

1899 June 19th

Minutes of Directors' Meeting held at the Brewery Offices at 3.30 p.m.
on Monday 19th June 1899

Present: Messrs James Dodds (Chairman), F.S. James, H. Baehr,

W.R. Bennett, and (by invitation) M. Kirkwood

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 2nd June were read and confirmed.

➤ Duplicate Engine and Compressor for New Brewery

Duplicate Engine and Compressor for New Brewery. This subject was again discussed but not finally settled. The Secretary reported that Architect Diack was preparing foundations suitable for duplicate machinery.

➤ Analysis of Accounts

Analysis of Accounts This had been circulated as desired. The enormous increase in coal consumption was referred to and the Chairman said that although the serious attention of the whole Brewery Staff had been directed to it no satisfactory explanation had yet been arrived at. The Manager was desired to continue his efforts in the way of economizing and to obtain the Chief Brewer's help. Mr. James said he would later on have some questions to put in connection with the Beer product account.

➤ New Chief Brewer Kayser

New Chief Brewer The Chairman reported details of a meeting which he had had with Mr. Kayser when Mr. Baehr and the Secretary were present. The analysis of the sample beer which had been sent to Germany was referred to when Mr. Kayser remarking on the difference between the results obtained at Berlin and at Munich said he thought the latter was probably the more correct although it was a most difficult thing for any one not in constant

practice to make a reliable analysis. In the Colleges the people do little else and yet we see how they differ. German Export Beer is stronger than Kirin which accounts for its keeping better. Our Bock for example will through its greater strength keep longer than ordinary Kirin. Sake yeast might account for the previous bitterness of flavour. The sterilizing process to be adopted in the new Brewery will prevent the intrusion of outside germs. Infrequency of pitching casks would also cause some deterioration in the beer. Mr. Kayser thought beer might be kept in stock for a less time than at present; indeed it was positively bad to keep our light beer in cask so long. If stronger it would as before remarked stand longer keeping. Mr. Kayser said he intended to adopt a different process of fermentation on which he had experimented in the Yebisu Brewery when he had sent out beer only one month old; and he would try to improve many minor matters without upsetting things and without changing the character of the beer. He would also submit in due time a proposal for the adoption of the "gratier" system of cooling water which he had tried elsewhere with success. Mr. Dodds told Mr. Kayser of his position in the Brewery: that he had control of and was responsible for everything – the whole staff, except the office, being under him. The Manager would be the means of communication between himself and the Board, and perfect confidence was expected to exist between them. He spoke of the necessity of good feeling all round and mentioned the absence of such and the deplorable results during Mr. Heckerts time; and finally requested Mr. Kayser to make a regular monthly report.

➤ Shanghai Agents and Their Accounts

Shanghai Agents and their accounts The Secretary reported that he had

written strongly to Messrs. Caldbeck MacGregor & Co but there had not yet been time for an answer.

➤ Financial Statement

Financial Statement The usual financial statement was submitted and read.

➤ Brewery Chimney Smoke

Brewery Chimney Smoke Complaints from neighbours were referred to and the Secretary offered a suggestion that the Kencho should be applied to for permission to build the new brewery chimney so as to avoid a possible interdict. This was considered undesirable.

➤ Legal Advice

Legal advice The necessity of Japanese legal aid was considered and the Secretary was desired to consult Mr. Yonei as to the propriety of engaging Messrs. Miyoshi and Ideura.

➤ Nagasaki Agents

Nagasaki A report received from Mr. Glover that the Agents there had in stock beer of last September's date which was bad and prevented further business, was commented upon. The Secretary reported he had shipped fresh supplies and that he would expostulate with Messrs. Powers & Co on their having allowed such a state of things to exist without report.

➤ Kiachow Port

Kiachow Mr. Baehr reported he had received advice from a second and very reliable source to the effect that there was no possible field for Kirin at this port. The residents there – mostly German troops &c – could obtain beer from Germany freight free and even if Kirin were obtainable at cheaper rates

it would not suit their tastes.

➤ Reorganization of Staff

Reorganizations of Staff The Manager was desired to prepare, in conjunction with the Chief Brewer, a suitable arrangement and to submit it to the Board.

➤ General Meeting

General Meeting This being referred to it was resolved to fix upon a suitable day early in July.

➤ Bluff Lot No. 270 (Dr. Van der Heyden)

Bluff Lot No.270 (Dr.Van der Heyden) Mr. James reported this was not at present obtainable.

➤ Water Supply

Water Supply The Manager reported that at his application the Kencho had constructed an additional inlet to the pond from which good results were expected. He also reported that he had obtained an estimate for another artesian boring 6 inches in diameter. He considered the figures too high however and was endeavouring to get cheaper estimates.

The Meeting then closed at 6 p.m.

James Dodds

Chairman