

TARALGA SHOW 1916

A SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITION

The annual show of the Taralga Agricultural Pastoral and Horticultural Association commenced on the grounds of the society on Thursday and Friday. A large number of visitors were present.

Despite the critical period through which the country has passed the show compared favourably as regards both attendance and exhibits with those of previous years. An improvement was to be noted in the horse ring, where the location of the hurdles had been changed, thus enabling the jumping events to be carried out under more favourable conditions.

The various duties incidental to the show were efficiently fulfilled by the committee, judges and stewards. The Judging was promptly carried out, and the success of the exhibition was a fitting reward to the painstaking efforts of the committee and the secretary (Mr. G.C. Goodhew). The catering for the luncheon was in the hands of Mrs Spicer.

The central pavilion was well filled with a variety of exhibits, chiefly farm produce, fruits and flowers. Those exhibits were the finest, both in respect of quantity and quality displayed at the show for many years, and provided a splendid advertisement for the productive capacity of the district. The fruits included fine and large samples of apples, pears, plums, grapes, etc., and a variety of pot plants lent a wealth of colouring to the display of flowers. The vegetables, including pumpkins, potatoes, onions, marrows, etc., were excellent, the potatoes in particular being very fine specimens

As regards cattle and horses, very fine animals were on exhibition, and the show in that section was about on a level with previous years. There was, however, a considerable falling-off in the number of sheep displayed. Mr J. Jamieson, who has been conspicuous as a prize-winner in former shows, did not enter any of his stud sheep on this occasion, and this alone made a considerable gap in the exhibits. The season has not been favourable to the rearing of sheep, but the quality of those exhibited was good. The wool showed fine growth and the sheep were in splendid condition.

The poultry section did not appear to be strongly represented, and there is room for development in this line. The best of the poultry exhibits were some very fine turkeys, but useful table and laying fowls were few.

Dogs were in usual strength. The greyhounds of which a particularly large number were on exhibit were of good appearance.

A very interesting feature of the pavilion exhibits was a number of Egyptian curios and paintings. These formed a non-competitive exhibit by Mrs A. Heyne, who received them from her son, Sapper A.G.E Heyne, of the Second Division of the Signalling Company, Egypt. They included a Turkish carpet and antique paintings of the sacred ibis and peculiar Egyptian figures.

As usual at country shows, there was a total lack of exhibits of agricultural machinery. In these days when the whole business of farming is being revolutionised by caterpillar tractors, harvesters, motor ploughs, and the application of motor transport generally, when a country like France to meet the onslaught of the invader and make up for the drawing off of vast numbers of the agricultural population is specialising in the manufacture of a variety of machines calculated to dispense with the use of whole teams of horses and gangs of men, every show should be provided with something of the latest and best in farm machinery. Societies are not responsible for the absence of such; but some concerted action should be taken to secure representative displays.

*As written in
Goulburn Evening Penny Post, Saturday 11 March 1916*

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