

MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of
MEMBERS of the SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE
ASSOCIATION in the Wheel Inn Motor
Hotel, SCONE at 2 p.m. on Thursday,
19th January, 1989.

PRESENT:

Beeson Group Ltd.	(J.E. Cook, Esq.)
G.S. Brass (Perth) Ltd.	(G.S. Brass, Esq.)
Dalgety Seed Potatoes	(D. Peebles, Esq.)
David T. Fenton & Sons Ltd.	(J.G.H. Fenton, Esq.)
W. & A. Graham (Arbroath) Ltd.	(J.H. Barr, Esq.)
James Haggart & Sons Ltd.	(J.R. McArthur, Esq.)
Wm. Law & Son (Potatoes) Ltd.	(J.O. Robertson, Esq.)
David Lindsay (Potato Merchants) Ltd.	(D.H. Lindsay, Esq.)
J. Logan Milne (Potatoes) Ltd.	(J. Logan Milne, Esq.)
Robert Morris & Son Ltd.	(M. Morris, Esq.)
Messrs. McKenzie Bros.	(K.A. McKenzie, Esq.)
Messrs. John C. McLean	(D. McLean, Esq.)
Nickerson Seed Specialists Ltd.	(I. Melrose, Esq.)
Robertson of Perth Ltd.	(D. Stewart, Snr. Esq.)
J. & E. Smillie (Potato Merchants) Ltd.	(J. Robb, Esq.)
Stokes Bomford Ltd.	(R. Doig, Esq.)
Messrs. S. Thomson & Sons	(A. Fleming, Esq.)

with R. David Hunter (Secretary and Treasurer) and D. Blackmore (Assistant Secretary) in attendance.

The President G.S. Brass, Esq. took the Chair and welcomed those present to the meeting.

APOLOGIES: The Secretary intimated apologies for absence on behalf of

Messrs. P.L. Fordyce	(P. Miller, Esq.)
Grampian Growers Ltd.	(A. Pullar, Esq.)
Gordon Gyle, Esq.	(G. Gyle, Esq.)
G. & D. Maxwell Ltd.	(D. Maxwell, Esq.)
Gilbert McClung Ltd.	(T. McClung, Esq.)
Stokes Bomford Ltd	(A.S. Whitehead, Esq.)
W.C.F. Ltd.	(J.M. Swinton, Esq.)

ANNUAL ACCOUNT: The Treasurer presented the Association's duly Audited Annual Account for the year to 31st October, 1988 (a copy of which had already been sent to each member of the Association) and in his Annual Report he provided detail and comment on each Account heading in turn. In the event that no questions were raised, Mr. Robertson's formal Motion that the Account and Report be approved and adopted, duly seconded by Mr. McKenzie, was carried without dissent.

COUNCIL'S REPORT: The Secretary next presented Council's Report to the Members covering the year to 31st October, 1988. Initiating further discussion, the Chairman expanded on the proposed prohibition of planting of unclassified seed in the High Grade Seed Area. In reply to his request for Members to express their views on the Association's response, Mr. Cook felt the matter to be insufficiently well understood, while Mr. Barr voiced reservations regarding policing of such a prohibition. Various other aspects were also discussed, without revealing any opposition to the Association's response to date.

Similarly/

Similarly, there was no opposition to the Association's response to the Government's Consultative Paper on the future of the Potato Marketing Board after 1990. Mr. McArthur felt there had been insufficient consideration given to the possibility of a Government decision favouring a free market but, supported by Mr. Barr, the Chairman felt such consideration to be too precipitate just yet. In reply to Mr. Cook the Chairman reported that in the Retailers' response, the "multiples" had supported a free market but the smaller traders had supported continuation of the P.M.B.

On a formal Motion by Mr. Cook, duly seconded by Mr. Barr, Council's Report was approved and adopted without dissent.

MEMBERSHIP

SUBSCRIPTIONS: The Treasurer reported that Council had accepted the advice of the Chairman's Committee and had recommended that tonnage brackets should not be changed but Annual Membership Subscriptions for the year to 31st October, 1989 be increased as follows:-

0 - 2,000 tonnes	from	£ 65.00	to	£ 70.00	plus V.A.T. @ 15%
2,001 - 6,000	-do-	£ 95.00	to	£ 95.00	-do-
6,001 - 10,000	-do-	£120.00	to	£130.00	-do-
10,001 - 14,000	-do-	£150.00	to	£160.00	-do-
14,001 - 18,000	-do-	£165.00	to	£185.00	-do-
over 18,000	-do-	£200.00	to	£210.00	-do-

After brief discussion, Mr. McKenzie moved that these recommended rates be adopted. Mr. Melrose seconded the Motion and it was carried without dissent.

REVIEW OF
COUNCIL
STRUCTURE:

The Chairman explained Council's concerns regarding repeated lack of nominations of new candidates for election to Council, resulting in two vacancies at present and the imbalance of Past Presidents among present Council Members, together creating problems in the appointment of Office Bearers for the future.

Discussion included suggestions to reduce the number of Members of Council, to hold evening meetings of Council, to meet outwith Perth and to invite further suggestions for discussion at Council's next meeting. It was agreed on historical evidence that the latter two suggestions were unlikely to produce solutions but, on a show of hands, the suggestion to hold evening meetings was remitted to Council for adoption.

There being no further business, the Chairman then declared the meeting closed.