

C.S.

MISCELLANEOUS.

193 7.

No. 83/37.

C. S. O.

SUBJECT.

193 7.

5th May.

FARMERS' CONFERENCES.

Previous Paper.

8/1/35

MINUTES.

Y/E.

... ..

2. The Manager F. Is. Co., asked for an official notification regarding the farmers conference so red (1) was sent.

3. Presumably the Conference should be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall. This room was used by the meeting of farmers on the occasion of the Centenary.

(Itld.) M. C. H.
C.S.
3rd May, 1937.

... ..

2. The Conference should be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall. The Postmaster should be notified because of parcels due on the 12th.

3. In future when a Farmers' Conference is held the whole of the arrangements should be carried out by the Department of Agriculture. There should be no necessity for troubling the Secretariat in the matter.

(Itld.) H. H. H.
4/5/37.

Subsequent Paper.

(Excerpted from Vol. 289/36)

(1)

Y.R.

Submitted.

mch
ed.
6.5.37

Will you please attach the
file on the last Conference

~~tttt~~ 6/5/37

Y.R.

File attached.

mch
ed.
6.5.37

Seen and discussed with A.C.S.
Will you please have the enclosed opening address
typed and 30 copies ~~tttt~~ 7/5/36
cyclostyled

Y.R.

Submitted in draft in
the first instance.

mch
ed.
7.6.37

Thank you, do a doc

~~tttt~~ 7/5/37

The A.C.S. who is acting as Secretary
to the Conference will take charge of the copies
and circulate them to members present immediately the
address has been read. Spare copies will be sent to farmers not present
and a copy to the Manager 21C and Sheep Owners Committee will accompany the

Reeds 6-11.

Yh. Submitted. The Assoc. Adviser states that he wishes to address the farmers as in typed address and also asks that additional copies be prepared so that he can hand a copy to each present at the meeting.

2. Yh. may desire to modify some of the notes as certain statements may not be too well received by the conference.

M.H.H.

10.5-57

I am very sensible of the Ad's genuine expressions of good will towards my efforts but would prefer that encomiums if merited should be reserved for the termination of my service here which may be in one and may be in four years. I am sure that he will understand this. If anything is to be said the unbracketed part might remain.

I have made some allusion on page 3. Forceful language cannot only be helpful but it is often essential. The criterion here is whether a single owner

a manager ^{would} ~~will~~ if the excisions were to stand spend a penny more or alter his methods by a hand's turn. That ~~they~~ those at whom the remarks are aimed would be very irritated goes without saying. The whole of the remainder of the notes strike me as admirable in matter and form

~~TTTT~~ 10/5/37

Agric. Adviser.

To note for action.

W.H.

11.5.37

The Hon. Col. Sec.

Seen and noted

Bar

A-A. 11/5/37

P.A.
11/5/37

Address by H. C. the Governor - Farmers Conference 13. 5. 37. 12-15.
Agenda - Farmers Conference 13th & 14th May, 1937. 16-18.
Address by Agricultural Adviser - Farmers Conference 13. 5. 37. 19-24.
Telegram to S. of S. No. 41 of 13. 5. 37.

(25)

The Hon. Col. Sec.

Reports of 1937 conference have been handed to you for transmission to Sheep Owners Assn. London, who will distribute to owners. Copies will be sent to local owners and managers from the office in accordance with the expressed wish, by Kenneth Beaton F.C.M.G.

A copy of the minutes of the conference is attached herewith.

22/11
A.A. 10/6/37

(26) Letter to Sec. I.S. Sheepowners Assoc. London of 28.6.37.

Agri. Advis

To see

Rs. for C.S.
28/6/37

The Hon. Col Sec.

Seen and noted thank

you

22/11
A.A. 30/6/37

P.A.
30/6/37

(27) Despatch to S of S. no. 117 of 2/8/37.

V.E.

Deap. for signature.

Res
2/8/37

Hon. C.S.

Liquid.

MCH

2.8.37

PA 23/8

(28) S of S despatch no. 80 of 7/6/37.

V.E. submitted.

(a) Publish in the Penguin

(b) send a copy to the A.A. for submission to members?

of Res
10/8/37

Hon. C.S.

action as (b) might be taken.

MCH

10.8.37

Minute to Agric. Adviser of 10/8/37

(29)



PA
10/8/37

Letter from Hon. W. H. Linton of 22/4/37

(30)

S. of S. despatch no. 133 of 30/9/37

(31)

Y.E. Red. (31) submitted.
To the a.a.?

R. 11/1/37

✓
MCH
4. XII. 5)

a.a.

to see.

A. J. S.
6/12/37

Hon. Col. Sec.

Seen & noted thank you.

to see
A.A. 5/2/38.

Letter from Hon. W. S. J. Weir of 23. 2. 39.

(32)

33.

P.P.
7/2/35

Agric. Adviser.
With reference to (32) the
requisite arrangements were made
and the Conference took place
with Mr. the Governor in the chair.

MCH
C.

27. 2. 39.

Hon Col. Sec.

Herewith re ds 32 to 38. I saw you about these on 26/2/39.

The only matters for your consideration are at red 35 Introduction of trout into the Colony and Revision of Ordinances of the Colony.

Correspondence re the former is on M.P. 31/29, memo 12th August 1937, and the latter is dealt with on M.P. No. 210/36, 29th July 1937.

Draper
Agricultural Adviser.
3/3/39.

Revision of Ordinances

J.R.
Submitted. Unfortunately C.S. 210/36 does not show whether copies of the Index were sent to Farmers. In red ③ of that file the Manager of the Holy Cross stated that the Index would be of very great use. It would seem however that copies were not sent.

Introduction of Trout.

2. C.S. 31/29 attached. A reply was then sent to the Agent: Adviser (red 42), but I think the farmers should have been informed.

W.H.
3. 3. 39.

H.C.

It was my intention and your explicit instruction that a copy of the index should go to every J.P. They might indeed go to all the larger farms which have the brand volume & take in the Gazette. It would be as well to insert by hand additions since the list was printed. Will you please report when the lamentable decision has been remedied.

2. The position in respect of the introduction of trout has been explained on numerous occasions. It seems necessary to repeat it by circular from the Agricultural Department: -

The late Government Naturalist advised that there is no apparent reason why trout should not do well in such parts of the Colony as Salween parts of Pan Carol, Deforia and the central West Falklands, and there are no ^{particular} ~~unfavorable~~ difficulties in introducing them. A hatchery is necessary for breeding however for establishing the fish and the buildings tanks and ponds required must be under the management of a person competent person. It is suggested that a fishing club be formed by those who are interested and the project developed by them. A Government grant in connection would be considered if such a club undertook ^{responsibility} for the experiment. ~~TTTTT~~ 4/3

Agree: Adviser.

Will you please cause a Circular to be sent to Farmers as in X to X of H's minute.

2. On return of the file action will be taken regarding the index to volumes.

MCH
CS
6.3.59.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I have the honour to advise that a circular as indicated by H.E. has been sent to farmers and a copy is attached to this file.

(33)

A copy of a reply to the circular from Mr. G. J. Felton is at red (34).

(34)

RAM
A.A. 19/4/59

H. Submitted. It is considered there would be any advantage we could ask the S.A. by telegram to arrange for Mr. Hamilton to obtain information regarding the possibility of introducing iron here.

MCH
CS
19.4.59.

35. Telegram No. 26 to S. of S. of 20.4.39.

36-37. Minutes from Ag. Adviser of 19/1/39.

Agri. Adviser.

Please note re 35.

2. Please reply to the Hon. G. J. Felton as directed by the Government in his minute of the 20th instant.

3. Mr. Goddard's letter will be submitted to H. on return of this file. Please put up a copy of the letter to Mr. Felton.

W.H.
21.4.39.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Red 35 Noted. Reply to the Hon.

G. J. Felton attached herewith.

(38)

W.H.
Agricultural Adviser.

24/4/39.

Agri. Adviser

Thank you.

2. You might inform Mr. Goddard as in para. 2 of your letter to Mr. Felton.

W.H.
24.4.39

Hon. Col. Sec.

Copy of letter to Mr. G. Goddard is at red 39.

D. L. Blair
Agricultural Adviser.

25/4/39.
[Signature]

Seen
P.A.
McH
cl.
1.5.39.

Minutes from Ag. Adviser of 22/6/39.

40-42.

[Initials] Submitted. We have already
asked that Mr. Hamilton should
make enquiries about the possibility
of introducing trout.

McH
cl.
22.5.39.

[Red scribble] 22/5/39

C.A. p. 2 x
to see.

[Signature]
for cl.
23/5/39.

Have Col see.

noted
to see
AA - 23/5/39

[Signature]
25/5/39

C.S.O. No. 83/57

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 6

Hon Col. Sec.

With reference to H.E's minute of 20/4/39 I am now in receipt of a reply from Mr. A.E. Hefford Chief Inspector of Fisheries and Director of Fishery Research New-Zealand, a copy of which is at Red 43.

I have passed a copy to Mr Hamilton who will I presume deal with questions pertaining to the introduction of fish from now on.

D. Hamilton
Agricultural Adviser.
4/8/39.

Govt. Naturalist.

To note. You will please deal with the matter.

MCH
C.
4. 8. 39

H. C. S.

Noted and returned please
get committee.
4- vii-39

NATURALIST'S DEPARTMENT,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

I am preparing a memorandum.
get

Agrie: Adviser.

To see.
MCH
C.
5. 8. 39.

Hon Col. Sec.
noted.

Stan
A.A. 8/8/39

Excerpt from Minutes to Director of Agriculture of 2/0/46.

~~44 Jan 31/8/45~~
~~(with 2/1/45)~~
PA

A.O.

45

In accordance with H.C. instruction at cover of enclosed A/D file

H.C.S.
22/2/48.

H.C.S.

I will commence to collect the requisite data.

27/XII/48

H.C.S.

BU 1/4/49

Memo. from Agric. Offices of 19/3/49.

47

48

48

47, 49, submitted in accordance with instructions on attached A.O. file.

H.C.S.
9/4.

I hope Farnes will have a Conference before I go on leave which will enable me to discuss this and other matters with them. Perhaps Capt. Roberts could give us some indication?

H.C.S. 11/iv.

Recons.

Discussed with H.C. & Mr Roberts re prospect of meeting before H.C. leaves.

H.C.S.
23/4.

PA.

289/26.

3rd May, 1937.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that a Farmers Conference will be held at Stanley on the 13th and 14th of May, 1937.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Itld.) M. C. H.

Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
Falkland Islands Company, Ltd.,
STANLEY.



The Second Annual Conference of Owners and Managers in the Falkland Islands, will be held in the Town Hall, Stanley, on Thursday 13th, and Friday 14th May, 1937.

Morning Sessions 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

AGENDA PAPER.

Thursday 10.30 a.m. - Inaugural address by His Excellency The Governor Sir Henniker Heaton, K.C.M.G.

Short talk by The Agricultural Adviser,
Subject - Impressions regarding the sheep farming industry in the Colony.

DISCUSSIONS.

1. Death rate in lambs.
 - (a) From marking to shearing.
 - (b) From shearing to dipping.
2. Possible importation of Rams from New Zealand in November next.
3. Labour supply for Camp purposes.
 - (a) Wages - Shepherds and Navvies.
4. Control of pests - birds.
 - (a) Upland Geese.
 - (b) Coranchos.
 - (c) Turkey Buzzards.
 - (d) Jackass Penguins.

5. From Mr. H.C. Harding, Hill Cove.

- (a) Can anything be done to reduce the cost of parcel post via Montevideo.?
- (b) Is the Government prepared to lift the ban on the importation of farm labourers, supposing that farmers are unable to obtain enough local labour to work their farms satisfactorily?.
- (c) Does the ban apply to the importation of a technical man, such as a motor mechanic?.
- (d) Have sheep imported from Patagonia still to be quarantined for 3 months on an Island, or could they be quarantined at a Quarantine Station such as the proposed site at Fox Bay?.
- (e) Can the possibility of altering the date of the commencement of dipping to February 15th, be discussed ?.

6. From Mr. S. Miller, Roy Cove.

- (a) That the upland geese in this Colony are destructive vermin and as such all farmers should be compelled to pay for beaks, and the Government assist towards payment.
- (b) Discussion on the possibilities a Farmers Co-operative or other freezing works in the Colony.
The Agricultural Department ^{to} be asked to obtain and circularise to farm owners, full costs and details of the smallest works profitable to operate.
- (c) That as a Stock show on the lines of that of 1933 tends to promote interest and advertise local good stock, it is in the interest of farmers to organise a regular show, or alternatively, another experimental one for 1938. Useful side lines such as dog trials could be part of the show.

- 7. General discussion on the following subjects :-
 - (a) Subdivision.
 - (b) Hitching.
 - (c) Spelling of Camp.
 - (d) The leaving of shepherds with their flocks during shearing time.
 - (e) Rough shearing and consequent disease.
 - (f) Planting of Tussac and Sandgrass.
 - (g) Necessity for careful gathering for shearing and dipping - in regard to lice infection etc.
 - (h) Camp Holidays - question of uniformity throughout the Colony.

- 8. Demonstration by Agricultural Adviser of Benzol Test for the detection of hair in wool.

- 9. Incidence of internal parasites in sheep in the Colony.

- 10. Discussions on other matters of interest which may be brought forward at the conference.

No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

MINUTE.

5th May, 1937

From

Agricultural Adviser.

STANLEY.

To The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary.

STANLEY.

I have the honour to submit for your approval proposed Agenda paper for the forthcoming Farmers Conference on the 13th & 14th of May, at Stanley.

Possibly His Excellency may wish to add to, or delete items before quantities are typed for distribution to farmers. No attempt has been made to apportion the work for each session as it is difficult to estimate the time which may be spent on each subject.

Darke
Agricultural Adviser.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

13th May, 1937.

15

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in welcoming you individually and collectively on the opening of this the Second Conference of Farmers.

It is of particular satisfaction to be able to record the improvement in the position of the industry since the last Conference, through the recovery from depression of the wool market and through the policy of development locally, with which you have associated the farms under your management.

Eight resolutions were passed at your last meeting. The first was a telegram of congratulations to His late Majesty King George the Vth on His Jubilee. You will doubtless wish to send through the Secretary of State for the Colonies a loyal message to His Majesty our present King on His Coronation.

Of the remaining seven resolutions it may be stated that each one in turn has found or is in process of finding successful settlement through our own or outside agencies. This is no mean achievement. I propose to make brief reference to what has been and is being done.

The second resolution passed in 1935 dealt with unemployment in the Colony at a time when there were upwards of 100 men in Stanley seeking a livelihood. Without going into detail it is sufficient to note here that there are now no unemployed men, though a small number are on part time work only for the Agricultural Department.

There/

There are however some farms which are short handed and have to face the question of making the terms of employment sufficiently attractive to secure the labour they require locally or of importing workers if none are obtainable in the Colony on reasonable conditions of wages and hours.

The third resolution recommended that expert advice should be sought from the Welsh Plant Breeding Station on the improvement of pastures. As you are aware the Colony has been fortunate enough to obtain the services of Mr. William Davies one of the foremost advisers in the Empire on the subject. He will arrive in the spring and spend three months in the Colony. The Advisory Committee of the Colonial Development Fund is very generously meeting the whole of the cost of the visit of Mr. Davies and it is trusted that the action of the Committee will be deeply appreciated and full advantage taken of Mr. Davies' visit. We have particularly to thank Professor Stapledon for releasing Mr. Davies for this work.

Resolution IV asked for an investigation into the practicability of the Colony shipping sheep to the coast for freezing. The difficulty of finding a permanent market for surplus stock has been the chief problem of the industry for 50 years and we are this year indebted to the initiative and enterprise of a freezing company in Chile for what appears to be a complete solution of the question. I understand that the proportion of sheep found to be suitable for freezing is sufficiently high to justify hopes of the establishment of a refrigerating factory locally.

The fifth resolution proposed the establishment of a quarantine/

quarantine station at Fox Bay. From a morass of misunderstandings it is probable that the station will emerge this year.

The revival of the Sheep Breeders Association was the subject of the sixth resolution. Although that has not materialized owing to opposition or apathy in some quarters I have learnt with pleasure of the formation of a Farmers Association in the West Falklands. This is unquestionably a step in the right direction.

The last two resolutions dealt respectively with the necessity for improved communications and with the appointment of a qualified Stock Adviser to be selected by the New Zealand Government. We have the Falkland Island Company to thank for the immense improvement in communications afforded by the new "Lafonia". The loss to the Colony through the withdrawal of the Pacific Steamship Company's cargo vessels from regular calls appears to be limited to the increased cost of the parcel mail service. Highly regrettable though that is, a remedy can yet be found.

Lastly we have welcomed in the person of Mr. Weir who is your Chairman at this Conference the very fortunate selection of the New Zealand Government. Speaking for myself it suffices to say that it is a matter of sincere regret to me that he has come to us for a term of no longer than three years. He is laying the foundations of an Agricultural Department which will be an asset of great value to the country and the future of the farming industry. His value as an Adviser is dependent on your trust and confidence. I have reason to believe that you have already extended these to him.

While/

12.

While the First Conference confined its discussions to broad matters of general interest to the farming community you propose, I understand, at your present meetings to take into consideration a number of subjects which deal directly with the technical side of sheep raising and management. The industry and the Colony cannot fail to benefit by the outcome of your discussions. I wish Godspeed to your labours.

H. HENNIKER HEATON.

Governor.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

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*File in
Second Farmers
Conference 1937*

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Governor.

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(c)/

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- (g) Necessity for careful gathering for shearing and dipping - in regard to lice infection etc.
- (h) Camp Holidays - question of uniformity throughout the Colony.
- (i) Incidence of internal parasites in sheep in the Colony.
- (j) Demonstration by Agricultural Adviser of Benzol Test for the detection of hair in wool.

8. Report on sheep exported to Chile with particular reference to (a) number of sheep fit for freezing and (b) nature and causes of disease.

9. Establishment of refrigerating factory (?) jointly by Rio Secco, Falkland Islands Company and farmers.

10. Discussions on other matters of interest which may be brought forward at the Conference.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT,
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

13th May, 1937.

Gentlemen,

As public speaking is not my forte, I shall be glad if you will overlook my frequent reference to my notes.

You have just listened to the address of His Excellency the Governor, and I am sure you will agree that it is fortunate for this Colony to have as its Governor one who is so genuinely interested in the welfare of the sheep farming industry.

Let us all hope he will long remain in our midst.

As a direct result of the foresight of His Excellency the Colony has already received substantial monetary benefit from the Colonial Development Fund, a source which apparently no one else has ever thought of.

His Excellency has charged me with the duty of establishing in the Colony, an Agricultural Department, based on similar lines to other Colonies and I hope, with your assistance, to make that Department, one which will be capable of giving a really worth while service to farmers.

I am glad gentlemen, to have this opportunity of extending to you a welcome to this, the second conference of owners and managers, and I am pleased to see such a large and representative attendance.

I feel certain that much good must accrue from these conferences, and I trust that in this respect, this one will be no exception.

Before proceeding with the business on the Agenda paper, I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you individually and collectively for the welcome you have given me to your Colony, and for the hospitality which has been extended to me, by yourselves, wives and families during my official

official visits to the Camp, where I have been able to feel very much at home.

I would also like to heartily endorse the remarks of His Excellency, bearing on the recent formation of an owners and managers association in the West Falklands, and I hope in the near future, to see a similar organisation in the East.

I have long been an advocate of thorough organisation of farmers bodies, believing that these organisations are capable of doing much greater good for farmers and the community in general, than is the case where individual effort is relied upon.

I should also like to outline briefly my impressions in regard to your sheep farming industry generally.

While I have been here eight months only, I have been able to see a good deal of the country, and I trust that if some of my remarks are unpalatable, you will bear with me and try to realise, that I am entirely at your service, to assist each and everyone of you as far as it is within my power to do so.

In other words, please accept my criticisms as being constructive and in the spirit in which they are meant, and it is hoped you will understand that they are purely of an impersonal nature.

I have long felt that it would be of greater good to talk to you, as I now propose doing, rather than to write criticisms in the form of reports on each individual property.

Undoubtedly the prosperity of the Colony is wrapped up in the success of the sheep farming industry, and anything that can be done to improve that industry must be well worth while.

You are enjoying the privilege of living in one of the finest little Colonies in the World, in that the Climate conditions are healthy, and poverty and starvation are unknown to any section of its community.

3.

From a sheep farming point of view, the country is very much in its natural state, and is capable of considerable improvement.

One cannot escape from the impression that there is reluctance in some quarters to make any radical alteration in the farming methods which have obtained since the earlier days of settlement.

There should be a determined effort all round to develop the farming lands along the modern lines now regularly adopted in other countries.

It is perhaps in this respect a matter for regret that so many owners live away from the Colony.

The natural concomitant of this is the limitation of money available for farm and flock improvement.

Increased expenditure on the farms would not be a hardship, as after all the holder must ultimately benefit from any improvement to a greater extent than anyone else.

There is much room for closer subdivision on nearly every property.

This subdivision should be carefully planned as far as it is possible to ensure the separation of the winter camp from the summer camp.

There is everywhere striking evidence that much good camp was ruined in the days before fencing, as a result of the process of selective grazing, or the crowding of stock on to good camp, while the poor camp was virtually abandoned by animals.

Ditching, and still more ditching is of paramount importance.

The planting of sand grass and tussac should receive more attention. It is doubtful if any other country in the World, in temperate zones at anyrate, is favoured with such a natural

4.

and useful supplementary fodder as Falkland Islands Tussac.

Rotational grazing and the spelling of Camp is well worth serious consideration, and a great deal more importance should be attached to the grazing of larger mobs of cattle, on many places, with a view to pasture improvement.

Undoubtedly, the close grazing of white grass is the best method of improving this class of pasture, but failing this, the discriminate and systematic burning of rank growth is essential.

It is granted that in some instances there are properties where the preponderance of wet and mountain camp precludes the possibility of maximum improvement, never-the-less the best areas of these properties might be greatly improved.

On the other hand, almost the total area of some properties could be embraced by a general plan of improvement.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the necessity for culling the flocks, both for age and for wool, and much improvement could be effected in many flocks by the simple and economical method of line breeding and selection, suitable rams to start with would of course be required.

Hoggets are deserving of special care, and should be given the best possible camp, and the question of providing them with some form of supplementary fodder during their first winter is one of paramount importance to the future success of the sheep farming industry.

In this respect it is a matter for much regret that the Government Experimental ^{Farm} at "Green Patch" was closed before any experiments in regard to the growing of supplementary fodder could be carried out.

Much improvement might be effected by the surface sowing of bare ground with such grasses as Yorkshire Fog, and Creeping red fescue; experiments being made as to whether autumn or spring sowing is the more successful.

The necessity of leaving sufficient shepherds with the unshorn flocks in the Camps during shearing time is a matter of importance, and one which would handsomely repay for the extra outlay involved in wages.

Clean gathering in its relation to lice infection, is a matter which should receive the greatest possible care and attention.

A good deal could be done in the way of providing shelter for stock, especially around homestead paddocks - Gorse might be used much more extensively than it is at present for this purpose.

It seems incredible that such commodities as milk, butter, eggs, and bacon should be imported to this Colony, however this may be made the subject of a separate discussion during the conference.

In view of the fact that horses may not always be procurable on the present favourable terms from South America, something might be done to encourage or revive horse breeding in the Colony.

To sum up, I am definitely of the opinion that by the adoption generally of more up-to-date farming methods, a great many more and better sheep can be carried in this fertile little Colony.

Further than this, I am equally sure that the managers are thoroughly capable of putting into effect any improvements authorised by the owners and it is to be hoped that they will be given every opportunity in the future.

The increased wool prices, if maintained over a reasonable period; might well act as some incentive in this direction.

The policy of the Agricultural Department is to assist farmers in every possible direction, and in no way to harass them. In effect it is desired that farmers should look upon

6.

the office of the Department as a bureau of information, and that problems however great or small should be referred to that officer, so that it may have the opportunity of assisting in their solution. We want your confidence in return for ours.

Many other matters which have not been commented upon will come up for discussion during the course of the Conference.

I would ask you, gentlemen, to ponder over my remarks and reserve any questions in regard thereto for the closing day of the Conference, when ample opportunity will be given for the asking of questions which I will endeavour to answer.

The business on the Agenda paper will now be proceeded with.

(Sgd) D.S.A. Weir.
Agricultural Adviser.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 13th May, 19 37 . *Time* : ...

Received : 19... *Time* : ...

No. 41. Following is loyal message to His Majesty from Falkland Islands Sheep Farmers begins: The Falkland Islands Sheep Farmers assembled in Conference beg respectively to tender to your Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen their most loyal congratulations on your Majesties Coronation. They pray that Your Majesty may long be spared to rule over your devoted subjects in these islands and throughout the Empire. Chairman of Conference Ends.

GOVERNOR.

83/37.

28th June,

37.

Sir,

With reference to the Second Annual Conference of Farmers, held at Stanley on 13th, 14th and 15th of May, 1937, I am directed to forward to you for distribution to the Members of the Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association, the enclosed papers in connection with that meeting :-

- Agenda Papers 5.
- Governor's Speech 7.
- Agricultural Advisers
speech 7.
- Minutes of Conference.. 20.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
The Falkland Islands
Sheepowners Association,
5, Copthall Buildings,
LONDON, E.C. 2.



SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FARMERS AT STANLEY, ON
THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, THE 13TH. 14TH AND 15TH
OF MAY, 1937.

Present: D. S. A. Weir, Esquire, Agricultural Adviser, (Chairman).
The Honourable G. J. Felton, M.E.C., J.P., Teal Inlet.
" " L. W. H. Young, M.E.C., M.L.C., J.P.,
Falkland Islands Company, Limited.
" " N. Keith Cameron, J.P., Port San Carlos.
F. J. Langdon, Esquire, J.P., Fitzroy.
A. G. Barton, Esquire, J.P., Pebble Island.
W. Clement, Esquire, J.P., Fox Bay.
J. R. Robson, Esquire, J.P., Port Louis.
R. Greenshields, Esquire, J.P., Douglas Station.
H. C. Harding, Esquire, J.P., Hill Cove.
C. Robertson, Esquire, J.P., Port Stephens.
J. F. Bonner, Esquire, J.P., San Carlos.
K. Luxton, Esquire, The Chartres.
S. Miller, Esquire, Roy Cove.
Alex. Pitaluga, Esquire, Salvador.
S. B. Pitaluga, Esquire, Rincon Grande.
C. Bender, Esquire, Moody Valley.

His Excellency the Governor opened the Conference with an
inaugural address at 10.30 a.m., on Thursday the 13th of May.
A copy of the address is attached.

The Chairman thanked His Excellency for opening the Conference
and wished him and his daughters bon voyage and a pleasant holiday
tour in the United Kingdom. Mr. Barton, on behalf of the East and
West Falkland Farmers, said that he would like to associate himself
with the Chairman's remarks.

His Excellency withdrew.

The Chairman then proceeded to address the meeting on the
subject of his impressions regarding the sheep-farming industry
in the Colony. His remarks are attached.

After deliberate discussion the following Resolutions were
moved and adopted:

I. TELEGRAM TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

That a telegram in the following sense should be sent through
the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the King on His
Majesty's Coronation :

"The Falkland Islands Sheep Farmers assembled in Conference beg respectfully to tender to Your Majesty and Her Majesty the Queen their most loyal congratulations on Your Majesties' Coronation. They pray that Your Majesty may long be spared to rule over Your devoted subjects in these Islands and throughout the Empire."

CHAIRMAN OF CONFERENCE".

II. LAMBING STATISTICS.

That statistics be furnished annually by all Stations of the numbers of lambs marked, weaned and dipped and the percentage of lambs shorn on the previous year's ewes.

III. IMPORTATION OF RAMS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

That enquiries be made of all Farmers regarding the numbers of sheep which they would be prepared to import from New Zealand in the event of a direct shipment being arranged in November, 1937.

In this connection Mr. Luxton moved and the Honourable N. Keith Cameron seconded that the Agricultural Adviser be asked to obtain information concerning the prices of Flock ewes (Romney and Corriedale). The motion was carried unanimously.

IV. WAGES - FARM EMPLOYEES.

That the question of increasing the wages of farm employees be referred to the Principals of the various Stations.

The Honourable L. W. H. Young in commenting on this subject gave some interesting information in regard to his Company's Provident Fund for employees. The Chairman also read a letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary by the Falkland Islands Reform League on the 9th of May, 1937, and the Colonial Secretary's reply to this communication of the 13th of May, 1937, on the subject of the restoration of wage cuts by Farm Stations.

The Conference adjourned at 12.35 p.m., re-assembling at 2.30 p.m.

V. CONTROL OF PESTS - BIRDS.

(a) That as Upland Geese are considered to be a pest to Farmers some united effort should be made to adopt an effective method of reducing the numbers of Geese in the Colony.

(b) That the Government be asked to increase the amount paid for Turkey Buzzard Beaks to 6d and that all Farmers should pay an equal additional amount for Turkey and Carrancho Beaks.

VI. TELEGRAPH RATES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

That the members of the Conference wish to record their protest against the exorbitant telegraph rates and the refusal of the Government to transmit messages to the United Kingdom via Bergen.

VII. QUARANTINING OF SHEEP IMPORTED FROM PATAGONIA.

That Section II of the Live Stock Regulations (Consolidation) 1923, be amended by the insertion of the words "or at a suitable Quarantine Station on the mainland" after the word "Island",

VIII. POSSIBILITY OF FARMERS CO-OPERATIVE OR OTHER FREEZING WORKS IN THE COLONY.

That consideration of the question of the establishment of a freezing works in the Colony be held in abeyance pending the outcome of discussions taking place in England between the Manager, Rio Seco, Chile, the owners of Falkland Islands Sheep Farms, and the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

IX. STOCK SHOW.

That a stock Show should be held in February, 1939, and that the Government should be asked to render every possible assistance in this direction.

The Chairman adjourned the Conference until 10.30 a.m. on the 14th of May.

X. CAMP HOLIDAYS - UNIFORMITY OF.

That while the month of February would be more suitable for Camp holidays than at Christmas time the Conference cannot see its way clear to make any alteration in the date for such holidays.

XI. CAREFUL GATHERING AND ITS RELATION TO LICE INFECTION.

That Farmers should give special attention to gathering with a view to the prevention of infection of sheep with lice and that simultaneous action be considered by groups of Farmers at gathering time particularly with regard to straggling at dipping time.

XII. INTRODUCTION OF TROUT INTO THE COLONY.

That the Government be approached with a view to considering the question of the introduction of Trout into the Streams and Lakes in the Colony.

The meeting adjourned until 11.0 a.m. on Saturday the 15th May.

XIII. REVISION OF ORDINANCES OF THE COLONY.

That the Ordinances of the Colony should be revised, consolidated and brought up to date.

XIV. ANNUAL STOCK RETURN.

That the figures for cast ewes and four tooth ewes should be shown separately in the Annual Stock Return published each year.

XVI./

XVI. RINGWORM IN THE COLONY.

That closer attention should be paid to the question of the spread of Ring Worm with a view to its prevention and elimination and that the Agricultural Adviser should be asked to take an active part in any measures adopted in this connection.

Mr. Harding put the following questions -

- (a) Can anything be done to reduce the rates on Parcel Post via Montevideo.?
- (b) Is the Government prepared to lift the ban on the importation of farm labourers, supposing that Farmers are unable to obtain sufficient labour to work their farms satisfactorily.?
- (c) Can the possibility of altering the date for the commencement of dipping to the 15th of February, be discussed.?

The Chairman replied to (a) stating that "the Government "has left no stone unturned during the past two years in its "endeavours to get a reduction in the rates of parcels "transhipped at Montevideo. The obstacle has been the high "charges made by the Uruguayan Postal Authorities which is now "considering a scheme for lower rates. The Government has "offered to re-bridge this service but unless some material "reduction can be made by Uruguay a scheme is in contemplation "for having parcels confined to a transport Company in the "United Kingdom which will ship all parcels as freight to the "Government.

With regard to (b) the Chairman informed the meeting that no ban had been imposed on the importation of farm labourers and no application had yet been received by the Government from any farmer to import labour. It was the case that one farmer asked his Agent in Stanley to make application but the latter failed to do so. The policy of the Government, however, was not to grant permission for the importation of labour while workers were available in the Colony who were prepared to return

or enter on camp life if reasonable terms and conditions were offered, taking into consideration the price of wool and the cost of living. In any event licences would be granted for men to be brought in for technical or mechanical work which no local persons were qualified to undertake.

The Conference was of the unanimous opinion that the subject under question (c) was a matter which should be left to the discretion of the Agricultural Adviser.

Discussions on the following subjects then took place :

- (a) Sub-division.
- (b) Ditching.
- (c) Spelling of Camp.
- (d) The leaving of shepherds with their flocks during shearing time.
- (e) Planting of Tussac and Sand Grass.

It was generally agreed that (a), (b) and (c) are beneficial and that while it is a good practice to leave Shepherds with their flocks during shearing time this had been impossible owing to the difficulty experienced by Farmers in obtaining labour. With regard to (e) it was agreed that much more work would be done in this respect if labour were available.

Mr. Luxton stated that he was quite certain that unopened ditches on his Station were his greatest source of loss in lambs during their first winter and the Conference was very largely agreed on this point with regard to other Stations.

During the meeting the Chairman addressed the Conference on the subject of the sheep exported from the Colony to Chile with special reference to the number fit for freezing and the nature and causes of disease found among them. He pointed out that many sheep had been condemned on account of Caseous Lymphadenitis caused by improper attention after shear cuts. He outlined methods for the prevention of the disease. Other diseases which caused condemnation were Icterus, Jaundice, Pleurisy, Peritonitis and bruising.

The /

The Chairman also addressed the Conference at some length on the disease common in Falkland Islands sheep including internal parasites, Antc-Partum Paralysis in ewes, Cascoous Lymphadenitis and Hydatid disease. He did not consider that internal parasites played the most important part in the pincer sheep problem in the Colony, but likened this trouble to bush sickness in New Zealand and the North of Scotland: he spoke of the excellent results which were being obtained by the use of Cobalt in a salt lick.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Miller, the Chairman gave some detail in regard to the economical improvement of a flock by the process of line breeding and selection.

Mr. Harding requested that the Farmers be informed from time to time of the position with regard to labour in Stanley.

He was informed by the Chairman that they would be given any information possible in this connection.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Barton the Chairman outlined the work in progress in connection with the improvement of pastures on Stanley Common.

The Chairman then gave a demonstration of the Benzol Test for the detection of hair in wool, in which the members were most interested.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Honourable G. J. Felton moved a vote of thanks for the able manner in which Mr. Weir had conducted the Conference and dealt with the various subjects, stating that he himself, and he felt sure all those present, had learned a lot from the Conference. He hoped that such Conferences would be held annually with Mr. Weir as Chairman of many more of them.

The Honourable N. Keith Cameron said that the members were fortunate in having Mr. Weir as head of the Agricultural Department.

The /

The Honourable L. W. H. Young stated that, as a layman, he wished to associate himself with the remarks made by the Honourable G. J. Felton and the Honourable N. Keith Cameron and would like his name coupled with the motion which was carried unanimously.

Responding Mr. Weir thanked all those present for assisting in making the Conference a success and concurred that similar conferences should be hold annually.

Finally Mr. Harding moved and Mr. Greenshields seconded that a vote of thanks and appreciation be accorded His Excellency the Governor, Sir Henniker Heaton, K.C.M.G., for the personal interest displayed by him in the sheep-farming industry, and for having convened the Conference.

The motion was carried unanimously.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

2nd August, 1937.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 117.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for your information the accompanying copy of the Minutes taken at a Conference of Farmers which was held in the Council Chamber on the 13th, 14th and 15th of May, 1937, together with a copy of the opening address made by Sir Benniker Heaton.

In duplicate.

2. I have to state that the Conference, which was the second held in the Colony, was entirely successful.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

(Sgd.) M. C. Craigie-Market

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
W. C. ORMSBY GORE, F.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

No. 83/37

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

10th August, 1937.

From Hon. Colonial Secretary,

To The Agricultural Adviser,

Stanley.

Stanley.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that the Secretary of State, in acknowledging Sir Henniker Heaton's telegram No. 41 of the 13th of May, transmitting a message of congratulationsto Their Majesties on the occasion of Their Coronation from the Falkland Islands Sheep Farmers, states that the message has been laid before the King who has commanded the Secretary of State to request His Excellency to convey to the senders an expression of Their Majesties' warm appreciation and sincere thanks for the message of loyalty and goodwill.

2. Please advise members of the Conference accordingly.

Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Chartres

West Falkland

April 22nd 1937



Sir

I regret that I shall not be able to attend the farmers conference to be held on 13th May, Mr K. Luxton will represent this STATION.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. U. Luxton

Honourable Colonial Secretary

STANLEY

31

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 133.

Downing Street,

30 September, 1937.



Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 117 of the 2nd August transmitting a copy of the Minutes taken at a Conference of Farmers which was held on the 13th, 14th and 15th May, and to inform you that I have read with interest the opening address delivered by the Governor and the account of the proceedings of the conference.

I have also noted with interest, in view of the forthcoming visit to the Colony of Mr. W. Davies of the Welsh Plant Breeding Station, the opinion expressed by the Agricultural Adviser in his address to the conference that by the adoption of more up-to-date methods of farming it should be possible to increase considerably the sheep carrying capacity of the pasturage.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant.

(Signed) W. ORMSBY GORE.

ORMSBY

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Recd 27.

Stanley

23rd Feb. 1939

Hon. Col. Sec.

Confirming our telephone conversation of 21st inst. I have the honour to advise that the Farmers on that date at a meeting of the Stock-Show Committee, expressed a wish that the Farmers Conference should take place on Friday at 2.30 pm. and that H.E. the Governor should be invited to remain during the proceedings. Mr. H. Harding was the spokesman.

The only items on the Agenda paper are

1. Importation of labour
2. Education in the Camp.

During our further conversation of even date on the same subject you advised me that you have written to H.E. and will in due course instruct me further

BSAWem

A.A. 23/2/39



THIRD CONFERENCE OF FARMERS HELD AT STANLEY ON
FRIDAY THE 24TH OF FEBRUARY, 1939.

Present: The Honourable D. S. A. Weir,
Agricultural Adviser, (Chairman).
The Honourable G. J. Felton, M.E.C., J.P.,
Teal Inlet.
The Honourable N. Keith Cameron, M.L.C., J.P.,
Port San Carlos.
G. Goddard, Esq., J.P., Darwin.
F. J. Langdon, Esq., J.P., Fitzroy.
A. G. Barton, Esq., J.P., Pebble Island.
R. Greenshields, Esq., J.P., Douglas Station.
J. F. Bonner, Esq., J.P., San Carlos.
H. C. Harding, Esq., J.P., Hill Cove.
C. Robertson, Esq., J.P., Port Stephens.
B. Elliott, Esq., North Arm.
W. Clement, Esq., Fox Bay.
K. Luxton, Esq., The Chartres.

1. His Excellency the Governor opened the Conference and heard the view of the Farmers regarding the question of labour in the Camp.

Mr. Harding speaking on behalf of the Farmers said that they would like a definite statement regarding the granting of permission to import labour for Camp work.

In reply His Excellency informed him that there would be no question of granting permits to import labour if it were found impossible to obtain suitable men for Camp work in Stanley.

After a lengthy discussion on the subject of the difficulty experienced by Farmers in obtaining men to go to Camp it was agreed that a letter defining clearly the Government's policy in this connection should be drawn up by the Agricultural Adviser and circulated to all Farmers.

His Excellency then withdrew.

2. The minutes of the Conference held on the 13th and 14th of May, 1937, were confirmed.

3. The following Resolutions were moved and adopted :

I. CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL WOOL
PUBLICITY AND RESEARCH SECRETARIAT.

That the matter of the suggested contribution to the International Wool Publicity and Research Secretariat be referred to the Sheep Owners Association in England for consideration.

II. INTRODUCTION OF TROUT INTO THE COLONY.

That the Government be again approached with a view to giving sympathetic consideration to the question of the introduction of Trout into the Streams and Lakes in the Colony.

III. REVISION OF ORDINANCES OF THE COLONY.

That the matter of the preparation of a revised edition of the Ordinances of the Colony should be proceeded with.

4. Mr. Barton asked whether it was intended to fill the vacancy in the Office of Inspector of Stock caused by the recent departure from the Colony of Major S. Marshall.

He was advised by the Chairman to address his enquiry to the Colonial Secretary.

5. The Honourable N. Keith Cameron moved and Mr. G. Goddard seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Weir for taking the Chair at the Conference and also for the sympathetic hearing he had given those present.

Confirmed this day of 19

Secretary.

Chairman.



THIRD CONFERENCE OF FARMERS HELD AT STANLEY ON ISLANDS
FRIDAY THE 24TH OF FEBRUARY, 1939.

Present: The Honourable D. S. A. Weir,
Agricultural Adviser, (Chairman).
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Teal Inlet.
The Honourable N. Keith Cameron, M.L.C., J.P.,
Port San Carlos.
G. Goddard, Esq., J.P., Darwin.
F. J. Langdon, Esq., J.P., Fitzroy.
A. G. Barton, Esq., J.P., Pebble Island.
R. Greenshields, Esq., J.P., Douglas Station.
J. F. Bonner, Esq., J.P., San Carlos.
H. C. Harding, Esq., J.P., Hill Cove.
C. Robertson, Esq., J.P., Port Stephens.
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Confirmed this day of 19

Secretary.

Chairman.

Agricultural Department,
Stanley,
15th March, 1939.

CIRCULAR TO FARM MANAGERS.

F A R M E R S' C O N F E R E N C E
HELD AT STANLEY ON THE 24TH FEBRUARY, 1939.

INTRODUCTION OF TROUT INTO THE COLONY.

"The late Government Naturalist advised that there is no apparent reason why trout should not do well in such parts of the Colony as Salvador Ports, or San Carlos, Lafonia and the Central West Falkland, and there are no particular difficulties in introducing them. A hatchery is necessary however for establishing the fish, and the buildings, tanks and ponds required must be under the management of a competent person. It is suggested that a fishing club be formed by those who are interested and the project developed by them. A Government grant in subvention would be considered if such a club undertook responsibilities for the experiment."

(Sgd.) D.S.A. Weir
Agricultural Adviser.

COPY.

Teal Inlet.

27th March, 1939.

Dear Sir,

Received your circular re introduction of trout into the Colony.

I wish to express my disgust at the reply given us.

The Colony has kept a naturalist for years and now has another man coming who should be capable of doing the job. It is absurd telling us to get on with it, none of us knowing anything about it, and it is unreasonable thinking we should risk expense and put in a lot of work for the benefit of the whole Colony.

Surely some of the money obtained from Colonial Development Fund could be spent on such a scheme rather than spending all on improvement of Stanley Common and employment of men, unsuitable for camp work, in place of Dole.

I should think the other farmers will agree with me in thinking the Farmers' Conference a farce and not worth attending. The conference was unanimous in wanting introduction of trout, and you also backed it and suggested to the Governor it would be a splendid thing, and said how you considered it could be done from New Zealand.

It seems that nothing must be done for the camp if likely to cost the Government £50.

Speed-boats and playing fields have no appeal to us as one will be as much a failure as the other and costing thousands.

Yours truly,

(Sgd) G.J.Felton.

To:-

D. S. A. Weir, Esq.

Agricultural Adviser.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From..... His Excellency the Governor,

To..... Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 20th April, 19 39. *Time* : ...

Received : 19 ... *Time* : ...

No. 26. Grateful if arrangements could be made for Hamilton to obtain information as to the possibility of introducing trout here. He should obtain full particulars of the methods employed and the appliances necessary to set up a hatchery for establishing trout.

GOVERNOR.

C O P Y

(36)

Darwin Harbour,

13th April, 1939.

The Agricultural Adviser,
Stanley.

Dear Sir,

With regard to resolution ii of the Farmers' Conference held in Stanley on Feb. 24th, 1939, I wish to make it quite clear that what I, and to my personal knowledge, what several of the other managers wished to bring about when asking the Government to sympathetically re-consider the introduction of trout into the colony, was simply the importation, as and when opportunity occurs, of a few containers of fry from New Zealand or other suitable source in the southern hemisphere.

The fry to be liberated in the local streams where, according to the statement of the late Government naturalist "there is no apparent reason why trout should not do well".

I know that a similar course pursued by the Argentine Government with regard to the lakes and streams of Patagonia met with great success.

I am quite sure that the majority of those present at the Conference had no intention whatsoever of asking for hatcheries and/or fishery experts, etc, and I personally would not have voted for the resolution had I suspected that it might be interpreted in the manner indicated by your Circular to Farmers of March 15th re "Introduction of trout into the Colony".

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) George M. Goddard
Camp Manager.

No.

83/37

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

19th April, 19 39.

From The Agricultural Adviser.

To The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Stanley.

Herewith memo from G. Goddard, Esq in regard to the introduction of trout to the Colony.

I may add that I wrote last mail to the Inspector of Fisheries, New Zealand asking for information on this subject.



Agricultural Adviser.

Agricultural Department,

Stanley.

24th April, 1939.

The Hon.

G.J.Felton,

Teal Inlet.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 27th March, 1939 to hand. I regret that the work of the Farmers' Conferences in respect of which so much appreciation has been expressed by farmers in the past, should be condemned in relation to a matter not relating to farming.

I am informed that the Government Naturalist is being asked to go into the question before he returns to the Colony. Further, in accordance with my promise at the Conference, I have made enquiries in New Zealand, with the approval of His Excellency the Governor, regarding the practicability of obtaining trout from there and the method of establishment.

Yours faithfully,

D. S. W.
Agricultural Adviser.

Hon. Col Sec.

C.A.N.

Copy for your information.

D. S. W.
Agricultural Adviser.

Agricultural Department,
Stanley.

25th April, 1939.

G.M.Goddard Esq.,
Darwin Harbour.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 13th instant to hand.

I am informed that the Government Naturalist is being asked to go into the question before he returns to the Colony. Further, in accordance with my promise at the Conference, I have made enquiries in New Zealand, with the approval of His Excellency the Governor, regarding the practicability of obtaining trout from there and the method of establishment.

Yours faithfully,

G. A. N.
Agricultural Adviser.

G.A.N.

C O P Y.

Saunders Island,
W.Falkland.

18th April, 1939.

Mr. D. Weir,
The Agricultural Adviser,
STANLEY.

Dear Sir,

re Introduction of Trout.

In reply to your circular letter on the above mentioned subject I am of opinion that, if the Government of the Colony have funds to spare (which appears to be very improbable), a better use could be found for such funds than that of importing trout with all the resultant expenses, as such importation would be of interest and recreation to only a very infinitesimal proportion of the populace.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) W. G. Benney.

CAN.

(H)

C O P Y.

Port San Carlos,

Falkland Islands, S.A.

6th May, 1939.

Agricultural Adviser,
PORT STANLEY.

Dear Sir,

Referring to your circular letter dealing with the introduction of trout to the Colony. The difficulties to be overcome in stocking the rivers and lakes may or may not be formidable, but they will be trivial indeed compared with those that would be encountered in attempting to organise a club for the purpose. Little has yet been achieved in this Colony by public co-operation, and the successful establishment of trout is unlikely to prove an exception.

Not in other countries has it been regarded as an undesirable field for Government activity, rather is the reverse true, that an undertaking which if successful confers a lasting benefit on the whole community is more properly a matter for Government action than private enterprise. Certainly in the Argentine, Chile, and I believe in New Zealand, the rivers and lakes were stocked by the Governments who in return retain the right to control the fishing and issue licenses, and it is reasonable to suppose that they are now a source of profit to the Governments and the countries as a whole. It is not impossible to imagine that such might be the case in the Falklands.

As compared to a private individual or a number of individuals scattered throughout the Colony the Government has every advantage in dealing with the question. It has available both the machinery for obtaining the requisite information and the money for acting on it, and it will shortly have at its disposal, I understand, the Government naturalist, Mr. Hamilton, who should be well qualified to take charge of the experiment. The possibility of introducing partridges or other game birds might also be referred to him for investigation.

I believe that the expense involved in such experiments need not be great and should be recoverable and that the Government in undertaking them would have the goodwill of the public and the satisfaction, should they prove successful, of adding for all time health-giving amenities to a Colony where they are sorely needed.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) N.Keith Cameron.



No. _____

(It is to be noted that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

22nd May, _____ 19 39.

From The Agricultural Adviser.

To The Honourable, _____

_____ The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

_____ Stanley.

Herewith further copies of correspondence dealing with the introduction of trout.

Santer
Agricultural Adviser.

43

C O P Y

Marine Department,
Fisheries Branch,
Govt. Bldgs. Annex,
Wellington.

29th May, 1939.

D.S.A. Weir Esq.,
Director of Agriculture,
Stanley,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of 17th March arrived here a few days ago and has been referred to me.

With regard to the possibility of establishing trout in the streams of the Falkland Islands, I may say that I do not see any insuperable difficulty about the transport though it would be somewhat expensive to convey live fish in fresh-water tanks over a 16-day voyage. The low temperatures of the high altitudes through which the ship would travel would be favourable but, even so, I think it would be necessary to provide either a very ample or a specially aerated water-supply as trout require cool and well oxygenated water. In practically all cases of trout acclimatisation these difficulties have been avoided by snipping ova (packed in damp moss) the incubation of which is slowed down by keeping them at a low temperature - two or three degrees above freezing point may be safely used - and transferring the ova to a hatchery box on arrival at destination. A hatchery box is simply a trough through which a stream of water is kept running, the ova being submerged in "baskets" of which the bottom and fore and aft sides are made of wire-netting of suitable mesh, small enough to retain the eggs but big enough to enable the newly hatched fry to pass through.

Possibly in this particular case it might be pre-

ferred

ferable to transport yearling fishes. I have had no experience of holding trout for so long a period as 16 days or more in a vessel without circulation. I will however, proceed to have some experiments made to see what can be done in this direction. It is encouraging to remember that the rivers in whole districts in N.Z. were stocked with fry from eggs from one pair of fishes which survived to reach maturity from the first batch of trout ova that were successfully brought to N.Z. from Tasmania, to which country they have been introduced from Britain. In both cases, however, the sea voyage was undergone at the egg stage. I consider then, that the transport problem can be solved at the cost of providing a satisfactory supply of fresh water or making special provision for keeping it aerated and at low temperature. I do not know what are the possibilities of the temperatures rising to, say, above 50 degrees F. on the voyage from N.Z. to the Falkland Islands in the month of October. That is another point about which it may be possible to obtain information.

The main consideration is as to the suitability of the streams in the Falklands for the permanent naturalisation of trout. The so-called native trout of the Falklands belong to the family of Galaxiidae, and at least one species is considered to be identical with our N.Z. Galaxias attenatus, but these fishes have nothing in common with members of the Salmo family in their ~~very~~ systematic position in the class of fishes and very little as regards ecology, though they do feed on very similar or identical organisms. The Galaxiids, however, unlike the trout, can tolerate water of low oxygenation and can be kept in quite stagnant water without detriment for a very much longer time than could any true trout. This consideration affects not only the problem of transport but also comes into the question of the suitability of your waters as a habitat for trout.

I gather from Mr. Rapson's (our marine biologist) account of the neighbourhood of Stanley, which he visited just over 12 months ago on the R.R.S. 'Discovery II', that the streams in that district were inclined to be slow-flowing, and, he judged, likely to be somewhat peaty. There are, of course, plenty of trout in some of the burns that run through peaty country in Scotland but they never grow to a very great size. I think it is quite probable, however, that trout would survive in some of your streams which Mr Rapson would have no chance of seeing.

The important point in connection with their permanent establishment is whether they would find suitable clean gravelly bottom for spawning purposes. Without such facilities for reproduction the stock would die out unless maintained by artificial (hatchery) methods. I presume, however, that in the upper parts of the streams suitable conditions would doubtless be found. (I am for the moment ignorant as to the area of your largest island.)

I take it that there are no enemies in the form of predatory fishes (such as our fresh-water eels) to be feared. The absence of predators would certainly facilitate the task of raising and maintaining a fair stock of trout. I expect that Galaxiids would attack newly-hatched alevins if they were in the same water, but I do not expect that these species would occur in the swifter parts of the streams which are the natural habitat of young trout.

It is quite likely that trout living in the streams in your islands would migrate to the sea as they grew up and - those that survived the much greater dangers of sea life - subsequently run into the rivers as sea trout. If there were suitable small fish in abundance in your coastal waters for them to feed on, this would perhaps be the most desirable and valuable class of trout for you to acclimatise, but as a prerequisite to this there must be ample spawning facilities and

"nursery"/

"nursery" waters to produce the large numbers of sea-migrants required, because only a very small proportion of them would survive to return.

I think brown trout would do best in your streams which may possibly be comparable with those of the Orkneys and Shetlands at home (though the geological formations may be quite different). The drawback to rainbows in streams is that they almost invariably disappear, presumably by emigration to sea, at an early age; and that is usually the end of them.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) A. E. HEFFORD

Chief Inspector of Fisheries &
Director of Fishery Research.

p.S. I have just telephoned to the Shaw Savill Company asking about the possibility of a steamer calling at Stanley this year. They say they have had no word of any consignment up to the present and that they usually get advice in the first place from the Falkland Islands through their London Office. You will doubtless let me know as soon as anything is likely to be definitely arranged.

C.I.F.

No. 8/42.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

2nd June, 1945.

To The Director of Agriculture,

STANLEY.

From The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

C O N F I D E N T I A L .

EXCERPT FROM MINUTE TO DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE OF 2. 6. 45., ORIGINAL FILED IN M.P. 8/42.

.....

7. His Excellency wishes you to hold a conference with the farmers when they come in this winter. If the report on the work of your department, asked for last year, can be prepared in time and even printed copies can be handed to the Conference. His Excellency also suggests that either he or I should open the Conference and ask farmers to let us know their suggestions and promise full consideration. If this is to be done we must move fast during the next few weeks.

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.

To. His Excellency G. Miles Clifford, O.B.E., C.M.G., E.D.

From. The Agricultural Officer.

Date. 19th March, 1949.



47

Your Excellency,

47a I herewith enclose lists of what Farmers actually think they are short of in respect of labour and the relationship of sheep to shepherds, as you required in C.S. file 83/37. I would however like to elaborate a little on this data.

For instance, Bluff Cove returns no shepherds which gives a relation of sheep to shepherd arithmetically as infinity. Actually both employed men and the Manager do a considerable amount of Shepherding and these sheep I would say are better shepherded than the Company's to-day at neighbouring Fitzroy.

From Mr. Gilruth I have only been able to get a figure of 30 as a total requirement for the whole of the F.I.Co's holdings on the East and shepherds are not shown separately from the other men, consequently the blanks in the list.

Pebble and Kepple are run from Pebble settlement which is the most progressive in social amenities for the workers having a dance hall and the best cookhouse in the Falklands.

The Islands are worked by using the M.V. Gentoo and both Kepple and the Jasons are without resident shepherds as are Golding Island and the many others ranched by them.

Thus the proportionate sheep to actual man days of shepherding expressed as a fraction of a shepherd would be on the way to infinity for these other Islands.

I agree - that is why they keep their labour.

John P. Celino

Please see Mr. instruction to A.O. on Ague file attached.

H. K. 2/3.

C.R.O. 12

CAMP LABOUR.

470

Station.	Men.			Total.	Sheep.
	Total on Books.	Shepherds.	More Required.		No./She
San Carlos.	15	6	3	25,156	4,192.1
Gibraltar.	7	3	1	15,571	5,190.3
Moody Valley.	1	1	None	1,313	1.313
Darwin & Lafonia.	90	--	30	165,247	
Fitzroy.	18	8	Included in above 30	37,087	4,635.7
Berkley Sound.	6	2	None	15,490	7,745
Mullet Creek.	1	1	None	1,443	1.443
Bluff Cove.	2	--	None	3,862	
Port Louis.	6	5	2	11,840	2,368
Douglas Station.	18	7	4	26,597	3,799.5
Port San Carlos.	15	5	2	28,280	5,656
Evelyn.	17	6	2	25,179	4,196
Rincon Grande.	5	2	1	9,766	4,883
Port Howard.	26	13	8	35,194	2,762
Hill Cove.	20	6	None	29,783	4,963
Port Stephens.	17	8	8	31,525	3,940
Fox Bay West.	23	7	None	28,285	4,040
Fox Bay East.	16	7	None	27,949	3,992
Chartres.	16	5	None	24,312	4,862
Roy Cove.	9	4	None	15,395	3,848
Weddell.	8	2	None	5,661	2,830
Beaver Island.	2	1	None	1,029	1,029
Passage Islands.	--	--	--	309	
Saunders.	3	3	None	8,081	2,693
Pebble & Kepple.	20	4	None	20,912	5,203
Jasons.	--	--	--	2,231	
Carcass Island.	2	--	None	2,179	
New Island.	2	1	None	2,221	2,221
Sea Lion Island.	3	1	None	1,723	1,723
West Point.	3	3	None	2,710	903
Speedwell.	10			12,169	

q: (without a freezer; with the latter requirements would be substantially higher).

Remarks.

Hill Cove. Figures for men required given by Mr.R. Blake.

Chartres. Mr.K. Luxton Comments that men can be maintained only if wool prices remain reasonable.

Speedwell. Men required included in Darwin & Lafonia.

West Point. One man in excess of requirements.

This the number of men required will be season increased with the amount of the freezer. K.H. 28/3.

Yes, indeed. I like his leader's "reasonable" !! 4/10