

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Thirty-second Annual General Meeting of Members of the Transvaal Land Owners' Association was held in the Association's Offices, Exchange Chambers, 68 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, on Monday, 14th October, 1935, at 12 noon.

Mr. R. W. Townsend (representing the African & European Investment Co., Ltd.) presided, and there were present Messrs. F. T. Kydd Coutts (Central South African Lands & Mines, Ltd.), J. Davidson (Henderson's Transvaal Estates, Ltd.), R. E. Garwood (Montrose Exploration Co., Ltd.), Retro Hedding (South African Townships, Mining & Finance Corporation, Ltd.), B. Moses (Transvaal & Delagoa Bay Investment Co., Ltd.), W. Nelson (Sir Abe Bailey, Bart., K.C.M.G.), Geo. Parkes (Lydenburg Gold Farms Co., Ltd.), A. P. Richter (Transvaal Gold Mining Estates, Ltd.), H. J. Summerley (Transvaal Consolidated Land & Exploration Co., Ltd. and Mrs. M. O. Tonkin), Lieut.-Col. Sir Llewellyn Andersson and Mr. A. D. Parsons (Secretary).

The Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted and the notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

Minutes of the ordinary general meeting of members, held on 5th November, 1934, were taken as read and confirmed.

The Secretary read the Auditors' report and on the motion of the Chairman the annual report of the Executive Committee, which had previously been circulated, was taken as read.

The Chairman said :

Gentlemen,

Before proceeding with the business of the meeting I have to refer, with the deepest regret to the death on Thursday last of Dr. Samuel Evans, a member of your Association for many years, and one who took a very keen interest in its work. His loss will be felt by all sections of the community, and I will ask you to rise for a moment in token of our sympathy.

The members present stood in silence.

Proceeding, the Chairman said :

As is customary, I have pleasure in submitting to you the Committee's Report and Audited Statements of Account for the year ended 30th June, 1935, which have been in your hands for several days. The Report is comprehensive and deals with the principal activities of the

Association during the year, besides other matters pertaining to land and agricultural questions of general interest to members.

Turning for a moment to the accounts now before you it will be observed that expenditure exceeded revenue by a small margin which necessitated drawing on our reserve funds. Subscriptions from members exceeded the previous year's total by £36 but there was a drop in receipts from commission, interest and sundry items of £103 due mainly to the smaller collections made by agents during the year for which native labour restrictions, loss of cattle from poverty, poor crops and general drought conditions were chiefly responsible. The question of outstandings is receiving the attention of your Executive.

There has again been a satisfactory increase in the Association's membership which was 79 at 30th June, as compared with 72 for the previous year.

LOCUSTS.

This is a matter of great importance to members. The year under review was remarkable for the extraordinarily heavy infestations of red locusts which came in their teeming millions from over our borders and invaded almost every part of the Union. Your Committee's time was very largely occupied with locust questions during the year, as the records of the many meetings and discussions held will testify, and I propose, with your permission, to refer as briefly as possible to the more important aspects of the locust campaign as it affected members of the Association.

Just prior to the advent of the rains last year, it became apparent that the Union was threatened with what promised to be the biggest invasion of locusts the country had yet seen and your Committee gave timely and careful consideration to the question of the best method of dealing with expected outbreaks on members' farms. In former years the work of destruction was by general consent left in the hands of the Government field organization, your members agreeing to pay for work actually done on their farms, but this arrangement proved to be most unsatisfactory to members. The work was badly organized, many of the accounts rendered were exorbitant, others were in respect of farms on which no spraying had taken place and a reconsideration of the whole position was clearly indicated. In view of the probable magnitude of the 1934-35 campaign and the necessity for the closest co-operation of all concerned, it was decided to confer with the Government on the question and the whole situation was discussed at an interview with the Under Secretary for Agriculture at Pretoria, when the Association's views were submitted and the Government was again assured of its earnest desire to assist and co-operate in every possible way. The Association subsequently made an offer to the Department to contribute a sum of £10 per farm for which the Government would carry out all destruction work for the season 1934/5, and release the owner of any liability. This offer, made in good faith and with a desire to assist the Government, was rejected by the Minister on the grounds that the amount was insufficient, but the Minister was unable to suggest

what he would regard as an adequate sum, and this method of dealing with the matter was, therefore, definitely ruled out. Alternative methods were then carefully considered and it was eventually decided that the Association should itself undertake the work on behalf, and at the cost of members, and provide in each agency an organization under the control of the agent to deal with outbreaks on members' farms. A central conference of Agents was convened at Pietersburg in November to discuss details and to arrange a co-ordinated plan of operations and the scheme was duly launched immediately thereafter, with the necessary complement of spraying units and transport, together with supervisors to assist the agents in controlling and directing the work of the gangs. The Association also simultaneously established an intelligence system covering areas in which members' farms are situated, to report to the authorities the presence of flying swarms, deposits and hatchings of eggs, etc., printed cards being distributed by the Association for the purpose.

Our organization was kept in the field until the somewhat unexpected cessation of the invasion at the end of February when the spraying units were disbanded and all employees paid off. I am pleased to state that this initial venture proved successful, the whole of the operations being carried out at a much lower cost as compared with the extravagant charges levied against your members by Government in the past. The organization worked smoothly, efficiently and economically and was able to deal with practically all members' farms in the districts concerned. The number of farms which came under the organization was 542 and the total cost of the operations amounted to £1635 or an average of just over £3 per farm, as compared with £10 per farm declined by the Government. These figures include wages and salaries, purchase of equipment, petrol, insurance, travelling allowances to agents, food for natives, etc., and even if the campaign had extended into March or April it may confidently be stated from past experience that the total cost would have been considerably less than if the work had again been left in the hands of the Government. I think members are to be heartily congratulated on the results and wish to record my appreciation of the loyal support received from our officials and agents in helping to carry out the campaign.

Members are aware that the Association's attitude on the locust question is that destruction in the very nature of its incidence is essentially a national question and as such the whole cost should be borne by the State. The Association's view was again put forward during the year but the Government refused to admit the logic of the arguments advanced. That our opinion is also shared by such a representative body as the South African Agricultural Union is shown by the following resolution adopted, *inter alia*, at a meeting of the Union's Executive held at Bloemfontein on 13th March which, by the kind invitation of its President, was attended by representatives of this Association.

The resolution reads:—

“The Executive Committee of the South African Agricultural Union resolves that, as locust destruction is a matter

entirely beyond the control of the individual landowner it shall be regarded as a national matter and the responsibility for destruction of the pest and the whole cost thereof assumed by the State."

The Department's reply to this resolution was as follows:—

"The destruction of locusts is almost exclusively in the interests of the farming population of the country, and it is, therefore, considered fair and reasonable that the farming community should be responsible for the destruction with the State supplying the necessary materials and rendering assistance where the infestation proves beyond the control of the individual farmer. By relieving the owner or occupier of the responsibility for the destruction of hoppers on his farm, a task which under normal conditions is neither heavy nor expensive and which can be performed most conveniently and efficiently by the owner or occupier concerned, the control of locust outbreaks would become impossible. Where the infestation is heavy the State renders assistance and, as has been demonstrated during the past two campaigns, bears the major portion of the expenditure.

My own comment on this is that a locust invasion, particularly such as the last, cannot be deemed a responsibility to be borne by any selected individual or a section of the general community. It is a national calamity. It threatens the nation's food supplies and therefore every single member of the community is concerned in the destruction of the pest. If the farmer destroys the swarms he may save his crops but that cannot be counted as a gain or profit to him. He is merely protecting what it has taken considerable time, labour and expense to produce. Why should he be called upon to bear a double expense to correct a position for which he is blameless? The Government is mistakenly determined to adhere to its policy of making one section of the community, namely the land section, responsible for destroying a pest whose extermination is vital to the interests and welfare of the whole nation. This anomaly should be removed and I am glad to note that the South African Agricultural Union has reaffirmed its former resolutions and will take the matter up with the authorities again. The Union can rely upon the support of the Association on this important question.

In connection with locust destruction, it is necessary to refer to the very important question of the use of arsenic in spraying operations. The method hitherto adopted of spraying arsenical poisons all over the country is a potential danger to human life and thousands of head of valuable stock have been lost as a result of feeding from poisoned veld and/or baled forage and heavy compensation has had to be paid to the owners. Other pernicious affects of arsenical spraying are the destruction of the natural enemies of the locust, the destruction of vegetation and the possible pollution of water supplies.

It is understood that the Government now contemplates the use of poisoned bait which it is hoped may prove to be a suitable alternative to the spraying methods hitherto adopted.

The accounts submitted to members for the 1933/34 campaign are still awaiting settlement owing to the non-receipt of details which the Department was requested to furnish to enable an investigation of the claims to be made. Magistrates recently advised that the Government had decided to reduce all recoverable accounts by 25 per cent provided that owners accept the Department's statements as correct and that the claims be paid within three months. In view of the exorbitant and irregular charges to which I have already referred and of the necessity for a close examination of the claims in the light of our agents' and supervisors' detailed reports on the 1933/34 operations your Committee decided to persist in its application for a correct rendering of accounts before acting on the Government's offer.

GAME PRESERVATION.

This is a question of great interest not only to landowners but to all lovers of wild life who for many years have viewed with grave concern the ruthless slaughter of the country's fauna which in many areas has been exterminated. It is a matter for congratulation that the Transvaal Provincial Council has now passed a new Game Ordinance which it is hoped will stem the destruction of this diminishing and valuable asset and assist the police to deal more adequately with offenders.

The new Game Ordinance is comprehensively dealt with by Dr. A. A. Schoch in an informative and interesting article published in the *Rand Daily Mail* of 17th June last, which many of you no doubt have read and a copy of which is now on the table. I propose to refer briefly to some of the more important changes which will be brought about by the amended law, when it comes into force. Some of these are dealt with more fully in Dr. Schoch's article which I commend to your study.

Whilst the new Ordinance re-enacts most of the provisions of the 1905 Game Ordinance it differs therefrom in several important respects and introduces some new principles.

Under the new law open and close seasons as they are known to-day are done away with and in future we shall refer instead to "open game," which is any species of game declared by proclamation to be open game in any district or area, and to "protected game" which is all game other than open game. "Big Game" and "Small Game" animals are no longer classified separately as in the old law but are shown under one category, Part I. Game Birds comprise Part II. of the new game schedule.

One of the most important provisions of the new law prohibits the selling of game or the flesh (whether fresh or dried), hide or skin of any game, except that the owner of the land may sell any spring-buck, blesbuck, black wildebeeste or guinea fowl hunted on such land or the fresh flesh of such game and it may also be sold by the holder of a game sale licence on the premises specified. It will be noted that only fresh flesh may be sold. This wise provision will check the nefarious traffic in biltong which for so long has been one of the

main causes of the slaughter of game. The Ordinance has exempted the species named from the sale prohibition because guinea fowl breed up very rapidly in suitable localities and are not in danger of extinction, and because as a rule the antelopes mentioned are found only on fenced land whereon the owner has bred them or their parent stock, much as he breeds domestic animals. When the new Ordinance comes into operation a landowner will be entitled to shoot game birds, hares and blue wildebeeste on his land at any time of the year without a game licence or permit.

The landowner is also afforded better protection against poachers than under the old law. Thus, a new provision makes it an offence to trespass wilfully upon any land while in possession of any firearm or airgun and in future if any person conveys a firearm by motor vehicle over a road traversing land where there is game he must keep the firearm in a securely fastened cover or case.

As Dr. Schoch points out, it is a well known fact that the best of laws may be futile if they cannot be enforced effectively. Unfortunately, the game laws are very frequently violated and it is extremely difficult to bring the offenders to justice and for that reason the new Ordinance contains elaborate provisions to facilitate a conviction of those who contravene it. These are to be found in Section 11 which deals very fully with the important question of evidence and will greatly strengthen the hands of the authorities and assist the landowner against unlawful hunting.

The new Ordinance also endeavours to ensure that certain offenders against the game laws shall be more adequately punished. Cases have continually been brought to notice in the past of totally inadequate sentences passed by some magistrates upon persons convicted under the game laws, the fines imposed in some instances being actually lower than the licence or permit fees which the offenders would have had to pay in order to shoot the game lawfully, thus placing the poacher at an advantage over the sportsman who obeys the law and takes out a licence or permit.

The question of game preservation was referred to by your President in his address last year when he very aptly pointed out the desirability of educating public opinion, beginning in the schools. The suggestion was followed up by your Committee and a comprehensive resolution dealing with the subject was forwarded to the Wild Life Protection Society.

This resolution found ready support with the Society and the subject was discussed at an interview with the Administrator who was very sympathetic and indicated that he would do what he could to encourage propaganda in the schools. I am hopeful of good results and would like to record the Association's appreciation of the action taken by the Wild Life Protection Society in connection with this and various other matters on which we have approached them.

NATIVE TRUST AND LAND BILL. ✓

A draft measure of great importance to members and which is likely to occupy a good deal of the time of your incoming Committee is the amended Native Trust and Land Bill which is submitted by the Joint Committee of the House of Assembly and the Senate in its Report published during the year.

The amended Bill is the last of a succession of Bills dealing with the acquisition of land by natives published by the Government since 1926 and differs little in principle from its predecessors. Its main provisions have already been communicated to members in a memorandum issued in June and I need not, therefore, deal with them in detail now. It will suffice for the present to say that they constitute an encroachment upon the vested rights of the landowner and impose irksome restrictions in regard to the use and enjoyment of his property. The Bill empowers the Government to acquire by expropriation any land required for native settlement and seriously impairs the value of title to land throughout the country by prescribing conditions in regard to the residence of natives on land wherever situated, denying to the owner the native rental value of his farm, fixing rentals, charging licenses, etc. Another provision will deprive the owner of the trading rights on any land in released areas which may be occupied by natives.

The drastic proposals contained in the Bill, if passed into law as they stand, can only result in a very considerable depreciation in the value of the land concerned and consequent serious loss to the owners thereof. The provision of adequate and suitable land for the Union's native population is very necessary and long overdue but it must not be overlooked that the Bill has for its object the carrying out of a State policy, the aim of which is to benefit the whole population of the State and is not for the especial benefit of farm owners. The landowner is entitled to expect that his vested rights shall be preserved to him intact and that in the carrying into effect of this policy of State he shall not be called upon to contribute more than the share of the cost which would fall to him as a member of the State. The effect generally upon the interests of the landowner, wherever his land is situated, and whether his land comes directly within the scope of the Bill or not, of legislation which imposes restrictions on the use of land, was dealt with in a memorandum, submitted by your Association to the Prime Minister on the 1927 draft Bill, of which the following is an extract:—

“It is submitted that the passing of legislation of this character must impair the value of title to land throughout the Union and must retard development and settlement. Peaceful, unhindered possession of land is the very corner stone of the farmer's prosperity and is an essential condition of the continued development of the agricultural resources of the country. Unless the landowner has the conviction that he is safe from injury by legislation, all inducement to undertake permanent agricultural works disappears. Underlying the farm owners' policy of improvement is the assurance that, apart from the immediate benefit he derives

from the buildings he erects, his dams and boreholes, his lands and fences, he is building up a capital asset which is at all times realisable.

“That assurance no longer can be held when title becomes violable.

“The same fears that will restrain him from further expenditure must deter the investment of new capital in land and land industries.”

This statement, which applies equally to the present Bill, indicates clearly the difficulties with which landowners will be faced in endeavouring to shape their future land development policy if this Bill becomes law, and requires no further comment from me.

Your Committee will do its utmost to protect members' interests in this matter and to represent the Association's views to the Government when the proper time arrives.

TRADING ON MINING GROUND.

During the year a Commission was appointed by Government to enquire into trading on proclaimed land in the Transvaal Province. Your Association's view on this question is that as the trading rights belong exclusively to the freehold owner of the land he should receive at least half the proceeds of disposal and any subsequent revenue collected by the Government in respect of such trading rights. Evidence to this effect was given before the Commission on your Association's behalf.

The Commission's report has recently been released and a copy is on the table. It is of interest to note that the majority of the Commission has recommended that the owner should receive a half share of the revenue derived by the Government from trading stands and sites, whilst the minority recommends that the State should continue to receive the whole of such revenue. The freehold owner is justly entitled to a share of whatever revenue is produced in respect of trading on his ground and it is to be hoped that the existing anomaly in the law will be remedied without delay.

MINERAL LAW—OWNERS' MYNPACHT.

Turning now to the Mineral Law Amendment Act No. 36 of 1934, the provisions of which have been applied to a number of important new mining ventures launched during the year, we find there has been a considerable departure from legislative practice in the past, principally by reason of the fact that under the new amended provisions contained therein owners are no longer permitted the right of selection as regards the location of mynpachts—a privilege, or perhaps I should say a compensating factor, hitherto enjoyed by the land owner or mineral owner, as the case may be. Since the earliest days of mining in the Transvaal the right of selection has remained vested in the owner, but under the working of the new Act the right of selection is controlled by the Hon. the Minister of Mines, as advised by the Mining

Leases Board, to whom application may be made for the grant of an additional mining area to be worked on a lease basis in conjunction with the mynpacht area to be allotted. In short, the effect of the new law is that the owner's wishes can be entirely overridden by the Minister and the Board and instead of profiting by the mynpacht granted under the amended law he may in fact actually lose by it in comparison with the rights he formerly enjoyed.

Representations on this and a number of other points were made by your Executive Committee in its discussions with representatives of the Mines Department prior to the passing of the Amending Bill when definite assurances were given that the interests of the owner would be fully protected, so that although the owner has now not the same strictly legal right as formerly he retains a strong moral claim for what it may be worth both in regard to locality of mynpacht and the acquisition of additional lease areas. It is very desirable that the owners' former rights in this respect should be upheld—thus further encouraging the birth of new mining enterprise so essential for the successful development of South Africa.

I understand that new mining legislation is contemplated in respect of other of the Union's provinces, with the object of establishing a more or less common procedure in dealing with mining properties. This will undoubtedly be a step in the right direction and provided fair measures are introduced, will do much to facilitate and establish new business throughout the areas concerned.

BASE MINERALS.

Members will have read with interest the recent public statement by the Minister of Mines regarding the development of the Union's base metal resources. The occasion was the official opening of the new mineral research laboratory at the Rand University, in itself a welcome development, and the Minister outlined the Government's extensive new policy of exploiting the country's vast mineral wealth so that in the event of gold production dwindling another productive asset could be established. The four lines of approach on which the Government are proceeding are: geological surveys—including aerial photographic surveys, marketing investigations, assistance to small propositions and scientific research work. I feel sure you will agree with the Minister as to the soundness of this policy which will be welcomed by all concerned in spite of its belated adoption and we hope that the efforts being made will achieve the desired object with resultant prosperity to the Union.

AFFORESTATION AND SOIL PRESERVATION.

Your attention is drawn to the Empire Forestry Conference which has just concluded its sittings in the Union, and which embraces delegates from no less than twenty different countries. Without in any way detracting from the praiseworthy efforts and the work of our Government Departments we may well regard the deliberations of this Conference as of great and far-reaching importance to the interests of the Empire in general and in particular to our own country of South Africa, which may be classed as one of the newer development units in this great association.

One may, I think, visualise the development of a new country as being made up of two stages: firstly, the exploitation stage; and, secondly, the re-building process. For instance, we exploit our mineral wealth, our fauna and our flora. Our minerals cannot directly be restored, but can indirectly be replaced by reason of the wealth that they produce, by the promotion of industry and other national activities. Our fauna is a diminishing factor; it can even now be partially saved to us but, once destroyed, cannot be replaced.

Our forests, our grasses and our soil are still substantially with us, but even these valuable natural assets are being endangered. Indigenous woods are being cut out in many areas and are not being replaced. Admittedly the planting of exotic trees is of great benefit to the country and does in some measure compensate for the loss of our native timbers, but the fact remains that plantings of this nature are effected for commercial purposes and do not make good the loss to which I have referred. Both our veld and the value of our rainfall suffer from this process of timber removal and the process of deterioration and soil erosion is hastened by the further evils of overstocking, grass burning, and unsuitable cultivation. It is in respect of these and many kindred matters that we shall await with interest the result of the work of this Empire Conference, which, in conjunction with the organised efforts of our Government Departments and the co-operation of the landowner, may do much to minimise the exploitation, and hasten the timely preservation, of these natural assets.

In conclusion, I wish to record the Committee's appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. A. D. Parsons, the Secretary, and his staff.

I now beg formally to move the adoption of the Executive Committee's Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1935, and will ask Lt.-Col. Sir Llewellyn Andersson to second the motion.

Sir Llewellyn Andersson said: It gives me great pleasure to second the motion for the adoption of the Committee's report and accounts. The report is most comprehensive and informative and has now been very ably amplified by your chairman. During the week-end I spent a very interesting time going through all the reports of the Executive Committee and the proceedings of the annual meetings since 1903 and found them most instructive. The amount of work carried out by the Executive Committee is simply marvellous and the Association can justly claim to have done a certain amount of good for its members and the country at large. It is almost 32 years since the Association held its first annual meeting, presided over by the late Sir Julius Jeppe, since when the Association has grown and the work increased enormously. Through all these years it has been the Association's good fortune in having on its executive committee and as presidents men of ripe experience and sound knowledge who have so closely identified themselves with the objects of the Association. Some of them have been associated with us for the past 32 years. Without detracting in any way from the work of the older members I should like to see more of the younger generation coming on and taking a hand in the

Association's work. We have to look to the future and I would suggest that our member groups consider this matter and send us more young men.

We have also been fortunate in our secretaries, and it speaks well for the Association that during the whole period we have had only two, Mr. H. A. Baily, our first secretary who retired in 1919 after 17 years' service; Mr. A. D. Parsons has been your secretary since then and has given us unstinted and valuable service (hear, hear). I should also like to mention our agents who have rendered substantial work in the interests of members. Thanks are also due to the press for the space they have given to the varied interests we represent.

Much good work has been done by the Association in the interests of the public. For instance, the 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association, to which we donated £1000, and the S.A. Good Roads League, but I think that sufficient credit has not been given to this Association for what it has accomplished in regard to game preservation. For over 20 years we strove for the establishment of a national park and through our efforts Mr. Piet Grobler, then Minister of Lands, was approached in 1924 and persuaded to see the value of a game park to the country. Great credit is due to the late Major Greathead and the late Major Scott (acting for the Government) who arranged the necessary exchange of land as between members and the Government, as a result of which we now have over 5,000,000 acres of land reserved as a National Park. It was on the suggestion of this Association to Mr. Grobler that it was named "*Kruger*" National Park.

One other matter to which I would like to refer is the carrying out of the locust campaign last year. It was largely due to the initiative of your chairman that we were able to arrange for the Association undertaking the work on behalf of members, and our thanks are mainly due to the chairman for his efforts and the results attained.

I now beg to second the motion for the adoption of the Reports and Accounts.

The motion was carried unanimously.

There being no other nominations, under Article 25 of the Constitution the Chairman declared the Executive Committee re-elected, as follows: Lt. Col. Sir Llewellyn Andersson, Messrs. F. T. Kydd Coutts, J. Davidson, R. Des Clayes, J. T. Goldsbury, R. B. Hagart, Rotro Hedding, E. M. Hind, G. McBean, J. N. Mackenzie, B. Moses, J. H. Rainier, A. P. Richter, H. J. Summerley and R. W. Townsend.

Mr. F. T. Kydd Coutts proposed that Mr. R. W. Townsend be re-elected President of the Association for the ensuing year. Mr. R. Hedding seconded and Mr. R. W. Townsend was unanimously re-elected President of the Association for the ensuing year.

Mr. Townsend said: I have to thank you, Gentlemen, for again electing me as President for the ensuing year, and for the confidence which you have thus reposed in me.

The duties attached to the office are, as you know, at times heavy, but always interesting. The work of the Association serves as a useful contribution to the general order of things and is not without its national influence representing, as it does, the views of an important section of the community.

I anticipate that the coming year will be a busy one, for we shall have, besides the usual problems to attend to, special problems such as the Native Land Bills which will necessitate the closest attention. Fortunately our Executive Committee has had many years' experience in these matters and their services will be, as they have been in the past, of the greatest possible benefit to members.

I feel encouraged, therefore, Gentlemen, to enter upon the work of the new year with every confidence, and we shall all do our best in the mutual interest.

Thank you, Gentlemen.

Mr. B. Moses proposed that Mr. J. Davidson be re-elected and Mr. A. P. Richter elected Vice-Presidents of the Association for the ensuing year. Mr. Geo. Parkes seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. H. J. Summerley, seconded by Mr. R. E. Garwood, Messrs. Roberts, Allsworth, Cooper Brothers & Company were re-elected auditors of the Association for the ensuing year, the remuneration for the past audit to be forty guineas.

After recording a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting terminated.

Farms for Sale.

Members of the Association have a considerable number of farms for sale in various areas, the majority being situated in the Northern Districts of the Transvaal Province.

The districts in question are specially recommended for cattle raising and dairying and, in addition, many farms are well adapted for the production of maize, tobacco, cotton, citrus fruit, tree planting, etc.

Applicants desiring to purchase a farm are strongly advised not to decide upon a property until they have thoroughly satisfied themselves as to its possibilities and the general condition of the locality in which it is situated. Personal careful inspection is recommended, and intercourse with practical local farmers before final selection of the farm. Valuable advice may also be obtained from the Department of Agriculture in Pretoria.

The terms and conditions upon which the farms can be purchased will be found to be very favourable and may be had on application to the owners.

The Association will be pleased to furnish all possible information on receipt of request from applicants stating their requirements.

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