new zealand simmental

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EDITORIAL

To most people if you mention a computer the mind immediately 'boggles' at the thought of a highly sophisticated electronic machine manipulated by experts who have little thought for the individual or his interests.

When looked at closely a computer is nothing more than a mechanical storage system for information, that because of its highly sophisticated and brilliant design has the ability to absorb, index, collate and re-produce information at a speed that is impossible to equal with any normal manual system. The programming or loading of information into such a system is simply the mechanical filing of data in a logical and pre-planned manner by people who are trained and have the ability to understand the necessary sequence of events and the machine they are operating.

Our objective in placing our pedigree records into a computer system are manifold. Under our old manual system it is virtually impossible without an army of staff to record or produce a small portion of what can be done by a computer in virtually minutes. It will provide us with a continuing and collated library of information from which we can obtain useful and easily interpreted information for members and the breed as a whole. It will greatly simplify the recording and registration of cattle for members – one format for all categories of cattle produced on a regular basis.

Once the system is in full operation members will receive accurate summaries of their herd and the transactions within it. Systems will settle into a regular and pre-set pattern which will enable the office to provide an improved service, and as our records build up we will be able to provide useful information for use by members in assessment of the animals in their herd and the sires which they use.

The hassels we have had in implementing a computer programme are well known to our members and we are appreciative of the tolerance that has been demonstrated. The system we are entering, we are certain will provide us with the facility to continue the expansion of the breed and its success in an orderly and well serviced manner.

Council Members

President: **R. N. S. Cox, The Levels, R.D. 4 Timaru. Phone: Timaru 82 418**

Vice-President: **J. R. Sutton, Waihaorunga, R.D. 7 Waimate. Phone: Waihaorunga 878**

Councillors: **N. J. Barnett, Arohena, No. 7 R.D., Te Awamutu. Phone: Pukeatua 573**
J. D. Graham, Waingaro, R.D. Parnassus. Phone: Parnassus 809
W. Gutt, R.D. 29 Kaponga, Taranaki. Phone: Kaponga 741
J. R. Houlbrooke, Omana, Tangiteroria, Northland. Phone: Oakleigh 663 or Kirikopuni 624
H. R. Lowry, Pukekohu, P.B. Havelock North. Phone: Waimarama 832
R. G. Macdonald, Governors Bay R.D. 1, Lyttelton. Phone: Christchurch 299 739

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES
FINANCE: R. N. S. Cox TECHNICAL: J. R. Sutton
PROMOTION: H. R. Lowry SALES J. D. Graham

Annual Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Members

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Avon Motor Lodge on Wednesday, June 17th almost exactly ten years after the inaugural Meeting held in Christchurch (18/6/71). To date Annual Meetings have been held on the final day of the assembly of members but this year it was decided to hold it on the first evening which proved most successful as people were fresh and it allowed Councillors to discharge their formal responsibilities and approach the following days in a more relaxed atmosphere.

A very good attendance of seventy-one people were presided over by the Society President, Mr. R. N. S. Cox.

Following the usual format the Chairmen of Committees presented their Annual Reports, which are reprinted in this summary.

The Annual Statement of Accounts and the Chairman's Report had been circulated to all members and were adopted. Mr. Cox in discussion of the accounts expressed concern at constantly rising costs which were hard to contain. Income was down and it was imperative that the Council consider ways of controlling expenditure within budgets in the ensuing year. The assets of the Society continued to reflect a healthy situation but the operating costs would be closely monitored.

Mr. Cox spoke briefly on the recent Council Election in which six candidates had stood for three vacancies, a healthy and vigorous interest by members in the Society's affairs. He welcomed Mr. R. G. Macdonald back to the Council after one years absence and also expressed thanks to Mr. Gary Locke for his contributions during the past three years.

The Auditor for the ensuing year is Mr. Grahaeme Mars.

In General business Mr. J. P. Absolom of Rissington spoke at some length on the benefits and importance of performance recording. A reprint of his address is published elsewhere in this issue.

During discussion following Mr. Absolom's address several people commented on the ways of performance recording. While in some cases with small herds it was difficult to produce meaningful information generally it was accepted to be a most worthwhile project. As the computer programme was progressed it was hoped that performance recording would be introduced.

Mr. Barnett, who supported performance recording advised sale cards had been specially produced to record weights and figures and urged vendors to utilise them at the National Sale the following day.

As a future project the Technical and Promotion Committee had been looking at introducing a led steer competition for the Royal Show, similar to those held in Australia and elsewhere. This project would be promoted over the next year for the 1982 Royal.

The Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Finance Report 1980–81

As was indicated to you last year 1980–81 was going to be very difficult to control as far as running at a profitable rate. We budgeted for a $15,000 loss and as you see we ended at a $12,512.37 loss. We are concerned as well you may be that we are in this situation. The income has been our problem even though we had put up our fees last year. You will see the expenditure has dropped slightly which on todays inflation must be looked at with favour. We have been able to reduce our expenditure on sixteen out of twenty-seven items. The journal still proves to be an expensive luxury if we do not get the support of our members in advertising. This side must be looked at in promoting advertising: we have put a Councillor in charge of the magazine and the soliciting of support. Simbeef expenses are up but it should be read in conjunction with overall promotion which shows a decrease in expenditure. The Simbeef side we feel will balance out with greater member support.

On the income side six out of the ten items in this are down. The export fees being the greatest drop which we did expect. Sales levies we expected might have been better but this is an area which is very hard to predict when budgeting. You will see we have been able to recover some of our bad debts which has been encouraging. We will in future be very loathe to be lenient on this matter. Any outstanding accounts will be dealt with by deregistering cattle unless there is some kind of correspondence from the members concerned. The membership cannot tolerate providing credit to slow payers.

The interest on our investments is very much the same. The Balance Sheet is much healthier and shows a very satisfactory state as far as the assets of the Society are concerned. We have been able to maintain our reserves and by the sale of part of our share holding increased the members funds by some $11,000 over last year.

You will notice that our share investments have been changed to where we have $61,982.40 in shares and debentures and $50,600.00 on term deposit. This was changed in December 1980 when our shares showed a huge capital gain. It was decided after consultation with our Sharebroker that it was wise to capitalise a proportion, take our gain and re-invest on short term deposit at 12.5%. It appeared in December 1980 that the market had peaked and by selling we would at least be hedging against a drop. As it has turned out the market went from strength to strength. The market value of our shares at 31st March, 1980 was $86,835.80, in December 1980 the valuation was $116,000.

You will see we have purchased a new copying machine which has been capitalised.

The balance sheet we feel is still very healthy where as the general running of the income and expenditure is still very tight. We will be using some of our reserve to be placing the members on computer.

We have made the decision to appoint a new accountant and auditor, Mr Grahaeme Mars. Mr Mars has been working for the Economic Service of the Meat & Wool Boards and has many large farm accounts in the Canterbury area. He has a relatively small business with low overheads. We moved away from McKellar McCallum & Co., purely on a cost basis and I would like to thank Mr McCallum for his services which he carried out in a very competent and diligent manner.

I would like to thank my Committee for their support over the year, Mr R. H. Kerr has again been a great asset as a co-opted member.

R. N. S. Cox,
Chairman Finance Committee

Report of the Promotion Committee

It gives me much pleasure to report on the activities and performance of the Breed over the past year.

This season has undoubtedly been the most successful in the Breed's history in this country. Thus in our tenth year we can safely say that the Simmental is here to stay and will continue to infuse very worthwhile improvements into the beef industry.

The weaner sales have again proved the point that the Simmental cross can produce over a weaner steer of 270 to 300 kg. live weight and brings a $40 premium over other breeds and crosses. This with no extra input requirements in the feeding line. Further gains are to be made with a Simmental Cross dam with her superior milk production. Denis Brownrigg of H.B. won the Ralgro holiday prize with his Simmental weaners, sold for $248 at Waipukurau.

Wins for the third year in a row in the H. B. Ox Competition and wins at Feilding and Whangarei with good placings in Canterbury have proved that the weight gains of Simmentals with acceptable gradings is second to none. The resulting publicity is free and has undoubtedly brought with it an increased enquiry for bulls at improved and worthwhile prices.

In the Show ring, Simmentals have performed mightily, culminating in a win in the Meat and Wool Cup at the Royal Show at Hamilton. Having shown cattle since the beginning of Simmental Competition one cannot but have the greatest admiration for those breeders who take the time and the trouble and incur the cost to put our breed before the public. The quality of the animals now shown has meant that traditional breed prejudices have gone by the board and our breed stands on its own merits, in other words our animals which are being exhibited can no longer be relegated in All Breeds Classes to positions at the rear of the field but must be judged according to modern beef requirements.

I would like to congratulate all those Simmental Breeders who have done so much to promote our breed in this past year, whether it be a weaner steer, an ox, or an exhibit in an A & P Show, or a Field Day exercise. And may the enthusiasm of our breeders be maintained into the future. I must though make reference to the fact the Simmental is a performance breed and it continues to disappoint me that so few breeders are performance recording. The Catalogues for this year's Sales demonstrate the point clearly, but mark my words, in 5 to 10 years all bulls that bring premium prices, will be sold on their performance.

The highlight of the year for me, was my visit to Central Otago and Western Southland. All new country to me and both Ian Johnstone and I were thrilled to see how Simmentals were adapting to all sorts of environments from the 12 inch annual rainfall areas to the 80 inches of the Paradise Valley. We brought rain and broke the drought for Woody Rouse, the Robins, the Gibsons and the Duncans. Our meeting in Alexandra brought together members from a radius of 100 miles and more and it baffled me that very few of those attending had met each other prior to the meeting and most had come to Simmentals independently. To those that entertained us, fed us royally, drove us safely and generally cared for our needs, our grateful thanks. To that taxi driver who drove us from Alexandra Airport to Ken Hinton's to pick up our superb nectarines and said it really never blew in Central in February in his experience, I think he fibs!

I should like to mention Sandra MacLean and her junior members. Sandra brings infectious enthusiasm to the Simmental scene and the fact that she is getting a very worthwhile response from our children augers well for the future. To Sandra our thanks for a job well done and we appreciate the time and energy you put in.

The Promotion Committee has authorised the production of a brochure emphasising cross breeding in the commercial beef breeding world and where Simmentals slot into this exercise. This will be sold to breeders for 25 cents each and can be distributed by the breeder to anybody he or she wishes. There is room on the back for a printed message from the breeder. These, we hope, will provide the impetus for the continued pushing of Simbeef which is going well but needs a continual prod to motivate the commercial breeder. I should like to thank Jim Houlbrooke for the ideas that have brought this exercise to fruition. In this regard would you please supply the office with names of your clients so they can receive the magazine and hopefully sign up with Simbeef.

Looking at our accounts and the deficit which has accrued, we must look at ways and means of gaining the most mileage out of each promotional dollar. I feel that the Club funds must remain but the National Fieldays and the Royal Show exercises will come under close scrutiny. To offset this however, is the increasing amount of free publicity we gain from the performance of the breed.

The Magazine is our communication arm and Ian again has performed an admirable job in putting it together. I know he has nightmares over its production so I would ask you all to supply him with information and more particularly with advertising revenue.

Finally, my thanks to members of our Promotion Committee for their contribution over the past year. To Ian, as always, my thanks indeed for your efforts and to you Gail for your hospitality at all times. And many thanks to Sue and Ann in the office for their stalwart endeavours to keep a wayward team on course.

H. R. Lowry
10th July 1981

Report from the Technical Committee to A.G.M., 1981

The first object listed in our book of rules is this:

'To promote and encourage through measurement and recording of their productive characteristics, Simmental or Simmental cross cattle most profitable in beef or dairy production.'

My task in presenting this report on behalf of the Technical Committee to your Society is to evaluate how well we are fulfilling that objective.

The appalling fact is very few – under thirty – of our members are actively recording on Beefplan. To do an adequate recording job without Beefplan is technically feasible, but administratively so difficult that I would be surprised if we have more than a couple of members 'going it alone' effectively.

Our Dairy members may be doing a little better, with the well established NZDB milk testing programme.

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Technical Committee Report (continued)

If Simmental is to have a secure and expanding role, we must ensure we are making consistent genetic progress on a broad front. Our long-term competition will come not from the cave-man element of the traditional breed societies, but from well organised, sophisticated groups like Genepool Hereford and Wairarapa Angus.

At the present time, some Simmental breeders appear blissfully ignorant of what population genetics, or modern animal breeding, is all about. Every serious breeder should have a reasonable idea of the degree of heritability of, and correlations between, all the important characteristics, both those measured objectively and those assessed visually. Anybody here who does not yet appreciate the vital significance of birthweight, or is not taking practical steps within their breeding programme to contain the problem, should seriously consider giving away their cattle and instead breed budgerigars or goldfish, before too much damage is done to the Simmental breed as a whole.

The MAF provides excellent Ag-links on cattle breeding. In addition, short courses lasting two or three days are arranged at Flock House, primarily for Beefplan members. The tutors at these courses are not mere ivory towered academics, and participants from different breeds and regions ensure a stimulating and interesting time is had by all.

A year ago we confidently expected to be well established by this time in a National Performance/Pedigree recording scheme. With your encouragement, we have consistently worked hard for such a programme, which would have given cost savings to our Society, and made performance recordings more convenient and attractive to individual members.

To our dismay, on the brink of implementation, the giant of New Zealand Breed Associations – Angus – which had apparently fallen only temporarily under the influence of an enlightened minority, withdrew. This rendered the whole proposed structure uneconomic and caused chaos in our own office. The N.Z. Meat Producers Board and Beefplan, with ourselves and other progressive beef Breed Societies, have been busy redesigning to meet the new circumstances. In the meantime we must fill the gap with some admittedly jerry-built, inconvenient procedures. You should by now have received calf entry sheets for the 1980 drop. For the reasons explained they have not been updated with deletions and additions. Please bear with us and do the best you can manually. Things will certainly improve. I would like to thank Michael Kight, Paul Harper, and Ruth O'Brien for grace under pressure.

Let me make one thing very clear. There is no way we could continue indefinitely with our expensive and cumbersome manual recording system. Apart from driving us into increasing financial deficit, it fails to provide the data Council needs to budget and to plan breed improvement. It has not been easy to contrive an appropriate computerised system, as we have neither the size and the wealth of the Americans, nor the reliable Government backing of the Europeans and Australians.

To finance the transition to computerised recording, Council have resolved to meet the cost of recording the 1979 and 1980 calf drops from reserves previously set aside for this purpose. Subsequently, savings in wage and salary expenses should at least equate the computer service charges. The new system will give Council more precise, up-to-date information on the state of each herd, giving potential for devising a more equitable basis of funding than at present.

The Sire Reference scheme is a vital part of our strategy for breed improvement. If widely and intelligently used in those herds producing significant numbers of purebred bulls, it gives promise of greater progress than available in conventional group breeding schemes, with greater flexibility allowing for individual breeders having differing objectives. For practical reasons, partcipation will in future be confined to those members using Beefplan or NZDB herd testing. Our thanks go to the MAF Genetics section at Ruakura, Lyden Baker, and Chris Morris, for their assistance.

The Waikato bull test was a successful project, now being repeated. Congratulations to those responsible.

It is encouraging to note an increasing number of vendors supplying Beefplan data at our sponsored sales.

This year has seen the introduction of guidelines for the making of performance awards within the Simmental classes at A. & P. Shows. The 'Coopental' trophy, presented by Neil Barnett for the Simmental Royal Show entry combining phenotypic excellence with superior recorded performance, was contested for the first time. Clearly we still have some practical difficulties to overcome in this area, but I look forward eventually to an interbreed competition along similar lines.

Perhaps the National Beef Cattle Improvement Council will be moved to support this concept. I look forward to the day when the 'Beefplan Trophy' surpasses the 'Meat and Wool Cup' as the most prestigious prize available to the New Zealand beef breeder.

J. R. Sutton,
Chairman Technical Committee
17/6/81

Sale Committee Report

Coming at this time of the year the Sales Committee Report seems a little like putting the cart before the horse, as right now it is only the start of the 1981 selling season and pre-sale predictions can be dangerous, and what happened in the 1980 season is now history. However the 1980 North and South Island sales were a huge success with bulls realizing healthy averages of over $2,000. The result was that paddock sales were not difficult and breeders found not only existing clients returning but also many new faces to the commercial scene of the Simmental World. We feel that the stage is set for a repetition of last season.

Because Simmental Weaners have again topped their respective markets; continue to out-weigh and out-grade our competitors, continue to win chiller beef competitions and because Simmentals are the only breed that can remain a viable proposition from Dam to Consumer in the present low economic beef scene.

I believe that this message to the nonconverted is now more than hitting home.

The venues for this year's North and South Sales are excellent, both completely under cover with led and unled facilities. The Society contributed $2,000 to the Canterbury A.&P. Association to update their facilities, as did some other breed societies, Y.F.C. and Merke Sharpe and Dohme – the Stock Firms were asked to help, but refused.

Annual Meeting

Fifty head of quality cattle is still our aim for the two Society sponsored sales.

Order of selling is still to be prize winners first, followed by catalogue order. As there was feeling on this issue last season, it was discussed at length and was decided that the vendor can withhold animals from being judged, thus maintaining his draw in the Catalogue.

On farm inspections have been continued, but because of cost we may have to consider sale day inspections, which will put more onus on the vendor, a responsibility that our breeders should now be capable of accepting.

A special thanks to Merke Sharpe and Dohme who have supplied all the prizes for this year's Sales.

At the request of members the age for bulls to be offered at the National Sales was reduced to cattle born prior to 30th April.

Different Clubs are this year running their own area sales and this is a good healthy sign and more will do so in the future, however we do suggest that supply and demand is carefully monitored and when putting cattle in the market place that quality must always be uppermost in ones mind, as public Auctions are not only the advertisement for the breed but also yourself and your stud.

I would like to thank my Committee, Neil Barnett, Jim Houlbrooke and Gary Locke for their assistance during the year. Inspectors and judges who have given of their time and in particular Ian Johnstone whose assistance is always unsurpassable.

J. D. Graham
Chairman Sales Committee
17/6/81.

NEWTON SIMMENTAL STUD
South Canterbury.

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The Annual Dinner 1981

In conjunction with our National Sale held in June we held the Society's tenth Annual Meeting and also the Annual Dinner. This combined event has proved popular as it enables many people to attend who might not be able to attend separate functions. Held this year at the Avon Motor Lodge everyone was lodged under the same roof which enables people to mix freely and creates a very good atmosphere. Some years ago an Annual Dinner was held at the same venue and people still talk about the food that was presented for our Dinner. This year we had a 'repeat performance' and about one hundred and fifty people enjoyed a magnificent meal and danced into the early hours to a very good disco.

Prior to the Dinner our President, Rodney Cox welcomed guests and friends at the Society's Annual Cocktail Party. Amongst those present who were given special welcome were several people who have had association with the Society since its foundation in 1971. John Austin, first Chairman of the Society's Steering Committee and one of the convenors of the meeting which formed the Society. Ran Macdonald the other convenor, who has served nine years as a Councillor and has held office as Vice-President and Chairman of several Committees. Dick Kerr, the past President (seven years) and one of the two Honorary Life Members of the Society who still sits on the Society Finance Committee. Mac Studholme, our first Secretary who came out of retirement to assist with the setting-up of the Society and to whom great credit must be given for the guidance and establishment of systems many of which are still used today. Regrettably Bob Barton of Massey University our other Honorary Life Member was unable to attend.

Also present were a number of overseas visitors and it was our pleasure to welcome Mr Paul Trenoweth a member of the Australian Federal Council who was in New Zealand for our National Sale.

At the Sale which was held on the same day, Warren Morepath, Stud Stock Manager for Wrightson N.M.A. mounted the auctioneers rostrum for the last time at a National Simmental Sale. In November this year he retires and will move from Palmerston North to live in Te Puke. Opportunity was taken by the President to thank him for his considerable contribution to the breed and its establishment in this country and to mark the occasion with a small presentation to him.

The function was an undoubted success which was made so by the people who attended and the always friendly atmosphere that prevails wherever Simmental people get together.

'Warren Morepath, stud stock manager. Wrightson NMA in the rostrum at his last National Simmental Sale.'

Cattle and Discussion Workshop

On the final day of the Annual Meeting instead of holding a field day it was decided to institute a workshop type situation. At the first attempt this was considered successful but more specific planning will be done for next year's event. A report on this meeting is as follows:

The meeting was opened by Mr. J. D. Graham who acted as Chairman. Originally it had been planned to hold the 'workshop' at the Sales Venue but this had proved to be extremely cold and was just not suitable at this time of year.

Some of the people who attended the 'Workshop'.

The first session was the screening of slides recently imported from U.S.A. showing graphically and practically comparisons of desirable and undesirable cattle for meat production. Although they have no involvement of the Simmental breed they highlight the attributes for which the Simmental is noted. These slides are available for lecture series in Club areas, and have already been shown with very good reception in a number of areas.

Following the slides Mr. Oakleigh Osborne gave an interesting address on his thoughts on commercial production of Simmental cross cattle. In his management he has quiet handling at all times as a priority. He said this had paid dividends and he used no dogs and moved positively but quietly amongst his cattle in paddocks and yards.

He then went on to talk on tattooing and showed on screen his system of using numbers in tagging which gave minimum chance of confusion. (This system was printed in our magazine No. 9 1979 Blue) Mr. Osborne spoke strongly on the need for very diligent concentration when numbering and tattooing. It was *so* easy to make a mistake.

In general discussion colour of cattle was raised. Mr. Osborne felt this was of no consequence as long as the animal was structurally what was required in the commercial situation.

Some time was spent talking on eye pigmentation and several notable comments were made. The breed tended to have 'hooding' over the eyes and this proved an asset. Few Simmentals had a truly pink eye surround said Mr. Osborne.

Mr. Peter Falconer from Western Australia said in his area eye cancer was a problem in Herefords and Shorthorns. He considered 'hooding' or eye shape of more importance than pigmentation.

Mr. Bill Almond of N.S.W. also commented on eye cancer. He said while he had had problems with Herefords there was no real problem with pigmented Simmentals.

Mr. R. G. Macdonald said in his experience 5–10% of Herefords got eye cancer in their life time. This became more apparent as the cattle got older. He considered pigmentation or 'hooding' was a help.

The question of separate register for cattle from the grading-up system to those of the more genetically pure cattle (e.g. imported pures) was raised.

Mr. R. N. S. Cox and Mr. J. R. Sutton said there was no question of separate registers. To consider such a move would be a totally retrograde step.

Mr. O. J. Osborne spoke on selection of animals and the necessity for close scrutiny of feet, legs and jaws.

A general comment was made that while these matters were important one must look for the good points in our cattle. Most animals will have some faults but frequently the good points far out weigh the bad. A question from the floor asked Mr. Osborne for his thoughts on over supply of milk in cross-cattle. He said this could prove a problem but the answer was more of a management one – he calved a little earlier so that when the cow was in full milk with the flush of spring growth the calf was large enough to cope with the supply. On calving Mr. Osborne said the only cattle that got particular attention were his heifers. These were watched and if anything looked like being a problem assistance was given. Calving problems on his property were not a problem.

Mr. J. R. Sutton commented that calf weights were indicative, large birth weights are hereditary. He used a simple system of tape round the girth for assessing the birth weight of his calves. This proved simple, quick and reasonably accurate.

Mrs. Melinda Carter and Miss Penelope Millar (of Australia) followed Mr. Osborne's talk with a discussion on the preparation of cattle for Show and Sale. Miss Millar, who had worked with H. M. Miller's Dunmore Stud for two or three years and had been a groom at the Royal Sydney Show, gave an outline of how she set about breaking-in and preparing.

She said it was essential to be quiet and gentle at all times to create confidence. The initial tie-up is probably the most traumatic experience but once this is done the animal will with few exceptions respond to kind handling.

A start should be made when the animal is young, generally at weaning, use a good (adjustable) rope halter. If you are working with a group of calves keep them together. In the initial tie-up, tie them all day for four consecutive days – tie them short, about two feet of halter rope, with rope secured at natural head height. This will prevent the animal getting over the rope or injuring itself if it falls. Be quiet and handle or touch positively. Get it used to a stick all over its body and legs, gradually this can be replaced by hand touch.

Once the animal has settled down it can be groomed which most animals thoroughly enjoy. As training progresses noise and distraction can be introduced – again if this is done kindly the animal will accept it.

Bulls should not be ringed until after they have been handled. Nose clips can be used but should only be used where control proves difficult. The main emphasis was on quiet and confident handling. If this is done at an early age there are seldom many problems and an animal will respond to leading easily.

Mrs. M. Carter talked on the basics of preparation once the animal was handled and tractable.

The animal should be 'shedded' about six weeks before the Sale or Show. Each animal should be in a separate stall. These should be cleaned out twice a day. Each animal should have a couple of hours outside for exercise each day.

Shampoo the animal only once or twice – grooming and 'elbow grease' are what produces a good coat. For your final wash and shampoo do it a couple of days before the event, this allows the natural oils to come back into the coat.

On feeding there are a multitude of formulas for hard feed. This must be introduced and to start an animal place a little on top of the hay ration, gradually increase. Give as much hay as the animal will eat. Hay should be top quality and clean from rubbish and dust.

Before the Show or Sale, reduce the hard feed to half the night before and do not allow the animal water. This produces a firm 'bowel' and minimises scouring in transit to the event. At the event remember you are 'showing' the animal not the groom. Place yourself so the animal is in the judge's or public view. Be neat in your dress – a well prepared animal and a poorly presented groom cancels out the whole effect. On equipment make sure your gear is sound and clean, organise it before you are ready to leave, allow for all eventualities. As with Miss Millar's presentation, kindness and quiet handling will give the animal confidence.

Mr. J. D. Graham raised the project of introduction of led steer competitions for the Royal Show in 1982 at Christchurch. Seven or eight members indicated they would be interested in participating.

The matter would be progressed with the A. & P. Association to see if a class could be structured and members would be advised.

The workshop concluded at approximately 1 p.m.

There were obviously other general topics that could have been covered had time permitted but the idea was rated as highly successful by those who attended. It allowed informal participation by those assembled and produced some good ideas on general cattle topics.

1982 Simmental Sale Dates

Next year's sponsored sales will be held at the undernoted venues and on the dates specified:

SOUTH ISLAND SALE:

CANTERBURY SHOWGROUNDS.

CHRISTCHURCH – THURSDAY 17TH JUNE.

NATIONAL SALE:

PALMERSTON NORTH SHOWGROUNDS.

TUESDAY 22ND JUNE.

The Society's Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the National Sale.

THE LEVELS PROMOTION AWARD

The Levels Award for the individual who has done most to promote the Simmental Breed went this year to Oakleigh Osborne of 'Winfield' near Leeston in Canterbury. The Winfield Stud founded in 1973 has been one of the leading studs in the area and Oakleigh and his daughter Sue have between them done a great deal to promote the breed and the Society in every way. Winfield weaners have topped the Addington market for five consecutive years and there have been few shows or sales in the area that have not had Winfield cattle on the list. The presentation of Winfield cattle at these events has always been outstanding. As well as being a top studmaster Oakleigh has been Chairman of the Canterbury Club since its formation and has given a tremendous amount of time to projects such as the Canterbury Show and in assistance at sales and other Society organised projects. His award is a very just return for a great personal contribution to the breed and the Society. Previous recipients have been: Rupert Martin of Transport Nelson (1979) and Roy Smith of Cambridge (1980).

Office Staff

We are sorry to record the departure of one of our office staff who has become well known to members over the past two and a half years. Sue Johnstone, who has been Secretary/Receptionist and looked after the day to day running of the office has sadly had to relinquish her position due to illness. We are pleased to add that she is now well on the road to recovery. Sue had great involvement in the setting up of the computer programme and did a tremendous job frequently in most frustrating circumstances. She will be missed in the office for her cheerful attitude, enthusiasm and efficient hard work.

In her place (Mrs) Ann Booth has taken over and will now become a full time staff member. Ann has worked for us on a regular basis, part time, for the past seven years and is highly experienced in all matters Simmental. In her new position she will be invaluable.

(Mrs) Yvonne Kingsland another of our 'part timers' has extended her hours to cover most of the day and is very quickly integrating into all the systems of the office and the Society. She has worked for us for several years helping at times when we have 'peak' workloads.

As a result of our computer project we have at the present time a very heavy work programme and we have been fortunate in being able to bring in some relief with past staff in Len Walker and Mrs. Jocelyn Gilchrist.

Simbeef

Introduced just over two years ago as a promotional exercise to identify Simmental cross cattle in the market place 'simbeef' has proved highly successful. The bright yellow tags that identify these cattle are becoming recognised widely by commercial fatteners and the Stock and Station industry. Backed by top prices in weaner sales each season and carcase success in major competitions 'simbeef' has been responsible for a greatly increased demand for Simmental bulls from commercial breeders.

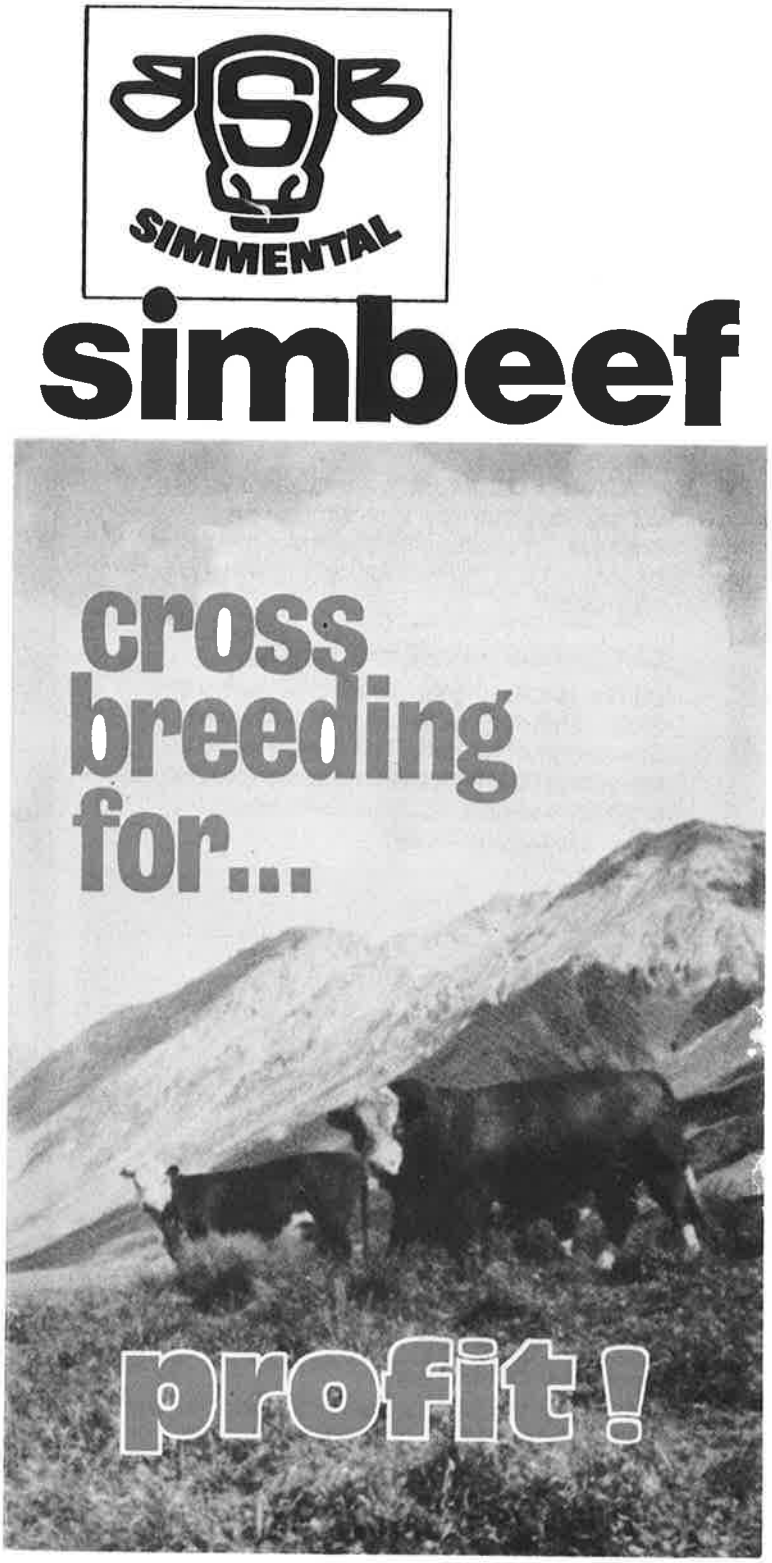
To further the promotion of this project the Promotion Committee have produced a 'simbeef' pamphlet which details the advantages of cross-breeding and gives guidelines to how this can be scientifically continued to take advantage of the known factor of hybrid vigour within cross-breeding. The object of this pamplet is to inform the commercial breeder of what 'simbeef' is about and to enable the producer of commercial bulls to promote himself and the breed into this market.

'Simbeef' pamphlets are for sale to members at $25.00 per hundred. A sample of the pamphlet is included with this magazine and you will see that it is a quality production. The suggested use is for members to use this for promotion of their own bull sales and 'simbeef' in general. Where a bull is sold or where a potential buyer is known a pamphlet can be given away on which the breeders name and stud is overprinted or stamped in the space provided. It is an economic and meaningful way of self promotion and we invite your participation in promotion of the 'simbeef' scheme and the breed as a whole. Adequate stocks are available from the Society on request.

Our 1981 Sales were strongly supported by the commercial sector of the market and as a result we have secured a number of new 'simbeef' members. One promotional idea that has evolved from these and private sales has much to recommend it, and the originators are to be complimented, is the sponsorship by the vendor of the first year's membership.

Where you sell a bull sell 'simbeef' with it – for $10.00 you are promoting not only the scheme but yourselves and the reaction of the new 'simbeef' members is well worthwhile. Couple this with intelligent use of the new pamphlet and we cannot help but expand the whole 'simbeef' scheme and the image of the Simmental breed.

'Simbeef' tags are available from the office, if you are going to tag your calves tag them with these distinctive yellow tags. We also still have a reasonable stock of the simbeef posters and will shortly receive further stocks of 'letter stickers' and bumper transfers.



simbeef
symbol of progress

simbeef
symbol of progress

Simbeef Steer Sets Record – And Reaction

The 25th of August at Addington Market in Christchurch set an all time record for the fat stock market. A five year old Simmental/Friesian cross steer realised $1,085.00 beating the previous record set a few weeks before by a three-quarter bred Simmental at $820.00.

There had been some forewarning that an animal of unusually large size was coming into the sale and the news media had been informed. Both newspapers and television were present and 'Herb' as he is named proved no disappointment. A huge animal almost six feet at the withers, nine feet six inches round the girth and weighing over 2,700 lbs. he towered over everything else in the sale. Bred by a dairy farmer near Leeston in July 1976 he was purchased by a neighbour, Gerald Johnston as a 'bobby calf' for $10.00. Herb led a leisurely life on the Johnston farm and became well known in the district for his phenomenal size and temperament. So quiet he could be caught anywhere – he allowed the owners children to ride him around and this was probably his salvation.

'Herb' $1085 steer with owner Gerald Johnston (right) & Wrightson's Auctioneer Bruce Orr of Leston.

Following a highly spirited auction which was filmed for television he happily obliged the cameraman by allowing his previous owners children to ride him up and down the saleyard alleyways. The resultant film was screened over local news in Christchurch that evening. Purchased by one of Christchurch's leading butchers, Mr. S. P. Verkerk 'Herb' was transported to a destination from which there is normally no return.

The news media has a powerful influence and the reaction to the television screening was immediate. The Secretary's phone rang at 6.45 a.m. the next morning with a plea for clemency. One of the local radio stations took up the story and by midday 'Herb' had been 'ransomed' by the general public for more than his purchase price.

Herb became an immediate 'star' and appeared in many papers and on television on several evenings. A permanent home was quickly offered for him at a Wildlife Park on the outskirts of Christchurch where his future is assured and comfortable. In the meantime he is spending some of his spare time as a 'drawcard' at some of the major supermarkets in Christchurch over the school holidays – still wearing his 'simbeef' eartag!

Not only did Herb create a record price at Addington and possibly for any regular fat stock sale in New Zealand but he probably goes down in history as the individual animal getting the greatest publicity in the decade. In all his glory he was always referred to as a Simmental cross.

We continue to receive successful reports on 'simbeef'.

We have heard from Hawkes Bay that Dennis Brownrigg, a 'simbeef' member not only topped the Waipukurau Weaner Sale but won the district Ralgro 1981 Weaner Steer Competition which gives him a weeks holiday for two plus product prize. This is the second year in succession that he has topped the same Sale.

Also from Hawkes Bay we hear that 'Farmer of the Year', Mr Neil Kittow of Omakere has entered the Simmental cross-breeding scene. He purchased a purebred at the Palmerston North Sale in June and will use him for crossing over his Angus cross cattle. Previously he has used Herefords and Shorthorns. The bull he purchased was bred by Tony Thompson of Glen Anthony Stud at Waipukurau.

Addington (Christchurch) has had its continuing success with 'simbeef' steers and weaners. On three occasions in the last six weeks we have topped the fat stock market with one at $658, one at $820 (a record) and then 'Herb' at $1,085. These steers all come from commercial breeders.

At Waimate in South Canterbury a Simmental cross steer was judged champion at the 16th Annual A. & P. fat cattle show. A four year old owned by Mr F. I. Jackson of Hunter it topped the following sale at $640.

From South Otago we have a report from Kelvin Morton of Heriot who (with great modesty) informs us that his 'simbeef' weaner steers topped the Heriot calf sale for the *sixth* year in a row. They brought $250 giving a premium of $35 over the next highest price of $215. Kevin has also now entered the bull sellers market – nothing succeeds like success.

Ron Sycamore of Dunedin also sold well by topping the 2nd Burnside weaner sale with a pen of twenty-one 'simbeef' steers at $220. His premium was $36 over the next top price.

¾ bred Simmental that brought $820 dressed weight 610 Kgs. Sold by Langdon Estate, Ashburton.

Simbeef Ear Tag

We have available from the office supplies of ear tags and receive a steady demand from 'simbeef' members and our Society members. There are though a considerable number of cattle that are eligible for tags that go through the markets un-identified and these cattle belong to members as well as non-members. Where you have 'simbeef' cattle tag them as such and encourage other people to do likewise. Most cattle are tagged in some form and the small additional cost of putting an over-printed 'simbeef' in is well worth the outlay. Our tags have plenty of room for numbers and serve the purpose of a normal tag with the bonus of 'simbeef'.

Simmental Contributes to Telethon

At the North Island Sale held in June an inovation that contributed successfully to Telethon was introduced by Councillor Neil Barnett in conjunction with Radio and Television. Neil provided a Simmental steer at a discounted value for auction at the beginning of the Sale. The steer was well publicised over local radio and was on view at the Sale venue where he drew considerable cash donations. In the ring he came under the 'hammer' of well known Television continuity announcer Mike Bodnar of Wellington. Mike may not have had much experience in livestock auctioneering but he successfully sold 'Trev, the Telethon Steer' for a very worthwhile $600 probably a New Zealand record for a rising two year old. Not only did it boost a worthy cause but the name of 'simbeef'.

Purchaser of the ¾ steer, on the previous page, John Thorn of Woolston Butchery, Christchurch, Note the excellent 'rib-eye'

AVON PARK SIMMENTALS

"ON THE MOVE"

Big things are happening at David and Melinda Carter's Avon Park Stud at West Melton near Christchurch . . .

★ Avon Park Stud has been greatly increased by the inclusion of all the females and their progeny from the well known Harlau herd of R. H. Kerr in Timaru. Sixty females will be mated this year.

★ The Avon Park herd will be relocated at Governors bay, overlooking Lyttleton Harbour, on the Carters' new 700 acre property early in the year.

★ "Avon Park Extra" sired $16,000 worth of progeny sold at the 1981 National and North Island Sales — top turnover Sire for the Series.

ENQUIRIES AND INSPECTION ALWAYS WELCOMED

DAVID AND MELINDA CARTER
AVON PARK, NO. 1 R.D. CHRISTCHURCH
PHONE 478174 CHRISTCHURCH (NEW ADDRESS AND PHONE NEXT ISSUE)

Miscellaneous

Computerisation

Members require no reminder of what we are about at the present time as regards computerisation – we seem to have deluged you with requests and introductions over the past few months. At the present time we are well on the way to getting the system working and we have received the majority of the information we require from members to take the next step. We still have a number of people on our membership list who have not advised us of their intentions but these will be approached personally to give them every opportunity to become part of the system.

To keep you up to date on what is taking place we list out a sequence of functions that will follow from now on.

1. *Calf Entry Sheets*: Of these, the majority have already been completed for 1979 calvings and 1980 calvings. The office is steadily working through these ironing out any problems that are known to exist so that when they go through to the computer they are as complete as we are able to make them. If a member has still not come up with these forms we will catch up with him later.
2. *Calf Summary/Audit Report*: From the Calf Entry Sheets you have completed the computer will produce a summary of your calvings and information you have provided. This will be printed out and returned to you for scrutiny and manual alteration to bring your records up to an accurate standard. This will be returned to the computer bureau who will up-date and correct the information in your file so that when the next Calf Entry Sheet (1981 calving) is produced your herd file should be in most cases entirely accurate.
3. *Registrations*: Once your file has been up-dated and corrected and the calves you have registered have been confirmed Certificates of Registration for the year will be produced – by the computer.
4. *Calf Entry Sheet 1981*: This will follow once the first three sections are completed and this is expected to be prior to Christmas so you will be back in a more normal pattern by the end of the year.

Once we have overcome the initial vortex that has been taking place over the last few months we anticipate a much more orderly system which will take the pressure off you our members, and us, your office staff. We will settle into a regular pattern of events which will greatly simplify everybody's involvement.

From the information that is being introduced to the computer now we will in due course be able to provide you with total cattle print-outs for your herd, cow summaries and other information that is easily referred to which will all assist you with your records and registrations.

If you find what you receive from the computer is not accurate in every way please show us a little tolerance and give us time to correct it. The system is a new programme and is bound to have a few 'hiccups' but once established we are certain it will be highly satisfactory.

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

Alteration to Structure of Fees

Members have already been advised by memo from our President Rodney Cox, that fees are increased as from the 1st of September this year. For your reference we set out a complete summary of fees now applicable.

FEES APPLICABLE FROM THE 1ST SEPTEMBER, 1981

	FEES	
Application for Ordinary Membership		$25.00
Registration of Herd and Prefix		$11.00
Annual Subscription Ordinary Member		$35.00
Associate membership (Annual Fee)		$10.00
Registration	– Purebred Bull	$20.00
	– Purebred Female	$20.00
	– Seven-Eighths Bull (Export only)	$12.00
	– Seven-Eighths Female	$15.00
	– Three-Quarter Female	$12.00
	– Halfbred Female	$ 8.00
Transfers	– Purebred Bull and Female	$20.00
	– Seven-Eighths Female	$15.00
	– Three-Quarter Female	$12.00
	– Halfbred Female	$ 8.00
Exports	– Purebred and Seven-Eighths animals	$20.00
	– Other Graded animals	$ 5.00
	– In-Calf Recipients	$25.00
	– Fertilised Ova (per Unit)	$15.00
Entry to Sire List		
	– Overseas Bulls	$50.00
	– New Zealand Resident Bulls	$50.00

EAST DOME STUD

HERD No. 901

INSPECTION INVITED

W.A. ROUSE,

EAST DOME, FIVE RIVERS,

R.D. 3, LUMSDEN

PHONE LUMSDEN 86R.

Sherwood Simmentals

COMPLETE HERD DISPERSAL SALE
THURSDAY 1st. APRIL 1982

A unique opportunity for Simmental Breeders to supplement their herds with stock of proven quality from this well known property. Founded in 1972 from top polled Herefords the Sherwood Stud has been developed, through careful selection and diligent culling, into what must rank as one of the top grading-up herds in Australasia. From this herd all calves born this season will be of purebred status and of interest will be the fact that at least 16% of the progeny are polled.

The herd is only being offered for sale due to the pending retirement of the owner who has sold his property.

The catalogue will include (approximately) 20 adult purebred females, 60 purebred calves, 60 ⅞ in-calf females, 13 2-year purebred bulls. Plus "Mossy Robin", 1980 Royal Show Junior Champion Bull.

AUCTIONEERS, IN CONJUNCTION: WRIGHTSON NMA AND ALLIED FARMERS

Pre-sale inspection by arrangement with the owner welcomed

ROY SMITH, SHERWOOD HILLS
R.D.2 CAMBRIDGE
PHONE: MAUNGATAUTARI 889

Sales

1981 Sales Series

The Simmental breed enjoyed a resounding success in a series of sponsored and district sales in June/July of this year. Reports are as follows:

Both the National Sale held in Christchurch on the 1st June and the North Island Sale held in Palmerston North on the 23rd June produced highly satisfactory results with virtually a total clearance in both catalogues. In Christchurch thirty-six purebred bulls and ten purebred females met an excellent market with both Society and Commercial breeders buying strongly. Bulls averaged $1,967 with a top price of $4,500 and fourteen selling at over $2,000. Females also sold well at an average of $2,031 and a top price of $3,000 with several lots in this section going to Australia. Held in the newly created under cover cattle selling centre at the Canterbury A. & P. Showgrounds the Sale was attended by some four hundred people including several Australian visitors.

The North Island Sale held on the 23rd June at Palmerston North proved equally satisfactory with prices somewhat in advance of the Christchurch Sale. Twenty-nine purebred bulls averaged $2,389 with a top price of $4,000. Nineteen entries in the bull section made better with $2,000. Females sold consistently and six averaged $1,500 with a top price of $2,600.

Prize winners, bull class, 1981 National Sale, W. A. Rouse's winning entry led by Miss Penelope Miller (Australia) and Allister Duncan with his second prize winner from Mossburn.

High Standard

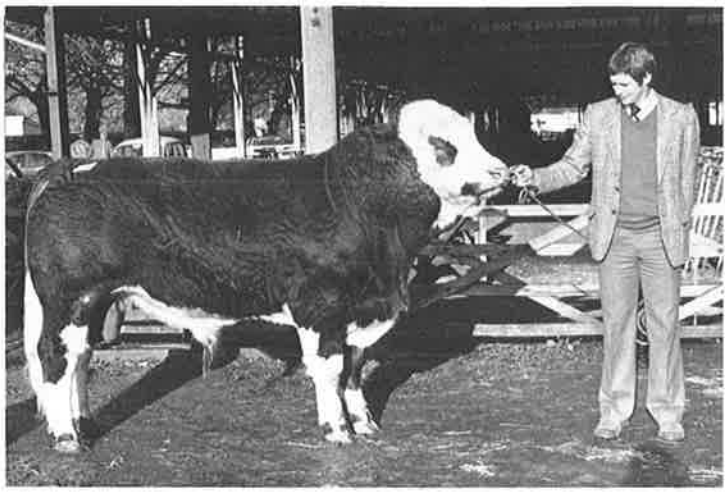
In both Sales the general standard of entries and their presentation was extremely high. The sale of fifty-five bulls at auction at an average of $2,166 points most favourably to the growing popularity of the Simmental Breed in New Zealand particularly at a time when the commercial cow population has been heavily decreased in many areas and severe droughts have affected some of the major areas of the country.

Individual sale results of note were as follows:

National Sale, Christchurch:

Pre-sale judging (bulls), 1st and champion: (lot 4) W. A. Rouse, Five Rivers, Southland purchased by J. B. Hurst of Gore at $3,000. 2nd: (lot 25) Mrs. A. W. Duncan, Mossburn, purchased by J. B. Hurst of Gore at $2,000. 3rd: (lot 24) Levels Farming, Timaru, purchased by D. S. Crosson of Waimate at $3,000.

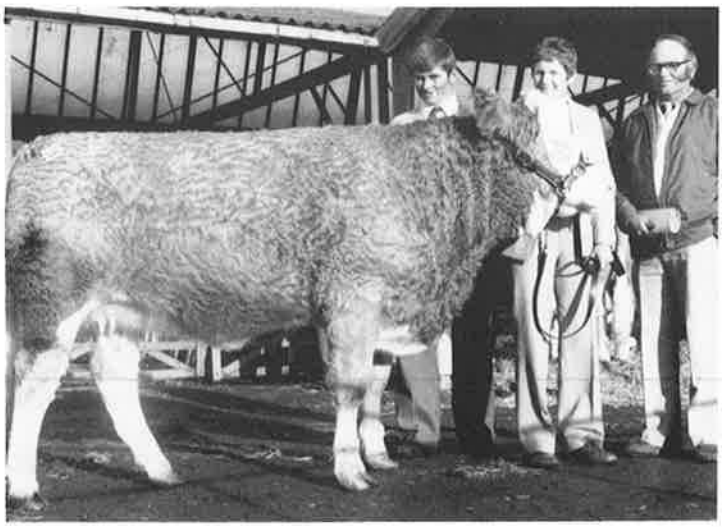
Top priced bull of the Sale was Lot 21 entered by R. W. Gibson of Tarras, Central Otago, a new vendor who sold to G. Paisley of Balclutha. Six entries sold at over $3,000 and seven at over $2,000.



Rob Gibson of Tarras with his $4500 bull at the National Sale.

Pre-sale judging: (females) 1st and champion: (lot 37), Levels Farming, Timaru, sold to R. Caird of South Canterbury at $2,700. 2nd: (lot 45) Levels Farming, Timaru, purchased by P. Trenoweth of Australia at $2,800. 3rd: (lot 44) J. & A. Howie of Pleasant Point did not meet the required reserve price.

Top price of the female section went to A. W. Duncan of Mossburn for an excellent heifer purchased by D. Elliot of Timaru for $3,000.



Allister & Pam Duncan of Mossburn with Dave Elliot of Timaru purchaser of their top price female at the National Sale.

North Island Sale:

Pre-sale judging: (bulls) 1st and champion; (lot 2) Ailsa Farm of Kimbolton, Manawatu (a new vendor) sold to N. J. Barnett, Halcombe at $3,000. 2nd: (lot 6) J. P. Absolom, Rissington, Napier purchased by G. Lowe of Hastings at $3,000. 3rd: (lot 27) N. C. & K. J. Buchanan, Morrinsville sold to R. Wallace-Wells of Tirau at $4,000 (top price).

Noel Buchanan of Morrinsville holds his top priced bull at the North Island Sale. With him are Ron & Heather Wallace-Wells of Tirau the purchasers.

Seven lots sold at over $3,000 and twelve at over $2,000.

Pre-sale judging: (females) 1st and champion: (lot 39) J. J. Butler, Cambridge, purchased by J. P. Absolom of Rissington at $2,600. 2nd: (lot 38) J. J. Butler, Cambridge, purchased by P. Weenink on account of a Hawkes Bay breeder at $2,500. 3rd: (lot 33) N. J. Barnett, Halcombe, sold to R. Black, Big Hill, Napier, at $1,300.

Following on later in the month the Waikato and Districts Simmental Club held a most successful district sale which was set to cater mainly for the Commercial bull market. Of the twenty-seven bulls offered twenty-four sold at an average of $1,250. Two bulls sold at a top price of $3,000, one from A.D.B. Tod at Te Awamutu and the other from J. Hammonds of Cambridge. Seven females were offered and realised an average of $2,614. Top price was paid for an in-calf Hamlet heifer of $4,400 by K. Lukey of Australia who also purchased two other lots. The animal was offered for sale by Blue Ridge Exotics of Cambridge. J. Hammonds of Cambridge paid $3,400 for an imported cow with heifer calf at foot and also purchased the remaining three females for his Rotomara Stud.

The Sale was held at Mr. J. J. Butler's property near Cambridge where a new complex has been built at which it is hoped future sales will be held. The quality of cattle offered at this sale was excellent and speaks well for the organisation and preparation made by the Club who are congratulated on their success.

A further District Sale was held in early July when the Northland Club held its first offering of Simmental bulls at auction at a local saleyard in conjunction with the weekly Sale. Held at the Kauri Saleyards north of Whangarei the small offering of sixteen produced good results and apart from two were all sold. Top price of $1,600 was paid for a four year old seven-eighth bull bred by J. R. Houlbrooke. This bull was apparently of excellent quality. Several other purebreds sold at $1,000 and over and a number of graded bulls also brought good prices. The average for the sale was $967 which in consideration of the age and variety of bulls offered was excellent. (Ages varied from five to two year old and included three-quarter bred, seven-eighths and Pures). The acceptance of the breed in this area is now becoming an established fact and this has been done by the continuing efforts of a few hard working members who are prepared to work and promote themselves. Three years ago it would have been doubtful if anything would have sold other than to a Works buyer. This offering went to commercial breeders throughout the area and from it we know we will receive one or two new Society members.

Part of the large gallery at the 1981 National Sale.

Sale Entry Forms – Sponsored Sales

Each year we supply to potential vendors entry forms for each animal and a copy of the Conditions of Sale. These forms are carefully designed so that we have a minimum of work in converting the information into what becomes the Sale Catalogue. Closure dates for receipt of entries are clearly stated and documentation required such as Registration Certificates, A. I. dockets etc., are explained. If vendors followed the instructions we provide and filled in the forms correctly *and* sent them to us by closing date our job would be relatively simple – BUT IT JUST DOES NOT HAPPEN. Each year we get a collection of incomplete or inaccurate documentation necessitating phone calls and letters to obtain the necessary information. This not only places an unfair burden on our staff but causes delays in the catalogue production schedule, hassels with the printer and untold frustrations. Some entries are invariably late and while I think we have only once 'slammed the door' on a late entry we are likely to take a much more positive line next year.

PLEASE when you receive your entry forms and your Conditions of Sale give them the attention they deserve – we are documenting *your* animal for sale. Read what is required and fill in your forms with care completing all those sectors relevant to your entry and get it to us on *due date*. Some vendors are meticulous with their entries and we see no reason why others cannot do the same job. We will be very grateful for your future co-operation.

The Council

The Council met briefly following the Annual General Meeting on the 17th June to elect officers for the ensuing year. Mr. Cox was re-elected President and Mr. Sutton, Vice-President. Committees for the year were structured as follows:

FINANCE: Messrs. R. N. S. Cox, J. D. Graham, H. R. Lowry, J. R. Sutton, R. G. Macdonald, R. H. Kerr (Co-opted).

PROMOTION: Messrs. H. R. Lowry, J. R. Houlbrooke, W. Gut, N. J. Barnett, R. G. Macdonald.

TECHNICAL: Messrs. J. R. Sutton, R. N. S. Cox, W. Gut, H. R. Lowry.

SALES: Messrs. J. D. Graham, N. J. Barnett, J. R. Houlbrooke, R. G. Macdonald.

Each year delegates are appointed to two outside organisations:

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY/UNITED BREEDS SOCIETIES: Mr. J. D. Graham.

COMBINED BEEF BREEDERS RESEARCH: Messrs. J. R. Sutton/N. J. Barnett.

Meeting Of 21st and 22nd July 1981

Council and Committees met for the first full meeting of the Society year in July. Following the normal pattern established some years ago Committees met on the first day.

In FINANCE the Committee considered at length the current situation which showed an unacceptable imbalance of expenditure over income and discussed remedial action to overcome it. As a result fees for various services were increased of which members have already been advised (and a summary is printed elsewhere in this issue).

The Society's Investments were further discussed and it was decided that the present term investment of money realised from the sale of Shares (Refer the Annual Finance Report) would be maintained until such time the Share Market settled down. At present it was unstable. Constant surveillance is made by Finance Committee in conjunction with our Sharebroker on such investments.

Our current fluid finance situation has been extremely tight and this has been to some extent due to the delays in our computerisation programme but inflation has had the greatest overall effect. (At the time of printing our cash situation has improved considerably). The Committee spent a large part of the meeting setting budgets for the ensuing year.

The TECHNICAL Committee spent considerable time discussing and seeing at first hand the effects of computerisation as applied to the office. Implementation was causing a considerable additional work load. (Since this meeting a tremendous amount of work has been done and the first stage is virtually completed).

The Sire Reference Scheme was discussed and this is being continued for this season. Participants this year have been limited to Beefplan users to facilitate easier access to performance data from Beefplan files. Previous seasons results are at present being assessed.

The Committee had during the past year produced Show and Sale Cards which had space for performance data. These had been used effectively by only a very few people and it was decided to increase the size of the cards so information could be more easily recorded in readable form. The use of these cards would be encouraged.

Performance Classes at Shows: The Committee continued support for such classes at Shows, and the 'Coopental Trophy' for the best performance recorded animal would again be competed for at the 1981 Royal.

Promotion: 'Simbeef' was one of the main impact projects of the agenda. A brochure had been produced for this purpose, a sample of which is included in this issue. Club funding was discussed at some length. A maximum of $500 per annum would be allocated to Clubs for use in area activities including Shows and the Royal Show.

Clubs should be realistic in their expenditure and only utilise funds for those projects that produce benefit for the area and the breed.

The Royal Show will this year have a small Simmental Centre as well as competing cattle. This 'Centre' will be sponsored by the Manawatu and Districts Club with the assistance of the Secretary.

A led steer competition will be promoted for the 1982 Royal Show at Christchurch. The maximum age of entries will be sixteen months.

The New Zealand Fieldays at Mystery Creek were discussed. The Waikato and Districts Club had done a tremendous job for the project for some years. It was suggested that due to the considerable cost of this project it could be discontinued. Various alternatives were discussed but no firm decision was reached. A proposal would be put to the Waikato Club to see if they would consider continuation on a modified basis within Club funds. It was appreciated that the Fieldays were a major New Zealand event but the main emphasis was on machinery and the cost of exhibition was extremely high and the standard very competitive placing heavy load on those charged with erecting and manning the display each year.

Delegates Meetings were discussed and it was felt that organised area visits and meetings within areas probably had more benefit. These would be promoted as possible and the 'Workshop' type situation at A.G.M.'s would be promoted to which area representatives could bring forward ideas.

The SALES Committee reviewed the National and North Island Sales. With the exception of a few entries standards were high. Both Sales, and the following Waikato Sale were very successful.

The question of judging at Sales was again raised with some divided opinion on its worth. The Sales Committee will seriously consider continuance of this event at its next meeting.

Order of sale was also discussed. This is currently by age category and then 'lot draw'. Various suggestions were presented to improve the present system, at least one of which came from the A.G.M. and this was to sell strictly in age order. The whole concept will be considered in organisation for the 1982 Sales series.

Conditions of Sale as set down for sponsored sales could be used by any Club organising an area Sale. Complete tabulation may not be necessary but they will serve as a good guideline.

The Council met the following morning and ratified the Minutes of the various Committee Meetings the previous day.

The Finance Committee will meet again towards the end of the year and the next full meeting will be held in February.

Sire Reference – Local Bull Shows Up Well

'The Chairman of our Technical Committee, J. R. Sutton has provided the following article which is a most rewarding result from our scheme. Semen tests from the bull have proved viable and he will be available this season to members in general as well as the Sire Reference Scheme. Agents are Guthrey Breeding Services, Kaiapoi.'

Analysis of 200 day weights of progeny from the first round of matings in our Sire Reference Scheme has identified a bull of apparently superior genetic merit. His 21 calves from random matings, compared with progeny of several reference sires, showed an E.B.V. (Estimated Breeding Value) of +18 kg at 200 days. The reference sire with the highest E.B.V. was Salz at +8.

Because of sample of only 21 leaves room for significant random error, the E.B.V. has been heavily regressed (moved towards average) during calculation, so it is likely that this bull is at the very least, considerably above average for weaning.

'HARLAU GOLDIE' was bred by Mr R. H. Kerr, and is owned by Mr E. J. Parr, Middle Valley, Fairlie.

HARLAU GOLDIE
- SCOTTISH PATRON
- CLEMENTINE (by Scottish Neff)

Rod Cox and I have each inspected 'Goldie' and a reasonable number of his progeny. He is of average size, very sound 'middle-of-the-road' in type and generally well muscled and attractive. Colour is mid-brown, both eyes pigmented. Goldie's calves have been of average weight at birth. Progeny up to the age of rising second calvers have been inspected, and lose nothing by comparison with those of well known A1 sires. There has been no sign of any genetic defects.

Ted Parr has agreed to make HARLAU GOLDIE semen available for use in the Sire Reference Scheme, and it will be ready for use this season. The price is $8 per straw. Orders may be placed with the Secretary.

Those using 'Goldie' as a reference sire should also use at least one other reference sire. As always, we recommend you consult your M.A.F. Sheep and Beef Officer about how to allocate random mating groups to each bull.

It is thrilling that our Sire Reference Scheme should already prove its worth so dramatically. Every Beefplan member should use the opportunity it provides to discover the true genetic merit of promising young bulls.

It is the way that you and Simmental, can stay ahead of the competition. Congratulations to Ted Parr. I personally will not miss the opportunity to use HARLAU GOLDIE in my own herd.

J.R. Sutton
CHAIRMAN, Technical Committee.

'PROOF THROUGH PERFORMANCE'

TOP REFERENCE SIRE 'GOLDIE'

(E.B.V. + 18 kgs at 200 DAYS)

SEMEN AVAILABLE THIS SEASON FROM GUTHREY BREEDING SERVICES
BOX 97 KAIAPOI

'GOLDIE' IS HERD SIRE TO THE 'RUFFORD STUD' FOUNDED IN 1973
BY E.J. PARR, MIDDLE VALLEY, FAIRLIE

PHONE PLEASANT POINT 242

Club News

The winter time tends to be quiet in Club activities but most have had their Annual Meetings and have undertaken various activities. We report on things as we have received reports.

Marlborough/Nelson: Held their A.G.M. in Blenheim in July and also screened the new beef slides we have to an enthusiastic audience of over thirty people. Membership in this area is small but supported well by those involved. The slides were shown the following day in Nelson at the Waitaki N.Z. Refrigerating Company. Chairman for the year is Rupert Martin, Secretary, Jim Lissaman.

Taranaki: Have also held their A.G.M. in conjunction with a Field Day on two local properties. The Club has plans to show competitively at Stratford this year for the first time.

The Club has a new President this year, Mr R. Brogden who will be ably assisted by Aidan Schumacher who continues as a most efficient Secretary.

Southland: Members met in July and John Robins was re-elected as Club President and (Mrs) Pam Duncan continues as Secretary. The Club has struck a membership levy to give them additional funds to promote themselves, a worthwhile idea also being followed by some other Clubs. The Club is already talking about the Royal in 1983. They are active and vigorous in their objectives. Their A.G.M. concluded with dinner and the 'beef slides'.

Hawkes Bay: Have held their A.G.M. but we have not received a report as yet. We know they plan a Show circuit including Gisborne and we wish them similar success to their great 1980 efforts.

Waikato: In their usual enthusiastic way have met regularly and amongst projects have again done a great job at the 'Fieldays'. (report elsewhere).

At their A.G.M. Jerry Butler was re-elected President and Ron Wallace-Wells again took on the busy job of Secretary in the Club. Tony Rolley was elected Vice-President of the Club. The Club have lots of plans and one which is unique and should prove a great boost if they can raise the funds. They want to obtain a caravan for Shows and storage of gear – a mobile instant display unit. In between times these people have run their own very successful Sale and have set up yet another bull evaluation project. They have also screened the Beef Slides in several areas.

Gary Locke, who served a three year term as Councillor did not seek re-election this year. The Club have however still got a Councillor in the area as Neil Barnett has moved from the Manawatu to a property south of Te Awamutu. Neil is already participating in the Club's activities.

Northland: Continue with a small but active membership and have done much to promote themselves and the breed. They have held several very well attended slide evenings and conducted a very satisfactory bull sale with a total clearance and at least one new member as a result. Secretary's position is still with Lyn Sloane and Geoff Palmer is President. Recently a number of purebred cattle were sold to Australia and amongst them was one from John Haseltine in the far North. It is good to see the influence of Simmentals in the far North coming into their own. One herd we do not hear a great deal about but is still progressively active is Mr. H. Korman's herd at Kaikohe. This would be one of the largest north of Huntly and for 1980 we have received nearly sixty registrations.

North Canterbury: Has not done anything for some time but is gathering strength for its annual major effort at the Christchurch Show in November. A major field day will be held in the early New Year.

South Canterbury: Has held its A.G.M. but at time of printing we have not had a report.

Note: We would be grateful for a list of Presidents and Secretaries for each Club with their addresses and phone numbers so that we can publish a 'list' in the next issue. (Editor).

PUKEKOHU
FOR
DEPENDABULL
RELIABULL
UNBEATABULL
SIMMENTALS
INSPECTION WELCOMED
H.R.LOWRY
'PUKEKOHU'
P.B. HAVELOCK
NORTH
Phone:Waimarama 832.

Waikato and Districts Club

(The following is a report on the display mounted at the N.Z. Fieldays at Mystery Creek, Hamilton)

National Field Days 'Beef' '81

For Simmental Beef '81 should be remembered as another excellent display. Stand and display area had colour, certainly position and as has become accepted for our breed, top quality stock on show. The organization that went into Beef '81 was greatly assisted this year by Ian Johnstone's contribution of a layout diagram which was not followed in its entirety due to extra space being available to us. Ian sent a coloured artists impression of the finished article and a floor plan, probably to scale of the whole thing. The main theme in Ian's plan was Simbeef. Thanks Ian.

Many thanks must go to those who helped collect and assemble material, most of which had to be done just 3 days before opening. I would particularly like to mention the efforts put in by John Arbon, Ron and Heather Wallace-Wells and Gary Locke. There are many others who gave us a big hand to put it all together and to run the event itself. I will not attempt to name them all. To those who were not involved or asked to contribute rest assured you were not forgotten just rested until an event in the future.

Most people who read this article will be people with a particular affinity to Simmental and the associated activities of same but I can safely say none would measure near the closeness or love shown by Rose McLean to our animals and therefore our events. Is it sufficient to say thank you to Rose for the hours of preparation, suggestions, the all night vigil (every night – 3 in all) etc? I do hope the reward is fitting to the effort.

'Beef '81' Waikato display at the 1981 N.Z. Fieldays.

The measure of success of Beef '81 and previous Field Days can best be seen at our Sales throughout the country at this time. I feel it speaks for itself. Particularly worthy of mention are the figures of attendance at Beef '81. They topped 1980 total of 63,000. It is a national event and worthy of more support by us nationally.

In the pens at Beef '81 we had Sherwood Salz II, a fine pure bred bull the epitome of presentation from Roy Smith. Salz II since sold at Palmerston North. Ashleigh Lodge Karen, pure heifer with autumn born bull calf displaying the beautiful condition associated with Noel and Ken Buchanan's animals. Tudhoe Park Louise, pure bred 18 months in-calf heifer from Jerry Butler also sold at Palmerston North. Pen 3 held George, 7/8 steer, 2 years old and destined for the hooks. Figures now available: 750 kg live weight at the time of Beef '81. Dressed at 417.5 kg graded P1 and returned $606.01 for the owner Blue Ridge Simmentals herd 798.

As previously mentioned the focus was on Simbeef. Behind the walk ways between the pens were large yellow and black Simbeef boards. Above the general walk way 'Simbeef' again followed by 'More beef in less time', very fitting to the Simmental breed but not in keeping with the animals on display. I feel we did not make a big enough Simbeef push on this, our most grand occasion.

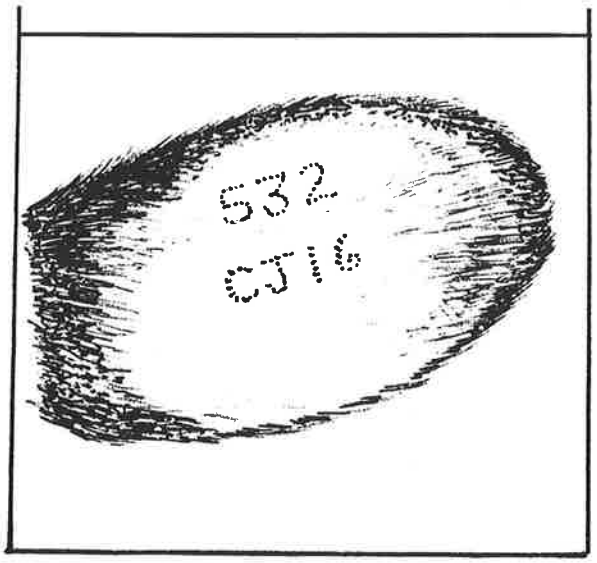
To the Breeder/Members who man our stands at the Field Days each year I must say a very big thank you, for on these occasions we not only ask you to work without pay – long hours too, muck out the pens, cart in feed, rake shavings but also to appear as fresh as a daisy. All these things you are good at but on top of that you are our Sales Team. Again some are very good at this work but I feel it is a specialised field and Simmental could well do to have people available who are skilled at this job.

Tony Rolley

Tattooing

We remind breeders of registered cattle that it is a requirement of the Society that their cattle are tattooed. Some of the tattoos we see from time to time are not all they should be.

When you do the job, do it properly. It takes care and concentration but is relatively simple if you set about it in the right manner. Work out what you are going to do, plan your sequence and *always* test punch the tattoo before you make the final and irrevocable action of tattooing the animal. We have an instruction sheet for anyone who would like one available from the office.



An example of what a tattoo should look like. A 1978-born ¾ bred from Herd 532

Club News

Southland Show (1980)

The following report was regrettably omitted from the last magazine due to an oversight. The Southland Club did a commendable job with their area Show. Apologies – Editor.

Invercargill Summer Show December 1980

The breed was well promoted at Invercargill with six animals of quality being shown.

The Southern Clubs stand was very centrally situated on the Show grounds, with plenty of advertising around and lots of members and friends to visit. Some of the club members organised a steak sizzle with wine. This acted as a draw card for the interested public, on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime.

Club President, John Robins with Club Secretary, Pam Duncan at the 1980 Southland Show.

Mrs Melinda Carter of Christchurch, judge for the Show made a very fine job of her task.

Top honours went to Robot Simmentals with 'Southern Kerry'. This yearling heifer was Champion Junior Female, she was also 2nd in Junior Meat and Wool Cup and Supreme Champion Simmental receiving the 'East Dome Trophy'.

Owing to shortage of Senior animals and the new ruling by A. & P. Society, 'Southern Kerry' was entered in the Senior Meat & Wool section. We felt she did very well in this class being mentioned twice by judges.

We felt Simmentals performed creditably. Individual placings as follows:

No entry: Senior Bull Section.

Junior Bull: 1st Kanada (by Scottish Big Michael) Robot Simmentals. 2nd Kent (by Extra) W. Rouse, East Dome Stud. 3rd Karl (by Beat) A. W. Duncan, Centre-Burn Stud.

No entry: Cow with calf at foot.

Two Year Heifer: 1st Freda (by Hamlet) A. W. Duncan, Centre-Burn Stud.

Yearling Heifer: 1st Southern Kerry (by Panther) Robot Simmentals. 2nd Robot Kirsty (by T.R.N. Mr Pari) Robot Simmentals.

Pam Duncan with her Reserve Champion Female at Invercargill. (This animal was top priced female at the 1981 National.)

Junior Champion Bull: Kanada Robot Simmentals.

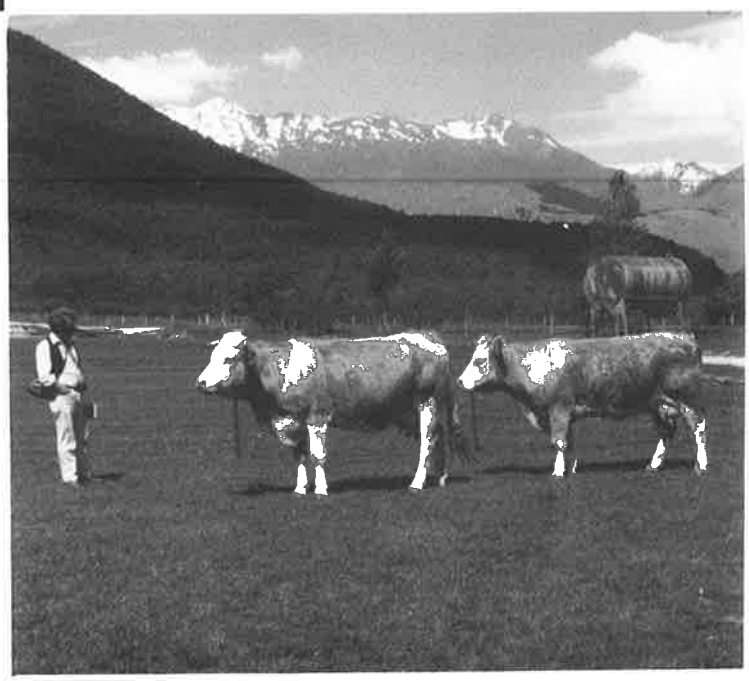
Champion Female: Southern Kerry Robot Simmentals.

Reserve Champion Female: Freda A. W. Duncan, Centre-Burn.

Junior Meat & Wool Cup: 2nd Southern Kerry Robot Simmentals.

Woody Rouse presented his trophy, a Cow Bell to John Robins, Robot Simmentals for Champion Female of the breed.

Some of the Southern Studs had Peter McWilliam to visit. Peter is stud-master with Harry Miller's Dunmore Stud, N.S.W. He had very favourable comments to make about Dunmore Hansa New Zealand bred bull who has grown out a very big bull and is leaving calves of great quality. Peter thought he would be better on mature cows.



Australian visitor, Peter McWilliam who spent some time in Southland looks at stud cattle at Arcadia Station near Queenstown.

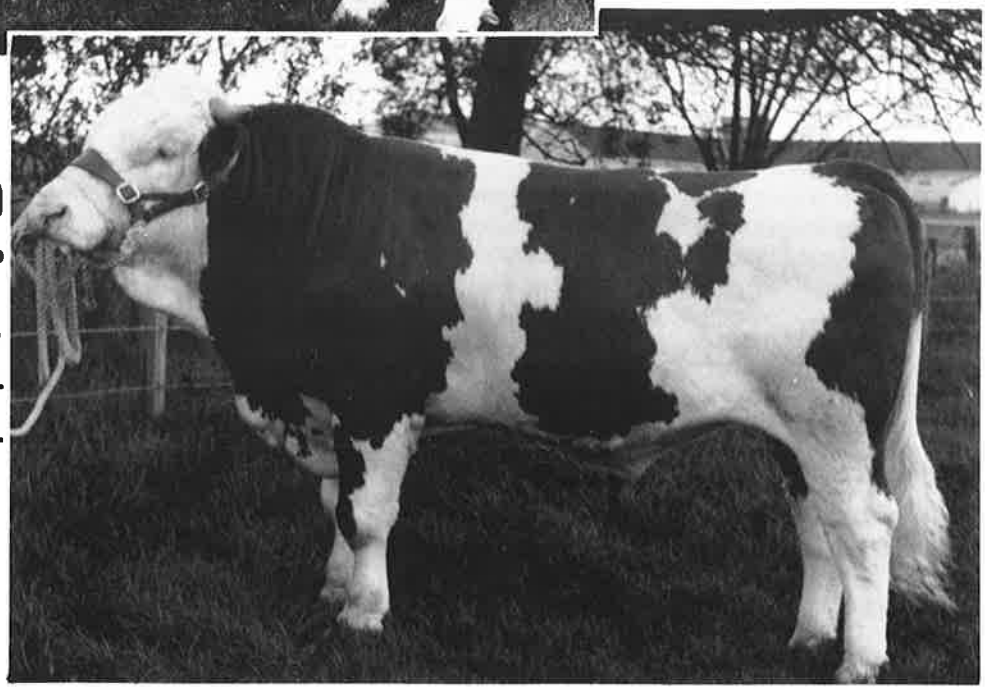
Scottish Semen Services

Scottish Helli

H.B. No. 896160743

842 kgs.

150 cms. at 2yrs. 1mth.



Scottish Marder

H.B. No. 888393343

868 kgs.

151 cms. at 2yrs. 1mth.

SCOTTISH SEMEN SERVICES

Southbar Cattle Breeding Centre.,
Inchinnan, Renfrew, Scotland,
Telephone: 041-812 1287

a Division of Scottish Milk Marketing Board.

Scottish Semen Services are indebted to the help afforded by Australian Simmental breeders, who assisted them in the search throughout Europe for Simmental bulls of outstanding fleshing ability, which are required for the high standard of cattle bred in Scotland and Australia. They found in Austria, the style and type of cattle for which they were searching, and in Scottish Helli and Scottish Marder, two of the top superior confirmation bulls in that country.

ENQUIRIES FOR SEMEN FROM ANY SCOTTISH MILK MARKETING BOARD SIRE MAY BE DIRECTED TO THEIR MAIN DISTRIBUTOR IN NEW ZEALAND

Guthrey Breeding Services

MAIN ROAD, P.O. BOX 97, KAIAPOI, NZ

PHONE: KAIAPOI (0327) 6175 TELEX NZ 4243

P.O. BOX 1339, HAMILTON

A DIVISION OF GUTHREY HOLDINGS LTD

N.Z. SIRE SERVICES
P.O. BOX 8036 HAMILTON
437-995 HAMILTON

N.Z. DAIRY BOARD
Newstead A.B. Centre
No 4 R.D. HAMILTON
65-044 HAMILTON

DALGETY SEMEN SALES
P.O. BOX 643
PALMERSTON NORTH
68-039 P. NORTH

NORTH OTAGO
VETERINARY SERVICES
P.O. BOX 157 OAMARU
37-879 OAMARU

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Hi,

Hope that all those of you that had holidays had a fabulous time. Only one term left until Christmas.

Membership numbers are still growing, which is really great. We now have over forty in the Junior Section, ranging in age from six to fifteen. If you know anyone that could be interested, sign them up – they don't have to be from a Simmental family. Let's see if we can make it fifty by next year.

Thanks to all those who entered the photo competition. We received some fantastic entries. Unfortunately, because the competition closed after the magazine went to print we could not include the results in this issue. However the winning pictures will be printed in the next magazine – and will be written to separately. So watch your letter boxes and the next issue.

Don't forget the Junior Herdsman's Award. If you haven't been able to find the entry form, the details needed are printed below. Just copy them out and send them to me.,

Sandra MacLean,
P.O. Box 13038
University of Waikato,
Hamilton.

before the 30th September.

This is not only a chance to improve your cattle handling skills and win a prize at the same time. It is also an opportunity to promote the breed through showing. So come on, out with the halters and brushes.

Contributions

Dear Sandra,

My name is Colleen and I have two sisters, Helen and Clare and I have two brothers David and Mark. I live on a dairy farm in Katikati and my Father and Uncle Graham milk two hundred and thirty cows and some of these are Simmentals. We have a purebred Simmental bull. I have a three-quarter Simmental heifer calf that I am going to take to Calf Club Day at our school. Her name is Holly Linda.

I have a horse and her name is 'Trixie' and I sometimes get the cows in on her in the weekends and holidays and I also go to Brownies.

Your Simmental friend,
Colleen O'Neill.

The next letter comes from our first Australian member – Andrew Almond, who was in New Zealand for the National Sale.
Andrew writes:

Dear Sandra,

I had a really good holiday in New Zealand and I am coming back soon. I have a favourite pet, 'Silver' who is a horse. I have some other pets as well. I have a Yorkshire terrier called 'Pickles', a big black cat called 'Perky' and two racing turtles called 'Victor' and 'Harold'. I had eleven more but they got away and I have not seen them since.

I also have six Jersey heifers called 'Daisy', 'Tulip', 'Petunia', 'Cissy', 'Suzie' and 'Pheobe' and a calf on the way.

My horse 'Silver' is a quarter part Clydesvale so he is big and strong. I don't have to chase him to catch him because Mum and I always take some biscuits with us and 'Silver' runs up and sniffs our pockets. He is a funny horse and I love him a lot and I know he likes me.

Goodbye for now,
Andrew Almond.

Dear Sandra,

I am ten years old and I have got a pet cat called 'Tweeds' who is very small and she is black and white. I also have got a little cream pony called 'Tui' and she is a good little jumper.

This year I go to a boarding school called Selwyn House. Now that it is holidays and I get three weeks. Last holidays I helped Dad get the Simmentals in for weaning. I also helped with the feeding out to the Simmentals that Dad sold at the National Sale and we also crutched the lambs.

Mandy Graham.

Dear Sandra,
How are you? I hope you are well. I have been looking for a photo and I found this one. This was when Tui my pony was put in a pen for the night and was looking for a way to get out to the good grass. She found the loading ramp and went up it and got stuck. In the morning when we got up we found Tui stuck up the ramp. I had to go to school but my sister didn't because she got long holidays. It is my sister Kerry standing under the ramp, as I was not there.
Must go now.
Yours sincerely, *Mandy Graham*

'Tui' for the high jump! Kerry Graham, Mandy's sister stands by.

simbeef

My name is Stephen Kennedy. I am ten years old. I live on a farm in Maraetotara. It is 580 acres. My dad has Angus cattle but I am trying to talk him into getting Simmental. I have three pets, a dog, cat and pig. The dog is called Champ. the cat is called Socks. We haven't got a name for the pig. I collect stamps and match box toys. I go to a small country school with 13 kids in it. I have a twin sister and a seven year old sister. I enjoy reading your magazine.

Stephen Kennedy

Illustrated is a photo sent in by Shona Bates, an enthusiastic member from Wanganui. Shona is holding her two pet lambs 'Jenny' (known as Goat) on the right-hand side and 'Kellie' (known as Brownie) on the left.

Junior members Jane Robins and Richard Duncan with Robot Kirstie, 12 months, (who is L.J.B. Jack's half sister) at 1980 Invercargill Show.

Jokes

Q. When do frogs jump the highest?
A. In the springtime.

Q. What do you get if you cross a cow, a goat and a sheep?
A. A milky bar kid.

Q. Why did the boy call his calf Sandwich?
A. Because it was half bred.

'A PACK OF COWBOYS'

The Young Farmers Club called on big farmer of the district. They were having a fund raising campaign at the forthcoming local A. & P. Show and needed 'things' to raise money. Close by in a small paddock, one of the boys spotted a very large and impressive Simmental bull – he nudged his mate and said "how about that?" – they put it to the farmer, a great draw for weight guessing, "how about it?"

The farmer was not at all keen, his top stud bull, all breeds champion last year and a candidate for the Meat & Wool at the big provincial show. No, he wasn't keen at all. The Y.F.C. boys however were persuasive, good farmer, local project supporter, ex Y.F.C. himself etc. He softened and they won the day with a couple of free tickets to the Y.F.C. Ball.

The bull was duly taken to the Show where he was settled in a pen in the Y.F.C. area. The farmer being a good supporter of local events went along to the Show and had hardly got inside the gate when he was surrounded by a group of Y.F.C. boys selling tickets in the bull. To escape he handed over a couple of notes and received his tickets with a cheery "Thanks, the draw is at 3.30 p.m." As he wandered off he glanced at the tickets 'Y.F.C. RAFFLE FIRST PRIZE, SIMMENTAL BULL.' Dumbfounded he rushed to where the bull was penned. Y.F.C. were doing a hard sell with terrific results – furious he saw one of the bright young men who had talked him into the whole idea – "What the hell do you think you are doing," he roared, "you said it was a weight guessing competition, now I find it's a raffle." "Yea," said the young man, "but we thought he'd make more if we raffled it, but don't worry you'll win it!"

YEAR LETTER
CALF BORN
1981

'M'

Miscellaneous

Inspections

Inspections are part of our system and are structured for your own and the breed's protection – they are not enforced as a penalty.

Inspections are required in the following situations:

1. Cattle offered for sale by auction must always be pre-sale inspected.
2. Females put forward for ovum-transplant must be pre-inspected.
3. All cattle destined for export must be inspected.

If you intend to do any of the foregoing three things please advise us with as much warning as possible so we can arrange Inspectors for you with a minimum of inconvenience.

The system of pre-inspection has already done much for the standard of our sales, it has also monitored the exportation of our cattle and cattle going for transplant.

As a breed we do not wish to see sub-standard cattle sold, neither do we want to export or proliferate undesirable characteristics.

Where inspections are made the vendor will be charged for the service but this will be at a minimal and non-profit making costing. If you require Inspectors please be organised when they arrive and assist as best you are able. Have your cattle contained in an area where they can easily be inspected. (And we do not mean a fifty acre paddock!)

Some people ask why private or paddock sales are exempt from inspection. Such sales are normally negotiated by mutual agreement and there is ample opportunity for the purchaser to see exactly what he is buying.

The Royal Show 1981

This event will be held at Palmerston North over the 5th, 6th and 7th November. A small 'Breed Centre' will be established close to the cattle pavilion as a central point where members and competitors can meet. Following the established patterns at other major Shows several other breeds are establishing 'Centres' in the same area.

We will receive good support for this year's Royal – last year will be hard to equal but we are becoming well known for the standard and number of cattle we present at such Shows. Our Judge this year will be Mr. R. A. (Bob) Barton of Massey University who has had association with the breed since its introduction to New Zealand, is a retired Councillor and one of the only two Honorary Life Members of the Society.

New International Air Freight

A new International Air Transporter of livestock will commence operations to Australia and New Zealand in early 1982. This service will operate from North America with the first charter in March. The quarantine in Canada for most animals is sixty days. This service will open up, for anyone who is interested, an interesting new concept with the possible availability of Simmentals from that area and, who knows, perhaps reverse traffic. Dalgety Airfreight Ltd. of Auckland are the New Zealand agents.

Registrations 1981 Calves

Elsewhere in this issue we have written on our computer project in general which we hope brings people up to date with what goes on.

In regard to registration of your 1981 calves (born about now) these will be done on the *computer CALF ENTRY SHEETS* which will be produced for you towards the end of this year. Please retain your calving records etc., in the normal way and wait until the 1981 Calf Entry Sheets are sent to you.

We do not wish to use any of the old manual forms as these duplicate the work involved.

Sales Levies

Sales levies were introduced some two years ago and are applicable to all registered animals sold with transfer. Such levies are payable by the vendor (seller) and are structured at 2% of the sales price where private sales are made and 1% of the sales price where animals are sold at auction. The lower levy at auction is to compensate for the vendor who has to prepare his animal for sale and transport it and on most occasions pay a sale entry fee.

Sales levies are utilised for promotion of the breed as a whole.

Beef Evaluation Slides

We have obtained from U.S.A. two collections of slides, one by Dr. Robert Long and Dr. Jack Everly and the other by Dr. E. A. Kline of Iowa State University. These slides are the result of a great deal of research and practical work in the field of production of viable beef carcases to meet the demands of todays markets. They illustrate graphically many of the advantages and desirable traits of the Simmental breed, although the animals used in the production of these slides did not include Simmentals nor do they highlight any particular breed. Dr. Long's collection deal mainly with the assessment of the animal on the hoof showing the desirable and the less acceptable animal. Progressively, both animals are dressed out to show fat dispersal and muscle structures. Dr. Kline's slides deal more with carcase showing a sectionalised view of both over fat and lean carcases.

Some of the material presented will have been seen by people who have attended Mr. Bob Barton's well known Beef Clinics at Massey University. These slides are highly informative for anyone associated with the cattle industry and already they have been screened in several areas to people from both the Society and outside interests with considerable success.

At present we are awaiting another set from U.S.A. so that one complete set can be held in each Island.

Clubs who wish to screen these slides are asked to contact the Secretary for bookings. The screen time is approximately three-quarters of an hour, one set has a tape, but the other requires a spoken explanation. They have a great deal to recommend them, are an excellent extra for a Club Meeting and a very good P.R. job for the breed and the Society where they are screened to the public. We have already received several bookings from organisations such as Freezing Companies as a result of Club Showings.

RISSINGTON SIMMENTALS

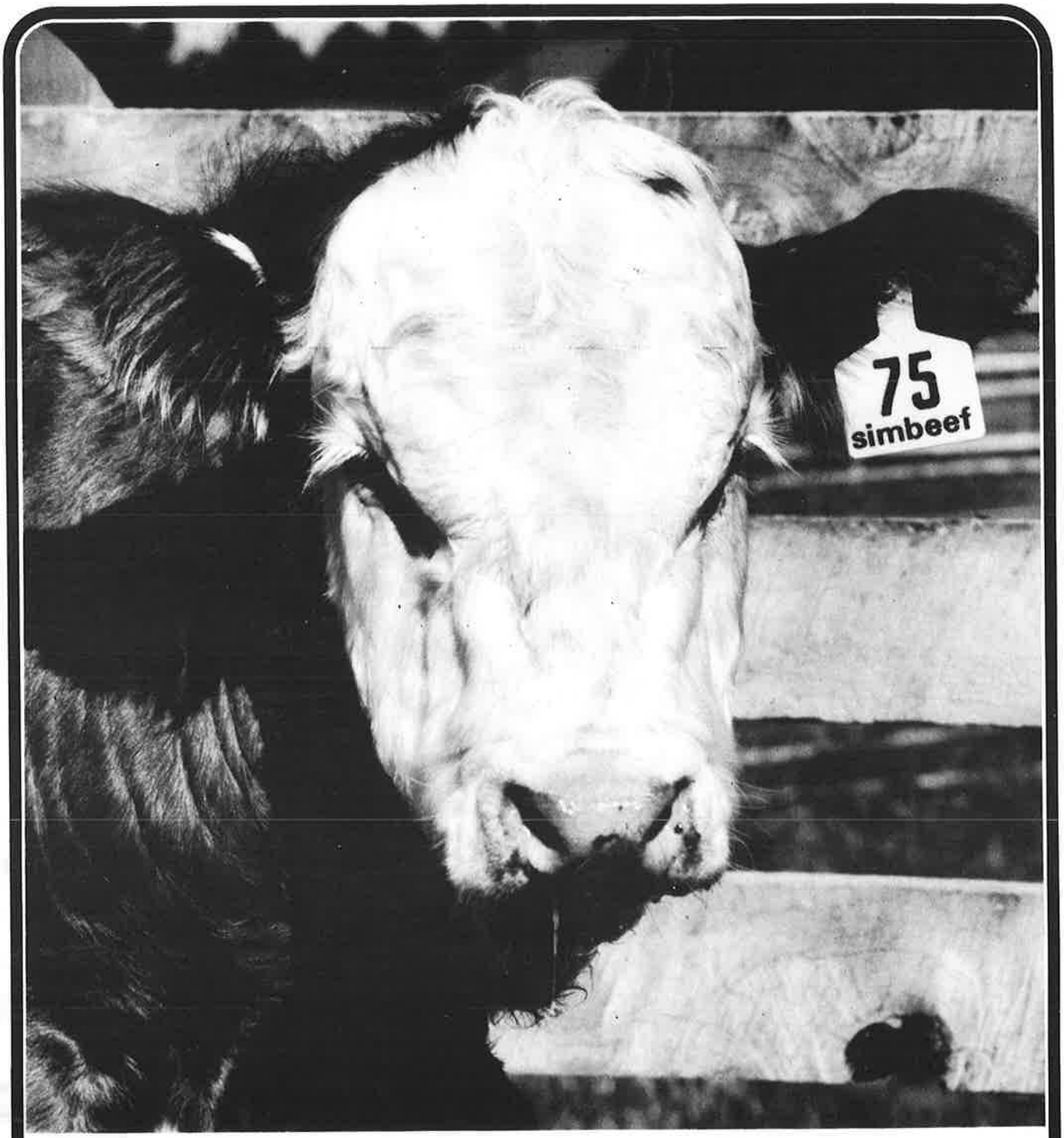
OUR TOP PERFORMANCE BULL 'RISSINGTON AK16'
PLACED SECOND IN JUDGING AT THE NORTH ISLAND SALE
SOLD FOR $3000

Our 30 other performance tested bulls have met with unprecedented demand. The satisfied clients who are reaping the financial rewards of cross-breeding with our bulls are our best marketing agents.

From our 140 bull calves born in 1980, we have kept 50 of the top performers as bulls, and with a further rigid culling next Autumn, we aim to have about 35 performance tested bulls for sale in 1982 which we will happily stand behind.

ENQUIRIES & INSPECTIONS WELCOME

John & Star Absolom
R.D.4 Napier, Ph: Rissington 836



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