

COMMERCIAL EGG PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

CENTRAL COUNCIL

HALF YEARLY CONFERENCE - 21st November, 1980 at 1.30 p.m. - REPORT

PRESENT:

Bendigo - R. Robins, A. Broadbent, K. Fitzgibbon.
South Bendigo - D. Oakes, M. Jackman, J. Scott, J. Moncrieff.
Wedderburn - C. Burnside, E. Walker.
Murrabit - H. Webb, T. Kelly, L. Bartels.
Euroa - John Pomeroy, Mr. & Mrs. J. Belcher.

The President D. Oakes opened the Conference and welcomed those present.

MINUTES:- of the previous conference were read and confirmed on the motion of J. Scott and R. Robins. Carried.

APOLOGIES:- were received from Ballarat Branch and H. Wilson on the motion of C. Burnside and J. Scott. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:-

- (1) Minister of Agriculture - list of names of members of V.E.B.
 - (2) Department of Agriculture - re Animal Welfare.
 - (3) Committee of Inquiry into Egg Marketing in Victoria - 3 letters re times of interviews regarding Inquiry.
 - (4) V.E.B. (i) re Egg quality.
(ii) Yolk Colour notification.
(iii) Egg Quality Classifications.
(iv) Royal Agricultural Society Commercial Egg Quality Competition.
(v) Egg scales.
(vi) Annual Report of V.E.B.
 - (5) F.C.P.F.A. - (i) minutes of meeting held 20/21 March, 1980.
(ii) proposed changes to the constitution.
 - (6) Report from the Committee of Inquiry into Egg Marketing in Victoria.
 - (7) Letter from John Radford, M.L.C., list of new members of all rural Boards.
 - (8) Letter - Poultry Advisory Council re animal welfare.
 - (9) Bulletin from Central Council of Supplier's Organisation.
- Moved H. Webb, seconded L. Bartels that correspondence be received. Carried.

TREASURER' REPORT:- as at 21/11/80

Total Income	\$2602.53
Expenditure	982.25
Balance	<u>\$1620.28</u>

Moved J. Scott, seconded A. Broadbent that account for Federal Council Affiliation Fee of \$250.00 be paid along with any other outstanding accounts, and that Treasurer's Report be received. Carried.

R. Robins reported that as of July the cost of production is 94.82 cents per dozen over all grades. R. Robins also reported on deputation to Ebery, Reid and Radford on stabilization legislation.
K. Fitzgibbon reported on talks with Mr. C. Burgin, Convenor of Rural Committee,
L. Bartels reported on talks with Mr. Alan Woods.
Mrs. J. Belcher reported on talks with Mr. L. Lieberman.
D. Oakes reported that he had been in touch with several other Cabinet Ministers

POULTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL - D. Oakes reported (1) outbreak of diseases, all Government and private Vets are on call and ready throughout the State.
(2) animal welfare, domestic animals have been taken out of the hands of the R.S.P.C.A.
(3) meatmeal - false figures have been made available in the State.

J. Belcher - Euroa Co-op - working 4 days a week, making a reasonable profit.

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M. Jackman - C.E.P.A. Co-op, meatmeal scarce, dearer next month. Present price of wheat \$155.00 per tonne, now have contract for 200 tonnes for 3 months, will be \$168.00 per tonne next month.

BRANCH RESOLUTIONS:-

(1) Meatmeal situation.

Lack of supply at present, D. Oakes will get in touch with Poultry Advisory Council to press for stocks for 2 months in advance in Victoria.

(2) Stock Feed wheat pricing. No action.

(3) Pricing of eggs considering the escalating feed prices. Incorporating the following points - extra one cent charge for eggs in cases, packing material charge for class "B" eggs, surplus eggs coming from broiler breeders and over quota hens, rest of the equalisation surplus.

Mr. F. Wrigley, member of V.E.B., presented letter of reply to South Bendigo Branch on the abovequeries (copy of letter enclosed).

(4) Policy of action if the quota scheme is likely to be abolished.

Mr. Wrigley reported it had been discussed at Board meeting yesterday, lobbying had been done by the Board, it seems Mr. Smith is the main one against the Stabilization Scheme. The Board will be meeting with the Liberal Rural Cttee., next week and will be pushing for legislation to remain as is.

(5) Burnley test will probably discontinue the floor testing. What should be the future of the cage test?

Moved L. Bartels, seconded J. Belcher that it is our policy that testing of birds on floor at Burnley be discontinued. Carried.

Moved R. Robins, seconded H. Webb that cage testing be continued at Burnley. Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

D. Oakes welcomed Mr. F. Wrigley from V.E.B., thanking him for making the effort to come up and talk to us.

Mr. Wrigley said things at present going along smoothly, Board's policy is to sell as many eggs locally and cut down on export surplus, thus 12½% cuts or higher will be necessary.

Production gradually dropping and specialling on certain grades for short times at various supermarkets has been a winner.

Sales compared to last year - Board floors up 2.7%, P.A.'s up 8.1%.

The specialling of eggs has cost \$2,382.00, but these eggs would have gone into pulp which would cost \$1.05 per dozen, he said that we must pursue sales in Summer and Spring. We are looking at a surplus of 6% last year 4.6%.

Mr. Wrigley suggested there would be no price rise until March or April.

Local floor is grading 8.3 million dozen per year.

Board Charges - grading 7.4 cents, selling costs 2.3 cents, packing material 6.5 c, cartage 1.5 cents, promotions 2.5 cents, administration 2.8 cents, giving a total of 23 cents per dozen.

Mr. Wrigley said packed to order was cheaper, also P.A.'s graded all eggs they could sell 65% the other 35% is graded again at the Board.

Mr. Wrigley said that he would be very willing to come up and talk to members any time he was required, and if there were any immediate problems his phone number - Melbourne 707 1883.

Meeting closed at 6.15 p.m.

Chairman,

Date