

1902 June 18th

Minutes of a Special Meeting of Directors held at the Brewery Offices

at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday 18th June 1902

Present: Messrs Jas. Dodds (Chairman), J.D. Hutchison, T.B. Glover,

O. Haynemann, C.B. Bernard, F.S. James (Managing Director).

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held 5th inst, were read and confirmed.

➤ Chief Brewer Kayser and Bad Beer

The Chairman read the Reports written at the request of Board by the Chief Brewer on the quantity of Rice used in Brewing, Residue Beer, and Meidiya's Complaints as to bad beer. He also repeated a conversation he had had with Mr. Kayser on the quality of the Malt & Hops used, and then read a letter from the Chief Brewer referring to the same subjects.

The Managing Director said in reference to these reports that he had a few remarks to make on them -viz- If Mr. Kayser had known long ago (as he says he did) that the use of Astheimers malt & Hops would affect the taste of the beer, he should have said so before ordering the supplies, and should at least have made some objection to getting them at all, but on the contrary he never mentioned a word, but wrote out the orders and made the proportions himself. He never mentioned that the moisture in Astheimers Malt was as much as 8%, or that he had had it tested. It was his business to report these things to the Managing Director but he had not done so.

The Chief Brewer says that he examined Cases in the godown but did not find a Single bottle of bad beer.

In answer to this the Managing Director stated that on the 13th inst Meidiya

requested Brewery to have the beer in the godown (about 3500 Cases) inspected.

Mr. Eichelberg went down and opened about 30 Cases, and found more or less muddy beer in each Case. As many as 30 bad bottles were found in one Case.

Most of the bad beer was May bottling, but there were some bottled in April. All deliveries were at once stopped from Godown, and instruction given to re-pack the whole stock. So far 583 Cases had been re-packed out of which 2112 bottles bad beer had been taken and returned to the Brewery.

➤ Analysis of Beer

The Managing Director then read a report on Corks &c, and stated that he wished to place before the Directors some facts in connection with the Brewing.

Up till June 1900 a brew contained 880 gallons saleable beer, and the Hops used for each brew were 22 Kilos or 2.50%.

From the starting of the new brewery in July to 12 Sept. 1900, a brew contained 2779 gallons saleable beer – 41 Kilos Hops were used or 1.475%.

From 12 September 1900 to 30th April 1902, the brews still continued at 2779 gallons but the relative percentage of Hops used, was further reduced to 1.31%.

Now if it was necessary up till June 1900 to use 2.50% of Hops, he could not understand how that per centage could with safety be reduced to 1.31% or little more than one half. Mr. Kayser had said that the new machinery gave a better extract, which was no doubt true, but it was difficult to believe that it drew almost double strength out of the Hops. Besides old Hops mixed with

New Crop were being used and he understood that the older Hops got, the less the Aroma and therefore the greater quantity required. As Mr. Kayser was instructed from the first, not to change the character of the beer it would be interesting to know what affect the reduced per centage of Hops has had.

In Malt the relative per centage had been reduced from 102.27% to 78.73%.

In Rice the relative per centage had been raised from 23.90% to 26.86%.

Had this alteration in the per centages anything to do with the change in the character of the Beer?

It appeared to him that there was not sufficient strength in the beer to allow it to withstand outside influences, so that should the beer come in contact with a bad cork or dirty bottle, it was immediately affected.

➤ Dismissal of Kayser

The question of the dismissal of the Chief Brewer was then gone into. It was decided without a dissentient voice that the Managing Director should write to Mr. Kayser the next day to the effect, that his services were no longer required, as our Selling Agents had wholly lost confidence in him as a Brewer, and his explanation of Meidiyas continual complaints of the quality of the beer, were considered by the Directors to be most inadequate, and insatisfactory. As the Chief Brewers agreement has a 4 mos notice clause, it was settled to give him 4 mos salary as from the 1st July in lieu of such notice, and to dispense with his services the next day -viz- 19 June.

New 1st Assistant Brewer.

It was decided that Mr. Rohde should be asked by telegraph to engage the new brewer at once -and Mr.Haynemann promised to wire the next day.

➤ The Death of Gibbs on the 8th June

Death of Mr. J. B. Gibbs.

The Chairman gave expression to the loss the Directors and the Company have enstrained by the death of Mr. Gibbs, which sad event occurred on the 8th June.

It was suggested that the Managing Director should write a letter of condolence to the family.

The Meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

James Dodds

Chairman