

MINUTE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the WARE DIVISION of SCOTTISH
POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION held in the
Scottish Royal Automobile Club,
11 Blythswood Square, Glasgow,
at 7.00 pm. on Wednesday 10th March,
1976.

PRESENT

Messrs. Buchan Fulton, A. D. Williamson, John S. Anderson,
Anthony Brogan, W. Atkinson, A. W. Adair, Samuel Brown,
Robert Osbourne, James Anderson, G. T. Henderson, P. Millar,
M. K. Mathie, J. A. Robertson, P. J. McDougall, I. P. Fulton
and T. McClung, along with Mr. R. David Hunter, the Secretary.

Mr. T. McClung, Convenor of the Ware Division Committee was in
the Chair.

APOLOGIES: The Secretary intimated apologies from Messrs. J. Aitken,
J. Wardlaw, G. Henderson and N. Law.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Secretary reported as follows:-

(a) Accounts.

As shown in the copies of the audited Accounts circulated to all
members of the Division, INCOME from Subscriptions fell by £110
(compared with the previous year) to £1295 for the Division,
reflecting a fall in membership to which I shall refer again later.
The fall was £115 (to £3141) for the Association as a whole.
Net Investment In come increased by £16 (the balance of the
effect of last year's investment changes) against £42 for the whole
Association.

Gross Bank Interest fell by £50, due to falling interest rates and
later ingathering of subscriptions, against £100 for the
Association. Total Receipts were therefore £144 lower, (at £1490)
for the Division and £173 (at £3483) lower for the Association.

At £1465, the Ware Division's total expenditure was £119 lower than
the previous year. I feel this reflects two things - first, that
efforts to contain all costs continue to be effective and second,
the scheme of Joint Meetings of Committees has prevented that
heading from increasing at all.

Overall then, these reductions on both sides of the Ware Division
Account almost cancel each other out, the £25 difference reducing
last/

last year's Surplus of £61 to £25.38 in the year under review. Over the whole Association the difference was £163, with Surplus down from £258 to £95, reducing Corporation Tax Liability accordingly in due course.

The Division's Balance Sheet records only one change, therefore, adding the Surplus to provide total Funds of £2753.29, out of the Whole Association Funds of £4998.67 at 30th November, 1975.

- (b) Membership. During the year 6 Full Members and 1 Associate Member resigned from the Division, the largest single-year fall since the Association came into being. Discouraging though this was, the recruitment of a further 6 Full Members and two Associate members had made up the numbers again by the year end to 100 Full and 15 Associate Members. The Combined Membership of the whole Association increased by one, to 128, at 30th November, 1973. Without exception, the new members all joined both Divisions.
- (c) Meetings. Only two separate Ware Division Meetings were held (one Committee and one Annual General) but, as part of continuing administrative streamlining, members of the Ware Division Committee also attended 4 Joint Meetings with the Seed Division Committee and the Administrative Council. While this innovation has several advantages (speedier decisions, non increasing of costs of meetings and some lessening of burdens on Committee members' time) the increasing number of Meetings of outside bodies on which the Association is represented has more than cancelled out the savings of Association Office Bearers' time. As you know, their time is freely given, on an honorary basis, at much personal expense to themselves. I am sure, therefore, that this General Meeting of Ware Division Members will wish to record the appreciation of all the Division's members for these consistent efforts on their behalf.
- (d) Circulars. Five postal circulars were sent out exclusively to Members of the Ware Division during the year. Additionally, 26 circulars were sent to all members of the Association. Weekly Market/

Market Prices Bulletins were also sent to 43 members of the Ware Division throughout the year, I feel sure you will support the measures already adopted to contain postal costs but it does seem clear that further containment would negate the "up-to-date" value of much of the content of these circulars. But against the apparently inescapable increase which the Association must bear, "to keep its lifeline open" so to speak, "costwatching" will continue to receive utmost attention.

- (e) Subscriptions. Usually at the end of my Annual Report I refer to the Administrative Council's recommendations for the current year's Subscriptions. On this occasion, however, quite fundamental changes, involving amendment of the Association's CONSTITUTION AND RULES have been formulated. In view of their importance, these items are shown separately on this meeting's Agenda for full discussion and are, therefore, not proper subjects for me to comment upon this stage.

ACCOUNTS

The Association Accounts for the year to 30th November, 1975, copies of which had been previously circulated, were approved unanimously on the motion of Mr. A. W. Adair, seconded by Mr. A. D. Williamson.

The Secretary reported that since 30th November, 1975, the holding of £1,460 3½% Treasury Loan 1984/86 had been realised and the proceeds invested in the purchase of 7½% Treasury Stock 1985/88.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

The Secretary explained the purpose of the the existing Constitution and Rules of the Association be amended to read in terms of the revised Constitution and Rules of the Association recommended by the Administrative Council and the Committee's/^{of the} Seed Potato and Ware Potato Division of the Association". A copy of the amended Constitution is annexed hereto. The recommendation of Mr. Ian P. Fulton that future Annual General Meetings of the Association under the New Constitution should be held in Dunblane was accepted unanimously./

unanimously. The purpose of holding Annual General Meetings in Dunblane was to give all Association Members an opportunity of attending.

The Secretary explained that in terms of the existing Constitution a resolution of a General Meeting of the Association was required before the Constitution amendments could be carried out. He added that the amendments to the Constitution were to be placed before the Annual General Meeting of the Seed Potato Division to be held in Perth the following day, Thursday 11 th March. In the event of the amendments being approved also by the Seed Division it would still be necessary for a General Meeting of the Association to be called to formally ratify the resolutions of the two Divisions.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following basis of Subscription for 1975/76 was unanimously approved by the Meeting:-

<u>Class</u>	<u>Total Tonnage of Seed & Ware Potatoes handled during the last full completed Financial year of the Member.</u>	<u>Subscription</u>	<u>VAT 8%</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	0 - 2,000	£20.00	£21.60	£21.60
2	2,000 - 6,000	£30.00	2.40	£32.40
3	6,000 -10,000	£40.00	3.20	£43.20
4	10,000 -14,000	£50.00	4.00	£54.00
5	14,000-18,000	£60.00	4.80	£64.80
6	over 18,000	£70.00	5.60	£75.60

ADVERTISING

The Secretary made reference to the recent advertising Campaign launched by "Batchelors" exulting the advantages of Rice as opposed to Potatoes. He added that steps were being taken to endeavour to curtail this adverse advertising. It was considered that these efforts would be likely to be unsuccessful. It was recommended, however, that the Administrative Council should consider the merits of the Association launching an advertising campaign when potatoes become more plentiful with a view to encouraging consumers back on/

on to potatoes.

EUROPEAN UNION

The Secretary advised the Meeting that the 26th Congress of the European Union of the Wholesale Potato Trade was to be held in The Esso Motel in Edinburgh on 17th-19th June, 1976. He added that Association Members would shortly be receiving a Circular giving full details of the arrangements for the Congress.

TRADING

The Chairman, Mr. McClung reviewed the recent events in the Potato Trade.

In conclusion Mr. McClung thanked the Office Bearers for their efforts during the year to 30th November, 1975.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the Meeting.