

STATE OF NEVADA

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

—
1915-1916
—



CARSON CITY, NEVADA

STATE PRINTING OFFICE : : : JOE FARNSWORTH, SUPERINTENDENT

1917

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

DIRECTORS

W. H. Moffat.....	Reno	H. Amigo.....	Reno
George Wingfield.....	Reno	Henry Stephens.....	Sparks
S. H. Wheeler.....	Reno	H. F. Dangberg.....	Minden
R. W. Parry.....	Reno	Robert Govan.....	Tonopah
U. M. Slater.....	Reno	R. L. Douglass.....	Fallon
Gurney Gordon.....	Reno	A. W. Keddle.....	Fallon
Alex Dromiack.....	Reno	Frank Button.....	Winnemucca

OFFICERS

W. H. Moffat.....	President	Reno National Bank.....	Treasurer
W. D. Phillips.....	Secretary	A. Dromiack.....	Supt. of Track
S. H. Wheeler.....	Supt. of Pavilion		

EXECUTIVE BOARD

W. H. Moffat.....	Reno	Gurney Gordon.....	Reno
George Wingfield.....	Reno	H. Stephens.....	Sparks
S. H. Wheeler.....	Reno	H. Amigo.....	Reno
A. Dromiack.....	Reno	R. W. Parry.....	Reno
U. M. Slater.....	Reno		

LIFE MEMBERS OF STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Adams, J. W.....	Carson City	Marzen, Joseph.....	Sacramento
Allen, Lem.....	Reno	Mulcahey, P. H.....	Sparks
Abrahams, L.....	San Francisco	Nelson, Thomas.....	Stone House
Bell, Frank.....	Reno	Noyes, W. H.....	Reno
Bevier, L.....	San Francisco	Parry, R. W.....	Reno
Bell, W. J.....	Winnemucca	Phillips, W. D.....	Reno
Curtis, M. J.....	Reno	Rickey, T. B.....	Berkeley, Cal.
Drappo, E. L.....	Reno	Russell, George.....	Elko
Dromiack, Alex.....	Reno	Regan, Frank.....	Reno
Dangberg, H. F.....	Minden	Sanford, J. M.....	Fallon
Evans, Mrs. Newton.....	Reno	Shane, A. D.....	Reno
Fulton, R. L.....	Reno	Smith, Mrs. O. J.....	New York
Flanigan, P. L.....	Reno	Sadlier, Chas. A.....	San Francisco
Gosse, H. J.....	Reno	Stoddard, Chas. A.....	Reno
Gordon, Gurney.....	Reno	Sparks, Benton.....	Reno
Harris, T. T.....	Elko	Slater, U. M.....	Reno
Hunter, Thos.....	Elko	Summertfield, Sardis.....	Reno
Lewis, R. W.....	Austin	Talbot, James.....	Reno
Lemery, C.....	Pomona, Cal.	Williams, Frank.....	Goodsprings
Luke, W. J.....	Reno	Watt, George.....	Austin
Longabaugh, Sam.....	Franktown	Wildes, F. L.....	Carson City
Mayberry, Jas.....	Reno	Wilcox, A. D.....	Battle Mountain
Martin, Mrs. W. O. H.....	Reno	Wheeler, D. C.*.....	Reno
McCone, A. J.....	San Francisco	Wheeler, S. H.....	Reno
Mapes, G. W.....	Reno		

*Deceased.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
RENO, NEVADA, December 15, 1916.

HON. EMMET D. BOYLE, *Governor, Carson City, Nevada.*

SIR: Complying with the requirements of the statutes that govern the Nevada State Agricultural Society, we have the honor to herewith present to you an accounting of all proceedings that have been passed upon by the directorate board during the biennial period of years 1915 and 1916, together with the financial exhibits of receipts and disbursements as compiled and shown by our Secretary's report hereto attached.

As you are aware, the last session of the State Legislature passed an enactment which changed the locality of holding state fairs from the city of Reno to the town of Fallon, together with an appropriation of eight thousand (\$8,000) dollars to operate the fair of 1915, and five thousand (\$5,000) dollars for the fair of 1916, therefore, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of these measures we called together the State Board of Directors and passed a set of resolutions which authorized Directors W. A. Keddie, and Robert L. Douglass, both residents of Fallon, to be appointed a local committee with full power to make all necessary arrangements for promoting a State Fair and manage the same. One of the conditions invested in this committee required them to render to the State Board a full and complete report of all transactions under their operations to be passed upon by the State Board for their final approval and thence to the State Board of Examiners. We have to state that this requirement was not complied with and therefore we are not in possession of the proper information to render you a report that should at least show to whom all premium awards were given and amounts paid on same.

For the fair of 1915 we received only an incomplete memorandum report that made no showing of the itemized premium awards—the most important feature as a matter of information to those who have received premiums upon their respective exhibits.

For the year 1916 we have not, up to this time, received any report whatever of the fair held. We are, however, indirectly advised that the premiums awarded and expenses incurred are in excess of the appropriation fund nearly two thousand (\$2,000) dollars, making a total expenditure, for the fair, of nearly seven thousand (\$7,000) dollars. The fairs for both years, we are pleased to state, were quite successfully managed, taking into consideration the adverse conditions which the local committee were compelled to meet. The agricultural and pavilion exhibits were very neatly and artistically displayed. The livestock exhibitions at the fairs of both years were exceptionally good and justly pronounced the main feature of the exhibitions. Live stock of all classes, including poultry, was largely represented from many portions of this State and California, and, passing judgment upon the standard of high-class breeding, it was conceded that most all of the exhibits could not be outclassed. The attendance was not what it should have been upon the occasion of a state affair, and it

is with some degree of reluctance that we are compelled to state that it was much to be regretted that the town of Fallon was not sufficiently provided with hotel accommodations to meet the demand. While the good people of that place exercised all possible efforts to render the necessary provisions in this respect, it must be admitted that they were somewhat lacking. This state of facts becoming somewhat current throughout the State, is the reasonable explanation for the lack of attendance and participation of the occasions. The consensus of opinion generally seems to be that the action of the Legislature in removing the holding of state fairs from Reno to Fallon was an impairable error and much to be deplored. The success of state exhibitions wherein all the industries of the State can be given the opportunity of showing what progress has been attained, and the valuable possibilities of the State's respective products, especially in livestock raising, mining, and agricultural pursuits, is certainly a method of state advertisement that seemingly should be maintained through means of all possible endeavors.

Our neighboring States, especially California, manifest an increased progress and go-ahead movement upon these lines each passing year. In California we are advised that there will be three more district fairs established in addition to the eight district fairs of last year. The same increased interest is manifest in the States of Oregon, Montana, Utah, and Arizona. In this connection it appeals to us that the oft-repeated suggestion, that this State establish and liberally maintain one or more district fairs in connection with our annual state fairs, should be favorably entertained, as it is our belief that such an undertaking would be of great value as a boost movement in the promotion of our state industries. Our last fair held at Reno, in the year of 1914, was a grand success in all respects and commanded high appreciation of all exhibitors and unbounded encouragement to the management, which at all times is referred to with great satisfaction.

We now desire to call your attention to the Secretary's financial report showing what has been expended during the past two years for the construction of new stalls, repairing of buildings, and reconstruction of our race-course upon the state property located at Reno. The race-course was pronounced to be in a very bad condition, covered with rocks and unsuitable soil that rendered it unfit and very dangerous for racing purposes, and our Executive Board decided to put it in first-class condition. This work was commenced on April 3, 1915, and was not completed until about July 1 of the same year. It was found necessary to remove nearly all of the old soil and to replace the same with suitable earth which had to be hauled by teams some distance from the park grounds. This work incurred an expenditure of \$6,683.05. It was also found that many of the old stalls and other buildings required considerable repair work done on them, also the construction of 309 new stalls and about sixty feet additional to the old grand-stand, together with a betting ring and other smaller improvements, all of which involved a cost of \$11,363.40. The construction of the new stalls became necessary in compliance with the conditions of an agreement entered into between our Board of Directors and Messrs. Duncan & Schas, the latter being lessees of our race-course and buildings during the past two years and managers of the so-called Reno Fair and Racing Association, under whose management all racing

events were conducted during that period of time and from whom our Society received in rentals the sum of \$8,000.

During the progress of this repair and construction work above mentioned we were compelled to borrow from the Reno banking firms, all told, the sum of fourteen thousand and five hundred (\$14,500) dollars secured by members of our Executive Board. Up to this time the sum of five thousand five hundred (\$5,500) dollars, together with all interest up to October 1, has been paid upon this note, reducing the amount now due to nine thousand (\$9,000) dollars.

We are pleased to note that all the improvements that have been accomplished upon our state park property were conducted under careful and economic supervision, and that we can now boast that we have a complete and up-to-date plant.

Another important fact, to which we desire to call special attention, is that, through the operations of racing events during the past two years, the State of Nevada became the greatest beneficiary to the extent of \$29,631.50, out of which \$24,631.56 was collected by the Nevada State Racing Board from the Reno Fair and Racing Association, being the deduction of a certain percentage from the pari-mutuel wagering fund, netting in the aggregate the amount stated, which, through a special provision of legislative enactment, was applied to the state good roads fund, and distribution made throughout the State upon a mileage basis.

In addition to this we realize in value the cost of certain improvements upon our grounds made and paid for by the lessees of the property, namely, the construction of the jockey rooms, half the cost of building the betting ring, whitewashing of all stalls, fences, and other buildings, together with numerous smaller improvements the cost of which aggregates about five thousand (\$5,000) dollars; also that the lessees have taken the very best care of the property and are turning it back to us in a first-class condition.

We have been advised that there has been some adverse criticism as to the manner in which the Racing Association conducted the pari-mutuel wagering, claiming, as we understand the nature of the complaint, that holders of winning tickets did not receive a fair proportion of money they were entitled to. To this charge we will say that we firmly believe that it is made without the slightest foundation, as the operation of the wagering was under the close observation of the State Racing Committee throughout the entire meetings, and we have their assurance that nothing but the most strict fair dealing was practiced by the pari-mutuel managers, and, as we have previously very strongly recommended the adoption of the pari-mutuel wagering in this State, which became legalized through legislative enactment, we entertain a considerable degree of responsibility by reason of the recommendation offered and realize a duty involved that its adoption be given a good fair trial. During the progress of all race meets the past two years the betting ring was liberally patronized far beyond our expectations, which fact alone carried with it the strongest evidence that the public generally entertained a feeling of confidence of fair and honest dealing. We wish also to call attention to the additional fact, in support of our contention, that in nearly all Eastern and Middle States, wherein race meetings are conducted and wagering allowed, the pari-mutuel method is adopted. California also, we are

credibly informed, will, at their next legislative session, legalize pari-mutuel betting at all race meetings which will be conducted under the supervision of a State Racing Commission. Therefore, notwithstanding the comparatively slight opposition that may have been promulgated in the past, or the possible attempt to defeat pari-mutuel wagering hereafter in our State, together with the absence of any good reason advanced or the production of any evidence whatever why any such opposition should be recognized, we wish to state that we are still proclaiming adherence to our favorable recommendations with the strongest hopes that there be no change made in the enactments as they now stand upon the state statute records. We also hope, and earnestly solicit, your very valuable influence in support of our efforts in the promotion of state fairs and race meets during the ensuing two years. We believe that we are entitled to a reasonably liberal appropriation by the State for this purpose. Valuable results realized in past years unquestionably demonstrated that money was judiciously spent for successful state exhibitions.

Before closing we desire to make mention of the fact that the citizens of Reno donated the sum of \$3,896.50 to be applied to the improvement expense, for which we extend our hearty appreciation and many thanks to each individual subscriber.

Very respectfully and sincerely yours,

W. H. MOFFAT,
President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

RENO, NEVADA, December 15, 1916.

To the State Board of Agriculture, Reno, Nevada.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to submit the following report showing the financial transactions of my office during the years 1915 and 1916. We are unable to render any report of the two fairs held at Fallon, on account of not having received the proper data to make up the same, the following accounting being of what has transpired on the state property located at Reno:

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS

Received from rental of inside circle of park during the year 1916.....	\$500.00
Received from Duncan & Schas, park and track rental.....	1,000.00
Received from private subscriptions from citizens of Reno.....	3,896.50
Received from Reno National Bank (secured by note).....	14,500.00
Received from Duncan & Schas, rental of park for 1916.....	7,000.00
Received from rental of inner circle during year 1916.....	600.00
Received from stall rent for 1916.....	10.00
Received from State University, half cost repairing of stall doors.....	35.00
Received from refund on Washoe Wood and Coal Company bill.....	2.25
Received from Byington & Hall, refund on insurance policy.....	33.55
Total receipts.....	\$27,577.30
Cash on hand from the year 1914.....	433.58
Total.....	\$28,010.88

DISBURSEMENTS

Paid out for repairing race-course, teams and labor.....	\$6,683.06
Paid out for constructing 303 new stalls.....	7,068.70
Paid out for constructing 56 stalls under old roof.....	997.75
Paid out for constructing paddock and ceiling in front.....	869.00
Paid out for constructing 40 new stall doors.....	70.00
Paid out for constructing bridge over ditch and flooring 2 rooms.....	95.00
Paid out for constructing men's toilet.....	244.65
Paid out for constructing new seats in old grand-stand.....	100.00
Paid out for constructing 25 private boxes in grand-stand.....	89.15
Paid out for constructing new stairs to grand-stand.....	62.50
Paid out for constructing ticket office.....	48.40
Paid out for laying of water pipes and plumbing.....	897.55
Paid out for half cost of betting ring.....	632.00
Paid out for changing stairs in old pavilion.....	15.50
Paid out for repairing west side stalls.....	38.25
Paid out for repairing old barn on hill.....	11.55
Paid out for building fence in front of paddock.....	12.95
Paid out for repairing chairs in grand-stand.....	15.10
Paid out for building one heavy harrow.....	16.00
Paid out for building fence south of 40 stalls.....	14.15
Paid out for furnishing bars in 94 old stalls.....	23.50
Paid out for partitioning stalls, tearing out room under grand-stand, rail and wire, hand rakes, and other minor work.....	51.60
Paid out to Porteous Paint Company for painting.....	205.59
Paid out for one sprinkling wagon.....	441.50
Paid out for supplies and material.....	931.19
Paid out for premiums on fire insurance.....	333.75
Paid out for wages of caretakers of track.....	230.00
Paid on the \$14,500 note in Reno National Bank.....	5,500.00
Paid interest on notes.....	1,447.10
Paid Secretary, office and incidental expenses.....	587.90
Total disbursements.....	\$27,723.48
Cash now in the treasury.....	287.40
Total.....	\$28,010.88

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. PHILLIPS,

Secretary.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

MEMORANDUM

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W. B. PHILLIPS