

new zealand simmental



autumn issue 1980 number eleven



POLL SIMMENTAL

MUNGA PARK POLL PRINCE
Bred by - MUNGA PARK
PASTORAL CO.
Frances, South Australia.

- * POLL PRINCE IS THE FIRST POLL SIMMENTAL TO ENTER AN AI CENTRE IN AUSTRALIA.
- * POLL PRINCE IS A TOP QUALITY SON OF BEAT
- * POLL PRINCE HAS TWO FULL SISTERS: M.P. QUEENIE & M.P. DUCHESS - both polled.

MUNGA PARK POLL PRINCE

TATTOO MPSPX15 HB.ASBA. 53000
Calving date 7/8/78 weight 39 kgs
200 day weight 310 kgs
365 day weight 504 kgs

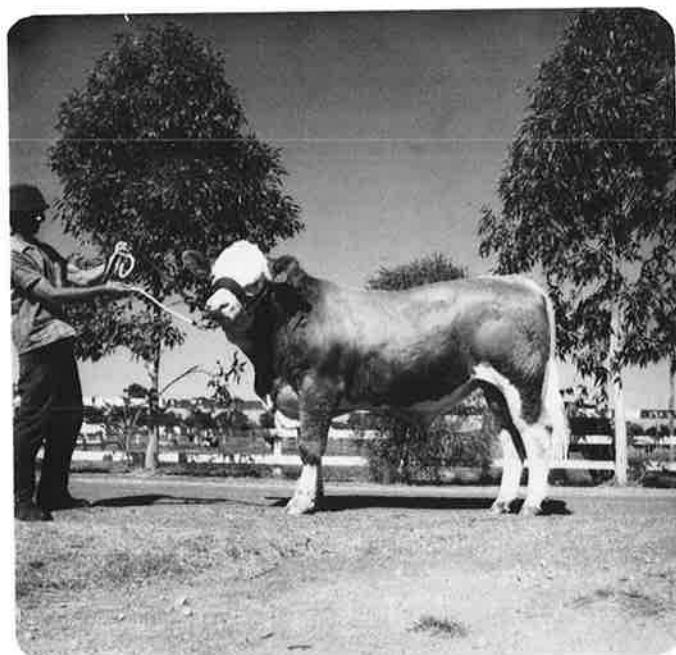
Sire: BEAT ——— [FELS
KRONI

Dam: MUNGA PARK ——— [EXTRA
ELOISA ¾ ex. A.R. Guthrey
New Zealand

Birth weight 46 kgs
200 day 249 kgs
365 day 383 kgs

Birth weight 34 kgs
200 day 246 kgs
365 day 325 kgs

ABOVE PERFORMANCE ACHIEVED IN
PADDOCK FEEDING CONDITIONS.
For Further Information contact:-



Guthrey Breeding Services

incorporating

**SOUTH ISLAND BREEDING
CENTRE LTD**

P.O. Box 97 Kaiapoi N.Z. Phone KI-6175
Telex N.Z. 4243

**INTERNATIONAL SEMEN
DISTRIBUTORS LTD**

P.O. Box 481 Feilding N.Z. Phone FG 36 189
Telex N.Z. 3296

A member of the Guthreys Group



THE SIMMENTAL CATTLE BREEDERS' SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

118 VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH 1, NEW ZEALAND.

P.O. BOX 25·100, VICTORIA STREET, CHRISTCHURCH. Phone 793·166

Contents

Editorial	1
People	2
Masseybeef Evaluation Clinic	5
The Australian Scene	6
Technical.	8 and 18
Simbeef	13
Royal Show 1979.	14
The Council	16
Shows	17
Miscellaneous	20

Advertisers

Guthrey Breeding Services
New Zealand Sire Services
H. R. Lowry — Pukekohu
B. T. Jolt — Lochamday
Scotish Semen Services
Newton Simmental Stud
East Dome Simmentals
Jim & Sheila Sutton
Levels Simmentals

Office Staff

Ian S. Johnstone
(Society Secretary)
Phone: Christchurch
(Bus.) 793-166
(Pvt.) 487-572

Miss Sue Johnstone

Mrs Ann Booth

PART TIME (as required)
Mrs Yvonne Kingsland
Mrs Eileen Austing
Mr Len Walker

EDITORIAL

At times it is helpful to use comparisons as a means of establishing how your enterprise ranks with the 'norm'. Within New Zealand we are able to compare area trends and individual herds and cattle. It is a shortsighted farmer who does not look over the fence.

Australia, as our nearest geographical neighbour provides a good opportunity to look at Simmentals outside our own system.

While the country is in many ways very different from our own, basically their cattle are similar in quality and establishment. Numerically, breeders in number are ahead of us. Their Society is strong in what it does and is effective. Simmentals in Australia are mainly beef orientated with dairy on a minor scale only. An outstanding factor in the Australian Simmental Scene is the ability of their Members to promote themselves and their Breed. They do this by capitalising on every opportunity to put the Breed before the public in shows, carcass competitions and sales. They push their Breed to the maximum.

Their presentation at shows and sales is excellent, in a catalogue of sixty animals at the 1980 Royale Sale, one animal only was unled. Of the eighty odd head of cattle at the Sydney Royal Show collectively their preparation was superb.

Numbers have now built up to a stage where Breeders are quality conscious and culling is severe in both Purebreds and graded cattle. Breeders work hard on the commercial scene, if they succeed commercially with top prices they 'crow' about it.

Their success is through their own motivation as it must be anywhere. In essence we are little different in our own country. Maybe we do not have the same strata of finance to promote but promotion is relative to the scale of production.

Council Members

President:	R. N. S. Cox, The Levels, R. D. 4 Timaru. Phone: Timaru 82418
Vice-President:	J. R. Sutton, Waihaorunga, R. D. 7 Waimate Phone: Waihaorunga 878
Councillors:	N. J. Barnett, Coopental, No. 9 R.D., Feilding. Phone: Halcombe 630 J. D. Graham, Waingaro, R. D. Parnas- sus. Phone: Parnassus 809. W. Gut, R. D. 29 Kaponga, Taranaki. Phone: Kaponga 741. G. D. Locke, Gordonton Road, R. D. 1 Taupiri. Phone: Gordonton 877. H. R. Lowry, Pukekohu, P. B. Havelock North. Phone: Waimarama 832 R. G. Macdonald, 15 Selkirk Place, Christchurch 5. Phone: Christchurch 858-080

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

FINANCE: R. N. S. Cox TECHNICAL: J. R. Sutton
PROMOTION: H. R. Lowry SALES: R. G. Macdonald.



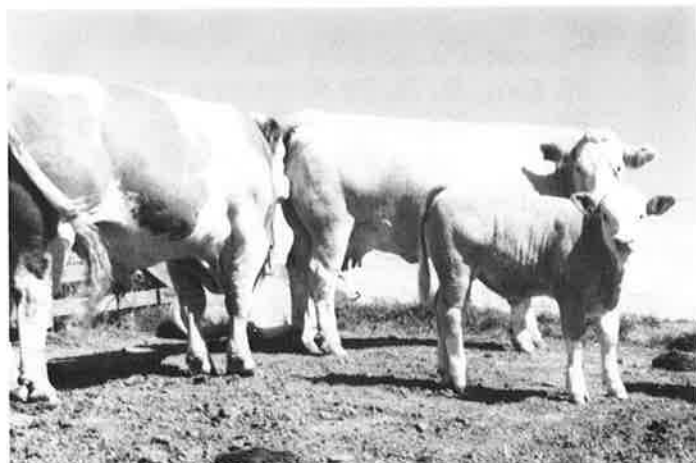
John and Allison Howie, joint owners of Newton Stud.

APPLES TO A.I.

We have few members who have a herd number but no cattle. This was the status of John and Allison Howie for quite a number of years. A Scot who married a New Zealander, John originally farmed in Fifeshire on 730 acres. He bred the first seven-eighth Simmental in the British Register and was one of the first people to market Simmental cross steers. His herd register in the U.K. must have created some raised eyebrows as his cattle carried Maori names 'Newton Hinetaha'. In 1975 he and his wife decided to settle in New Zealand and took up an orchard property near Blenheim. Their eldorado of blossom and fresh fruit turned out to be a repetitive round of pruning, spraying and harvesting and it was but four years and they decided they wanted to return to farming in the true sense. By the time they sold the orchard they had gathered together the nucleus of a further 'Newton Stud' which has now grown to more than a dozen purebred females plus their progeny.

John and Allison now live at Pleasant Point in South Canterbury where John works with the well known Sterndale Angus Stud. He has agistment for his cattle near his home and he and Allison maintain a vigorous interest in the Simmental Society and its activities.

Newton Stud is now an established fact and it is pleasing to see these enthusiastic people back 'amongst it' with the foundation of what will obviously be a very effective herd.



Some of the Howies' purebreds

COUNCIL ELECTIONS 1980

Two vacancies became available in this year's Council Elections. Messrs H. R. Lowry and R. G. Macdonald retire by rotation having served a three year term. Both were eligible to stand for re-election but Mr. Macdonald decided to stand down on this occasion due to other commitments. As a result of the call for nominations to fill the two vacancies only one new candidate was nominated, Mr. J. Houlbrooke of Northland. As the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies no election was necessary and Mr. Lowry returns for his second three year term and Mr. Houlbrooke begins his first term at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting on June 25th.

We congratulate Jim Houlbrooke on his nomination and appointment to the Society Administration. Originally from the northern Wairarapa he moved to Northland some fifteen or more years ago intending to spend just a few years away from his home territory but found it to his liking and has not returned. An early breeder of Simmentals he started at base cow level and has graded up to purebred status and has established a sound herd of cattle on his property near Dargaville. More recently he has founded a small purebred stud. With sons rapidly growing up and taking over some of the more routine matters on his property he is able to give more time to his stud and Society affairs. An active committee member of the Northland and District Club since its inception Jim has also been a regular attender of Simmental events throughout the country. We look forward to what we know will be his most worthwhile contribution to the Society's affairs.

Mr. Ran Macdonald, who has decided not to seek re-election is one of the few remaining foundation members of the Society on the Council. He has over the years put in a tremendous amount of effort for the breed, the Council, and the Society having served in all manner of capacities on behalf of the Society both here and overseas. As one of the first members to bring in semen to this country and the first live purebred, he has had great experience with the breed and at one stage had probably the biggest purebred herd in Australasia. In the last year or two he has virtually been out of active cattle breeding, but members will be pleased to know that he has recently taken over twenty purebred females which brings him back in strength to his involvement in the breed. His direct activity in the administration of the Society will be missed, but we look forward to his continued association with us. We take this opportunity of placing on record our sincere thanks for his contributions which have been outstanding.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1980

Members already have entry forms and we look forward to a good muster as we have had in past years. The combined Annual General Meeting/Sale, will we are sure, boost numbers for the dinner and other functions. The Waikato Club are working hard on the organization and deserve support.

We apologise for the misprint in the closing date for bookings — amazingly out of the five hundred odd forms that were sent out, only *one* member that we know of noticed the error!

Dear Mr Chairman, Council, Secretary & Members,

I have decided to withdraw my nomination for re-election to the Council this year. My intention is to have a year off the Council but to stand again in one, or possibly two years time. There are several reasons for this apparently strange course of action, which I will outline to you.

I have served on the Council, and on the Steering Committee which preceded it, from the date of the Society's inception at a public meeting called by John Austin and myself in Christchurch in June 1971. Throughout this period I have been the councillor living closest to the Society office and also closest to the point of departure for a high percentage of the Simmental cattle exported from New Zealand. i.e. Lyttleton or Christchurch airport. This factor has meant that I have been called on, and willingly given, a lot of time to the Society over the years. My commitments to a new business just started in Christchurch will make it very difficult for me to continue giving 20 to 30 days a year of my time to the Society. In this business the wool doesn't grow while I am away. My intention is to have this business established over the next 12 months and get back onto a farm at the end of that time.

Another reason for my withdrawal is that we are lucky to have Jim Houlbrooke's nomination for the Council this year. My withdrawal will mean that he and Robin Lowry will be automatically elected and this will give the Society, for the first time, a representative from the Auckland area.

I would like to take this opportunity to reminisce a little on the progress of the Society and my involvement in it over the last decade. Incidentally, the first Simmental I ever saw to my knowledge, was on the Austrian Swiss border on a trip in 1960. Waiting to get through a frontier barrier, I walked up the side of the hill photographing some of the very good cattle grazing there. The frontier guards pointed out in no uncertain manner that cameras were about as popular as atom bombs in their country and the only way I could prevent my camera from being confiscated was to take the film out and give them that.

In 1969 I went back to look at Charolais in the UK and really met my first Simmentals. As a result of this trip, I shared the honour with John Betheras of Australia, in importing the first shipment of Simmental into New Zealand. Friarton Aaron, Actor and Tattenhall Amendment are all well known to most of you. Tattenhall Amendment was, incidentally, the second Simmental calf to be born in the UK and was selected by one of the big American AI Stations for importation to the States. I managed to hang onto him, however, and gave them instead a bull from the Westdrums herd which later became known in the States as King Alfred.

Over the following years I made 6 more trips to the UK and Europe and most of these I covered the whole of England, Scotland and Northern and Southern Ireland. Interesting experiences which I wouldn't have missed for anything.

Without doubt, my most interesting trip was when the Society asked me to select twelve Pie Rouge heifers in France for the first shipment of cattle through Somes Island. The French cattle are like the French people — there is a big variation. But if your idea of a top Simmental is something very big, long and standing well off the

ground on good legs with the long smooth muscles which go with this type of animal, then the best of French cattle have something which cannot be equalled in Germany, Switzerland or Austria. At the time I was in France it was very much out of season. Only about 10% of the calf drop fell into the age category which we were allowed to import, but I believe those 12 cattle which did come will make a worthwhile contribution to the genetic pool in our national herd.

As you will know, the failing of the Blythe Cattle Co Ltd., made it necessary for their cattle and my own to be sold in Kaiapoi some two years ago, I have however, since bought cattle back in and I am pleased to say I am now again the proud owner of around 30 purebred Simmental cattle.

This year is Simbeef year, and I urge our members to give Simbeef their full support. Graded up bulls, which will include a number of polls, will greatly increase the number of bulls available to be sold to commercial breeders in 1981. Now is the time to attack this commercial market and this can only really be done by putting good Simbeef cattle in front of the public at saleyards, beef competitions and elsewhere. If you have a good line of steers, don't just put them in the works and pocket the profits. Make sure everybody knows about it.

My best wishes to Jim Houlbrooke and I am confident that his contribution to the Society will greatly exceed the amount of that fearful airfare involved in bringing him down from Auckland to Christchurch meetings.

R. G. Macdonald

NEWTON SIMMENTAL STUD



Recently Established in
South Canterbury.

12 Purebred Females.

Young Stock Becoming Available.

Inspection Welcome.

Phone Pleasant Point 214
or Write: J. and A. Howie
Totara Valley
Pleasant Point

**NOTE: NEWTON SIMMENTAL STUD WILL
OFFER A 16 MONTH BULL IN THE
SOUTH ISLAND SALE AT TIMARU
ON 19 JUNE 1980.**

People



Wayne and Geoff Sowman from Brightwater, Nelson.



Rupert Martin of Redwoods Valley.



Jerry Goulter from Wakefield, Nelson.



Mrs Ivo Lissaman Seddon (right) with members of the Goulter family.

East Dome Simmentals

HERD No. 901

TWO TOP 18 months BULLS

from this stud will be presented at the

**SOUTH ISLAND SIMMENTAL SALE ON
JUNE 19**

- EAST DOME JANUS . . . by USCH
and
- EAST DOME JUSTIN . . . by PIRLI

Enquiries and inspections welcomed

Contact —

W. A. ROUSE

Five Rivers, R.D. 3 Lumsden, Tel. 86R

MASSEY BEEF EVALUATION CLINIC

In February a full Clinic of twenty-five members spent three days with Mr. R. A. Barton of Massey University at one of his now very well recognised 'Beef Clinics'. Two days were spent in the lecture room and one day in practical application of what we had learnt. Bob took us through the basic structure of an animal (a sheep skeleton was used for the purpose which is very similar to the structure of a cattle beast) and explained how an animal is put together and articulates. How and where it lays on muscle or meat and where it lays down fat.

His lectures were graphically illustrated by diagrams and slides so that by the end of his lectures we were well versed with what was inside and outside the hide of an animal.

At the conclusion of the lecture session on the first day the Clinic moved to the local abattoirs where three pairs of specially selected steers had been taken. One pair was a small compact type of Angus, one a pair of more stretchy cattle of the same breed while the third pair were (because we were a Simmental Clinic) two threequarterbred Simmental steers. All were in prime condition. Prior to our arrival one of each pair had been put through the system, dressed and boned out for yield. The remaining cattle were left on the hoof in the yards for our appraisal and discussion. Having perused the live animals we then moved into the chiller to look at the carcasses of their mates. Results were interesting:

All steers were the same age. On a weight criterion the Simmentals had a phenomenal advantage.

The second day included further lectures and a visit to Dalstud's property near Palmerston North where the Clinic was able to see non-surgical recovery of fertilised

embryo being carried out and subsequently the preparation of the live embryo being handled for freezing and storage. The technique of surgical implant of a fertilised embryo into a host cow was also demonstrated. At the conclusion of the Dalstud visit a short stop was made to inspect a group of Purebred Simmental cows.

On the final day a field exercise was held on Councillor Neil Barnett's property at Halcombe. Neil and Bob had done a tremendous job in pre-organising and drafting stock for organised appraisal and discussion. A selection of steers were put forward for evaluation and everyone had a go at getting them in correct order. Few made errors and then only minor ones. Female stock were also evaluated for type and quality after which recorded figures were produced which 'derailed' a few of the selections (and the evaluators!)

A short session was also held on presentation and handling Sale and Show animals by John Robins of Southland.

At the conclusion of the morning Mr. & Mrs. Neil Barnett entertained members of the Clinic at a magnificent barbecue lunch held in most pleasant garden surroundings. Those who did not have urgency to leave for flights home spent the remainder of the afternoon on cattle talk.

The Clinic was an undisputed success and it is hoped the first of a regular series. There is a great deal to be learnt on basic facts of cattle and anyone who attended the Clinic must have come away more than satisfied.

Our thanks go to Bob Barton for his wisdom and his time (he gave up one day that was privately his own and his wife's birthday) and to Neil Barnett, Alan Perry, Russell Priest and wives and other people who assisted in making the venture such a success.

Works No.	Breed	Grade	Fat Depth at 12th rib (mm)	Ribeye area (sq. in.)	Yield of trimmed boneless meat (%)	Hindquarters yield (%)	Weight
1	Angus	P1	7	14.5	64.5	57.5	279
2	Angus	P1	6	11.9	66.9	63.8	261
3	Simmental-Hereford Cross	P1	8	14.7	64.5	67.8	382



Bob Barton of
Massey University
(Society Life Member)



The 'Clinic' in class.



THE AUSTRALIAN SCENE



The Grand Parade, Sydney Royal Show.

A visit to Australia at the time of the Royal Show is for any Simmental Breeder (or farmer) a most worthwhile experience. It is an opportunity to see one of the greatest displays of livestock in the Southern Hemisphere. Allied with the Show are a number of important Simmental events and 1980 was again an outstanding success for the Breed.

Out of 1,700 beef cattle of twenty-one breeds, Simmentals ranked sixth with over seventy Show entries. Five years ago they had twelve entries. The cattle remain at the Show for approximately seventeen days, an enormous undertaking.

The standard of cattle and preparation was outstanding and the judging was followed by a gallery of over a thousand people who crowded the stands round the ring which was one of five in constant daily use over four days.

Supreme Champion was taken by Harry M. Miller's bull 'Dunmore Hansa' by Ulan from Sundowner Ranches Evelyn a New Zealand bred female. A magnificent and very correct animal, he was a worthy winner. Grand Champion female was won by Bruce Burnell's 'Munga Park Deborah' by Extra from Aroha Eileen a New Zealand bred cow. An outstanding female with an equally good heifer calf at foot, she portrayed the excellence of the Breed in every way. Many of the other prize winners were derived from New Zealand bloodlines.

In the sixteen months bull class R.N.S. Cox, our New Zealand President, had the honour of third prize with his Prinz bull, Levels Jason. This bull sold for \$6,000 at the Simmental Sale prior to the Show.

Simmentals also had success of another kind at the Sydney Show. There is a unique class for purebred steers that are handled and prepared in exactly the same way as show cattle. The competition is on the hoof and on the hook, a rather sad situation for the owners who have usually hand prepared their entries over some months and have become greatly attached to them. All are groomed and led. 170 entries were catalogued in fifteen breeds and each breed was judged for its top animal. Winners are then judged as a class. Charolais took Champion and Reserve with two magnificent steers. Simmental while not ranked could not have been far behind. Entries were then re-grouped into threes of each breed. Charolais took the Championship with 96 points, Santa Gertrudes second with 92 points and Simmental and Murray Grey

third equal with 90 points. The judge, an American, was thorough and conclusive in his selection. At the conclusion of judging the steers are sold by auction to the meat trade. The Champion Charolais brought \$968 and the top Simmental \$884 with prices ranging down to \$350.

On the hooks realised great achievement for the Simmental breed. Charolais was Champion with an animal not placed on the hoof and Simmental was Reserve Champion and in the 'group of three' Simmentals were Champion. An outstanding situation when Simmentals entered for the first time and had but three entries.

Prior to the Show the Australian Simmental Association held a one day Judging Seminar conducted by a panel of three Judges, one Simmental, one Angus and one Hereford. Show and Sale cattle were used for the exercise which was instructive and produced some spirited discussion. Those attending were able to participate in a judging exercise on much the same basis as a Young Farmers Club contest in New Zealand. It was of interest to see a seventeen year old son of an Australian breeder rank in the prize winners. He was Sean Trenoweth son of Paul and Ann Trenoweth who will be known to quite a number of New Zealanders.

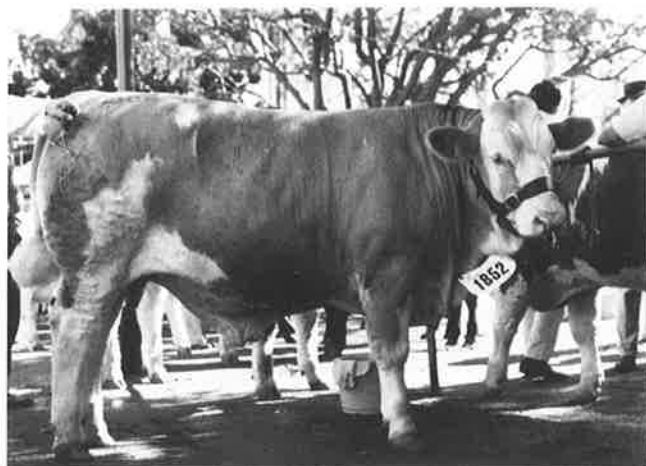
On the day following the Seminar the Australian Royale Sale was held at 'The Steading' about 50 miles west of Sydney. Sixty entries were catalogued compiled of forty-three purebreds, thirteen seven-eighth females and four three-quarter cows with calves at foot. (One seven-eighth and two three-quarter cows did not come forward.) The catalogue ranged from top animals to some that could only be classified as mediocre but almost without exception all were sold. Top price was a staggering \$20,000 for a threequarter share in a thirteen month old clean polled bull by Hamlet from a Dunmore female. A beautiful bull presented in perfect sale condition, he was the first polled bull ever offered in Australia. His full brother (transplant) also polled but not quite of the same standard also realised a good price at \$8,500. The third Lot by Rebholz had small scurrs but realised \$6,500. Top pure female made \$3,000 for a four year P.T.I.C. cow with her transplant calf on its recipient. A good cow, she may have made greater money had she had a natural calf. A polled seven-eighth cow with polled heifer at foot made \$4,250.

THE AUSTRALIAN SCENE

Price averages were (excluding the three Lots recorded), 11 Horned bulls averaged \$2,145, 5 Pure cows, mixed aged calves at foot averaged \$2,300, 15 Pure heifers (variable quality) averaged \$1,073, 9 seven-eighth P.T.I.C. heifers averaged \$1,356 and 2 three-quarter cows with calves at foot averaged \$1,600.

A limited number of cattle entered in the Royal Show were sold at the Showgrounds selling ring which operates almost day selling all breeds. Prices realised were considered good for quality bulls which made up to \$8,000 with one at \$7,700 and one at \$7,250. Animals of lesser quality did not fare so well and were down to around \$1,500.

The Royal Show was attended by at least twenty New Zealanders who have direct association with the Society. It should be recorded here that they were accorded great hospitality by their Trans-Tasman associates. The kindly reception by the Australian Council and its members as a whole was greatly appreciated.



Purebred Steer, Reserve Champion carcass, Sydney Royal Show.



Gail Johnstone, wife of the New Zealand Secretary, sashes the Champion Heifer at Sydney.



At the Royale Sale, N.S.W., Melinda Carter (NZ), Kerry Lowe (NSW), Jill Lowry (NZ), Lloyd Bailey (Qunsl.), Robin Lowry (NZ), David Carter (NZ).



Rodney Cox's bull, 3rd in its class and sold for \$6,000 at the Royale Sale, N.S.W.



Mrs R. H. Kerr of NZ who sashed the Grand Champion cow at Sydney.

Technical

COMPARATIVE SALE VALUES. SOUTHLAND.

In February a large draft of steers and heifers of three breeds/crosses went through the Lornville Saleyards in Southland on behalf of Mt. Linton Station of Ohai. The 869 head were divided into age groups and breeds and the following tabulations make interesting reading.

2½ YEAR CATTLE:

Breed		Number	Average Price	Top Price
Hereford	(Steers)	57	\$398	\$456
	(Heifers)	69	\$274	\$332
Angus	(Steers)	8	\$372	\$372
	(Heifers)	24	\$313	\$342
Charolais	(Steers)	7	\$278	\$278
	(Heifers)	42	\$321	\$396
Simmentals	(Steers)	16	\$378	\$430
	(Heifers)	97	\$312	\$372

18 MONTH CATTLE:

Hereford	(Steers)	364	\$268	\$288
	(Heifers)	103	\$215	\$230
Angus	(Steers)	15	\$257	\$300
Simmentals	(Steers)	67	\$292	\$314

These cattle were run on a purely commercial basis, Mt. Linton being one of the largest stations in the South Island.

CARCASS COMPETITIONS

The few breeders and fatteners who have entered in carcass competitions this season have done well — we congratulate them and thank them for promoting themselves and the Breed.

FEILDING: Heavyweight on the Hoof

1st Miss M. Grant, Dannevirke

Heavyweight on the Hooks

3rd N. J. Barnett, Halcombe (\$50 prize)

4th Miss M. Grant, Dannevirke

5th Miss M. Grant, Dannevirke

Mr. Barnett won the Manawatu Club Cup for the best Simmental Cross carcass. Seven Simmentals were entered in a total of fifty.

HAWKES BAY: Heavyweight on the Hoof

1st Miss M. Grant, Dannevirke

Heavyweight on the Hooks

1st Miss M. Grant, Dannevirke (\$50 prize)

Lightweight on the Hooks

2nd J. Absolom, Rissington

Sixty-seven animals entered the competition.

It is of interest that Miss Grant is an Angus Stud Breeder. She has entered carcass competitions for some years but only recently has selected Simmental Cross for her entries. We congratulate her on her success in two districts.



Blythe
Harlequin

Home (Ireland)

Palace Elizabeth
(by Panther)

Stone Hut BG12

Reboholz

Stone Hut CE41
(by Matching Famos)

Stone Hut Kojac 10/AK3

This purebred polled bull calf, born 26 May 1979, being just too young to qualify for the National, is

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

Well fleshed & exceptionally placid, KOJAC's superficial scurs will not detract from his ability to transmit the polled gene to his offspring.

JIM & SHEILA SUTTON

WAIMATE, SOUTH CANTERBURY
Phone WAIHAORUNGA 878



When the "exotic" large European breeds were introduced to N.Z. Their use sometimes resulted in difficult calvings, with attendant calf mortality, infertility, and farmer disillusionment. Often the problems were caused by unwise matings to small heifers, and by having cattle grossly overfat at calving.

As grading-up programmes have progressed, the disparity between size of cow and size of calf has reduced. Experienced breeders of Simmental and other large cattle have been able to minimize any problems within their own herds by adopting sophisticated pre-calving management and by using AB sires with extensive overseas progeny information showing them to be "easy calvers". Complacency has crept in as a result, and it has been easy to forget that we are in the business to sell bulls to commercial breeders who cannot use these techniques. A major impediment to wider commercial acceptance of large breeds undoubtedly is the fear of difficult calvings.

Some breeders of terminal sire breeds appear to be tackling the problem by declaring loudly and roundly that it does not exist. We should take a more enlightened course.

Improved growth rate is foremost among the numerous benefits we offer the N.Z. beef producer. Unfortunately it is genetically correlated to increased birth size. Unless we do something about it, the more we strive to maintain and increase our advantage in weight gain, the sooner our bulls will become impractical for the commercial breeder whose herd must calve unattended on the hills. We may not see a problem in our own herds, because the mature size of our cows will be increasing, but for our clients the camel will be getting ever larger, whilst the eye of the needle remains the same.

What can we do about it?

The main genetic components for calving ease are the size and perhaps the shape of the calf, and the conformation of the cow's pelvis. Unfortunately, in beef breeds superior muscularity and large size tend to be accompanied by a smaller pelvic opening in proportion to weight. It seems there is also a positive genetic correlation between pelvic opening and birth weight, so selection based on measurement of the pelvic opening (or visual appraisal) may prove no more effective than a simple policy of culling for calving difficulty, despite the low heritability of calving ability as such. We cannot be sure by visual appraisal that a bull will pass on traits for easy calving to his daughters, but the use of progeny tested sires can be effective. Leading sires for daughters' calving ease include Ueli, Beat, and Extra.

As for the shape of the calf, this cannot be reliably predicted by examining the mature muscular development of its sire's shoulders.

All is not lost, however, as birth weight is simply measured, is quite strongly inherited, and is very closely correlated to calving difficulty. By considering birth-weight when selecting both bull and heifer replacements, we can hope to modify the growth curve to increase growth performance while minimizing the increase of birth weight. Because birth weight is also correlated to adult body weight, (i.e. big cows tend to have big calves), we can at the same time expect to restrict the genetic increase in mature cow size. This is good news for those who see a future for Simmental as a superior dam breed:

Professor H. Krausslich, of the Dept. of Animal Breeding, Munich University, reporting to the European Simmental Federation, has studied the relationship between growth performance of bulls, and calf losses due to their use. He found that selection on weight or growth performance led inevitably to increased calving difficulty. He concludes that recording of birth weights is essential in Simmental breeding programmes.

Research has shown we can increase selection efficiency if, instead of considering yearling weight on its own, we use this index

$$I = Y - 3.2 B$$

Where I = Index Y = weight at 400 days

B = weight at birth.

This index reduces the expected increase in birth weight by 55%, the expected increase in adult weight by 25%. The response in yearling weight is only reduced by 10%, as compared to the response using single factor selection.

For a breeder adopting the objective of not allowing any genetic increase in birthweight, the formula would be

$$I = Y - 5.4 B$$

The reduction in genetic gain for yearling weight would then be 38%. In this case, if progeny test measurements are used instead of individual performance, the reduction in genetic gain would be only 24%.

These are long term strategies. In the meantime, the responsible breeder should make it a rule **NEVER** to sell for breeding any bull who was exceptionally large at birth. The potential damage to the profits of the purchaser and the reputation of the breed is just too great. All who aspire to the breeding of more productive beef cattle should resolve right now to record birthweights. Beefplan and the Simmental Society will provide the recording tool to let you do the job right.

Please, protect your future and that of the breed — do it now.

COMPUTERISATION

We progress deliberately, if slowly. Members are thanked for their patience and their efforts in filling in those yellow forms. We checked them before they went to the computer, they (the Computer Bureau) key punch them into the system and once again we check them. In an exercise such as this there are bound to be transcription errors, there are literally thousands of item entries in our own system and seven Breed Societies are doing the same exercise which must create tremendous pressures at the Computer Centre.

We are, however, well on the way and as soon as we can re-check the corrections made we should get a run of the calving sheets which will enable you to get your 1979 calves registered.

We and the Computer Centre work on the basis that it is better to have the system correct from the start than to rush it and have recurring errors. We will obviously have a few teething problems but once the system is set our lives will be so much easier.

Australia have computerised records and their hassels are minimal.

THE TATTOO

YEAR LETTER FOR 1980 IS

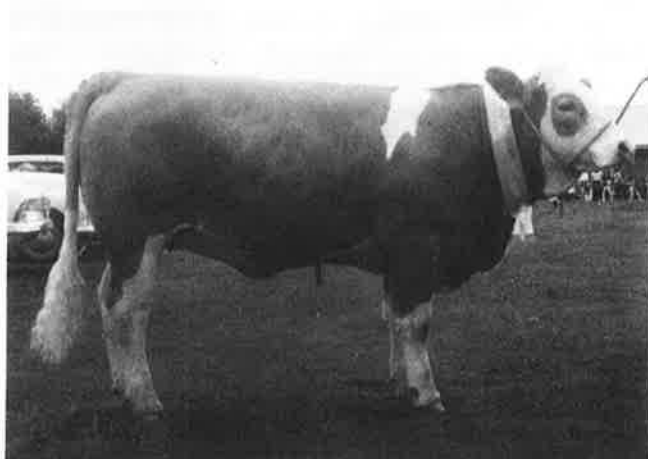
L



LED STEER COMPETITIONS

Overseas they hold highly competitive and interesting competitions where steers (in this case purebreds) are displayed and shown in a similar manner to stud cattle. We are keen to introduce such competitions at our local shows and eventually the Royal.

In the interim we suggest Clubs might look at such a situation with graded steers. All it wants is a few enthusiasts in each area with a good potential steer on each property. One animal can be taught to lead (its good training for future studmasters) and brought up to standard. An early start is usually made with these animals — at weaning or younger so by the time they are large enough to show they are trained and easily handled. Talk about it anyway? — we will discuss it at the delegates meetings. The only sour note is that the animal usually ends up by getting its head chopped off. At least it has a good life if a short one.



Toney Rolley's Champion heifer 'Carly' who was placed second in the Meat and Wool Cup at the Waikato Show late last year. 'Carly' is a purebred from the grading-up system.

TRANSPORT NELSON SALE (February 14th)

Those who did not attend will be kicking themselves. A tremendous offering of good sound breeding stock with proven production at buyers prices.

Over 350 head of three-quarter bred and seven-eighth cattle were yarded at Brightwater out of Nelson, probably the biggest single offering of Simmental infused cattle in Australasia. A few purebreds were also offered. In view of the very large offering, the locality and the time of year, the Sale must be deemed a success with prices in buyers favour. The Sale was regrettably held two months too early due to the fact the property had been sold and delivery was set for the 31st March — there was no alternative. Such were the numbers it was impossible to offer cows with calves at foot so all had to be weaned early. The cows and the calves however came forward in remarkably good shape and the not large buying bench bought virtually everything offered.

Cows were put up in lots of six with selection if requested. Prices for in-calf three-quarter cows ranged from \$250 to \$380 with younger heifers down to \$220. In-calf seven-eighth heifers brought from \$400 to \$600



Rodney Cox, Ran Macdonald, David Carter and Barrie Sydney at the Christchurch Show in November.



TNL Group cattle fill the Brightwater Saleyards at dispersal sale in February.

with a few over \$700 and one polled animal to \$1,200 which went to Australia. Seven-eighth heifer calves spring born sold at \$150 to \$200 with as few autumn calves to \$260. The purebreds went cheaply. One bull by Skerrington Baron of very good type went for \$1,100 and another almost as good at a similar price. One in-calf heifer by Extra went for \$1,300. Weaner pures from the grading-up system ranged from \$275 to \$925 for a polled which also went to Australia – they were only calves.

The biggest success of the Sale was probably where the cattle went to. They found homes as far afield as Hamilton in the North and Alexandra in the South and several new members have evolved as a result. We have since heard (on the grapevine) that a large group (about fifty) were sold in the North Island to a freezing company who after a closer look decided they were just too good to slaughter and yet another herd has been founded.

Dispersal Sales are not greeted with great joy but when you analyse the outcome, good cattle always find a home and the inferior are culled which is a good thing. With the dispersal of the T.N.L. Stud we welcome Rupert Martin as a member in his own right. Rupert ran the T.N.L. property for twenty years and now has his own property and a small Simmental Stud.

INSPECTION OF EXPORT CATTLE

It is a Ministry of Agriculture requirement that all cattle destined for export are Breed Society inspected before shipment to ensure they are up to a suitable standard for export. This is done on a routine basis and cattle are also inspected for tattoo identification.

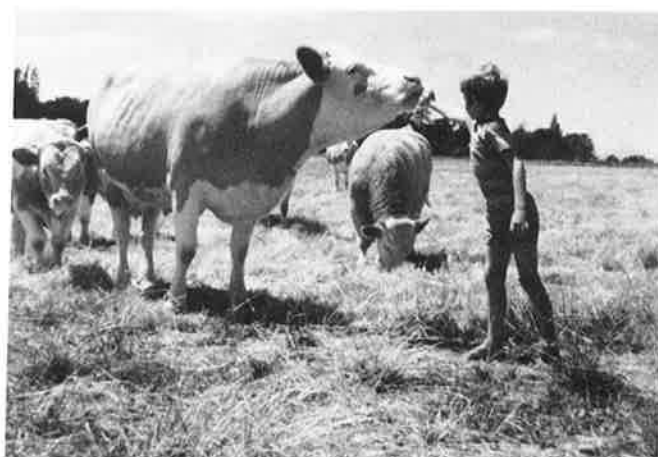
We urge those who sell for export or export on consignment to ensure their animals are up to standard. In the last six months at least three animals have not been up to standard and have been rejected on inspection. If you are unsure if your animal is of suitable standard get someone to have a look at it before it leaves home.

It is a costly business to test and dispatch it to point of departure and have it turned down. We dislike having to reject any animal but if our exports are to continue we must in our own interest maintain good standards.



Blogg of

Allan Radburn. Judge at the 1979 Royal relaxes after his duties.



A junior enthusiast, Jeremy Barclay son of Brian a member from Brookside near Christchurch.

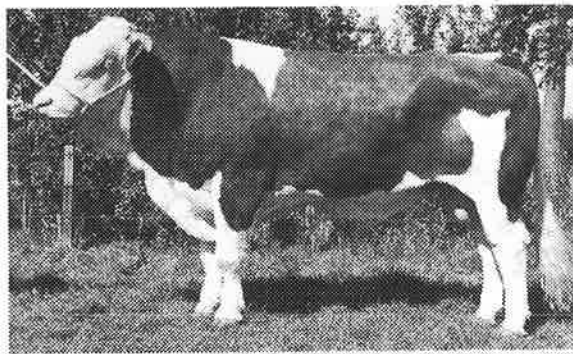
Simmentals: two of the best from Scotland.

Top flight Simmental fullbloods and crosses — some have fetched world record prices — have been the progeny of Scottish Semen Services sires.

Our bulls are selected by stockmen who are breeders of international reputation. And they consider that these two new Simmental sires represent an important opportunity for New Zealand breeders to further improve their bloodlines.



SCOTTISH SENATOR: 1111 kg, height 155 cm at 4 years 7 months. This outstanding German Simmental, from the noted breeder Georg Reichert, rated first of 30 bulls in a recent performance test in Germany. His calving survey speaks for itself: Farmer Assist 0.0%; Veterinary Assist 0.0%; Malpresentation 0.0%. Average birthweight of calves 43.9 kg.



SCOTTISH PILOT: 1132 kg, height 159 cm at 3 years 9 months. A very tall bull, breeding tall growthy progeny which, at 400 days weighed on average 367 kg in Beef Bull Progeny Test No. 3. Calving Survey: Farmer Assist 5.9%; Vet Assist 0.0%; Malpresentation 1.2%. Average calf birthweight 46.3 kg.

Scottish Semen Services

Southbar Cattle Breeding Centre,
Inchinnan, Renfrew, Scotland



Newlands Cattle Breeding Centre
Scone, Perthshire, Scotland

Division of the S M M B Underwood Road Paisley

Breed Scottish-Breed Best

Selected by Stockmen for Stockmen

Dalgaty New Zealand Ltd Central
Stud Stock Department
Ph Palmerston North 68039
International Semen Distributors Limited
Ph, Palmerston North 69129
Northland Herald Improvement
Association Inc. Ph Whangarei 84059
Auckland Herd Improvement
Association Inc. Ph Hamilton 81129
Livestock Improvement Association
Bay of Plenty and East Coast Inc.
Ph Whakatane 7269
Livestock Improvement Association
Taranaki Inc. Ph New Plymouth 80479
Livestock Improvement Association
Wellington-Hawkes Bay Inc.
Ph Palmerston North 80102
Livestock Improvement Association
South Island Inc. Ph Christchurch 892079
South Island Breeding Centre Ltd Ph Kaiapoi 6175
D.P. Graham and Sons Ph Tapu 824
NZ Sire Services Ltd Ph Hamilton 437995
NZ Dairy Board Semen Sales Ph Hamilton 65044

SSMB30&M

simbeef



simbeef
symbol of progress

Members in most areas will have seen articles in their newspapers or farming magazines on 'Simbeef'. The coverage we have received has been good and we thank those people who helped to promote the project. We have received quite a number of enquiries already from people outside the Society who have asked for tags and Membership which is encouraging.

Initially 800 tags were ordered and these have all gone and we have made inroads on a further order just received. Weaners have appeared in a number of area calf sales 'wearing' the distinctive yellow 'Simbeef' tag and again this year we are topping sales almost without exception.

In Canterbury 'Simbeef' weaners topped the Addington sale for the fourth consecutive year. O. J. Osborne's top twelve calves brought \$52 a head above anything else in the yards. (2937 calves) His average for 93 steers at \$237 was more than \$30 above the yard average. Fifty heifers from the same vendor topped the female section also. Another vendor, J. J. Robinson from the West Coast, averaged \$215 for 25 steers.

In South Canterbury 'Simbeef' weaners have also been market toppers. 110 weaners averaged \$210 while the 541 other breeds averaged \$167. Another sale in the same area was topped at \$215.

Further sales are being held and doubtless we will top further markets. The reaction from the 'trade' has been favourable. They like the idea of easy identification and we hope as time goes by we can get them (and the vendors) to advertise and talk about Simmental Cross as 'Simbeef' cattle. One thing is certain, people are starting to realise that 'simbeef' cattle really have something.

We must keep the thing moving and we ask that all Breeders make an effort to tag the top cattle and advertise them as 'Simbeef' using the symbol in their advertisements. We are currently having a supply of 'bromides' drawn up for this purpose which will be free to all Members.

Posters in full colour have been produced and are in the process of being distributed throughout the country.

Already as a result of successful marketing of weaners and adult steers members are selling bulls. One breeder considers his 'simbeef' tags are worth \$15 per head and as a bonus he has sold another bull.

You can sell Bulls if you try . . .

One of our Southern Breeders, Ron Sycamore from Dunedin, has over several years sold fat steers with phenomenal success in the Burnside yards at Dunedin. He has had an objective in mind of presenting top steers and selling bulls as a result. In the last eight months he has sold fourteen bulls to commercial producers. It can be done if you are prepared to make an effort.

FIRST OF THE SERIES

Geoff Palmer of Parua Bay near Whangarei has calved what could be the first of a new generation. He has a Purebred heifer calf from a seven-eighths heifer by a Purebred bull also from a seven-eighths heifer. Geoff is one of our earlier members and has worked right through the grading-up system and I recall had one of, if not the first, naturally born Purebreds from the graded system.

simbeef SUCCESS...

MARKET TOPPERS 1980

Addington (Canterbury) 16.4.80

- * 93 Simbeef weaner steers
Average \$237 – premium \$30 +
Top Pen \$276 – premium \$52

- * 50 Simbeef weaner heifers
Average \$184, Top \$196
Vendor O. J. Osborne, Leeston

- * 25 Simbeef weaner steers
Top \$222, Average \$211
In the top four prices
Vendor J. J. Robinson, Kumara.
(Yarding 2,937 weaners)

Temuka (South Canterbury) 15.4.80

- Only 4 pens over \$200
- * Top \$215 Simbeef weaner steers
Vendor D. G. Baker, Cave.
- Temuka (South Canterbury) 11.4.80
- * 110 Simbeef weaners, Average \$210
541 other breed weaners, Average \$167

Stortford Lodge, Hastings

- * 22 Simbeef weaners @ \$242
Top of the Market
33 Simbeef weaners @ \$220
Vendor J. R. Absalom
18 Simbeef weaners \$230
22 Simbeef weaners \$219
Vendor Big Hill Station.

Burnside, Dunedin (April)

- * Simbeef weaner steers \$228
Top of the market – premium \$80
Vendor R. J. Sycamore

Palmerston, Otago (April)

- * Simbeef weaner steers \$200
Top of the market
Vendor R. Sutherland

Addington, Canterbury (May)

- * 67 Simbeef weaner steers
Top pen (11) \$254
Top of the market – premium \$56
Average \$213
40 Simbeef weaner heifers
Top pen (12) \$168
Top of the market – premium \$30
Average \$162
Vendor J. C. Montgomery, Cheviot

Fordell, Wanganui (2 Sales)

- * Simbeef weaner steers \$242, \$230
Top of the market
Vendor Sim Bros. Kai Iwi

simbeef

symbol of progress

ROYAL SHOW 1979

Held at Invercargill in Southland, The Royal was well supported despite the ever increasing costs of transportation. Southland has in its own right a reputation for producing good stock and coupled with a Royal Show the general display of livestock was outstanding.

Simmental entries were high and of excellent standard, a total of twenty-four animals with good local entries well supported by a strong contingent from Canterbury. 'Pride of the Simmentals' must go to Robot Simmental's 'Jade' by Balig Agent who travelled firstly to Christchurch for the Canterbury Show where he was awarded the Junior Champion ribbon. At the Royal he did it again and was also placed as reserve in the open bull Championship. Entered in the Junior Meat & Wool Cup, a class held for the first time, 'Jade' looked every inch a winner and was, in strong competition. His nearest rival was a Shorthorn. It was with justifiable pride, that John Robins of Dipton who prepared and presented the bull on behalf of his Robot Simmental group, led the Simmental section in the Grand parade preceded only by the Hereford ribbon cattle who had won the Senior Meat & Wool Cup. John and Gay have on their mantelpiece for the next year a magnificent silver cup presented by Thomas Borthwick & Company.

for members at which trophies were presented and a special welcome was given to Mr. Ian Bonifant, Secretary/Manager of The Australian Association, who attended The Show.

In the Senior Meat & Wool Cup, the Simmental entry Winfield Goliath, was placed fourth, the winner being a Hereford with an Angus cow second and an Angus bull third.

Individual Simmental placings were as follows:

Senior Bull	1st & Champion 'Winfield Goliath'
	O. J. Osborne, Canterbury.
	2nd 'Blythe Janitor'
	R. G. Macdonald, Canterbury.
	3rd 'Sir Avon Park Extra'
	M. R. Carter Ltd., Canterbury.
Junior Bull	1st & Champion, Open Reserve
	Champion 'Jade'
	Robot Simmentals, Southland.
	2nd 'Winfield Ja Jay'
	O. J. Osborne, Canterbury.
	3rd 'Fernhurst James'
	R. J. Neas, Southland.



Gay and John Robins with their Champion bull 'Jade' who won the Junior Meat & Wool Cup at the Royal in Invercargill.

In the other major Simmental prizes, O. J. Osborne had a 'field day'. He won the Champion Bull with Winfield Goliath, the Champion Cow with Abbots Bromley Clementine and the Supreme Championship with the same cow. For his efforts he won the Simmental Salva, the premier Royal Show Challenge Trophy and the East Dome Challenge Trophy and a large and very handsome Swiss Bell presented by Woodford Rouse of Five Rivers for the Champion Female at the Invercargill Show.

The Society had a caravan adjacent to the cattle pavillion for members use during the Show and this was well patronised by both local and visiting members. The Southland Club held a most successful evening function

Senior Cow	1st Champion & Supreme Champion of the Breed
	'Abbots Bromley Clementine'
	O. J. Osborne, Canterbury.
	2nd 'Kinlarty Liza'
	Levels Farming Co. Ltd
	Timaru
	3rd 'Arwood Freda'
	Miss S. Osborne, Canterbury.
Junior Female	1st & Champion 'Levels Juliet'
	Levels Farming Co. Ltd., Timaru.
	2nd 'Levels Joy'
	Levels Farming Co. Ltd., Timaru.
	3rd 'Pendeen Gretal'
	Mrs. J. C. Hall, Canterbury.

Photo by courtesy of Livestock Publications

ROYAL SHOW 1979



Oakleigh Osborne with Supreme Champion 'Goliath' pictured with the Royal Show judge Allan Radburnd at Invercargill.



New competitor Pam Duncan at Mossburn with a very good heifer from the graded system at the Royal.



Gay Robins who sashed the Champion Cow at the Royal with Graham Muir and Sue Osborne.



Some Southlanders and visitors at the Royal.



Bob Neas from near Invercargill with his first out at the Royal. His entry took a third in the junior bull class.



Woody Rouse presents Oakleigh Osborne with the East Dome Trophy, which he kindly donated for classes at the Southland Show.

The Council

The Council met in February with a full attendance. Committees met on the first day.

The Finance Committee considered budgets and the general situation of income and expenditure. Income showed some decline on previous years due to the drop in export and resultant fees and it was apparent that 1980 would be a 'tight year' financially. This had been anticipated and as a move to compensate for the drop in income and the increasing basic costs in administration which are largely out of our control. The Committee approved a scale increase of registration fees which have already been advised. Membership which had shown some decline had stabilised. A considerable number of earlier members had done little apart from an initial breeding programme and they had dropped by the wayside through their general lethargy. These members were in essence more of a burden than an asset as they created additional work with little reward. A steady if small number of new members appear who are of substance and add greatly to the Society's strength.

In assessment of accounts the Committee noted that there was always a considerable amount outstanding (owed by members) and they requested co-operation of members in meeting their commitments as they fall due. Accounts are sent out quarterly and while they are unsettled the Society stands to lose a considerable amount of revenue and interest. This becomes a penalty against the total membership. The Committee discussed at some length our membership of the World Federation. To date it has not been of great benefit to us due to our geographical location and the fact our systems are so different from the long established breeding countries. However it was resolved that we would continue as in the long term there will be much to be gained through the technical knowledge and research of overseas experts and the pooled accumulation of information from member countries.

The Committee also approved grants to the World Congress of Sheep and Cattle Breeding 1980 of \$200 and to the Combined Beef Breeders Research Committee, our own cattle research body of \$300.

The Promotion Committee considered a number of matters. Simbeef was one of the major items and plans were made which have now been implemented. Articles were approved for newspapers, posters for promotion through saleyards, firms etc. Simbeef stickers have just become available and will be sent to members in due course. Mr Lowry asked for maximum support for the Simbeef project.

The Committee also discussed Performance Criteria for competing show cattle. This subject has been 'aired' before and while no firm resolutions were made the matter will be discussed again at future meetings. It is the opinion of the Committee that some performance criteria should be introduced for at least one class of competing cattle.

The promotion of led steers was also looked at. Overseas as you see in the report on the Sydney Show, steers are a feature. Moves are being made to introduce a similar competition in New Zealand. (A note on this matter appears elsewhere).

Judges for A. & P. Shows were approved for most areas and a list of those nominated appears elsewhere in this issue. Appointment is for one year.

The Simmental magazine circulation is to be increased.

At present we send to all members, major centres for Stock Firms and selected non-members who have purchased bulls. Our circulation will now cover all major stock offices as it was felt a lot of 'grass rooters' agents received no information on the breed.

Delegates meetings will again be held this year. South Island in Alexandra in June and the North Island in Cambridge at the time of the Annual General Meeting.

Junior Membership will be formalised at the Annual General Meeting, and members' children and friends will be encouraged to join.

It was a gratifying move that the Young Farmers Club movement had selected Simmentals for their New Zealand National Stock Judging finals in Nelson this year. The Society will select cattle for this purpose and two judges have been appointed, Messrs R. G. Macdonald and J. D. Graham.

The Technical Committee discussed in detail the question of the apparent defect in Scottish Prinz and recommended to Council this bull's removal from the Sire List (Subsequently actioned and members advised.).

The Sire Reference scheme was reviewed. In the second year only 12 members were participating which is a little disappointing but 600 straws were ordered which will give a reasonable analysis. Analysis of the 1979 calving will be made as soon as computer registration sheets are available.

The Computerisation of records is disappointingly slow and some pressure has been put on the 'Centre' to produce calf entry sheets. Problems have been encountered with entries which require checking and correction and this has caused delays in setting the programme.

Performance criteria for showing was also discussed by the Technical Committee and it was resolved to invite Mr Alistair Nichol of Lincoln College to speak at the next meeting.

The Waikato Club expressed interest in setting up a performance testing station for bulls. Bulls of yearling age are grazed collectively on one property for ten months to evaluate growth rate. (A pilot scheme has since been launched by the Club with pleasing response.)

The Sales Committee mainly discussed the forthcoming 1980 Sales and arrangements for these events which are now well underway.

An interesting development for South Island breeders is the establishment of a selling ring for both led and unled cattle at Christchurch. This will now almost certainly eventuate and will provide the South Island with a venue equal to the highly successful Palmerston North unit built several years ago. Several breed Societies including Simmental will participate in the development of this venue which will be ready for the 1981 National Sale.

Sales Inspectors were appointed for both Sales in 1980. Messrs. Allan Perry and John Absalom will inspect cattle for the National and Messrs. Don Graham and David Stone will do the South Island Sale entries. Both lots of entries will be 'on farm' inspected and again inspected the day of Sale. The Inspectors will also act as judges for entries prior to the Sales.

The Council spent the morning of the following day going through Committee Minutes and ratifying them.

The structure of Committees enables concentrated effort to be given to matters which are then put before Council for approval or discussion.

Shows

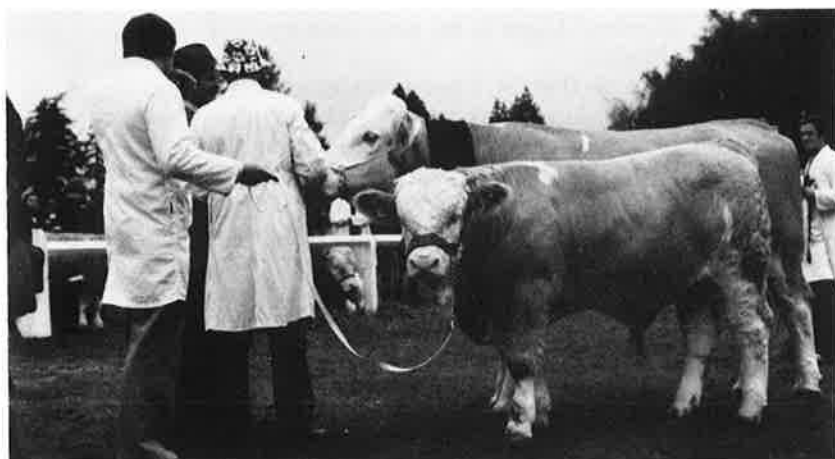


FAIRLIE SHOW (South Canterbury)

Easter Monday has been traditionally the day of perhaps the only Highland Show in New Zealand. Fairlie the main centre at the Northern end of the Mackenzie Basin has held its Show over many years. It is similar in many ways to many country Shows but has an atmosphere all of its own — very much a family picnic in an outlying area where families meet friends and neighbours year after year.

Simmentals went to the Fairlie Show for the first time two years ago — just a handful. They made an impression as they had not been seen before in the area. This year there were such numbers a breed judge was called for and there were four classes for the animals entered by three local and one outside breeder. Numerically Simmentals were greater than any other breed. The Herefords have had it as their domain for many years but took second place this year.

In classes O. J. Osborne from Leeston took the premier awards, Champion Bull, Champion Cow and in the best of all breeds Champion Animal with his beautiful cow and calf unit. This competition was run on the same basis as the Meat and Wool Cup and each of the four judges placed the Simmental first. The competitors who took the trouble to show the breed at Fairlie are to be congratulated. R. N. S. Cox, J. & A. Howie, G. Black and O. J. Osborne. Their efforts were promotion in every sense of the word.



HAVE YOU EVER ADVERTISED
IN YOUR MAGAZINE ???
HOW ABOUT THE NEXT ISSUE?



LEVELS

SIMMENTALS



Buy our BULLS for greater PROFIT from weaner calves

Buy our BULLS for more MILK in your replacement cows

Buy our HEIFERS for your STUD or commercial herds

Look for **LEVELS SIMMENTALS** at the South Island Sale, Timaru, June 19, 1980

**STUD AND COMMERCIAL SIMMENTALS ALWAYS AVAILABLE
THE LEVELS, NO. 4 R.D. TIMARU, SOUTH CANTERBURY**

Contact Rodney Cox — Phone 82418 Timaru

Technical

The Editor,
Simmental Newsletter

Dear Sir,

It may be a bit parochial, but I consider the Canterbury Beef & Beef Cuts Competition to be the premier one in the South Island, and I was more than a little put out when I attended the On Hooks section and found that in this the year of our Simbeef promotion that I was the only Simmental Society member there, and worse, that there was not a single entry in the competition from a member. There were, however, three Simmental Hereford cross cattle entered, two from Geoff Smith (his wife won the on hoof section and open class cuts with a Charolais cross). The other was from Mr G. A. Pearce who won the special Hereford prize with his animal. He also entered two Murray Grey animals. Both these people are regular competitors in the competition, but not aligned to any particular breed.

The results are as follows:

HOOFES	BREED	POINTS
1st Mrs A. I. Smith	CH AX	
2nd Holstanes Farm Ltd	A	
3rd G. W. Smith	SIM H(Nom)	
4th D. P. Graham & Sons	MN ANJ X	
5th G. W. Smith	SIM H(Nom)	
6th Craigmore Farming Co.	CH AX	

HOOKS - CLASS 1 220kg and over

1st D. P. Graham & Sons	MN ANJ S	279.2	PGG Silver Challenge Cup
2nd J. E. Austin	CH A	279	
3rd B. T. Fisher	CH FRX	274.7	
4th G. W. Smith	SIM H(Nom)	265.3	
5th Graham Bros	MN ANJ X	264.3	

HOOKS - CLASS 2 300kg and over

1st Mrs A. I. Smith	CH AX	277.9	Thos. Borthwick Cup
2nd G. A. Pearce & Co. Ltd	SIM H(Nom)	271.3	Hereford Trophy
3rd Mrs A. I. Smith	CH AX	261.2	
4th G. A. Pearce & Co. Ltd	MG	253.3	
5th Holstanes Farm Ltd	A HX(Nom)	230.6	

Mr John Fulton, a director of the C.F.M., addressed the visitors and competitors at the prize giving and he spoke of the supply position of beef in New Zealand and countries to which New Zealand exported. He told us that the type of beef required, both for export and home consumption, was the type of body that graded P1 and did not require expensive trimming of surplus fat to bring it to a saleable state.

This competition only attracted 31 entries, which was disappointing, but an analysis of the breed performance does bring out some very interesting figures. Beef & Beef Cuts Competitions have, for many years, become inter-breed competitions, and this is, without doubt, where the chief interest lies.

It is by now well known and accepted that crossbred cattle carrying Charolais, Simmental or Main Anjou blood produce significantly heavier weights. But what is not well known is that they are also producing a much higher percentage of first quality or P1 carcasses. An analysis of the grading of various breeds entered in this competition illustrates this point. Eight Charolais Angus cross cattle were entered and all graded P1, averaging 327.75 kilos. Two Charolais Friesians were entered. At 18 months they averaged 386 kilos, but only one graded P1. The other, a huge 18-month-old steer, killed 420 kilos but was downgraded to L1.

Of the three Simmental Herefords entered, two were in the 18 months class and all graded P1. The heaviest

beast, which weighed 398 kilos was 18 months. It was judged third on the hoof and was, in fact, the heaviest steer in the competition to grade P1. It did not, however, get a place in the cuts section because it lost points for its ribeye area which meant that it failed to get in the first 10. Simmentals had the highest average weight for any breed cross at 378 kilos and the 2 eighteen months cattle averaged 375.5 kilos.

Main Anjou cross steers had four entries in the 18 month class. They were a very even line of high quality cattle and all graded P1 for an average weight of 360.75 kilos.

Murray Grey and Murray Grey cross cattle were represented by 10 entries - five in each class. Their total average weight was 277.7 kilos, almost exactly 100 kilos lighter than the 3 Hereford Simmental cross which averaged 378 kilos. To make matters worse, the Murray Grey cattle received a hard time in the graders' hands and only five graded P1, the other 5 being down graded to G.

Other breeds entered were not in significant numbers. One Angus in the older class killed 401 kilos and graded G. A. Hereford Angus in the same class graded P1 and killed 326 kilos.

The analysis then, on a purely grading basis, showed that the Charolais, Simmental and Main Anjou when crossed with British beef breeds, achieved 100% P1 grading while the British breeds, and in these I include the Murray Grey, only achieved 50% on P1 class and the balance downgraded to G.

In the judging on the hoof, Mr Keith Parker started off well by selecting Mrs A. I. Smith's Charolais Angus cross steer for 1st place and this steer went on to win the cuts class for 300 kilos and over. The second prize went to an Angus steer which looked the part but was downgraded to G. In fact, only two on the hoof placings later received a prize on the hooks.

Judging of beef cattle on the hoof is a difficult task, but it does illustrate a very valid point. Competitors selecting cattle for this competition will have endeavoured to select cattle which would definitely grade P1, as any that doesn't make this grading is automatically disqualified from the competition. The point to be made is that even after careful selection, Angus, Hereford and Murray Grey cattle can only achieve a 50% grading and it must be fair to assume that at least 50% of steers and heifers from these breeds going through the works must be downgraded to G. It would be an interesting exercise to work out the immense cost to the country and the farmers involved of producing this unwanted fat, which has to be trimmed off by expensive labour and brings in no revenue. This cost is compounded by the fact that it takes 4 times as much feed input to produce 1 lb of fat as it does 1 lb of lean meat.

Beef & Beef Cuts competitions have great educational value to the public as well as being a place where various breeds of cattle and crosses between breeds can be evaluated under a set of rules and scoring system laid down by the NZ Meat Producers Board. It is a pity that these competitions are not better patronised, both by competitors and by other people associated with the beef industry, such as stock and station agents and beef producing farmers in general.

The system of judging these competitions on the hooks and in cuts has seen some dramatic changes in the last

Miscellaneous

few years. In the old system, which was a relic of the chiller beef carcass days, points were awarded for fairly unimportant criteria. A steer which killed at 240 kilos but had exactly the right thickness of fat over the 7th rib could, and in fact did, beat steers of almost twice the weight and twice the value, but which had either a few millimetres too little or too much fat over the 7th rib, but was still close enough to the optimum to grade P1. The old system gave no points for carcass weight or value.

The first big change came when in the late seventies, the Meat board evolved a new set of rules which gave 1 point for every dollar in value of the carcass entered based on the export schedule of the day. Points were still awarded for ribeye area, fat cover and fat distribution but on a much more flexible and sensible scale. This system, however, meant that a very big heavy steer, say a Charolais or Simmental, killing over 400 kilos and grading P1, was so far ahead of the British breed, killing about 100 kilos lighter, that the Angus and Hereford lost heart and dropped out of the competition.

In the last two years the points system for value has been dropped. It has been a points system for weight which has been gradually watered down. Last year it went from 1 point per dollar to $\frac{1}{2}$ point per kilo of weight and this year it is again watered down to $\frac{1}{4}$ point per kilo.

If the object of the competition is to select the best export carcass in two different age groups, and meat exporting companies clearly want a heavier carcass as their price per kilo rises as the carcass weight increases. On this system of giving 1 point per dollar of value is the logical way to conduct the competition. The object of producing the points per kilo to its present level was to encourage the Hereford & Angus cattle back into the competition in greater numbers. So far this does not seem to have succeeded, in the Canterbury area anyway. There is no way that a scoring point system can be evolved which will allow a Hereford or Angus steer to compete favourably against a Charolais or Simmental steer for the simple reason that as soon as you try to put some extra weight onto a Hereford or Angus, they immediately start to lay on fat and down they go to G or trimmers. This is a national problem which can be got over by the introduction of a percentage of blood from one of the leaner, faster growing European breeds.

Our sheep industry faces a similar position, but their problem is more difficult to solve. Where do you find a faster growing, leaner sheep that will still produce an adequate wool clip?

R. G. Macdonald

THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH!

We recently received an entry for a Sale posted in haste and a little late. The envelope bore a message to the postal system.

"Postie, postie don't delay
I forgot about Anzac Day
If this isn't in Thursday's mail
My poor wee bull will miss the Sale"

The entry arrived on time!

PUKEKOHU FOR DEPENDABULL RELIABULL UNBEATABULL SIMMENTALS

**5 ENTRIES IN NATIONAL
SALE 24 JUNE**

INSPECTION WELCOMED

**H.R. LOWRY
'PUKEKOHU'
P. B. HAVELOCK
NORTH
Phone: Waimarama 832.**

Miscellaneous

SHOW JUDGES (1980/81 SEASON)

Royal Show, Hamilton 1980 – O. J. Osborne, Reserve
R. G. Macdonald.

AREA JUDGES

Northland – J. R. Houlbrooke.

South Auckland – A. Radburn.

Hawkes Bay – A. H. Thompson, J. P. Absolom, H. R.
Lowry.

Manawatu – N. J. Barnett, A. Perry, R. A. Barton, D.
Bates.

Taranaki – A. Schumacher.

Marlborough/Nelson – R. Martin.

North Canterbury – O. J. Osborne, R. G. Macdonald,
J. D. Graham, Mrs M. Carter.

South Canterbury – J. R. Sutton, R. N. S. Cox, R. Good-
son.

Southland – J. A. Robins.

Waikato & Districts – to be appointed.

PREMIER SIMMENTALS

Mr Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia who has been involved in Simmentals for some years and has bought a number of New Zealand bulls has just purchased another Sire for his Stud, this time in Australia. He has bought a Held bull out of the Grand Champion Simmental Cow at the 1980 Sydney Royal Show owned by Mr and Mrs Bruce Burnell whose Stud was founded on New Zealand Stock. The Prime Minister paid \$10,000 for a three-quarter share and possession in his new Sire.

NATIONAL SALE AND SOUTH ISLAND SALE (JUNE)

Entries for both Sales look promising at this stage and we hope to be able to offer catalogues of a maximum of fifty animals at both Sales. We hope vendors will do their utmost to keep the standards high, present a tractable and well presented animal and you should get your reward.

For the potential purchasers, remember the dates:

SOUTH ISLAND SALE –

THURSDAY 19TH JUNE AT TIMARU

NATIONAL SALE –

TUESDAY 24TH JUNE AT HAMILTON



simbeef
symbol of progress

INSPECTION OF CATTLE USED AS TRANSPLANT DONORS

Members are reminded that it is a Society Regulation that all ovum transplant donor females are inspected and passed by the Society before having embryo removed from them.

Animals in the ovum transplant situation are subject to inspection every two years.

"LOCHAMDAY"

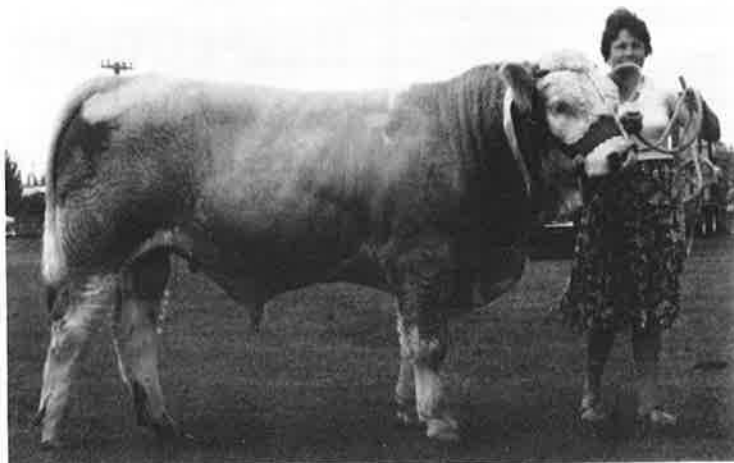
PUREBRED

Simmentals

FOUNDED ON TOP IMPORTED STOCK

"OBERWIL"

WE WELCOME BREEDERS TO THE WAIKATO AND THE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING NATIONAL SALE. YOU ARE INVITED TO INSPECT OUR STUD HERD.



WINNER OF 1979
WAIKATO A & P Assn.
ALL BREEDERS CLASS
FOR YEARLING BULLS
(17 Entries, 9 Breeds)
A SON OF 'BEAT'
FROM 'CLAVERING
ENID'

LOCHAMDAY PTNS.
P.O. BOX 1011
NAPIER

**LOCHAMDAY B.T. JOLT
SELLS AT THE NATIONAL
24 JUNE 1980**

GARRY & JANET
LOCKE
GORDONTON Rd.
R.D.1 TAUPIRI
Ph. 877 GTN.

INTRODUCING COMPLETELY NEW SIMMENTAL BLOODLINES (INCLUDING POLLED)

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR APPOINTMENT
AS CONTROLLING AGENTS FOR NEW ZEALAND
BY UNIVERSAL SEMEN SERVICES, CARDSTON CANADA
N.Z.S.S.



● POLLED SBL 63K (POLLED FULLBLOOD) ASA523576

Born 16.4.78. 200 d/w 671 lbs. 365 d/w 1175 lbs, Dec 79 1825 lbs.

Sire: POLARIS — [HGR TETU 011B
ATOMS FLOWER

Dam: ZT1H — [GALANT
ZT BLOSCH 1C (Swiss)

Height at Shoulder 56", Height at Hip 58"
Diagonal 51", Hook to Pins 22½
Scrotal Circumference 41cm

COMMENTS: Polled SBL 63K is a clean polled bull that possesses a model polled head. His dam ZT 1H by Galant, has never grown a set of horns and is considered a scurred cow. She is a long, feminine cow. The dam of ZT 1H was imported from Switzerland. Polled SBL has excellent feet and legs with medium bone. He is clean fronted and is clean in the sheath. He is extremely popular and has been well received by all who have seen him, including cattlemen from Australia, the U.K. and Ireland. Is polling about 67% of his progeny and the calves are looking exceedingly well.

● ARGOS (POLLED FULLBLOOD)

Born 22.4.78. d/w 90 lbs. 200 d/w 750 lbs. 365 d/w 1171 lbs Dec 79. 1850 lbs.

Sire: POLARIS — [HGR TETU 011B
ATOM'S FLOWER

Dam: FRUEDE (SWISS) — [ADRIAN
FINK

Height at Shoulder 54¾", Height at Hip 58"
Diagonal 47", Hook to Pins 20"
Scrotal Circumference 44cm

COMMENTS: Argos is a masculine bull with solid, dark red colouration and pigment around both eyes. He has excellent feet and legs that are set squarely under him and is a good walking bull. Argos is correct, with good thickness, muscling and spring of rib. He is an excellent semen producer and possesses a good disposition. He has ample bone. A half sister was the second high-selling female at the 1976 Agribition, while a half brother placed second to the 1978 Agribition Grand Champion. Polling about 80%. Reports on calving ease excellent. Calves born 80-85 lbs, fast growing & structurally correct.

● ABC ADVANTAGE 6K (POLLED FULLBLOOD) CSA P23628

Born 8.4.78. b/w 104 lbs. 200 d/w 738 lbs. 365 d/w 1300 lbs. Dec 79 1800 lbs.

Sire: POLARIS — [HGR TETU 011B
ATOM'S FLOWER

Dam: ABA BARBARA 174D — [TIZIAN
QUENELLE 2

Height at Shoulder 58½", Height at Hip 59"
Diagonal 49", Hook to Pin 20"
Scrotal Circumference 40 cm

COMMENTS: Advantage is a scurred fullblood bull who exhibits modern beef characteristics. He has extra height and scale with smooth, long muscling. The colouration is solid red with a minimum of white on the shoulder. He should sire polled offspring that will mature into tall, large framed animals with lots of modern appeal. He is a brother to Big-N-Tall Junior being from the same dam. Progeny polling 67%.

● SBL MAR-ZOU 36J (HORNED) ASA 456207

Born 23.3.77. b/w 120 lbs. 200 d/w 839 lbs. 365 d/w 1325 lbs. Dec 79 2300 lbs.

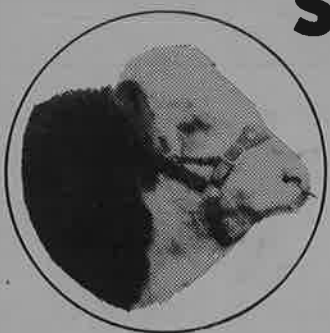
Sire: ZAZOU — [BIZARRE
IDOLE

Dam: MISS SBL 56G — [MARS
DONAU

Height at Shoulder 60¾", Height at Hip 63"
Diagonal 53½", Hook to Pin 23"
Scrotal Circumference 44 cm

COMMENTS: Mar-Zou is sired by Zazou, the bull whose progeny are quickly gaining wide respect across North America. Mar-Zou's solid coloured dam is by Mars, making him an outcross to most cattle in North America. He is solid dark red in colour with pigmented eyes and scrotum, good flat muscling and excellent feet and legs. Mar-Zou is a well balanced, smooth, classy individual who appeals to purebred and commercial breeders.

NEW ZEALAND SIRE SERVICES
BOX 8036 HAMILTON. PHONE 437-995 OR 437-587



SIMMENTAL SALES 1980



**(SOCIETY SPONSORED)
CATALOGUES LIMITED TO 50 ANIMALS**

THE NATIONAL SALE

CLAUDELANDS, HAMILTON, TUES. 24 JUNE

THE SOUTH ISLAND SALE

TIMARU, SOUTH CANTERBURY, THURS. 19 JUNE

PUREBRED BULLS —WORKING AGE

Stud & Commercial

PUREBRED FEMALES — COWS & HEIFERS

7/8 FEMALES —IN CALF. CALVES AT FOOT

ALL ENTRIES SOCIETY INSPECTED PRIOR TO SALE

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ESTABLISHED OR NEW BREEDERS TO ADD
TO THEIR HERDS AND FOR COMMERCIAL BREEDERS TO OBTAIN
BULLS AT REALISTIC PRICES.**

**ENQUIRIES WELCOMED... THROUGH YOUR USUAL AGENTS OR DIRECT WITH
THE SOCIETY. BOX 25100 VICTORIA STREET CHRISTCHURCH N.Z.**

1980 SIMMENTAL SALES