

MINUTE of MEETING of the COMMITTEE of
the SEED POTATO DIVISION of the
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION held
in the Station Hotel, Perth, at 4 p.m.
on THURSDAY, 25th NOVEMBER, 1971.

PRESENT. Messrs. J. Fordyce, I. Barr, N. McLeish, A. J. Allan, D. H. Lindsay, P. Peebles, W. Gray and Gordon Gyle, along with Mr. R. David Hunter, the Secretary. Mr. Gordon Lyall of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland was in attendance.

APOLOGIES. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs. G. Luke, I. P. Fulton and P. McClung.

MINUTES. The Minute of Meeting of the Committee of the Seed Potato Division of 28th October, 1971 was taken as read, approved and signed.

Arising out of the previous Minute the Secretary reported that to date he had not received any information from Association members regarding specifications of potato boxes. The Secretary was instructed to obtain a copy of the British Standard Specification for potato boxes.

P.M.B. MARKET SUPPORT. The Secretary read to the meeting a draft letter which had been prepared by the President, Mr. Ian Fulton in reply to the Potato Marketing Board's criticism of a recent press report instigated by the Ware Division of the Association. Whilst approving of Mr. Fulton's letter, the Committee expressed the opinion that in future before a press report of such a controversial nature was issued by a Division Committee it would be most desirable for the other Division Committee to be consulted.

The Secretary informed the meeting that the Committee of the Ware Potato Division had remitted to the Seed Committee for consideration the proposal that the Potato Marketing Board should be asked to announce that its Buying Programme will terminate on 31st December, 1971 and that after that date there should be no provision for seed potatoes to be dressed out of stocks on contract to the Board. The Committee after having considered the proposition decided that it could not support the suggestion but that it would be willing to discuss the matter with the Committee of the Ware Division.

COMMON MARKET. Mr. Gordon Lyall discussed in detail with the Committee members the Paper prepared by the Department of Agriculture on the effect which the United Kingdom's entry into the Common Market is likely to have on
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the Seed Potato industry in Scotland. Mr. Fordyce, the President, expressed to Mr. Lyall the Committee's appreciation at his willingness to devote the time to come into Perth to discuss this matter with the Committee. Mr. Lyall indicated his willingness, if invited, to attend a General Division Meeting in the early part of the new year to speak to Division Members on the subject of seed potatoes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The Secretary was instructed to make arrangements to call the next meeting of the Committee to be held in the Station Hotel, Perth at 12 noon on Tuesday, 14th December, 1971.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

James Fordyce