

MINUTE of MEETING of the COMMITTEE
of the WARE POTATO DIVISION of the
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION
held at 261, Wallace Street, Glasgow,
at 2.30 p.m. on THURSDAY, 4th
NOVEMBER, 1971.

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

MINUTES. The Minute of Meeting of the Committee of the Ware Potato
Division of 29th April, 1971 was taken as read, approved and signed.

SCOTTISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE. Mr. A.D. Williamson reported on the meeting
of the Scottish Advisory Committee of the Potato Marketing Board held in
Edinburgh on 21st October, 1971. A copy of Mr. Williamson's Report is
annexed hereto.

POTATO TRADES CONSORTIUM MEETINGS. Mr. Williamson also reported on
meetings between representatives of the Potato Trades Consortium and the
National Farmers' Union of England and Wales and the Ministry of Agricul-
:ture both in London on 26th October, 1971. Copies of Mr. Williamson's
Reports on these meetings are annexed hereto. Arising out of these
Reports the Secretary referred to the request for information which the
Association had received from the Government Committee of Enquiry on
Contract Farming. It was considered that as the information requested
concerned the arrangements for producers making forward contracts for the
disposal of their output it was the producers and not a merchants organisa-
:tion who should provide the information. Also arising out of Mr.
Williamson's Report it was resolved that although considerable benefit was
being obtained through membership of the Potato Trades Consortium steps
should be taken to ensure that the Association be consulted direct regard-
:ing Common Market negotiations rather than indirectly through the
Consortium.

J. C. C. MEETING. Mr. Williamson also reported on the meeting of the
Joint Consultative Committee of the Potato Marketing Board held in London
on 27th October. There is annexed hereto a copy of Mr. Williamson's
Report on that meeting. Arising out of that Report there was considerable
discussion regarding the Board's refusal to raise the minimum ware riddle
from/

from 1½" to 1¾". Thought was given to the possibility of the Association issuing a Press Statement alleging that as a result of the Board's policy a better quality of potato was being fed to cattle than was finding its way on to the Market for human consumption. It was resolved that each Committee Member would send to the Secretary the draft of a letter to be sent to the press on this subject. A later Committee meeting would compile a Press Statement utilising the best of all the letters received by the Secretary. Also arising out of the Report on the J.C.C. meeting, the Secretary was instructed to write to the Potato Marketing Board to suggest that in an effort to raise the low level of the ware potato prices, the Potato Marketing Board should include in their Ware Potato Market Price Reports in the press, their current Support Buying Price.

MARKET SUPPORT FOR POTATOES. The Committee considered the proposals of Mr. Govey concerning Market Support for Potatoes. It was agreed that there was a great deal of good sense in the proposals but that Mr. Govey had tended to under estimate certain problems inherent to his proposals (e.g. enforcement). It was also considered that his proposals ^{do nothing} to remove poorer ware samples from the Market and that early growers would require to be excluded from the suggested scheme.

WARE DIVISION COMMITTEE ELECTION. The Secretary informed the meeting of the names of members who had been nominated for the forthcoming Committee election. The Secretary was instructed to write to these Members to ascertain if they were agreeable to their name being included in the election Ballot.

MARKET REPORTS COMMITTEE. The Secretary was instructed to send out a circular to the Members of the Ware Division informing them that arrangements were being made for a regular meeting to be held in the S.C.W.S. Diningrooms at 261 Wallace Street, Glasgow, at 4 p.m. on the last Thursday of every month for the purpose of discussing all problems affecting ware potatoes and encouraging Members to attend.

MEETING ROOM. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Manager of S.C.W.S. Catering Department to express the Association's appreciation at receiving the use of a meeting room throughout the last year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The Secretary was instructed to make arrangements to call a meeting of the Committee of the Ware Potato Division at 1.30 p.m.

at/

at Crossmyloof Ice Rink, Glasgow, on Thursday, 18th November, 1971.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

Andrew Dilland