

1902 July 11th

Minutes of Meeting of Directors held at the Brewery offices at 3.30 p.m. on Friday 11th July 1902

Present: Jas. Dodds (Chairman), J.D. Hutchison, O. Haynemann,
C.B. Bernard, F.S. James (Managing Director).

The Minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 18th June were read and confirmed.

➤ Financial Statement

The Financial Statement prepared for the Meeting was read.

➤ Reports of Chief Brewer and Engineer for June

The Reports for June of the Chief Brewer & Engineer were read.

➤ Dismissal of Kayser

The Chairman said that in accordance with the Resolution passed at the Special Meeting of Directors held on the 18th June, the Managing Director had written the next day to Mr. Kayser, and terminated his agreement on that day and in lieu of 4 Mos notice, had handed him a cheque for salary up to 31st October 1902.

➤ Letter of Condolence to Mrs. Gibbs

A letter of condolence had been sent to Mrs. Gibbs. Mr. Bob Jones had been appointed to the place rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Gibbs.

➤ Letter from Kayser

A letter was read from Mr. Kayser (Kindly translated by Mr. Haynemann) asking the Directors to give him testimonial as to services rendered during his employment with the Company.

This led to some discussion, as there was a strong feeling that Mr. Kayser

was not entitled to a testimonial after the manner in which he had been dismissed, and that by giving it, the action of the Directors would be stultified. This was the opinion of the Chairman and Managing Director, but it was finally arranged that the Managing Director should draft a letter on the lines, that Mr. Kayser had been in the employment of the Japan Brewery Co (L) for a certain term during which time he had attended to his duties to the best of his ability -No cause was to be assigned for his dismissal, nor was the letter to contain any recommendation.

➤ Chief Brewer Eichelberg

The Chairman then read a memo prepared by the Managing Director, and said that Mr. Eichelberg had taken charge as Chief Brewer on the 20th June. On inspecting the stock in cellars he had found several Casks beer in bad condition and the stock in godown was all more or affected. Until the beer was ready for bottling and all the cases re-packed it would be impossible to say what quantity was worthless. Up to date, about 650 gallons and 49 1/2 Cases had been run off. Mr. Eichelberg had given as his reasons for the bad beer, that it was partly caused by last years filtered beer being kept in Cellars in Storage Casks with the bungs out, instead of being Closed up, as he had recommended. Microbes he thinks had got into the Cellars through this, and Contaminated Portion of some of the subsequent brews, and there was not sufficient hops used to allow the beer to withstand outside influences. Since he had been appointed Chief Brewer, he had changed the per centage of Hops and now used 50 Kilos for each brew, instead of 36.3 kilos, as used by Mr. Kayser.

➤ Quality of Beer

The Managing Director called the attention of the meeting to the prejudicial effect the bad beer was causing to the reputation of "Kirin". Complaints were coming in from all parts of the country, and Meidiya was very much concerned. In the early part of the year he (Meidiya) expected to sell one million yen worth of beer, now, he thought 800,000 would be the utmost, and probably not over yen 700,000.- The dealers were complaining about the price of "Kirin", and said that as it was no better than other brands, they ought not to pay more for it.

➤ Meidiya's Beer Trade Fallen Off

Meidiya was anxious to have the price reduced, but up to the present the Managing Director had not allowed this, and hoped it would not be necessary. Competition however was so great, especially by the Sapporo Co that the contemplated rise of yen 1 per Case, was out of the question for the present, and the outlook was anything but encouraging, as on a yearly sale of -say 600,000 gallons, excise tax amounting to some yen 110,000 would have to come out of the profits.

Mr. Haynemann said that he had telegraphed on the 19th June to Mr. Rohde in accordance with the resolution passed at the Special Meeting on the 18th June, but so far had received no answer.

➤ Cox -Edward. auditor

➤ Osaka Exhibition in 1903

The Managing Director stated that Mr. Cox-Edward had been asked to fill the vacancy of auditor, caused by the departure of Mr. Guinness and had written accepting the appointment - he further stated that Meidiya was

anxious to have a good Exhibit at the Osaka Exhibition in 1903 at a cost of about yen 3500, and hoped the Brewery would share the expense.

The Meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

James Dodds

Chairman