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22nd December, 1987.

Mrs. J. Vipadi,
Secretary,
Egg Farmers of Victoria,
P.O.Box 141,
NOBLE PARK, 3174

Dear Jean,

Following our monthly meeting on the 14th December, there were several recommendations to be put to the Egg Board for consideration.

We were pleased to hear, that at the Annual Meeting of the Egg Board, the Board decided that they were going to look at the 7 gram difference between our grades.

The 3 grade system never eventuated. It has caused the shortage of big eggs and resulted in a 48 cent per dozen difference between 56 and 63 gram grades. This has created a margin which has allowed Barters to trade in Victoria. The obvious solution would be to return to the old grades with 5 gram differences as soon as possible.

In the meantime we suggest that with a minor adjustment to the Keysborough grader the 61 and 62 gram eggs which are our mediums plus some of our 56 and 49 gram eggs should be sent into Canberra. For every egg Barter's send into Victoria the V.E.M.B. or the Good Food Company should send 2 into Canberra. With our prices so low for small and medium grades, we should be able to apply pressure to Barters with very little cost.

If we can under sell Barters in Canberra it will cost them a lot of money to meet the competition. The other alternative is to let them under cut our prices and all Victorian Egg Producers will be expected to match their price.

Page 2.

The proposed new depot in the north of Melbourne:

We were wondering if the Board had considered sub leasing part of Tom Neylon's floor, as factory space is let on a per square foot basis, it could be a solution.

If there is to be a new depot, could a couple of members of our Executive and Richard Guy be informed as to the options available before the final decision is made.

Regarding the egg washer at Crystal:

We had a meeting at the Crystal Egg Grading Floor on 2nd December. It was decided to check the sounds, cracks and useless eggs graded on a few consignments at Keysborough.

We also have to check the washer that fits onto the Crystal grader for price and if it dries the eggs satisfactorily or whether we could need a spray on stamp.

The suggestion raised by Don Foster when the 3 Board members were in Bendigo was a possible three way co-operative investment. Richard Guy showed interest and had figures worked out where producers share could be covered by a .2c a dozen change on all eggs. We will have more information on this matter early in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

K. Fitzgibbon,
SECRETARY