

## 1898 December 16<sup>th</sup>

### Minutes of Directors' Meeting held at Brewery Offices at 4 p.m.

on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 1898

Present: Messrs J. Dodds (Chairman), J.D. Hutchison, W.R. Bennett,

F.S. James, T.B. Glover and (by invitation) M. Kirkwood

Mr. H. Baehr being prevented by illness from attending

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> November were read and confirmed.

➤ Office Assistant Crane

Office Assistant Crane The Chairman stated that he with Mr. Bennett had examined Mr. Cranes work and found it not very satisfactory and generally confirmatory of the reports received. Decided to give Mr. Crane notice in writing that the Company would prefer him to look out for another position.

➤ Price of Beer

Price of Beer The Chairman read a memorandum of an interview between Mr. Yonei and the Secretary in which Mr. Yonei reported that he had received many serious complaints of the bad quality of Kirin Beer at all the points he had visited between Osaka and Moji during his recent journey in that neighbourhood. Mr. Yonei also expressed his opinion that it would be unwise to increase the price of Beer at present. Complaints from other quarters and also the marked falling off from the same cause of deliveries to local customers having been referred to, Mr. Heckert was requested to attend and was asked what he could say on the subject. By degrees the information was extracted from him that some beer, probably about eight large casks (say

5,000 gallons), had certainly been bad; the defect being attributable to the abnormally high temperature of the cellars in some of the Summer months due to the inefficient operation of the cooling machinery and also to the works connected with the building of the new cellars. The contents of these eight casks he had utilized by mixing with other younger and better beer and he thought the last of the doubtful beer had gone out from the brewery some eight days ago. He stated that all the beer now in stock, estimated by the Secretary at 181,700 gallons, was quite good and that he tasted the beer from every cask just before bottling off. Some bottles taken from four cases beer just returned by Meidiya as bad (issued end October) were examined and pronounced to be thoroughly bad and undrinkable.

After stating that he had omitted to prepare his usual monthly report and promising to furnish it shortly together with a memorandum of the quantity of Beer for which there was still storage accommodation Mr. Heckert retired. Discussion having followed it was decided to postpone the date of increasing the price of beer in the meantime and to advise Meidiya accordingly, repeating to that firm at the same time the assurance that all the beer now being delivered was perfectly good, and undertaking to replace all really bad beer of recent date which might be returned.

➤ Financial Statement

Financial Statement by the Secretary was read

➤ Water Tanks in new Brewery Buildings, and Alteration in Quality and Price of Malt cases.

Letters on these subjects were read and directed to filed.

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➤ Delivery Agent Gibbs' Commission on Cash Sales

Delivery Agent Gibbs' Commission on Cash Sales Mr. Gibbs Commission having fallen off to almost nothing in consequence of the arrangement recently made with Meidiya under which the Company ceased selling directly to Japanese dealers in Yokohama, the Secretary submitted an account showing the average paid Mr. Gibbs during the last two years, amounting to yen 65.06 per month. After consideration it was resolved to offer Mr. Gibbs a fixed Sum of yen 50.00 per month in lieu of the commission.

➤ Meidiya Advertising Account for 1898

Meidiya Advertising Account for 1898 This account amounting to yen 3466.48 was examined and passed for payment, the Secretary being instructed to write reminding Meidiya of the Companys policy not to advertise excessively at present but rather to wait until the completion of the new Brewery should justify special steps in that direction.

➤ Outstanding Accounts

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A list of these was submitted and referred back to the Secretary at his suggestion with the object of collecting all amounts possible before next meeting when the list was again to be ready.

➤ Consulting Engineer

Consulting Engineer In view of the extensive works in connection with the new Brewery and also of the general requirements of the Company a

suggestion was made that it might be advantageous to retain the permanent Services of a practical consulting Engineer and Mr. B. Munster's name was mentioned in connection with the idea. Resolved to defer full consideration till next meeting.

➤ Reconstruction of Company

Reconstruction of Company Consideration of the proposed New Articles of Association was continued and completed and several additions to the memorandum for Mr. Walford was made.

The meeting then closed at 6.20 p.m.

James Dodds

Chairman