

## Some early Board meeting minutes of Beale's Ltd.

30/6/1896 Annual Accounts

Mr Carden of Messrs. Moore and Sons attended the meeting and produced the draft statement of accounts to be presented to the ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders.

The profit shown for the 12 months being £5654-14-11 and making with the amount brought forward namely £1495-15-11 a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £7150-10-10.

20/7/1896 1st Annual General Meeting

It was then resolved that a dividend of 8% be paid to the Shareholders. Mr W. E. Beale then proposed that Messrs. Moore and Sons the Auditors of the Company be re-elected. This was seconded by Mr T. H. Beale and carried unanimously.

13/5/1897 Accident to Horse and Man

It was reported that a somewhat serious accident arising through the negligence of the driver of a cart belonging to the Express Dairy Company had occurred in which one of the company's carts had been damaged and the horse and man injured and that a letter had been sent to the Express Dairy Company to the effect that they would be held responsible for the damage sustained and that a letter had been received in reply acknowledging receipt of letter.

3/8/1899 4th A.G.M.

The Secretary then read the Directors' Report and Balance Sheet, following which the Chairman explained that the Auditors were not present to vouch for the Balance Sheet, but as they were Chartered Accountants and a firm of very high standing they could take it that the accounts had been very carefully and thoroughly gone into, and that they were correct as signed and shown by them.

13/2/1900 Horses

Mr A. A. Beale gave a report on the Company's Horses, showing that there were 26 working, 2 sick, and 1 purchased ready for being brought to the stables, following which a general discussion ensued.

18/7/1900 Auditors' Report

Mr Carden reported and made comparisons between Balance Sheet May 12th just audited and May 1899, from which it appeared there was a falling off in the volume of Trade, which was expected owing to the War and the state of Trade generally, though the ratio of profit was about the same.

9/7/1901 Auditors' Report

Mr Carden submitted the draft Balance Sheet for the year ending May 1901, from which it appeared that there was a very slight falling off in the gross returns - which could at once be accounted for by the practical cessation of business owing to the death of the Queen - though the ratio of profit had been more than maintained, in fact was an increase of £397 upon the previous year.

21/7/1902 Auditors' Report

The Auditors' attention was called to the omission to provide for the Managing Director's salary for 3 years just ended, and questions were asked with regard to the valuation and depreciation of horses. It was agreed to recommend a dividend of 8% and pay off the arrears of Managing Director's salary.

The A.G.M. was fixed for July 31st at 8 o/c but owing to the exigencies of business in the Catering Dept. time was subsequently altered to 3 o/c.

2/12/1902 Xmas Trade, Turkeys etc.

The meeting was called primarily for the consideration of the supply and demand for turkeys, arrangements etc. for the Christmas trade; when in the discussion the effect of certain firms and trades doing away with Xmas boxes, and the consequent expected trade to us; the effect of muggy and damp weather; the amount of business done last year and what may be calculated on this year, were all very fully entered into, and finally it was the opinion of the Meeting that Mr A. A. Beale buy up to 300 turkeys of all kinds and one case of geese, having 100 big birds home for Friday's display and the remainder on Saturday afternoon.

#### Electric Current Agreement

An agreement had been entered into with Mr Jesse Piper on behalf of The Holloway Electric Supply Co. Ltd. (late the Safety Concentric Wiring Co Ltd) for the supply of electric current for a period of 5 years at 3¼d per unit and always 5% under the Islington Borough Council (price).

30/7/1906 11th A.G.M. Profit £3,064-17-11. Dividend 5% free of tax.

There being no other business and the Chairman's invitation for suggestions bringing in the old question of urgency in the Despatch and having more boys on Saturdays and Tricycle Carriers, the meeting terminated.