

MINUTE of MEETING of the COMMITTEE of  
the SEED POTATO DIVISION of the  
SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION  
held in the King's Arms Hotel, Girvan,  
on TUESDAY, 27th JUNE, 1972.

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PRESENT. Messrs. J. Fordyce, T. McClung, P. Peebles, I. Barr, D. Maxwell,  
G. Gyle and A.D. Williamson, along with Mr. R. David Hunter, the Secretary.

APOLOGIES. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs.  
G. Luke, A.K. Powrie, W. Gordon and D.H. Lindsay.

MINUTES. The Minute of Meeting of the Committee of the Seed Potato Division  
of 24th May, 1972 was taken as read, approved and signed.

MATTERS ARISING:-

- (a) H. Todd Presentation. The Secretary reported that the subscriptions  
towards Mr. Todd's presentation had amounted to almost the amount  
of the expenses of the presentation and, accordingly, the subsidy from  
the Association funds would be of a nominal amount. The Secretary  
added that the Presentation Dinner had proved to be a most successful  
occasion. Mr. Fordyce read to the meeting a letter of thanks which  
the Secretary had received from Mr. Todd.
- (b) Freightliners. The Secretary was instructed to invite the Manager  
for Scotland of Freightliners Ltd. to join the next Committee meeting  
of the Seed Potato Division at 3.30 p.m. in order that he may inform  
members of the service which his Company can offer to seed potato merchants
- (c) Labelling of Ware. The Secretary confirmed that he had written to  
the Potato Marketing Board as instructed at the previous meeting. The  
Secretary read to the meeting a letter which had been received from  
the Potato Marketing Board in reply.
- (d) Royalties. The Secretary read to the meeting a further letter which  
had been received from N.S.D.O. confirming their earlier decision to  
increase the royalty rates on potato varieties under their control.
- (e) V.A.T. The Secretary stated that there had not been a meeting of the  
Administrative Council since the last meeting of the Seed Committee  
and, therefore, the Council had not been able to give consideration  
to the suggestion from the Seed Committee that the Association should  
enrol/

enrol official representatives on a course on Value Added Tax being arranged by I.C.A.M. It was resolved that Mr. Peter Peebles, along with the Secretary, should be enrolled to attend the course and thereafter report back to the Seed Division Committee.

BRITISH RAILWAYS. Mr. Fordyce reported on the meeting with British Railways in London on 31st May, 1972. He exhibited to the Committee a Schedule giving details of the potato rates to be applied for the 1972/73 loading season. The Secretary confirmed that he would be issuing copies of the Schedule of Rates to members of the Association on request. The Secretary added that the Scottish meeting with British Railways was to be held in Perth on Wednesday 2nd August. It was resolved that Messrs. J. Fordyce, D.H. Lindsay and G. Luke, along with the Secretary, would represent the Association at that meeting.

POTATO TRADES CONSORTIUM. Mr. Fordyce reported on the meeting of the Potato Trades Consortium held in London on 13th June, 1972. At that meeting consideration had been given to the Papers submitted by the constituent Associations of the Consortium on the subject of "Future marketing of Potatoes". Mr. Fordyce added that after consideration it had been resolved that the Paper submitted on behalf of the National Joint Council should be adopted as a basis for preparation of the Paper to be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture. A copy of the final draft of the Paper would be sent to the constituent Associations for their approval before submission to the Ministry. Mr. Fordyce also stated that enquiries were being made to ascertain if membership of the "Committee of Six" should be obtained by the Consortium rather than membership of the "European Union".

SCOTTISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE. Mr. Fordyce reported on the meeting of the Scottish Advisory Committee held in Peebles on 26th June. At that meeting the Potato Marketing Board had announced that the provisional statistics of potatoes entered for certification in England and Wales during the current season disclosed a decrease of 1,500 acres as compared with the previous/

previous year. Accurate Scottish figures were not available but indicated a reduction of approximately 2,000 acres entered for "F.S." and 2,300 acres for "A". The corresponding Northern Ireland figures disclosed a reduction of 3,000 acres as compared with the previous year. It was estimated that the total potato acreage planted in the United Kingdom in 1972 was 525,000 acres which corresponded with the target figure. The Potato Marketing Board had also announced that the total surplus on the 1971 crop had amounted to 1,200,000 of which 600,000 tons had been subject to compensation payment (42,000 tons in Scotland). During the 1971/72 season Northern Ireland had sent 10,000 tons less seed to the United Kingdom as compared with the previous year but they had exported 4,000 tons more than the previous year.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION. There was a further discussion on the desirability of introducing a Scheme of Regional Representation on the Seed Division Committee. It was resolved, however, that other than making it a requirement that one Committee member must be from the Moray and Aberdeenshire district and one from the Inverness-shire, Ross and Cromarty district there was no need to introduce a comprehensive system of Regional Representation. It was further resolved that the members of the Committee should be listed in alphabetical order to ascertain the order of retiral by rotation.

P.M.B. MEETING. Mr. Fordyce stated that the Potato Marketing Board were proposing to convene a meeting at which the Association, the Department of Agriculture and the National Farmers' Union of Scotland would be invited to send representatives. The purpose of the meeting would be to discuss the future of the potato industry. It was resolved that Messrs. A.D. Williamson, I. Barr and A.K. Powrie (whom failing D.H. Lindsay) would be invited to attend that meeting as representatives of the Association.

JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE. The Secretary informed the meeting that the N.A.S.P.M. had suggested that the meeting of the Joint Liaison Committee in Edinburgh should be held on 14th September. The Secretary was instructed to agree to this proposed date.

SEED/

SEED COMMITTEE MEETINGS. It was resolved to hold a meeting of the Committee of the Seed Potato Division in the Station Hotel, Inverness, at 12 noon on Monday, 6th November, 1972. All members and potential members of the Association in the North of Scotland would be invited to attend the Committee meeting. The Secretary was instructed to invite the merchants in the north of Scotland to submit matters to be included in the agenda for the meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. It was provisionally agreed that the next meeting of the Committee of the Seed Potato Division would be held in Perth on Friday, 6th October, 1972.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

*James Fordyce*