.

Milk Bill

This year it was again decided to do our utmost to obtain a Milk Bill for the control of Adelaide's milk supply. To achieve this it was resolved to hold a conference with other interested bodies, so that a common basis could be arrived at. To this end the Association invited representatives from Dept of Agriculture, Metropolitan County Board, Metropolitan Dairymen's Assn, the Co-operative Factories, the Housewives Association and the Miscellaneous Worker's Union.

In all five conferences were held and with the exception of the Housewives Assn, all interested bodies were agreed that a Bill was necessary and arrived at a common policy. On the 11th September a deputation waited on the Government and made a formal request for a Milk Bill, handing to the Government an outline of the Bill desired. The Government said the matter would be gone into and after due consideration the Association would be notified of its decision. It was not until the 4th November that a reply was received, in which Mr Playford stated that Cabinet decided not to proceed with the Bill this Session. He stated that since the deputation "some opposition has already been advanced by dairying interests, and he believed it would be very unwise to proceed until unanimity has been reached by the industry itself". Finally he stated that he had set the matter down for consideration with next years legislative programme.

The price of whole milk in the city is still unsatisfactory. It ranges from 9d to 1/1d per gallon wholesale and from 2d to 3d per pint retail.

If all milk retailed in the Metropolitan area was sold at 3d per pint the dairymen supplying to wholesalers would receive a higher equalised price. Without control, prices will always be out, both wholesale and retail, and the main burden borne by the Dairymen. The Association will not cease to fight to remedy this unsatisfactory state of Adelaide's milk prices.

Co-operative Factories

During the last two years four Co-operative factories have been established and whilst a number of our members are also members of a Co-op. Factory, there are quite a large number of suppliers who have not

joined this Association.

Many of the shareholders of these Co-operative Factories are under the impression that once they join a Co-op. Factory, there is no advantage in belonging to an Association, but it is now realised that only through a representative and strong Association will the dairymen achieve anything worthwhile. To bring all the Co-operative suppliers in to the Association arrangements are now complete for constituting each Co-op. Factory with the status of a District. The members of these Co-op. Factories will abide by the rules of the Association, will pay the full membership fee of 10/- per annum, and will have the same representation on the Central Council as other Districts.

Methylene Blue Test

It is the desire of the Government to lift the grade of dairy produce and at the same time improve the grade of whole milk for the Adelaide market.

The Metropolitan County Board are particularly anxious to improve the quality of whole milk and to this end a conference was called by the County Board inviting interested bodies to attend at the Town Hall. So far only one conference has been held at which three of our delegates attended. Your representatives are watching the interests of the Assn to guard against any unfair or undue hardship in connection with this matter.

Condensed Milk

Owing to the war, the condensed milk trade has been given an opportunity to expand.

For many years this product has met with keen competition in the East, so much so that it was more profitable to manufacture cheese in preference to condensed milk.

With the position, created by the war, there is a demand for this commodity by the Army, Navy and Air Force and for trade in the East. In this State there is only one condensary, and that is at Murray Bridge.

With trade improving this condensary is now working full time and the dairymen on the Murray supplying to this factory are receiving a higher price for all milk that stands up to a three hours Methylene Blue Test. As this trade expands there is a likelihood of more than one condensary being erected in this State. Your Association has discussed this matter freely and have agreed to the special contract for this special milk which at present must be confined to the Murray as the only condensary in this State is situated there.

General (New Branch)

During the year a new branch was opened at Chain of Ponds. This will make it more convenient for members at Cudlee Creek, Chain of Ponds, Kersbrook and Millbrook to attend meetings. Previously these members had to go to Gumeracha to attend meetings.

Veterinary Surgeon

The Association was instrumental in establishing a Veterinary Surgeon at Murray Bridge. This has been a distinct benefit to members living along the Murray.

Meetings

During the year meetings and conferences totalled 37. The Central Council held 7 and the Executive 13 meetings.

It should be realised by all members that these meetings are attended by the delegates in their keen desire to help the industry. It means a great sacrifice of time as the majority of meetings occupy a full day's deliberation. The thanks of all members are due to the delegates for the splendid work they are doing for the Assn. The Association has kept a close watch on all matters affecting the dairymen, but it rests with the rank and file to stand loyally by the Association and so present a united front, against any interests that may prove detrimental to the industry. It is hoped that the ensuing year may bring more members to the Association so that its influence and power may become stronger than ever.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION (INC)

30th June, 1940

Administrative Personnel

General President - Mr I.R.Elliott
 Senior-Vice President - Mr J. Gormlie
 Junior-Vice President - Mr Hy Duell
 General Secretary - Col.A.H.Nelson

Executive Committee

The General President
 The two Vice-Presidents
 The General Secretary
 and

Messrs D.H.Wollaston, E.Wegener, J.A.Halliday

The Central Council

The General President
 The two Vice Presidents
 The General Secretary
 and

Messrs. I.L.Badman	Salisbury	Delegate District of	Bolivar
K.M.Bowen	Flaxley	"	Meadows
R.H.Strickland	Kangarilla	"	"
F.E.Meissner	Meadows	"	"
E.A.Davis	Dorset Vale	"	"
F.G.Filmer	Meadows	"	"
D.H.Wollaston	Mt Barker	"	Mt Barker
W.M.Kaiser	One Tree Hill	"	Modbury
B.St.J.Proctor	Mt Compass	"	Myponga
S.Coad	Hope Forest	"	"
L.F.Giles	Willunga	"	"
T.M.Smee	Charleston	"	Onkaparinga
H.von.Howell	Lobethal	"	"
S.R.Buckley	Charleston	"	"
M.A.Kenny	Ponde	"	"
J.A.Halliday	Murray Bridge	"	River Murray
G.Llewellyn	Hypolonga	"	" "
W.Craton	Jervois	"	" "
E.J.Wheller	Two Wells	"	" "
E.Wegener	Mt Pleasant	"	Two Wells
W.A.McCormick	Birdwood	"	Upper Torrens Valley
R.J.Laing	Gumeracha	"	" "
H.M.Parsons	Victor Harbour	"	" "
			South Coast.

MEMBERSHIP

30th June, 1940

District On Roll 1939/40. Financial 1939/40. % Financial 1939/40

Bolivar	87	71	82%
Gawler	26	24	92%
Meadows	197	29	14%
Modbury	38	15	40%
Mt Barker	57	37	65%
Myponga	136	48	35%
Onkaparinga	142	74	52%
River Murray	224	180	80%
South Coast	77	77	100%
Two Wells	36	36	100%
Upper Torrens Valley.	189	140	74%
	1209	731	60%
Corresponding period last year.	1120	827	73%