



The Australian Rangeland Society

RANGE MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER
An official publication of The Australian Rangeland Society
ISSN 0812-4930

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Bastin, G. and Allan, G. (2012). After the smoke has cleared: 2011 fire in Central Australia. In: Range Management Newsletter (Ed. N Duckett). 12/2:3-6. (Australian Rangeland Society: Australia).

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Range Management Newsletter

Guedel

Official newsletter of the Australian Rangeland Society

Editor - Dr. W.H. Burrows, Charleville Pastoral Laboratory,
Hood St., Charleville, Queensland 4470.

C.S.I.R.O.
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13 APR 1978

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No. 78/1 March 1978

EDITORIAL

To paraphrase the stalwarts of the Alice Springs district (who regarded the 1 m + = 40+ inches received during the 1973/74 summer as the first "normal" season since the 1920's) we, in south west Queensland, have experienced our first abnormal summer since 1972. Adding the problems of drought to the already pressing economic situation is not a good prospect for the man on the land. As rangeland scientists and managers we must be prepared for the extremely variable, and cyclic nature of our weather patterns. Nevertheless I would sooner work in our 'normal' wet years than our 'abnormal' dry ones. I hope you are having a normal season at your place.

Since we are discussing normality your editor is very pleased to report that he has an abnormally large number of contributions on his desk. Although several contributions have to be held over until ensuing issues please do not let it deter you from keeping the editor's bin full!

As usual there is a variety of material in your newsletter. Please note that nominations are called for the 1978/79 executive and suggestions are sought for the format and subject matter of our next conference.

Bill Burrows
(Editor)

Deadline:

Copy for the next issue is required by 31st May 1978.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Australian Rangeland Society will be held at Bourke, N.S.W. on Thursday 25th May 1978 commencing at 2 pm (Venue to be decided - however if you can find your way to Bourke in the first place then I'm sure you will be able to find a bunch of ARS members - Editor).

The main business of this meeting will be the election of office-bearers. Our president is also hoping that a general meeting of members in north west N.S.W. and south west Queensland can be arranged for that day.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Your 1978 Subscriptions are now due. See form in previous newsletter for forwarding instructions, if you have not done so already.

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LETTERS

Accountability of Range Scientists

From: Dr A. D. Wilson, Leader of the Rangelands Research Program in
CSIRO, Deniliquin, N.S.W. 2710.

Mr Cunningham from Wentworth has questioned, in the last issue of this Newsletter, whether range scientists are accountable for the work they do. Mr Cunningham doesn't go into detail, but there is the implication that in his opinion range scientists may not be doing the right work, or are not doing it properly, and do not have to suffer the consequences of their shortcomings. He is reminding us that we all work best when we are rewarded directly for our diligence and punished for our sloth. But how are we to so reward graziers and range scientists in an equitable and just manner?

Range scientists are accountable. They are accountable to their colleagues, to the heads of their departments and to the rangeland community in general.

The first level of accounting is at scientific meetings when results and ideas are presented. Members of the audience praise, comment and criticize. In scientific work there will always be much to criticize as new things are being attempted. New things are always easy to criticize - sometimes because they are wrong - other times just because they are new. When the criticisms are flowing, as they were at times at the Broken Hill meeting, people may get the impression that the scientists aren't very sure about what they are doing. So the serious criticism and efforts for accountability are made at smaller meetings which are by invitation only. The CSIRO staff with which I am associated (Deniliquin and Alice Springs) are regularly called to justify their proposed work, their progress and their results before other staff. This may be seen as secretive, but small meetings of people who respect one another's opinion, do encourage the dropping of defence reactions and the adoption of frank criticism. These meetings often include outsiders who are invited to express contrary points of view. They will naturally fail if the climate of the meeting favours a 'yes men' reaction. Similar meetings are held in most scientific groups.

Accountability also comes when the results of work are presented for publication, as in the Australian Rangeland Journal. Before the editor agrees to publish an article, it is read by the editor and one or two referees (people chosen by editor for their expertise in the subject of the article). They must be satisfied that the work was done in a proper scientific manner, is well written and is generally worth publishing. Most articles are amended, some are rejected.

Pressure on individuals also comes from the hierarchy, as Mr Cunningham calls it. This is a most sensitive area of staff management. Pressure for results is permissible, but the stifling of initiative is not. Furthermore the hierarchy, may not know best - after all the lower echelons are usually closer to the problem, and can give it their undivided attention. The hierarchy controls this process through the promotion system and only rarely through pressure to resign. I agree with Mr Cunningham that the job of a range scientist is safer than that of a grazier, but there is nowhere near his freedom: the 'being your own boss' which many graziers cherish as part of their way of life.

Accountability also comes through comments by our grazier members. The frank exchange of ideas, as we had at the Broken Hill meeting, and as we get in this Newsletter, do have their effect. Range scientists do seriously work for the improvement of rangelands and rangeland people, even though there will always be differences over what work ought to be done.

I feel that all this writing may not entirely satisfy Mr Cunningham. We can't change places to get real experience and understanding of each other's jobs, so the only alternative is to gain some understanding through communication. To help that understanding, a few more points about range scientists may be useful.

1. Range scientists, as in all technical fields, develop into specialists. A plant ecologist won't be able to advise on sheep diseases or estate management. It is the grazier who has to put it all together into property management.
2. The wider economic problems of graziers cannot be solved by range science. These patterns are features of the present world economic order. Range scientists can only help through advances or maintenance of productivity and by pointing to readjustments that can be made.
3. Range scientists are limited in what they can do. In the rangelands there is an overriding restriction of low rainfall and a limitation on the capital resources that can be applied. There is no chance of a 'green revolution' for the pastoral zone.

I look forward to further discussion with Mr Cunningham at future meetings of the Society.

10th February 1978

Reactions to the cost-price squeeze

From: Hank Suijdendorp, Department of Agriculture, Carnarvon 6701.

A large percentage of pastoral lands in the N.W. of W.A. are inherently of low productivity. As terms of trade deteriorated, and other opportunities presented themselves, some pastoralists were able to improve their situation in various ways:-

- (a) Eight per cent found themselves outside work such as cartage contract, kangaroo shooting, local meat supply, shearing.
- (b) Four per cent now have some income from tourist activity.
- (c) Seven per cent have been sold to the Aboriginal Lands Trust or the Nomad group. Most of them only keep going with massive injections of Commonwealth finance.
- (d) Five per cent have been abandoned for all practical purposes. They are not occupied on a permanent basis.
- (e) Seventeen per cent changed hands in 1976-77.

Summarising the above 41% of lessees took some action outside the industry to improve their situation. Fortunately not all of them are in such a serious predicament. However, many are perturbed about the economic trend as indicated by the many submissions to State and Federal Governments.

In view of this initiative, should any action be taken by the Government? The following alternatives present themselves:

- (a) Do nothing and let the economic pressures provide the solution. This approach is not acceptable to the Industry as indicated by their approaches to Government.

Another disturbing factor is the large number of leases that changed hands. Many of these leases have been sold for \$30,000 to \$40,000. People without any knowledge of the industry have not been able to resist the temptation to purchase a station for the cost of a suburban house.

Invariably these leases were of inherently low carrying capacity and were opened up at a time of low labour costs. Now they carry about 3000 sheep and are no longer economic. Very soon the lease is on the market again.

- (b) Close up problem leases permanently by purchasing the lease at market price and desposing of assets. Closing up and dismantling of water points will be essential to prevent the lease becoming a breeding ground or transit area for vermin.

In most cases the market price of the lease could be recovered from the sale of assets. This course of action will have to be seriously considered to prevent further damage to these low producing land systems (1 sheep to 40 ha) even though it is unlikely that these leases will ever be opened up again.

(This situation is not unique to Western Australia - any other opinions? - Editor).

SOCIETY NEWS

Extracts from the thirteenth council meeting - November 1977

1. Sub Branches:- The possibilities of forming sub-branches at Bourke and Tilpa were discussed. Discussions had already been held between the President and Mr Colin Middleton of Tilpa regarding the Tilpa sub-branch. Pilot meetings were considered. It was left to the President to make contact with people in these localities with a view to testing feeling about sub-branch formation.

Council discussed financial assistance to forming sub-branches. It was moved and carried that "Council would be prepared to financially assist groups forming new sub-branches".

CONDON/MULHAM

2. International Rangeland Congress

The Treasurer reported that Mr O.B. Williams, one of the Society's members, had been approached by Dr Harold Heady from the United States to be the Society's representative on the Board being formed to organise future International Rangeland Congresses.

It was moved and carried that "Mr O.B. Williams be the Society's representative on the Board of the International Rangeland Congress provided he keeps the Society fully informed on developments".

CONDON/CUNNINGHAM

3. 1978 Executive:

Council discussed the pros and cons of the Executive of the Society remaining in New South Wales for a further year. It was considered now that most of the initial problems of the Society are behind us that the Executive should, unless special circumstances dictate otherwise, remain in each State/Territory for only one year.

It was moved and carried that Council should pass on to Queensland in 1978.

MULHAM/CONDON

4. Venue of Next Conference:

After discussion of possible venues it was decided to contact members of the South Australian sub-branch with a view to their hosting the Society's 1978 Conference in Adelaide. Adelaide was considered to be an appropriate centre for the Conference as it is relatively central in the Continent. It was pointed out that the Conference would not necessarily be restricted to discussion of arid rangelands.

It was resolved that the South Australian sub-branch be asked if there was a particular topic which they might suggest as a theme for the Conference. The September, 1978 School holidays were suggested as a possible time.

(Editors note - Subsequent advice is that the next Conference will not be held until May 1979. At this stage of the Society's development it maybe too ambitious for us to have a conference each year.)

5. Format of Next Conference:

A letter was received from Past President David Wilcox, commenting on the format of the Broken Hill Conference. His suggestions included (1) the possibility of allotting a day and a half to the next Conference with a field trip included rather than a longer period in a conference room; (2) preparation of joint scientist/pastoralist papers to add more interest for pastoralists; (3) basing the Conferences around selected themes; (4) the introduction of quality control to assess papers before their acceptance for presentation; and (5) the need for Council to decide on the types of papers it requires (e.g. reviews, speculative papers, long quantitative papers or short submissions).

These suggestions were discussed and a thematic basis for the Conference was considered to be a worthwhile approach. It was also suggested that a two-tiered conference would be a useful innovation - one tier dealing with scientific aspects and the other being grazier orientated and including grazier success stories.

It was decided that tentatively we should look towards a 2 day conference with 1½ days in conference and a half day visit.

It was decided to canvas members' opinions on the next Conference format in the next Newsletter with a request for suggestions to be in the Hon. Secretary's hands within a month of Newsletter publication. (See suggestion box at end of Newsletter - Editor)

FORMATION OF A BROKEN HILL BRANCH OF THE AUSTRALIAN RANGELAND SOCIETY

Members of the Australian Rangeland Society and other interested persons attended a meeting of the Society held in Broken Hill on December 8th, 1977, to hear and discuss talks by various members, and to consider the formation of a local branch. The meeting was attended by about 50 people, including 30 graziers from as far afield as Wentworth and Wanaaring, and representatives of various government departments.

The talks given were interesting and provided a basis for discussion and interchange of ideas. The speakers and their topics were: Dick Condon, Western Lands Commissioner - Co-operative ownership of lands; Bill Smith, "Willangee" - Kangaroos and wedge-tail eagles in Western New South Wales; Terry Dawson, University of N.S.W. - Kangaroos; John Lawrie Soil Conservation Service of N.S.W. - Forage plants in Western N.S.W.; John Gerritsen, National Parks & Wildlife Service - Sturt National Park; Geoff Rodda, "Nagaella" - Effects of bushfires on mallee country; and Paul McClure, "Pimpara Lake" - Modifications to the Brompton Rat. (fire fighting equipment).

Following the talks Dick Condon chaired a formal meeting to discuss the formation of a local branch. All members considered that they would benefit by formation of a branch based at Broken Hill, and elected the following committee to establish the branch.

President: Bill Smith, "Willangee"
Vice-President: Brian Clarke, "Kayrunnera"
Secretary/Treasurer: Roger Stanley, Soil Conservation Service,
Broken Hill.
Committee: Paul McClure, "Pimpara Lake"
Stuart Gray, Research Officer, Fowlers Gap.

The first general meeting of the branch will be held on the day following the annual Fowlers Gap Field Day in July. At this stage it is considered that meetings will be held no more than 2 or 3 times each year, or as required. The committee will be meeting at the end of January to consider future activities of the branch, and suggestions from other branches would be most welcome.

(Congratulations to the Broken Hill group on their initiative. I understand from Graham "Hairy Panic" Harrington that an effort is currently being made to form a Cobar branch and perhaps one or two others in the north west of N.S.W. Any similar action elsewhere? - Editor).

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL
RANGELAND CONGRESSES

From: Owen Williams, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra.

Dr Harold Heady, Chairman of the First Rangeland Congress, has contacted a number of rangeland people and asked them if they would serve on an ad hoc committee to draft a proposed constitution for future International Rangeland Congresses. This proposed constitution would be presented at the sessions at Denver, Colorado, the venue of the First Congress in August 1978.

I was asked to act on this ad hoc committee with Dr N. Seligman, Israel, and Dr Henri Le Houerou, France, amongst others. The Executive of the Australian Rangeland Society kindly confirmed by representation on this Committee.

Dr Heady has suggested that the constitution of the International Grassland Congress could be used as a model. Copies of this constitution are available from the Secretary of the ARS. The following outline is an amended version of this Grassland Constitution.

Briefly, there are 10 Rules. Rule 1 covers the name, International Rangeland Congress. Rule 2 describes the Aims and Objectives. Presumably the main aim of the International Rangeland Congress shall be to promote interchange of scientific information on all aspects of rangelands, and an IRC shall normally be held every 3 years for the purpose of presenting papers and reports, organizing symposia and conducting pre- and post-Congress tours.

At this point there is a foot note in the Grassland Constitution which appears to have been drafted by non-English speakers (viz. to evaluate possible boomerangs of chemicalization!!). A free translation for rangeland would be along the lines of 'To evaluate and indicate new approaches in rangeland maintenance rehabilitation and improvement, to evaluate possible improvement in the livestock industries on rangeland when rangeland is considered as a renewable resource and to ensure dissemination of the aims and achievements of the Congress.'

Rule 3 deals with Membership. 'Membership of the Congress will be open to any person interested in rangeland studies in any country of the world.' There are details concerning full members, day members and associate members (generally wives and children of full members).

Rule 4 concerns voting rights, which are restricted to full members, i.e. those who pay the registration fee. Amendments to the

constitution and decisions on the venue of future congresses are on the basis of one country one vote (definition of country as followed by UN).

Rule 5 covers Amendments to the Constitution.

Rule 6 covers The Continuing Committee and Australia is grouped with New Zealand in Region V to have one representative. Almost half the constitution document is taken up with the procedures and functions of this Continuing Committee which is to keep the IRC alive from Congress to Congress and make sure that the next Congress is held in the appropriate place and manner. Rule 7 covers the Congress President and Rule 8 describes the layout of the Congress Sessions. Rule 9 describes the procedure for the Proceedings and Rule 10 lays down the responsibilities of the host country.

The whole business of a constitution is rather a set-piece with little scope for individuality, however members might consider whether or not the main aim 'interchange of scientific information' is too restrictive for an assembly which we would hope would cater for a wide range of interested people. Further, I would raise the question of whether 3 years is too short; should Congresses be 5 years apart?

Finally, the free translation of the footnote should be examined and amended.

Please let the Secretary, Geoff Cunningham, have your views so that we can communicate our idea of the proposed constitution to the ad hoc committee for action and submission to the Denver meeting.

1975 BUSHFIRES IN NORTHERN SCOTIA COUNTRY AND THEIR AFTERMATH

From: Geoff Rodda, "Nagaella", Broken Hill.

In late January 1975 the northern section of the Scotia country (S.W. corner of N.S.W.) was, like most of the Western Division of N.S.W. that year, subjected to a series of extensive bush fires started by lightning strikes.

When the fires were out we were perturbed at what appeared to be massive losses in our limited supplies of edible trees and bushes, i.e. cabbage tree (Heterodendrum oleifolium), false sandalwood (Myoporum platycarpum), yarran (Acacia sp.) blood bush (Cassia eremophila var. coriacea) and bean bushes (Cassia spp.). It seemed that heat generated by variable spear grass and other heavy grasses had destroyed the majority of these species. On the credit side however, large tracts of hop bush (Dodonaea attenuata) and turpentine (Eremophila sturtii) were also wiped out.

During the following months as we were bulldozing old fence lines and erecting new fences we noticed that many of the feed trees which we had thought were dead (in many cases, all the bottom bark had been completely burnt), showed signs of life as on the uppermost branches odd green leaves began to shoot. Over the following 6 to 8 weeks this greening gradually progressed down the trees. After the first green leaves were noticed on the cabbage trees, they shed their remaining dead leaves. This sometimes also happens after a good rain and we can only assume that it is nature's way of flushing out the system.

During this period we were also watching with interest for possible regrowth in the "rubbishy" bushes - particularly turpentine and hop bush. Hop bush when burnt properly in the majority of cases, failed to reshoot, but to offset this a very large number of hop bush seedlings germinated in both the unburnt and burnt country particularly during the last 12 months. This was surprising because the rainfall for this period was low. Just over 2 inches, (50 mm), fell so it wasn't an

excess of moisture that brought them up. Turpentine also showed it's staying power and about 12 months after the fire quite a lot of regrowth was noticed. In some cases this regrowth appeared to come from the centre sticks of the old burnt bushes while in others it came from roots in a circle approximately one foot (30 cm) from the burnt trunk.

The first useful rains after the fires were in September 1975, almost 8 months later. At the time we thought that we were hard done by, but now looking back this may have been a good thing, as we had an extremely slow rate of regrowth of porcupine grass (Triodia irritans). After the September rain we experienced excellent growth of feed due to the infusion of potash and the general "sweetening" effect that fires appeared to have on the soil. However in similar country which had local fires almost 12 months later and rain immediately afterwards porcupine grass in particular appeared to have greatly accelerated regrowth rates. So much so in fact that within another 12 months porcupine grass will be almost touching again and very little feed will grow until the country is again burnt.

After substantial fencing we were able to get most of our sheep home by May 1975 and although there outwardly appeared to be little or no feed available in the paddocks which were totally burnt, the stock did well and soon put on condition. For a while they ate some of the mallee suckers and appeared to find forage in the dead mallee leaves under the trees. The kangaroos also ate the same sort of tucker. The wool on the sheep soon acquired a dark sooty tip which acted as a seal and kept the dust and sticks out. When it was sold later that year the wool made a good value due to its cleanliness.

We have now cleared and graded along all new fence lines and we intend to gradually do the same along both sides of the rest of our fences. We will also widen, where possible, existing roads. Graded tracks along each side of fences have several advantages. They provide:-

1. A ready made fire break.
2. An easier track for vehicles.
3. A walkway for stock.
4. Pre-cleared areas for pipe lines.
5. Handy prepared ground for back burning.
6. Less need for fence insurance, perhaps lower insurance rates?

We are now considering the possibility of burning, when possible, approximately 25% of our mallee country every 3 or 4 years. Eventually this should give us a percentage of country at various stages of regrowth. In the long term we hope that this will have a levelling effect on station income as well.

In conclusion I feel that graziers with mallee country can learn something from these fires. The fires certainly make a lot of extra work and burnt some good fences which was unfortunate, but generally speaking they appear to have done far more good than harm to the country itself. Secondly I feel that the extreme heat generated by summer fires in porcupine country is more useful than for instance a late afternoon burn in May or June. Also the longer the period without effective rain after a burn the more feed we are likely to get. Also our experience indicates that light stocking after a fire is beneficial because stock eat leaf fall and suckers which they would otherwise not get.

I realise that the foregoing experience relates to one situation only. For instance good rain a week after the 1975 fires may have had completely different effects, however these are the circumstances as they happened at "Nagaella".

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RANGE ASSESSMENT IN THE 1860's

From: M.D. Young, CSIRO Division of Land Resources Management,
Deniliquin, N.S.W.

Over the last few days I have been reading Keith Bowes' thesis "Land Settlement in South Australia 1857-1890". One of the star characters in his thesis is G.W. Goyder of "Goyder's Line".

The first pastoral inspector in South Australia was a man called Morris who had the title of Chief Inspector of Sheep. Morris was given the task of assessing the carrying capacity of every pastoral lease in South Australia in one year. It is interesting to read Goyder's remarks about Morris's work in 1861.

"It may be questioned how far any one individual, though constantly employed on that particular duty, could obtain such information, by inspection alone, as would enable the Government to value the respective runs to the satisfaction of the country and the persons interested. It rarely happens that even the overseer of a new station can form anything like a fair estimate of its quality before its capabilities have been tested by several months' experience; and if such be the case with an area limited to a few hundred miles, can it be possible that anything but a mere approximation can be obtained by an officer whose observations are expected to extend, during the same period, over 20,000 miles of country? A favourable or unfavourable season changes so utterly the appearance of the country in this Province, that persons visiting a particular locality shortly after rain, and again during drought, can with difficulty recognize it to be the same."

Interestingly, the second pastoral inspector was Goyder himself in 1864 as "Valuator of Runs". His task was to assess the capital value of every pastoral lease in South Australia. He issued a statement outlining the principles he used in assessing each lease.

"First, the system of examination has been to cross and recross the country, visiting and fixing the position of huts, waters and wells; sketching the natural features of the country, and minutely noting the character and vegetation; a method that enables me to judge with tolerable accuracy, when the plot is made of the whole of the country that can be fed over, and the portions omitted. The area of the different qualities of land is then calculated, and the carrying capabilities estimated; due allowance being made for winter country, and for other exigencies already named (viz. trespass, vicinity to stock routes, nearness to markets or ports, different weight of clips) and the value fixed with all the improvements, assumed as forming part of parcel of the run.

Second, a reduction has been made in each year's rental, to the extent of one-fifth of the estimated value of the improvements, lessening the amount taken off, however, when winter country might have been more use of, than appeared to have been done."

Goyder, like Morris, completed this task in less than one year. This was also the beginning of the big drought (1861-67) and Keith Bowes writes:

"As the months passed the position deteriorated. The countryside was devastated. Goyder reported in January 1867 that the vegetation had virtually disappeared, leading to serious soil erosion (by wind). The surface soil had been destroyed, "leaving the sheep and cattle tracks standing up like tessellated pavements three or four inches high". Two months earlier a northern settler had written that because of the continual dust storm it was "dangerous

to lay any article smaller than a bucket out of your hand for five minutes (more or less according to situation) without first taking the exact bearings from some prominent object". It was no exaggeration to say that there was not a scrap of feed from Port Augusta to Strangways' Springs, 260 miles to the north. When lessees delayed too long before attempting to remove their sheep to other pastures the stock perished, and even when the sheep were brought away it was with the loss of many and at the cost of securing pasture on agistment".

All this could have been written in 1978.

Source: Bowes, K.R., (1968)
Land Settlement in South Australia 1857-1890.
Libraries Board of South Australia, Adelaide. 387pp.

THAT'S LIFE

(from "The West Darling Pastoralist" - I'm sure those of you who have already seen this would like to share it with fellow members - Editor).

"It all started back in '66 when they changed to dollars, and overnight me overdraft doubled. I was just gettin' used to this when they brought in kilograms or somethin' and the woolclip dropped by half. Then they started playin' around with the weather and brought in Celcius, and we haven't had a decent fall of rain since. This wasn't enough - they had to change us over to hectares and I end up with less than half the farm I had. So one day I sat down and had a think. I reckoned that with daylight savin' I was workin' eight days a week so I decided to sell out. Then to cap it all off, I'd only just got the place in the agent's hands when they changed to kilometres and I find I'm too flamin' far out of town anyway!"

GLEANINGS FROM THE READINGS OF 'HAIRY PANIC'

Reardon, P.O. and Merrill, L.B. J. Range Manage. 29: 195

"Increases are plants which increase when decreases decrease, until they begin to decrease because of excessive grazing".

Eltringham, S.K. reviewing East African Mammals. An Atlas of Evolution in Africa by J. Kingdon.

"Bar room arguments over the mating habits of porcupines may be settled here.....". It seems that "carefully" is after all the correct answer.

AUSTRALIAN RANGELAND SOCIETY

Elections

In accordance with the Articles of Association (10a) the Council must call for nominations for the election of the following office bearers by not later than 31st March each year.

- Vice President
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer

Election of the President is not required as the Vice President in any year becomes President in the next succeeding year. The current Vice President is Dr W.H. Burrows.

Article 10(b) prescribes that Council will rotate, as far as practicable, between the States and Territories. Therefore, the outgoing Council is required to nominate the State or Territory from which the incoming Council is to be elected. Our President-elect, Dr Burrows, is based in Charleville and, therefore, Council has designated Queensland as the state from which the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected. For the smooth running of the Society, Council is convinced these two office bearers and the President must be within easy reach of each other. We ask that anyone intending to nominate someone for these positions bears this in mind.

The Council will reside in Queensland during 1978/79 and it will then move to South Australia. Therefore, the Vice President shall be elected from South Australia.

NOMINATION FORM

We hereby nominate.....(Block letters)
for the position of.....

Proposer's name.....(Block letters)

Proposer's signature.....

Secunder's name.....

Secunder's signature.....

Signature of nominee.....

Dated.....1977.

Return to: G.M. Cunningham,
Secretary,
Australian Rangeland Society,
P.O. Box 118,
CONDOBOLIN. N.S.W. 2877

by 10th April, 1978

1979 Conference

The next conference of the ARS is to be held in South Australia in May (?) 1979. Your executive would appreciate your opinion on both the format and subject matter for discussion at this conference. Please return to G.M. Cunningham, Secretary, Australian Rangeland Society, P.O. Box 118, Condobolin N.S.W. 2877, by 1 April 1978.

Suggestions for 1979 Conference

Name.....
Address.....
.....
.....