

MINUTE OF MEETING of the COMMITTEE of
the WARE POTATO DIVISION of THE
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION
held at 261 Wallace Street, Glasgow,
at 11.30 a.m. on MONDAY, 8th
FEBRUARY, 1971.

PRESENT: Messrs. A.D. Williamson, J. Robertson, N. Law, M.K. Mathie, A.W. Adair, P. McDougall, I.P. Fulton, J. Aitken and G.G. Donald, along with Mr. R. David Hunter, the Secretary.

APOLOGY. An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Mr. T. McClung.

MINUTES. The Minute of Meeting of the Committee of the Ware Potato Division held on 16th December, 1970 was taken as read, approved and signed.

Arising out of the previous Minute the Secretary reported on the arrangements which had been made for the Ware Potato Division Annual Dinner/Dance to be held in St. Enoch Hotel, Glasgow, on Friday, 12th March, 1971.

J.C.C. Mr. Ian P. Fulton reported on the meeting of the Joint Consultative Committee of the Potato Marketing Board held in London on 20th January, 1971. In a discussion which followed it was the general opinion of the meeting that there was unlikely to be a material increase in Ware Prices until the P.M.B. obtained control of the surplus. It was also considered that the P.M.B. would not obtain control of the surplus as quickly as they believed. It was considered that Ware Prices would have increased if the P.M.B. had raised the compensation figure. Mr. Fulton informed the meeting that the P.M.B. had not disclosed the means whereby they would release potatoes back to the Trade for the Ware Market. The indications were, however, that it would be by "variation of contract" rather than on payment of a cancellation fee.

POTATO TRADE CONSORTIUM. Mr. Fulton reported on meetings of The Potato Trades Consortium with the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales and with the Ministry of Agriculture, both on 21st January, 1971 in London. In supplement of these Reports Mr. Fulton read to the meeting a letter which he had received from Mr. A.D. Williamson stating an opinion regarding the acreage of potatoes which should be planted in the United Kingdom to supply demand without incurring substantial/

substantial surpluses. After considering Mr. Williamson's letter and discussing the matter further the meeting instructed the Secretary to write to the Ministry of Agriculture to suggest that the National Target acreage for potatoes should be 512,000 acres (80% quota) and to urge the Ministry to reduce the Target Acreage for 1972 to that figure.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING. Mr. James Robertson reported that he had recently attended a meeting of the Food, Drink & Tobacco Industry Training Board at which the Training Board had outlined a scheme which they were running entitled "Training for Profit". Companies participating in the scheme, by the introduction of very elementary training became entitled to a refund of all or a portion of their levy to the Training Board. The Secretary was instructed to draw to the attention of members of the Association the scheme and to suggest that any members requiring further information should contact either Mr. Robertson or the Secretary.

ASSOCIATION TRIP 1971. The Secretary reported that the Administrative Council had instructed him to make enquiries to ascertain if sufficient members of the Association would be interested in a trip to Europe during the early part of September, 1971. The meeting suggested that the trip should take in pre-packing and processing in order to interest members of the Ware Potato Division.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. The Secretary reported on the meeting of the Administrative Council held in Stirling on 28th January, 1971. In the discussion which followed the Secretary's report a general opinion was expressed that the Association should not incur the expense of taking out Associate Membership of the Freight Transport Association. Rather a member of the Association who was already a member of F.T.A. should advise the Secretary of any matters concerning transport which required to be drawn to the attention of the members of the Association. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.