

MINUTE of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION
held in the Hydro Hotel, DUNBLANE at
2pm. on Wednesday 23rd FEBRUARY, 1977

PRESENT:

A.J. ALLAN (Brechin) Ltd. (Mr. A. J. Allan), ALSTON Doig & Smith Ltd. (Mr. R. Doig), ESKFOOD (Angus) Ltd. (Mr. G. Robertson), David T. FENTON & Sons Ltd. (Mr. J. G. H. Fenton), Messrs. P. L. FORDYCE (Mr. J. Fordyce), The FORFAR Potato Co. Ltd. (Mr. J. George), James FULTON Jnr. Ltd. (Mr. B. Fulton), GALBRAITH & Roy Ltd. (Mr. A. D. Williamson), John O. GORDON Ltd. (Mr. W. Gordon), James HAGGART & Sons (Sales) Ltd. (Mr. J. R. McArthur), J. & A. HENDERSON Ltd. (Mr. A. T. Henderson), Messrs. James HENDERSON & Sons (Mr. J. Henderson Senr^r), Wm. LAW & Son (Coatbridge) Ltd. (Mr. J. O. Robertson), Messrs. David A. LAWSON (Phramps) (Mr. D. Lawson), G. & D. MAXWELL Ltd. (Mr. D. Maxwell), McGUGAN Bros. Ltd. (Mr. G. McGugan), PATULLO Barr & Co. Ltd. (Mr. I. Barr), ROBERTSON of Perth Ltd. (Messrs. B. McDiarmid & D. Stewart), John WARNOCK (Montrose) Ltd. (Mr. J. Waddell) and Messrs. Wm. WILSON & Sons (Mr. J. Wardlaw), with R. David Hunter, the Secretary, and D. Blackmore in attendance.

The Chairman, Mr. J. O. Robertson, occupied the Chair and welcomed those present.

APOLOGIES:

The Secretary reported having received apologies for absence from G.W.S Ltd. Glasgow (Mr. J. A. Aitken), Messrs. Wm. FRASER (Mr. J. Deuchar), W. & A. GRAHAM (Glasgow) Ltd. (Mr. P. McDougall), Messrs. G. HENDERSON & Co. (Mr. G. Henderson), David LINDSAY & Son (Potato Merchants) Ltd. (Mr. D. H. Lindsay), Messrs. Angus MATHIE & Sons (Mr. M. K. Mathie) and Gilbert McCLUNG Ltd. (Mr. T. McClung).

SECRETARY'S
REPORT:

On the call of the Chairman, the Secretary next delivered his Report of the activities of the Association during the eleven month period ended 31st October, 1976, opening his remarks by explaining and commenting upon the duly audited and pre-circulated financial Account and Balance Sheet. Against fears and difficulties arising from the adoption of non-divisional, tonnage-based subscriptions, the changeover had been remarkably smoothly achieved. While the increase in total Income (including Bank Interest) of £558 had been gratifying, total expenditure had increased by £818 (mainly due to unusual travelling expenses/

expenses and an authorised increase in the Secretary's salary). The correspondingly reduced Surplus would reduce the liability to tax. The Balance Sheet reflected the redemption of one small Gilt-edged Investment and he also pointed out that the market values of the remaining Association Investments had improved markedly since the close of the accounting year.

Turning to the Membership Roll the Secretary next reported that for various reasons eighteen memberships ceased during the period. At the same time eleven new members were enjoined resulting in a net reduction in total memberships of seven, to 121. The number of meetings had again increased, nine Association meetings and 28 outside meetings (22 of which were regular meetings of the seven outside Committees on which the Association has representation) making very heavy demands upon the time and efforts of Office Bearers, Council members and other Association representatives. He felt the whole membership would wish to record its appreciation of this aspect.

In conclusion the Secretary gave details of postal circularisations to members and announced that, having considered the prospective Association membership and Estimates of Income and Expenditure at its most recent meeting (on 20th December, 1976), Council had recommended that the 1976 rates of Subscriptions and tonnage brackets should remain unchanged in 1977.

On the call of Mr. J. Fordyce, seconded by Mr. A. D. Williamson, the Secretary's Report was formally and unanimously adopted.

ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS:

The Chairman next called for any questions on the Accounts as presented in the absence of which he called for a motion to approve and adopt them. Moved by Mr. J. Henderson Senr. and seconded by Mr. R. Doig, the Motion was carried unanimously.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Referring to and confirming the Secretary's announcement of Council's recommendation, the Chairman formally moved that 1976 rates of, and tonnage brackets for, Association Membership Subscription shall apply unchanged for the year to 31st October, 1977. Seconded by Mr. B. Fulton the Motion was carried unanimously, the Secretary being instructed to inform all members accordingly and that all such Subscriptions/

Subscriptions are due and payable as at this date.

ANY OTHER
COMPETENT
BUSINESS:

There being no other business on the Agenda for the Meeting or in reply to the Chairman's call to the Members present, he declared the Meeting open and in response to the Association's invitation, ^{welcomed} Messrs. G.

Robertson, J. Henderson and A. Mackay (the Chairman, member and Secretary respectively) of the Steering Committee of the Scotch Seed Potato Promotion Association to address the Meeting on the aims of their Association.

Following their address, which outlined the history of their initiative and included a repetition of their call for S.P.T.A. support to broaden the base and representation of their activities, the Chairman (Mr. J.O. Robertson) initiated a lively and informative question and answer exchange. On behalf of the Association, Mr. Barr thanked the visitors for accepting the invitation to address the Meeting and called upon the Members present to consider the Steering Committee's call sympathetically during its discussion in the Council meeting immediately to follow. In his reply on behalf of the Steering Committee, Mr. G. Robertson thanked the Chairman and the Meeting for their hearing and looked forward to a favourable outcome in due course.

A vote of thanks to the Chair thereupon concluded the Meeting.