

TREASURER'S REPORT
for the year to 31st October, 1990
to the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
of
THE SCOTTISH POTATO TRADE ASSOCIATION

In keeping with established procedure, the Association's Annual Account for the year to 31st October, 1990 has been prepared in its usual format and has been professionally Audited. A copy of it has been sent to every member of the Association and I am sure has been found to be easily understood. This Report will provide some background comment to each Account heading in turn.

Taking the INCOME side of the Account first, in the top righthand quarter of the page, SUBSCRIPTIONS of £11,444 shows an increase of £1,500 (15.08%) over the previous year. This principally reflects the decision of last year's Annual General Meeting to combine the two lowest tonnage brackets into one with a single Subscription rate of £100. INVESTMENT INCOME, shown net of tax, increased by £15 over the previous year, part of the result of the mid-year redemption of the Association's holding of Scottish & Newcastle Stock and re-investment of the proceeds in 10 1/4% Exchequer Stock 1995. The full year effect of this change will increase net Investment Income by a further £17 to £472 in the current year provided, of course, that Income Tax rates remain unchanged. BANK INTEREST, which is shown gross at £465.32 is 50.5% higher than the previous year. This is due to two factors. Firstly, very prompt payment of the higher total subscriptions by ALL Members allowed maximum advantage to be taken of, secondly, the high rate of interest which prevailed throughout the year. (It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good.) The CORPORATION TAX repayable for the year to 31.10.89 (£110 in the margin) was reduced by unavailability of a carried forward loss from 1988. This gave rise to the compensating entry of £23.75 shown on the opposite side of the Account.

Turning to the EXPENDITURE side of the Account in the top lefthand quarter of the page, it must be remembered that the £408 shown in the margin for last year's EXPENSES OF MEETINGS was only one half of the preceding (1988) year's figure. Further, the figure of £870.30 for the year under review includes the costs of the Open Meeting with DAFS and the meeting of the re-established Joint (SPTA/NASPM) Liaison Committee, plus inevitable costs inflation. GENERAL EXPENSES/

EXPENSES of £482.42 was in line with Budget, the reduction from the previous year being largely due to Consortium costs not being payable. PHOTOCOPYING at £790.00 was also within Budget, while POSTAGES at £520.00 reflects increased rates during the year. TELEPHONES shown at £450.00 is marginally less than the previous year and below Budget, TRAVELLING EXPENSES, although more than the previous year, were still well below their Budget estimate. The SECRETARY'S SALARY shown includes the increase authorised by Council for the year under review.

EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS requires more detailed elaboration. As explained in last year's Report the £238 shown in the margin had already been recovered in full. Against this, however, has been set the costs of both the Dinner for the visiting group from NASPM Members in July and the costs of the Association's Stand at the PMB's forthcoming "Scottish Potato" event at Ingliston next month. The figure of £804.28 shown is the net total of these transactions. The SURPLUS for the year is thus brought out at £233.91 and this sum is carried down to the LIABILITIES side of the BALANCE SHEET in the bottom lefthand quarter of the page, where it is added to the accumulated REVENUE SURPLUS to show a total sum of £1,534.66 at the close of the year.

This part of the Account also show ORIGINAL (Capital) FUNDS, further adjusted by the Capital Gain of £236.25 arising from the redemption of the Association's holding of Scottish & Newcastle Stock, amounted to £5,346.79 at the end of the year. Across in the bottom righthand quarter of the page, under ASSETS, the Association's Investments are detailed at cost, together with a market valuation showing an overall appreciation over that cost of 9.1% at the end of the year. The CASH position is self-explanatory (the V.A.T. element has already been recovered and is earning interest) and the SUNDRY DEBTOR, of course, is the Corporation Tax repayment (shown in the Income Account above) still to be received.

I shall be pleased to reply to any questions on the Account from the meeting.