

COMMERCIAL EGG PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.
CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Special meeting held at City Hall, Bendigo on 13th. July 1981.

Chairman R. Robins opened meeting and welcomed 43 people present. He said the meeting was called to discuss the major findings and recommendations of the 2nd. report of the Committee of Inquiry into Egg Marketing in Victoria. R. Robins also reported on Industry meeting held in Melbourne on June 30th. 1981 which had been called to discuss the same report. At meeting on June 30th. all present were in favour of recommendations except Nos. 1 & 6, and these are main reason for this meeting.

APOLOGIES were received from D. Oakes, Mrs. S. Scott-Natte Yallack; Geoff Collins-Bridgewater; and J. Burnside-Wedderburn; on the motion of J. Scott and L. Bartels. Carried.

The chairman then welcomed Peter Carter, Chairman V.E.B. and Alan Harrison, Manager V.E.B. who had come to address meeting.

Mr. Carter said that we need a united front for presentation to the Minister. The Egg Producers Association (Melbourne) have been wanting to do away with the vesting of eggs in the Board, but have now backed off on this. (No. 1. in report).

(No. 6) in regard to "per hen" basis of collection of funds he suggested that it was the most equitable way of collecting finances for the Board, would save money and cut down levy dodging. He said the Board does not believe that there should be such a high surplus as in the past, 1979-80 \$2 million, 1980-81 \$4.1 million. The Broiler Industry have gone to the Minister asking for some control of production.

Main points discussed were:- If eggs are not vested with the Board orderly marketing collapses, quality control will weaken. Problems could arise with disease etc., provision needs to be made for this. (Harrison) pointed out that eggs belonged to the Board as soon as they are laid as long as the Producer desires to send them to the Board. He also said you can't have equalisation in the Egg Industry if you can't take the surplus off the market.

Moved M. Jackman, seconded D. Hazeldene that to enable a united joint submission be presented to the Minister that:-

- (1) On the condition that the E.P.A. (Melbourne) withdraw its opposition to vesting of eggs with the V.E.B., that the C.E.P.A., withdraw its opposition to the concept of all Board charges being collected on a per hen basis.
- (2) We vigorously support that the membership of C.E.M.A. be maintained.
- (3) No drastic changes be undertaken without consultation and agreement with adjoining State Egg Boards.
- (4) We actively pursue efforts to have legislation to phase out quotas repealed and replaced with suitable legislation providing for the continuation of D.S.M. Carried.

Moved H. Wilson, seconded A. Broadbent that we endeavour to have delegates on the Board deputation to the Minister. Carried.

Meeting closed.