

1899 July 11<sup>th</sup>

Minutes of Directors' Meeting held at the Brewery Offices at 3.30 p.m.

on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 1899

Present: Messrs J. Dodds (Chairman), H. Baehr, F.S. James, W.R. Bennett,  
and (by invitation) M. Kirkwood

The Minutes of the previous meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> June were read and confirmed  
and the Managers memoranda upon them were also read.

➤ Duplicate Machinery

Duplicate Machinery The Manager reported as follows:- Mr. Munster states verbally that the steam-engine provided for the new brewery is constructed so as to work two compressors from the same main shaft either of which could be disconnected and the other run alone. Foundation and bed-plate are provided for two compressors but only one has been ordered. In consultation with the Germania fitter Mr. Munster recommends that a second compressor be ordered at once as well as the piping necessary to connect it with the generator. The cost of this would not be great. The Machinery could then run without any risk long enough to allow ample time for consideration of the question of arranging for a second or duplicate set of one engine and one or two compressors – foundations for which have also been provided. It would not be possible to work a second set of compressors from the original engine. This having been considered it was decided to order the second compressor and piping recommended as well as the generator for the same. Mr. Munster was to be requested to present his recommendation in writing with the fitter's endorsement.

➤ Secretary's Financial Statement

Secretary's Financial Statement This was submitted and read as usual.

➤ Shanghai Agent's Accounts

Shanghai Agents Accounts A letter from Messrs Caldbeck MacGregor & Co. dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June was read and considered unsatisfactory, but it was resolved to make no response in the meantime or until accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> March therein promised were received. Mr. Dodds stated he had written to a friend in Shanghai sounding him as to who might be suitable Agents for the company in the event of a rupture with Messrs Caldbeck MacGregor & Co.

➤ Coal Consumption and Chimney Smoke Nuisance

Coal Consumption and Chimney Smoke Nuisance The Manager reported a complaint had been received verbally from Dr. Munro to the effect that he was annoyed by soot from the chimney falling at the hospital sanatorium – also that Mr. Munster had visited the Brewery several times recently in connection with the subject and had given Engineer Chemnitz information as to the proper method of storing but no good result was yet apparent. Resolved to revert to the old system of partly open draught through the furnaces in order to mitigate the smoke nuisance and so not antagonize neighbors at the present juncture, and also to ask Mr. Munster for a written report as to the coal consumption.

➤ Nagasaki Agents (Powers & Co.)

Nagasaki The Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Messrs R. H. Powers & Co. saying (among other things) that they would return some cases of pints which had been shipped them in April. Beer of that date being quite sound the Secretary had telegraphed Messrs Powers & Co. to that effect and

he was now writing them on the subject.

➤ Beer Sales in Kiushiu

Kiushiu Verbal communications from Meidiya – already known to the Directors – on the advisability of a change in the system of working the beer trade in this important district were referred to and the Secretary reported details of an interview which he had had with Mr. Yonei on the previous day. At present beer for Kiushiu (Nagasaki &c) was shipped to Osaka in the first place and thence re-shipped to Nagasaki or whatever port was necessary, the Company paying freight (31 sen per case) as far as Osaka. Mr. Yonei stated that he intended establishing a branch at Nagasaki and another at Moji and that by doing so he expected he could in the near future increase the business in Kiushiu from about 500 cases per month as at present to 1000 cases, and as soon as business (especially coal) in that district revived he believed he could raise it to 1500 cases. To enable him to do this however he felt that he required aid to compete with rival companies and this aid he asked the Company to afford him by paying freight right through to Nagasaki. The Secretary had argued against the justice of this but finally suggested that the Company might be willing to bear one half of the extra freight beyond Osaka if Meidiya would bear the balance. Mr. Yonei did not consent to this but from his manner the Secretary believed he would agree if a positive offer were made. After discussion the Directors resolved to make such an offer in writing, the Secretary to call special attention to the terms of our agreement and to the fact that the Company was making a concession to show its good will, with the distinct understanding that the arrangement might be cancelled after one years trial when it was probable that if the business increased as anticipated

Meidiya would find it to his interest to continue without aid. Mr. Yonei further contemplated appointing a “traveler” to each of his Kiushius branches is one at Nagasaki and one at Moji, the former to commence work at once and the latter somewhat later on, and although he admitted that under contract Meidiya was bound to bear this expense himself he asked, seeing that working by means of travellers was a point on which the Company laid much more stress than he did, that the Company would bear two-thirds of the expense which would be about yen 100 per month for each traveller – and Meidiya would bear the balance.

After consideration it was resolved to agree to this with the same reservation of time as in the case of the freight to Nagasaki question.

➤ Returned Empty Bottles

Returned Empty Bottles Several suggestions having been strongly urged for a long time that the return of empty bottles should be encouraged, the Secretary produced figures showing that outside of Yokohama business there was no profit, but a great deal of risk, in using returned bottles – this being confirmed by the Chief Brewer. After full discussion, during which the Secretary referred to the various dangers and disadvantages entailed by the use of returned bottles, it was resolved to endeavour to make arrangements with a dealer to act as collector of all approved bottles which he could deliver at the Brewery at the rate of 40 sen per dozen quarts and 20 sen per dozen pints.

➤ Chief Brewer Kayser’s Report for June

Chief Brewers Report for June was referred to but being mainly a mass of figures its information was not easily intelligible. The Secretary undertook

to have next months report made in a clearer form.

➤ Legal Advice

Legal Advice A letter addressed to Messrs Miyoshi and Ideura inviting them to act as standing counsel for the Company with a retaining fee of 500 yen per annum was read and approved. In connection with this and in view of an opinion expressed by Dr. Lonholm it was decided to take no steps as regards registration of the Company by Japanese authorities until after consulting Counsel. In the meantime a memorandum of the points for consultation was to be prepared.

➤ Messrs. Toyokawa and Tsuruhara's Guarantee of Meidiya

Messrs Toyokawa and Tsuruharas guarantee of Meidiya In connection with the transfer of this from the old to the new Company it was resolved to endeavour to alter the form of the guarantee so as to fall in with suggestions made by Mr. Walford.

➤ Germania Company's Fitter

Germania Company's Fitter A letter from the Chief Brewer of the Suita Brewery was read asking that Mr. Trobitius might be lent to the Suita Brewery for about a fortnight. Resolved to reply that although very willing to assist Suita it was impossible for the fitter to leave Yokohama at present.

➤ General Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July

General Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July The Chairman read some notes of the address which he intended to deliver.

The meeting then closed at 5.45 p.m.

James Dodds

Chairman