

MINUTE of MEETING of ADMINISTRATIVE
COUNCIL of the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION held in the GOLDEN LION
HOTEL, Stirling, at 2.30 p.m. on
TUESDAY, 8th AUGUST, 1972.

PRESENT. Messrs. A.D. Williamson, J. Fordyce, G. Luke and I Barr, along with Mr. R. David Hunter, the Secretary.

APOLOGIES. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Messrs. D.H. Lindsay, T. McClung, J. Aitken and J. Robertson.

QUORUM. It was noted that there was not a quorum present. It was resolved, however, to continue with the meeting in the belief that any decisions made would be ratified at a later Council meeting.

MINUTES. The Minute of Meeting of the Administrative Council of 16th March, 1972 was taken as read, approved and signed.

The following matters arose from the Minutes:-

- (a) B.U.P.A. The Secretary reported that the Association Group of British United Provident Association had now been formed.
- (b) Todd Presentation. The Secretary presented to the meeting his account of Income and Expenditure in connection with the presentation to Mr. Hugh Todd to mark his retiral as Divisional Supervisor of Scotland of the Potato Marketing Board.

FUTURE MARKETING OF POTATOES. The meeting considered in detail the draft Paper prepared by the British Potato Trades Consortium containing recommendations to be submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Future Marketing of Potatoes. The Council resolved to make certain alterations to the draft and instructed the Secretary thereafter to submit it to the Secretary of the British Potato Trades Consortium for further consideration by the Consortium.

EUROPEAN UNION. The Chairman Mr. A.D. Williamson reported that formal application had now been made for the British Potato Trades Consortium to receive membership of the European Union. The Secretary was instructed to make payment to the British Potato Trades Consortium of the Association's contribution towards the current year's subscription to the European Union and also a payment to account of the administration expenses incurred by/

by the Consortium. The total sum to be paid to the Consortium amounted to £57.33p.

SEED POTATO GROWERS. Mr. Williamson reported on the meeting convened by the Potato Marketing Board and at which, in addition to the Association, the National Farmers' Union of Scotland and the Department of Agriculture had been present, held in Edinburgh on 14th July, 1972. The purpose of the meeting had been to discuss Future Arrangements in Respect of Seed Potato Growers. This had entailed discussion with regard to the formation of an organisation to act as the selling agency for Scottish seed and ware potatoes. As an incentive for the formation of such a body, the promise of Government financial aid had been made. It was generally considered by the Association's delegates at the meeting that the attitude within the Potato Trade would make the formation of the sort of organisation which was envisaged impossible. It was reported, however, that there would be further meetings convened by the Potato Marketing Board. It was further reported that there was to be an informal meeting between Association representatives and the National Farmers' Union of Scotland on 1st September, 1972.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP. In view of the absence of most of the Ware Division representatives on the Council, it was resolved to defer until a later Council meeting consideration of the Seed Potato Division's suggestions regarding Association membership.

VALUE ADDED TAX. The Secretary read to the meeting a Paper which he had prepared on the subject of Value Added Tax. He was instructed to send out a copy of his Paper to members of the Association.

JOINT LIAISON COMMITTEE. The Secretary reported that the next meeting of the Joint Liaison Committee was to be held in Edinburgh on 14th September, 1972. It was resolved that the subject of Value Added Tax should be placed on the Agenda for that meeting.

INSPECTION SCHEME. Mr. Williamson reported that he had received a letter from/

from the Department of Agriculture stating that a survey carried out by them had again disclosed a higher incidence of Veinal Necrosis in the area south of the North Esk than in the area north of the North Esk. Mr. Barr stated that he was experiencing more trouble with rogues and ground keepers than in previous years.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW. The Secretary reported that a letter had been received from a Research Assistant at Glasgow University requesting the Association's comments on the effect on the Potato Trade of the proposal that the school year should be altered from three terms to four terms. The Secretary was instructed to write in reply stating that it was not considered that such an alteration would have any material effect on the Potato Trade.

F.S. GRADE CRAIGS ROYAL. The Secretary read to the meeting a letter which he had received from Sid Wright (Potatoes) Ltd. requesting information regarding the supply of F.S. Grade Scotch Craigs Royal. The Secretary was instructed to inform the enquirer that the Association is not a trading body and could not, therefore, handle enquiries of such a nature. The Secretary was, however, authorised to send to the enquirer a list of the members of the Seed Division.

SHIELDNESS PRODUCE LIMITED. The Secretary read to the meeting a letter from Shieldness Produce Limited stating that they were seeking offers from merchants of top quality outgrades from ware for manufacturing purposes. The Secretary was instructed to notify the members of the Association of this enquiry.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

Andrew D. Dillman