

MINUTE OF THE FIRST GENERAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE SCOTTISH FEDERATION OF MEAT TRADERS ASSOCIATIONS (INCORPORATED) HELD IN THE VICTORIA ART GALLERIES, DUNDEE ON WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER 1919 AT 3.00 O'CLOCK AFTERNOON

SEDERUNT: There was a large attendance of members from all the important areas in Scotland.

ATTENDING: Members of the trade in Dundee and other districts, Mr A J Scott, editor of The Meat Trades Journal, and Mr Robert S Stewart Secretary.

CHAIRMAN: Ex Bailie A J Ferguson in the Chair.

CIVIC RECEPTION: Before commencing the ordinary business of the meeting, the delegates were given a Civic Reception by the Lord Provost and Magistrates of the City Of Dundee. On the invitation of the Chairman, the Lord Provost Sir William Don Addressed the meeting. He offered to the Meat Traders of Scotland on behalf of his fellow magistrates and the citizens of Dundee a hearty welcome and in an interesting speech referred to the benefits to be derived from membership of the Federation which in his opinion would tend to engender the spirit of comradeship. He also spoke in favour of the removal of the embargo on Canadian cattle. The welcome of the Lord Provost was suitably acknowledged by Mr James Miller of Glasgow and Mr Malcolm Brechin, Edinburgh.

APOLOGIES: A telegram was read from Mr Frank Stuart regretting his inability to be present and sending his best wishes for a successful meeting. Apologies were also intimated from;- Messers Alexander Nicol, Kirkcaldy, Wm Roy, Crieff, David H Beattie, Annan, Charles Fraser, Inverness, David Milligan Dumfries and others

MINUTES: The Chairman in his opening address referred to the loss the Federation and the trade had sustained during the past year the death of Ex Bailie John Stewart J.P., their esteemed President and of Mr Robert H Brechin both of whom had long been prominent members of the meat trade in Scotland and had filled many important positions with conspicuous ability.

REPORT OF EXECUTICE COMMITTEE: Mr John A Sinclair, Glasgow submitted the first Annual Report of the Executive Committee dealing with the more important matters that had occupied their attention during the past year. The report was unanimously adopted by Mr Andrew Miller, Dundee seconded by Mr C F Stuart, Edinburgh.

TREASURERs FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Mr Sinclair also submitted and moved approval of the Treasurers Financial Statement for the past year which had been duly audited by Mr Walter Nelson C.A., Glasgow showing a credit balance at the close of the year. Mr Waddell (Stranraer) seconded and the financial statement was unanimously approved.

VOTE OF THANKS TO MR SINCLAIR: On the vote of Mr Haldane a heart vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Sinclair for his excellent report.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS: The meeting then proceeded to the election of office bearers for the ensuing year.

PRESIDENT: On the motion of the chairman seconded by Mr Malcolm Brechin, Mr Frank Stuart was unanimously elected President.

VICE PRESIDENTS: Thereafter the following vice-presidents were appointed, namely:- Mr Malcolm Brechin, J. P. Edinburgh

Councillor James Miller, Glasgow
Mr John A Sinclair, Glasgow
Mr Andrew Miller, Dundee
Ex Bailie Allan M Robertson, Dundee
Mr George R Laing, Aberdeen
Ex Provost John Murray, Dunblane
Mr John Carswell, Falkirk
Mr Kenneth C Martin, Greenock
Mr Walter Alexander, Hamilton
Mr W R Elliot, Inverness
Mr Alexander Nicol, Kirkcaldy
Mr John Rennie, Paisley
Mr D S Matheson, Perth
Mr David D Paton, West Kilbride

SECRETARY AND AUDITOR: It was unanimously agreed to re-appoint Mr Robert S Stewart as Secretary and Mr Walter Nelson C.A., as Auditor.

UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF MEAT SUPPLIES: The meeting then took into consideration the question of the unequal distribution of meat supplies and after a full discussion the following resolution was unanimously carried on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr Brechin (Edinburgh):-

“That this meeting of the Scottish Federation protests against the unequal distribution of meat in the country both fresh and frozen and calls upon the Ministry of Food to formulate a scheme and put it into operation at once.”

EMBARGO ON CANADIAN CATTLE: After some discussion the Chairman moved that the Federation demand the removal of the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle so as to ensure for the public supplies at reduced prices. The motion was seconded by Mr John A Sinclair and unanimously agreed to and the secretary was instructed to send copies of the resolution to the Prime Minister and all the Scottish Members of Parliament.

MEAT PRICES: Mr D D Paton, West Kilbride moved that the Federation call upon the Ministry of Food to rectify the injustice to the Scottish Meat Trade by the new official price list and do all in their power to get future price lists fixed by a Scottish Committee acquainted with the Scottish method of cutting. After a short discussion, it was agreed to remit the matter back with powers to the Emergency Committee.

ADDRESS BY MR A J SCOTT: At this stage of the proceedings Mr A J Scott, the editor of the Meat Trades Journal was invited to address the meeting after thanking the delegates for the warm welcome extended to him he read a letter from President Morgan of the National Federation conveying the fraternal greetings and best wishes for the success of the Scottish Federation which was received with applause. Mr Scott thereafter went on to deal with the latest schedule of prices and the new order as to labelling imported meat and a number of matters of general trade interest. On the motion of Mr James Miller, Glasgow Mr Scott was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for the work he had done on behalf of the trade.

HIDES: The meeting then took into consideration the question of Hides and in the course of the discussion Mr James Miller, Glasgow mentioned that there had now been established a Scottish Hide Inspection Federation and through its agency they were hoping that much good would accrue.

VOTE OF THANKS TO CHAIRMAN: The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.