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COFFEE INDUSTRY BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st JULY 1966**

THE BOARD

The Board which was established in 1950 is a Statutory Body consisting of seven (7) members appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Lands of whom three (3) shall be nominated members. Nominated members are persons actively engaged in growing coffee who have been nominated by an Approved Association, which in the Minister's opinion is representative of Coffee Growers.

Members of the Board at the 31st July 1966, were:—

N. C. Miller — Chairman
L. E. Ashenhiem
S. D. Moore
R. B. Haisley+
E. E. Robertson
A. E. Christie
A. S. Wilmot
H. G. Vassell
C. E. Randall*

The members were appointed to serve for a period of two years with effect from the 11th March 1965.

There were twelve (12) Ordinary Meetings and two (2) Special Meetings of the Board during the year and in addition the following Committees met whenever required.

Executive Committee
Agricultural Committee
Labour Committee.

+Appointed a member of the Board vice Mr. S. D. Moore with effect from the 10th January 1966.

*Appointed to act vice Mr. L. E. Ashenheim who had been granted leave of absence from the 10th June 1965 to 31st August 1965, and also for the period 18th May 1966 to 31st July 1966.

CENTRAL FACTORIES

The Board's six (6) Central Factories, which are situated at Aenon Town, Bog Walk, Clarendon Park, Dover, Maggoty and Trout Hall were in operation during the harvesting season which commenced during the latter part of August 1965 and continued to the end of January 1966. 280,605 boxes of Cherry Coffee were processed at these Factories compared with 229,259 boxes processed during the 1964/65 Crop.

The following table shows the total number of boxes purchased by the Board over the last five crops:—

1961/62	—	271,250	Boxes
1962/63	—	200,926	"
1963/64	—	243,937	"
1964/65	—	229,259	"
1965/66	—	280,605	"

During the peak of the crop 42,690 boxes were received and processed at these Factories during a single week. This represents approximately % of the total receipts.

(The average outturn of one box of cherry coffee is approximately 10 lb. clean coffee.)

Details of deliveries and disbursements by each Factory are set out at Appendix "A".

For the crop the Board paid a total of 24/7d per box gross. Growers received a total of 23/- per box nett cash — an Advance Price of 16/- per box, and a Bonus of 7/- per box which was declared by the Board after the final marketing had been completed. This price was the highest growers have received since the 1957/58 Crop. In addition, the Board also paid a 6d per box to the Jamaica Agricultural Society to be credited to Growers' Share Capital Accounts in their respective Co-operative Societies, 1/- per box to the Co-operatives to meet their expenses including payment of Coffee Selectors, Group Secretaries etc., and 1d per box to the J.A.S. Coffee Growers' Co-operative Federation Ltd., toward the expenses of the Federation. All expenses incurred in transporting Cherry Coffee from the collecting depots to the Factories, as well as the processing and finishing expenses, are met by the Board.

The gross price per box paid by the Board over the last five crops is as follows:—

1961/62	—	19/7d
1962/63	—	20/1d
1963/64	—	21/1d
1964/65	—	22/1d
1965/66	—	24/7d

CENTRAL GRADING AND FINISHING WORKS

Continued progress has been made in maintaining a high degree of efficiency in all stages of processing at the Central Grading and Finishing Works.

RECEIVALS AND CROP GRADINGS

Receipts at the Central Grading and Finishing Works from the Central and Co-operative Factories and the Jamaica Agricultural Society for the Crop Year were as follows:—

Central and Co-operative Factories	—	3,229,240 lb.
Jamaica Agricultural Society	—	2,738 "
		<hr/>
		3,231,978 lb.

The outturn of coffee processed was as follows:—

	Barrels (250—265 lb.)	Bags (132 lb.)
Prime Jamaica Washed	—	23,716
High Mountain	184	—
Triage 'A'	—	15
Triage 'B'	—	3
Stock Lots	—	202
TOTAL	184	23,936

Prime Jamaica Washed, the principal grade, represented 96.86% of the Crop. This is the highest grading yet achieved and reflects the high standard of processing performed at the Central and Co-operative Factories and at the Central Grading and Finishing Works. The previous year's grading was 95.8% for the 1964/65 Crop.

WALLENFORD ESTATE

The Board's estate at Wallenfords in the Blue Mountains — on which is established approximately 15 acres of Coffee and 20 acres of bananas — came into production during the year, and 7 barrels of high quality Blue Mountain Coffee were prepared and exported to Holland. Gradual expansion of the Coffee cultivation is being undertaken, and the acreage which has been established in bananas will be eventually replaced by Coffee.

MARKETING

Sales are made through the Board's Agents in the United Kingdom, Canada, United States of America, Italy and Japan at prevailing World Market prices, on the basis F.O.B. Kingston:

The destination and quantity of Coffee exported by the Board during the 1965/66 Crop were as follows:—

Destination	Barrels (250—265 lb.)	Bags (132 lb.)
United Kingdom	149	3,570
Japan	35	2,325
Poland	—	1,700
Denmark	—	400
Italy	—	400
New Zealand	—	150
Australia	—	145
France	—	50
Holland	7	—
	191	8,740

Types of Coffee exported during the year were as follows:—

Green Coffee	Blue Mountain	Roasted	TOTAL
1,203,904 lb.	150,690 lb.	28,765 lb.	1,383,359 lb.

PRODUCTION

In so far as Coffee cultivation in Jamaica is concerned, the real problem is one of chronic under production. The rapid expansion in local demand over the six year period as shown in the following Table, has tended to accentuate the acute problem which the industry faces in Jamaica — one of dwindling supplies being available for export.

	Local Sales	Export Sales
	(Bags of 132 lb.)	Bags of 132 lb.)
1960/61	6,915	10,638
1961/62	8,486	16,357
1962/63	8,075	13,202
1963/64	8,886	16,601
1964/65	11,869	9,639
1965/66	12,788	9,121

This is all the more regrettable since the high quality product marketed by the Board has attracted a growing clientele of Overseas Buyers who are always anxious to obtain supplies of this Coffee, since they are assured of a consistent and uniform product when they purchase "Prime Jamaica Washed Coffee."

It is with this problem in mind that the Board has endeavoured to stimulate production from existing trees by embarking on two Coffee Resuscitation Schemes during the 1963/64 and 1964/65 Crops, and in the current crop on a Subsidized Fertilizer Scheme. The average yield in Jamaica today is approximately 80 lb. of Clean Coffee per acre and when this is compared with yields of 1,000 to 1,500 lb of clean Coffee per acre attained in many of the major producing countries, it pin-points under production as one of the main problems facing the Industry in Jamaica. This problem has been recognized for some time and remedial measures are constantly being considered and undertaken within the existing resources of the Board. Although several reasons have been advanced as the cause of low production, no factual evaluation undertaken has been able to pin-point with accuracy all the contributory factors for this state of affairs.

COFFEE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The majority of Coffee Growers are members of Coffee Groups which are affiliated to their respective Coffee Co-operative Societies and Area Councils.

There are 19 Co-operative Societies and 3 Area Councils with a total membership of approximately 53,977 members organized in 649 Groups.

Deliveries by Members of the Co-operatives to the Board's Factories during the present crop amounted to approximately 280,605 boxes and

2049 boxes to the Co-operatively owned Factories. The Factories owned by Co-operative Societies are —

Catadupa
Guy's Hill
Woodhall

and in the Blue Mountain Area —

Moy Hall
Silver Hill
Langley.

The Coffee Co-operative Societies and Area Councils are all affiliated to the Jamaica Agricultural Society Coffee Growers' Co-operative Federation Ltd., which exercises control over them.

A privately owned Factory known as The Mavis Bank Central Factory Ltd., is operated at Mavis Bank and purchases Growers' Coffee grown in areas not covered by the Co-operatives. Growers supplying Coffee to the Catadupa and Guy's Hill Co-operative Factories are paid the same basic advance price per box as paid by the Central Factories and also receive the same Bonus payment. A special payment of 4/- per box was made by the Board to these Co-operatives toward the processing expenses incurred by these Factories.

LOCAL ROASTERS OF COFFEE

All Green Coffee used by Local Roasters in the preparation of Roasted and Instant Coffee must be obtained from the Board.

The following Firms were granted Coffee Works Licences pursuant to the Coffee Industry Regulations 1953, and are engaged in the manufacture of Roasted Coffee —

The Coffee Company of Jamaica Ltd.
Jamaica Standard Products Co., Ltd.
Acme Products Corporation.

In addition, The Instant Coffee Company of Jamaica Ltd., are the sole manufacturers of Soluble Coffee in the Island. Since attaining full production, the importation of all Soluble Coffee into Jamaica has been prohibited.

LICENCES COFFEE DEALERS AND COFFEE WORKS OPERATORS

Under the Coffee Industry Regulations 1953 all Coffee Dealers and Coffee Works Operators must obtain a Licence from the Board to enable them to deal in, or process Coffee, or manufacture any Coffee product. At the end of the year there were two (2) Ordinary Dealers and eleven (11) Coffee Works Licences granted by the Board. The Board's Officers check all Dealers and Works Operators to ensure that the terms and conditions of the Licences are rigidly observed.

GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

During the year the Board made a grant of £3,500 to the Jamaica Agricultural Society for Organizational and Educational work in the Industry and also wrote off a debt of £6,331. 6. 0d. owed by the Jamaica Agricultural Society and the North West St. Catherine Coffee Growers'

Co-operative Society Ltd. In addition, the Board made contributions to the Jamaica Agricultural Society sponsored Champion Farmer Competition and to several other Parish Agricultural Shows during the year. A Challenge Cup and Fertilizer to the value of Twenty Pounds (£20) were awarded by the Board to the Champion Coffee Farmer in the Christiana Area Land Authority and runners-up were given Fertilizer for their fields.

COFFEE RESUSCITATION SCHEME

The number of growers participating in the Coffee Resuscitation Schemes for the two years during which it operated were as follows:

	Growers	Cost to Board
1963/64	3,387	£16,314. 16. 3d.
1964/65	3,075	£14,028. 1. 0d.

It is estimated that under this Scheme approximately 600 acres of old unproductive coffee trees were brought back into production — Growers providing the labour for cutting down the old trees and the Board providing the materials. The Board's Officers assisted by Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands gave growers all the necessary instructions in proper cultural practices.

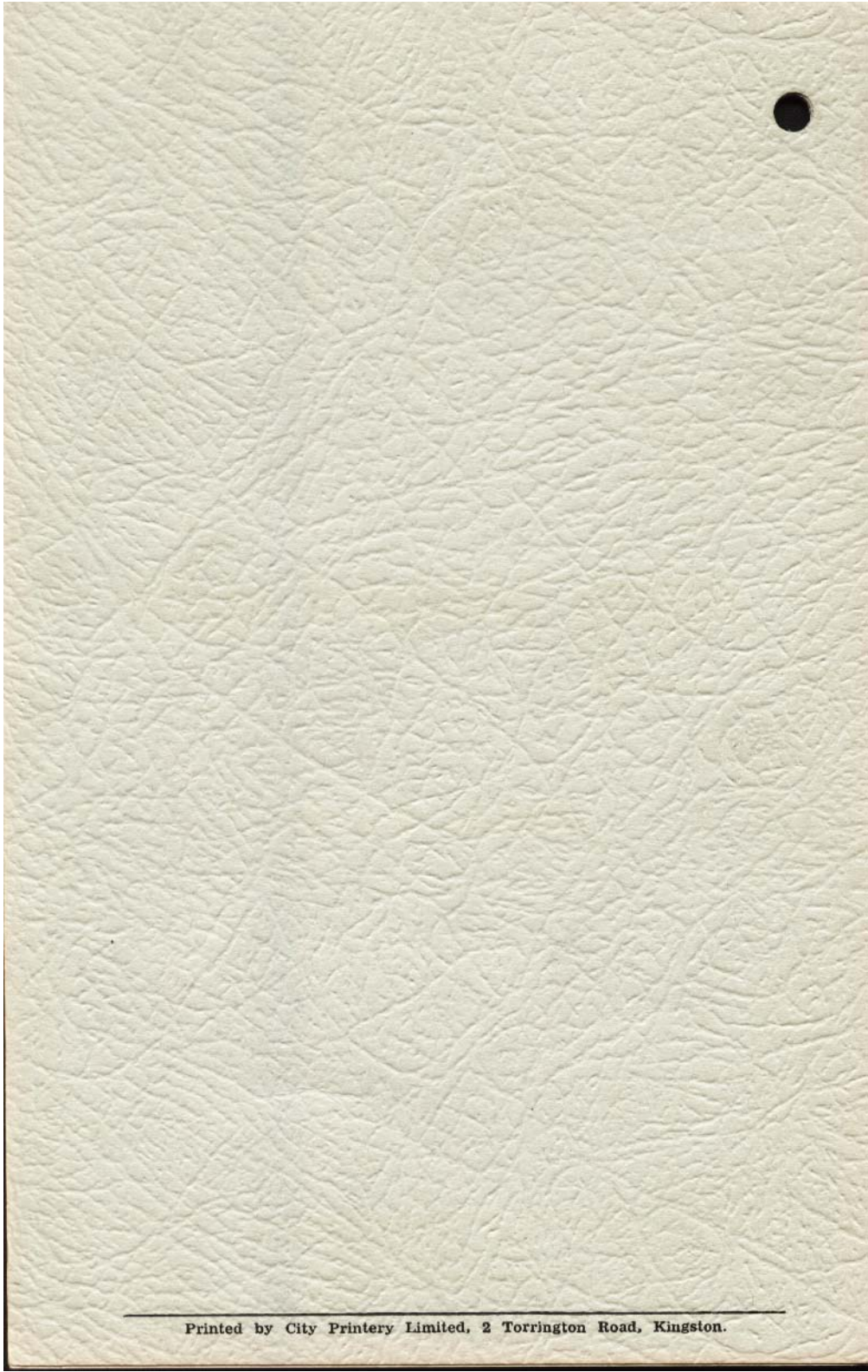
SUBSIDIZED FERTILIZER SCHEME

In association with the Jamaica Agricultural Society and the J.A.S. Coffee Growers' Co-operative Federation Ltd., the Board inaugurated a Subsidized Fertilizer Scheme for Coffee Growers — the Board subsidizing the price to the extent of 50% of the cost. The Scheme will be operated for a period of three years. Based on the returns received from the various Coffee Co-operative Societies which participated in the first year of this Scheme, approximately 1,655 Growers participated at a cost to the Board of approximately £3,799. Under the Scheme interested Growers order their fertilizer requirements through their Co-operative which in turn places an order with the Board for the total amount required by their members. The Board undertakes the delivery of all orders at no extra cost to the Co-operative, to any central point designated by them. It is hoped that Growers will be encouraged by this Scheme to use more fertilizer in their cultivation and that this, together with the instructions they receive in proper cultural practices, will substantially increase the yields from their existing cultivation.

COFFEE INDUSTRY BOARD PLOTS

The Board has established approximately 60 acres of Coffee on its own on eight plots which are located in areas in which there exists the greatest production potential from existing trees. The following Table gives the location of the plots —

Aeon Town	—	Clarendon
Greenock	—	St. Ann
Greenvale	—	Manchester
Mears	—	Clarendon
Oxford	—	St. Elizabeth
Park Hall	—	Manchester
Teak Pen	—	Clarendon
Wallenford	—	Portland



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