

C. S.

LIVE STOCK
(Quarantine)
(Sheep)
(Misc.)

19 44.

No. 23/44.

Director of Agriculture.

SUBJECT.

19 44.

18th February.

LOSS OF SHEEP WHILE UNDERGOING QUARANTINE.

Previous Paper.

C/4/43.

MINUTES.

1. Minute from Director of Agriculture of 18. 2. 44.

(2).

Y.E.

To see. These sheep belong to the F.I.C.

K.B.

22.2.44

(3).

via D.O.S. pl.

2 What is our liability?

3 This makes a strong case for the retention of the service of D.O.

[Signature] 22/2/44

— see within.

Subsequent Paper.

Confidential

Sheet No. 2....

L.A. (4)

H.F. would be glad to your opinion as to whether, on the facts as stated by the D.A., Government could be held liable or if so, the extent of the liability.

K.B.
22.2.44

(5)

H. S. J. Prima Facie I should say no. The Regulations necessitated the sheep being dipped & there is no evidence of any neglect yet. The result of the analysis & opinion the D. of C. has asked for sought however change my view.

26-2-44.

L.A.

(6)

4.F.

1. D.A. has already sent his letter to D. Company.
2. L.A.'s opinion as to liability is at (5).
3. I agree that it would be most difficult to handle these cases without the D.A.

K.B.
26.2.44

(7)

At the moment R. I. P.

[Signature] 29/2/44

P.A.

- 8 letter from Joint Chairman, F. Is. Sheepowners Assoc, of 1/4/44.
9. " to " " " 6/4/44.

(10)

D/Aq.

Will you let us have material for a reply
to (8) please?

Returned by
D/A. 28.4.44.

KB.

12.4.44

Despatch, No. 7 from S. of S. of 2. 2. 44. 11.
(11).

D/Aq.

to see (11) enclosures. It will be convenient
if your report could cover this as well.

KB.

28.4.44

S. of S. Desp. No. 9 of 29/2/44. 12.

Memo. from S. of A. of 26/5/44. 13.

(14).

G.E.

J. G. H. has submitted two memoranda (the second
is being typed in final form now) at (13) & (13a). I
submit a draft covering despatch for consideration.
The figures in para 4 were supplied by J. G. H.

KB.

27/5/44

P.S. I also submit a draft letter referring to (8).

App^{ts} both. (15)
of which the D. of A's report
is excellent.

27/5/44

Despatch, No. 30 to S. of S. of 29. 5. 44. 16.

Letter to Joint Chairman, F. Is. Sheepowners Assoc. 29/5/44. 17.

(18).

(19)

D/Aq.

to see from (15).

KB.

30/5/44

See many letters
6/6/44

- 20. Minute from Director of Agriculture 17/5/44.
- 21. " " " " " 20/7/44.

(22)

Y.F.
to see from (20)

KB
21.7.44

(23)

KB 21/11/44

- 24. Letter from Joint Chairmen, F. Is. Sheepowners Assoc. 10/8/44.
- 25. " " " " " " 12/8/44.

- 26. Minute from Director of Agriculture of 6. 9. 44.

(27)

Y.F.
7.9.1. we await a further despatch from the

S.A.S. KB
7/9/44

(28)

If one speaks to based, surely one must abide
by & act on his ruling.
I think it is that we must bow to
that ruling & so inform S. of S.

KB 8/11/44

- 29. Despatch, No. 61 to S. of S. of 12. 9. 44.

~~29.~~
see
31/12/44 (reply to (29))
27/2/45
4/3/45
see 31/3/45
30/4/45.

- 30. Telegram No. 104 from S. of S. of 17. 11. 45.

G.K.

(31)

Para 1. of (30) is confused. I submit a draft telegram which is self-explanatory. n.v.a. seems required of us at this end, though you may wish to add to the telegram. We the Admiralty. Please claim should not be paid.

KB.
19.4.45

(32)

I don't think we can send telegram as drafted without close examination of claims - vide e.g. 8a. - Where does £86.18.11 come in?

AD 19/10/44

(33)

G.K. None of the complaints made - e.g. 8a. - have been followed by claims for compensation except the £86:18:11 claimed by Admiralty of Blake for one ram, referred to us (16b) - (16d). This claim is contained in (1) - (1c) on C/4/43, para. The penultimate para. in particular. We turned it down & the S. of S. does not suggest that it should be paid - he could hardly do so as we had actual evidence to support our view.

KB.
19.4.45

✓

Telegram No 113 to S. of S. of 21. 4. 45.

34.

Telegram No 114 from S. of S. of 11. 4. 45.

35.

(36)

G.K. To see (35). I think para 2 means that this disease would have been very severe because death?

KB
14/5/45

(37)

(34) talks about 5 rams & 1 ram. What do we owe? Anyway we must 'ank' up.

AD 14/5/45

See C/4/43

1104 1923
PCT

18th February, 1944.

Dr. Tompans,
Agricultural Adviser to the
Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Colonial Office,
Palace Chambers,
Westminster, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,
We have lost 5 of 27 sheep accepted into quarantine on 6th December, 1943. On arrival of sheep into quarantine, our usual procedure is to dip the consignment of sheep four times, at intervals of 10 to 14 days. In the past, the first two dips have usually been Coopers Powder Dip and the 3rd, and 4th dips, Littles Fluid Dip. Previously, we have experienced no loss in quarantine that could be attributed to dipping. On this occasion the sheep were found to be infected with foot lice. They were therefore dipped twice with Kynac Fluid Dip and the 3rd, and 4th dips were with Coopers Powder Dip. The sheep were dipped individually in a small galvanised iron dip of 240 gallons supplied by Messrs Cooper Ltd. Actually only 200 gallons of fluid were used for any dipping.

A full report is attached hereto concerning the dipping procedure and the symptoms exhibited by the animals before death. We cannot account for these deaths, and submit under a separate cover, addressed to you, specimens of the dipping powder from the same case as that used in the dip of 12th January. In this case is also a sample of the tank water with which the powder was mixed.

I would be pleased if you could have the dipping powder and the water analysed and obtain for us an opinion concerning its suitability for dipping sheep, together with an expert veterinary opinion and advice on the matter.

It is my personal opinion that salt spray from Stanley Harbour may have been carried on to the roof of the quarantine shed during a storm which lasted over the 10th and 11th January. As the water from the dip is collected from the roof in a 2,500 gallon tank, it is possible that some sodium chloride may have been present in the water used for mixing the dip. At the time the tank was half full.

If this is so, we would like to know whether the presence of salt would bring about an increased solubility of the arsenic, sufficient to cause the trouble we are experiencing.

Any reasonable charges in this connection may be debited to XVI Agriculture, sub-head, 5. Prevention of Animal Disease.

Yours faithfully,


Director of Agriculture

Report on death of 5 rams out of 27 rams imported
from Punta Arenas on 6th December, 1943.

These rams were half Corriedale and half Romney Marsh yearlings and were shorn immediately before arrival. Five were infected with foot lice.

They were dipped on 7th December and again on 20th December in Kymac Fluid Dip (a carbolic derris root dip) mixed according to directions;

1 gallon in 200 gallons of water.
Each sheep was immersed for 1 minute and had 3 dips of the head.

On December 31st, they were dipped in Coopers Powder Dip (an absnic sulphur dip) mixed according to instructions;

2 pkts to 200 gallons of water.
Each sheep was immersed for 2 minutes and had 3 dips of the head.

No ill effects followed any of these three dippings.

FINAL DIPPING:

On 12th January 1944 they were again dipped in Coopers Powder Dip mixed according to directions;

2 pkts to 200 gallons of water
Each sheep was immersed for 1½ minutes and had 3 dips of the head.

This final dipping took place between 1000 and 1100 G.M.T., 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. Stanley mean time. The air temperature at the time being 43.7°F. The sheep had been shut up overnight in a small bare paddock of approximately 1 acre and had the run of a large airy shed with water with which they were familiar. The 12th January was cold but fine, with a southerly wind, the maximum temperature reached being 49.0°F. The following night some rain fell, the weather remaining cold with the wind in the south, the minimum temperature recorded being 40.2°F. Dipping was carefully carried out using a Coopers Swim Bath and Trap. Sheep were dipped singly and the period of immersion timed with a watch. While in the Dip the sheep were under close observation of two men, and none was observed

to/

to swallow any dip.

9.15 a.m. when coming off the draining stage, one ram appeared to be blown up and to be suffering from colic and quickened breathing. Shortly afterwards he developed a staggering gait especially in the hindquarters. He was treated with warm milk and raw egg at 9.30 a.m. but rapidly grew worse and by 12. noon he could not stand. He died at 2.30 p.m. In the last stages the breathing was very quick but otherwise the sheep was quiet.

By 4.p.m. all the remaining sheep were dry and appeared quite well. They were left for the night with a run of a large airy shed and two small paddocks.

Next morning January 13th at 8.a.m., two more sheep were lying dead in the shelter of the shed and three more were ill. These three all had very quick breathing, a weak pulse and a staggering gait, and appeared to have considerable pain in the abdomen.

One collapsed and died by 9.a.m. In the last stages breathing was extremely rapid and the sheep was trembling constantly. This sheep was scoured.

The other two were given warm milk. One that could hardly stand got steadily worse until by 12 noon it was lying stretched out, unable to rise, breathing extremely quickly and trembling constantly. By 1.30. p.m. this sheep was unconscious and died shortly afterwards.

The other sheep became worse during the morning and at one time had difficulty in standing. It was then in considerable pain. At noon it was given more milk and strong coffee and improved throughout the day. By 4.p.m. the breathing was less rapid but still about twice normal and the sheep could stand but was very stiff in the hindquarters. This sheep was given strong coffee and whiskey at intervals during the next two days and gradually recovered until at the end of a week, it was apparently normal except that it was slower than the other sheep when being driven. Wool started falling from this sheep 10 days after dipping and within 5 weeks nearly all the wool was cast. A scab formed under two long patches of wool on the sheep's back and lifted off.

By 9.a.m. January 13th, two more sheep were observed as being ill, the first symptoms noted, being stiffness in the hind-quarters. One of these never showed any other symptom but this stiffness and a disinclination to eat. The other, in addition was very thirsty and this sheep grew worse during the morning, developing very quick breathing, pains in the abdomen and staggering in the hindquarters. It was given milk at 9.30 a.m. and strong coffee and whiskey at noon. In the afternoon it slowly recovered until by 9.p.m. it was considered to be out of danger. It was given strong coffee and whiskey at intervals over the next two days and gradually recovered until at the end of a week it was quite normal. Wool began falling 10 days after dipping. The back and sides lost all the wool, and all other wool had a very weak place in it.

January, 14th. One more sheep was observed to be staggering in the hindquarters; it gradually got better in 3 or 4 days.

January, 15th. One more sheep was observed to be staggering in the hindquarters; it gradually got better in 3 or 4 days.

Four weeks after dipping: All sheep showed a break with a crust in the wool. This break occurred at what was the base of the wool at dipping and was most noticeable on the back and loins of the sheep. Of the sheep which were ill, two, as recorded above, had cast most of their wool and the other 3 had cast small patches from their back.

Post mortem examination showed inflammation of the intestines, which were a bright pink colour in the first sheep that died. Two of the others appeared to have some inflammation of the bladder.

The Corriedale and Romney Marsh broods were equally affected, two Romney died and three Corriedale.

GENERAL REMARKS:

The quarantined sheep were imported from the neighbourhood of Rio Gallegos in South Patagonia, and had not been kept indoors nor hard fed before leaving Punta Arenas. Since arrival in Quarantine they had received a ration of equal parts by weight of Pollard, Oats, and Maize Meal at a total of 4 lb. each per day in addition to grazing.

As they had been shorn on the ship enroute to Port Stanley and the weather was very bleak for a week after arrival, they were housed on the worst days and given the run of a shed with loose boxes for the first week. Since the first week the sheep have not been housed. No distress was observed until the occasion of the dipping of 12th January. At first it was thought possible that they had caught a chill following dipping, but there was no nasal discharge nor sign of inflammation in the lungs in the post mortem. Furthermore run sheep were dipped immediately after shearing each day during the week 10th - 15th January, without loss, at Fitzroy about 20 miles S.W. of Stanley.

The rain/^{water} used for dipping the sheep under discussion is collected as a run off from the roof of the Quarantine shed. During the 10th and 11th, very heavy Southerly winds would, no doubt, have lifted salt spray from Stanley Harbour and some would have been deposited on the roof of the shed. The rain which accompanied the storm would have carried this into the tank, which holds probably 2,500 gallons, and was half full at the time. We have, at present, no evidence that salt was present in the dip. The dip was completely emptied and cleaned immediately before each dipping.

Agricultural Officer.

18th February, 1944.
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

No.

MINUTE.

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


18th February, 1944. (1)

From Director of Agriculture.

To The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

We have lost 5 of 27 sheep accepted into Quarantine on 6th December, 1943. apparently as a result of some accident during dipping. We are at a loss to account for it, and have submitted the following account and letter to the Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his consideration and advice.


Director of Agriculture.

(8)

The Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association,

(LOCAL COMMITTEE)

STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.



1st April, 1944.

acc'd by (9)

Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to continued complaints of the unsatisfactory treatment of imported stock in quarantine and to suggest that an investigation is indicated.

I enumerate the importations since 1940, of all but one of which dissatisfaction has been felt, if not officially expressed :-

December 1940. 16 rams ex Punta Arenas for The Falkland Islands Co., Ltd. received from quarantine in poor physical condition. One ram could not be used for that season on account of poor condition.

October 1940. 5 rams ex United Kingdom for Hill Cove. 1 ram died in quarantine. 1 ram condemned. The owner of the ~~two~~ last considers that he has a case for compensation for the loss of this ram vide his claim dated 23rd March, 1943. This owner, Mr. Robert Blake of Holmested Blake & Co., Ltd. is a sheep man of wide experience and acknowledged repute and is well known as a judge of stock throughout the sheep connection of South America and has judged sheep at all the principal stock shows including the well known Palermo Show at Buenos Aires.

S/4/43.

December 1941. 30 rams ex Punta Arenas for Falkland Islands Co., Ltd. received from quarantine in poor condition. 1 died within a few days of landing at destination attributed to pneumonia. 9 could not be used as in the first case quoted above.

December 1941. 28 rams ex New Zealand for The Falkland Islands Co., Ltd. These rams were released after only a very short period in quarantine for examination. The long period at sea and the precautions taken at Montevideo during transshipment were very reasonably accepted by the Director of Agriculture as a sufficient equivalent period of quarantine. This was much appreciated by owners.

January 1943. 6 rams ex San Julian, Argentine, for J.L. Waldron Ltd., Port Howard. One animal died in quarantine attributed to braxy. The remainder delivered in poor condition and some showed

ga

distinct evidence of scorching through over or faulty dipping.

December 1943. 27 rams ex Punta Arenas for The Falkland Islands Co., Ltd. 5 rams died after dipping. The remainder were received at destination in good physical condition but 4 animals showed evidence of over dipping, 2 of which have shed their wool and 2 bare of wool along the back.

The indirect losses thus suffered by owners of stock in particular, and by the sheep industry of the Colony in general, are considerable and serious enough fully to justify this protest respectfully submitted.

We wish to place on record that it is not the wish of the Association that there should be any relaxation of the Livestock Regulations - owners of stock would be the first to suffer. But sheep owners and their Managers in the Colony, including their overseers and head stockmen, are not inexperienced, and it is the considered opinion of Members of this Association that it should be possible to deal ^{even} with definite infection of the ordinary kinds, including scab, among such small numbers as are commonly imported, without any but the smallest losses of valuable breeding stock in the process. That such losses, direct and indirect, as have been experienced in the course of the normal precautionary measures customarily taken in quarantine, is surely deplorable.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,



Joint Chairman.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

9.

No.

~~23/44.~~

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS,

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

.....6th April,.....194.....

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter.....
dated...~~1st April,~~.....194....., on the subject of treatment
of imported stock in quarantine, and to inform you that the
matter is receiving attention.

Red 8.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. G BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

Joint Chairman,
Falkland Is. Sheepowners Association,
STANLEY.

COPY.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY, LIMITED.

116

"SOUTHERNHAY",
CAVENDISH ROAD,
WEYBRIDGE,
SURREY.

24th January, 1944.

Sir,

We have just received a telegram from our Port Stanley Office advising us that five imported rams in quarantine died after dipping last week. These were out of an importation of 27 rams from Punta Arenas (Chile) made in December, 1943.

We have been importing both rams and horses from Punta Arenas for a considerable period and stock has gone through quarantine without loss of condition or mortality.

Since 1940 this has changed - we made two importations from South America

16 rams arrived December, 1940 released from quarantine March, 1941.

30 rams arrived December 1941 released from quarantine March 1942.

and quote our Camp Manager's report thereon in full

"Quarantine Station. The condition of the bulk of the Laguna Blanca rams which arrived here from the quarantine station on March 20th was most unsatisfactory. Three were very poor indeed, six were just thin and the rest passable. I had the whole lot weighed on arrival and again on April 25th after we had done our best to put some condition on them.

Under-Secretary of State
Colonial Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

The

"The results were as follows:-

March 20th	29 rams	3385	lbs
April 25th	29 rams	3623	"
	increase	297	<u>238</u>
			8.2 lbs per sheep.

"Actually some of them increased considerably
"more than eight lbs and the poorest ones made little
"progress.

"One ram had been left back in quarantine without advice
"to me because it had small warts on its fore foot -
"however this has since been sent out and is in fair
"condition.

"Stud rams were put out on April 27th and I kept back 9
"of these rams as their condition made it likely that
"should they fall in a ditch they might be unable to
"get out. Three of these remained in very poor
"condition. On April 30th one of these died and a
"post mortem was carried out at which Dr. Dowds was
"present. The lungs were in a very bad state and
"according to the doctor exhibited all the symptoms of
"unresolved pneumonia". No worms were found in
"stomach or intestines, there was no sign of scouring
"and the sheep had been drenched before leaving the
"coast and after arriving at the farm. The poorest one
"left was suspected of being in the same state and was
"accordingly dosed with M&B 693 tablets and given a
"tonic - it has not died yet and is, if anything, a
"little stronger. The only conclusions I can reach over
"these sheep are that :-

"(1) When, contrary to my expressed wish, these sheep were
"dipped in full fleece a few days after landing on a
"day which turned out badly, a chill must have been
"contracted which gave the animals a severe setback
"from which, owing to unskilful handling and feeding
"afterwards, the weaker ones were unable to recover.
"(2) That the ration given, which, I am told, consisted
"of bran, pollard and a certain amount of oats - no
"crushed maize - was inadequate and/or unsuitable in
"that

113

" that being camp sheep they were unable to obtain
 " sufficient good green feed.
 "(3) That the small amount of green feed available in
 " the quarantine station was and is totally
 " insufficient in both quantity and quality to
 " adequately sustain 30 sheep for three months
 " which have to endure 4 dips in that period and
 " consequently need a very ample food supply to
 " enable them to put on condition.
 " When the 16 rams from Condor were released from
 " quarantine last March they also were not in good condition
 " but picked up considerably before being put to the ewes,
 " with the exception of one ram which was not put out but
 " which made a good recovery later on. Considerable loss
 " is entailed to both the Colony and to private owners
 " when expensive sheep emerge from the quarantine station
 " in such wretched condition that they cannot be used the
 " first year or that even death ensues. In consequence I
 " have informed the Director of Agriculture that I feel it
 " both necessary and justifiable to complain officially
 " about the matter. Therefore I propose to send a copy of
 " this letter to the Colonial Secretary".

The reply to our Camp Manager's representations to the Falkland Islands Government was unsatisfactory.

We understand that other Farmers have had somewhat similar experiences concerning importations from
 U.K. 1940
 Argentine 1943.

Horses. We quote our Camp Manager's report on the handling of recent importations of horses -

"With further reference to my 28th July, 1943, it is
 " interesting to note that these 50 horses shipped from
 " Punta Arenas with a clean veterinary certificate were
 " inspected on arrival at Fox Bay by T. Beaty, Stock
 " Inspector, and cleared. Accordingly 20 were landed on
 " the West and 31 carried on to Stanley where after
 " inspection Dr. Gibbs thought some of the odd abrasions
 might

"might be incipient ringworm and caused the
"whole lot to be quarantined on Navy Point
"where they still are. One died, officially
"pneumonia, but a soldier who is looking after
"some of the animals selected for the army told
"me that it was found by himself in a ditch and
"that with the help of others the animal was
"pulled out and subsequently died in the stable.
"The animals landed on the West were released
"after a week's precautionary quarantine at
"Fox Bay.

"This is the second time that horses have been
"cleared by the Stock Inspector and then
"quarantined by the Agric. Adviser. The previous
"shipment had a few spots on some of the animals'
"noses caused by being left in a rather eastern down
"paddock full of Califate bushes. It was diagnosed
"however as stomatitis. The whole trouble about
"importing stock is that Dr. Gibbs is not a
"stockman and seems to have had no practical
"experience with stock. He is very nervous about
"the possibility of letting diseases, which he
"knows very little about, be brought into the
"colony, and in consequence stock are left
"confined for much longer periods than necessary
"in the quarantine station which is unsuitable
"and inadequate for dealing fairly with more than
"a very few animals".

For sometime past we have been greatly
perturbed by the several reports we have received
regarding the handling of stock by the Agricultural
Department of the Falkland Islands Government and
the loss of five rams now reported impels us to
approach the Secretary of State direct with a
request that he will immediately institute a
searching enquiry into the work of this Department
and of the several cases referred to herein.

11d

We are, Sir,
Your obedient Servants,

For the FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY, LTD.

(Sd). ? Young.
Managing Director.

88273/44.

2 February, 1944.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Colonel Oliver Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th January, which was delivered at this Office by Mr. Young, regarding the treatment of livestock imported into the Falkland Islands, and to inform you that a copy of your letter is being forwarded by the first available opportunity to the Governor of the Falkland Islands who is being asked to enquire into the matter and to furnish his observations.

2. A further communication will

will be addressed to you as soon
as the Governor's reply is
received.

I am,
Gentleman,
Your obedient servant,

AB Acheson

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 7

Colonial Office,
Downing Street,

2nd February, 1944.

11.

Sir,

24.1.44.
I have the honour to transmit to you the enclosed copy of correspondence with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, regarding the handling of livestock imported into the Falkland Islands by the quarantine authorities.

2. Mr. Young brought the Company's letter of the 24th January to the Colonial Office himself. He said that grave concern was felt not only by the Falkland Islands Company but by other farmers in the Falkland Islands on this subject. He asked that very careful consideration should be given to the representations. He was informed that a copy of his letter would be forwarded to you without delay.

3.

GOVERNOR
SIR ALLAN CARDINALL, K.B.E., C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.

3. I should be glad if you would cause such enquiry as you think necessary to be made into these matters and furnish me with your observations in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Sgd) OLIVER STANLEY.

24th January, 1944. ⁽¹²⁾

Sir,

We have just received a telegram from our Port Stanley Office advising us that five imported rams in quarantine died after dipping last week. These were out of an importation of 27 rams from Punta Arenas (Chile) made in December, 1943.

We have been importing both rams and horses from Punta Arenas for a considerable period and stock has gone through quarantine without loss of condition or mortality.

Since 1940 this has changed - we made two importations from South America

16 rams arrived December, 1940	released from
30 " " " "	Quarantine March, 1941.
	1941 released from
	Quarantine March 1942.

and quote our Camp Manager's report thereon in full -

"Quarantine Station. The condition of the bulk of the Laguna Blanca rams which arrived here from the quarantine station on March 20th was most unsatisfactory. Three were very poor indeed, six were just thin and the rest passable. I had the whole lot weighed on arrival and again on April 25th after we had done our best to put some condition on them. The results were as follows:-

March 20th	29 rams	3385 lbs.
April 25th	29 "	<u>3623</u> "

increase 29/ 238

8.2 lbs. per sheep.

"Actually some of them increased considerably more than eight lbs and the poorest ones made little progress. One ram has been left back in quarantine without advice to me because it had small warts on its fore foot - however this has since been sent out and is in fair condition.

Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Stud

"Stud rams were put out on April 27th and I kept back 9 of these rams as their condition made it likely that should they fall in a ditch they might be unable to get out. Three of these remained in very poor condition. On April 30th one of these died and a post mortem was carried out at which Dr. Dowds was present. The lungs were in a very bad state and according to the doctor exhibited all the symptoms of "unresolved pneumonia". No worms were found in stomach or intestines, there was no sign of scouring and the sheep had been drenched before leaving the coast and after arriving at the farm. The poorest one left was suspected of being in the same state and was accordingly dosed with M&B 693 tablets and given a tonic - it has not died yet and is, if anything, a little stronger. The only conclusions I can reach over these sheep are that :-

"(1) When, contrary to my expressed wish, these sheep were dipped in full fleece a few days after landing on a day which turned out badly, a chill must have been contracted which gave the animals a severe setback from which, owing to unskilful handling and feeding afterwards, the weaker ones were unable to recover.

"(2) That the ration given, which, I am told, consisted of bran, pollard and a certain amount of oats - no crushed maize - was inadequate and/or unsuitable in that being camp sheep they were unable to obtain sufficient good green feed.

"(3) That the small amount of green feed available in the quarantine station was and is totally insufficient in both quantity and quality to adequately sustain 30 sheep for three months which have to endure 4 dips in that period and consequently need a very ample food supply to enable them to put on condition.

"When the 16 rams from Condor were released from quarantine last March they also were not in good conditions but picked up considerably before being put to the ewes, with the exception of one ram which was not put out but which made a good recovery later on.

"Considerable loss is entailed to both the Colony and to private owners when expensive sheep emerge from the quarantine station in such wretched condition that they cannot be used the first year or that even death ensues. In consequence I have informed the Director of Agriculture that I feel it both necessary and justifiable to complain officially about the matter. Therefore I propose to send a copy of this letter to the Colonial Secretary".

(12)

The reply to our Camp Manager's representations to the Falkland Islands Government was unsatisfactory.

We understand that other Farmers have had somewhat similar experiences concerning importations from U.K. 1940, Argentine 1943.

Horses. We quote our Camp Manager's report on the handling of recent importations of horses -

"With further reference to my 23th July, 1943, it is interesting to note that these 50 horses shipped from Punta Arenas with a clean veterinary certificate were inspected on arrival at Fox Bay by T. Beaty, Stock Inspector, and cleared. Accordingly 20 were landed on the West and 31 carried on to Stanley where after inspection Dr. Gibbs thought some of the odd abrasions might be incipient ringworm and caused the whole lot to be quarantined on Navy Point where they still are. One died, officially pneumonia, but a soldier who is looking after some of the animals selected for the army told me that it was found by himself in a ditch and that with the help of others the animal was pulled out and subsequently died in the stable.

"The animals landed on the West were released after a week's precautionary quarantine at Fox Bay.

"This is the second time that horses have been cleared by the Stock Inspector and then quarantined by the Agric. Adviser. The previous shipment had a few spots on some of the animals' noses caused by being left in a rather eaten down paddock full of Califate bushes. It was diagnosed however as stomatitis. The whole trouble about importing stock is that Dr. Gibbs is not a stockman and seems to have had no practical experience with stock. He is very nervous about the possibility of letting diseases, which he knows very little about, be brought into the colony, and in consequence stock are left confined for much longer periods than necessary in the quarantine station which is unsuitable and inadequate for dealing fairly with more than a very few animals".

For sometime past we have been greatly perturbed by the several reports we have received regarding the handling of stock by the Agricultural Department of the

Falkland

Falkland Islands Government and the loss of five rams now reported impels us to approach the Secretary of State direct with a request that he will immediately institute a searching enquiry into the work of this Department and of the several cases referred to herein.

We are, etc.

For THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY, LTD.

(Sgd.) L.W.H. YOUNG,

Managing Director.

COPY

(12)²

EXTRACT FROM TELEGRAM FROM PORT STANLEY DATED .
22ND SEPTEMBER, 1943. RECEIVED WEYBRIDGE
25RD SEPTEMBER, 1943.

YOUR TELEGRAM OF 10TH INSTANT GOVERNMENT REPLY
AS FOLLOWS ARE NOT PREPARED TO PURSUE MATTER
FURTHER.

COPY

12^k

EXTRACT FROM TELEGRAM DESPATCHED NLT TO ROBERTS PORT STANLEY
ON 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1943.

OUR 11/4 DATED 24th MARCH 1943 SEND BY AIRMAIL HISTORY TREATMENT
FROM ARRIVAL TO CONDEMNATION TELEGRAPH NUMBER TIMES DIPPED
NAMING DIPS USED.

THE COOPER TECHNICAL BUREAU,

BERKHAMSTED,

3rd September, 1943.

HERTS.

The Managing Director,
The Falkland Islands Co., Ltd.,
"Southernhay",
Cavendish Road,
WEYBRIDGE,
Surrey.

The extract from your Colonial Manager's letter contains information that may give a satisfactory explanation of the origin of this skin trouble in the ram.

The "thick black scab" is very probably a piece of sloughed skin, the injury having been caused by scalding following the use of an arsenical sheep dip. The site and shape of the affected patch of skin on the lumbar region of the sheep also confirm this supposition.

Such skin injuries (due to arsenical scalding) often escape notice for some time after dipping, and when the crusts in the wool are discovered at a later date, an inexperienced observer might not associate the lesions with the dipping operation.

We suggest that what might have happened in this case was that the ram was dipped in an arsenical sheep dip on, or shortly after arrival in the Falkland Islands, and that some degree of scalding occurred. Such scalding is liable to occur with sheep carrying a full fleece, especially if they are also in fat condition. The scurfiness or crust formation produced in the fleece by this scalding might be interpreted as evidence of skin disease (mycotic dermatitis or even scabies) by the inexperienced observer, and if the animal were then submitted to a repeat dipping, with the object of curing the condition, it is not unlikely that more serious scalding, with the formation of the typical black sloughs, would occur.

We

We would suggest that your Colonial Manager should endeavour to obtain from the Agricultural Department a history of the treatment to which the ram was submitted after its arrival.

If enquiries show that the ram was dipped in an arsenical sheep dip, then we should have no hesitation in attributing the whole of the trouble to this cause.

Unfortunately, Ministry officials and veterinarians are often found to be lamentably ignorant of sheep dipping practice and not infrequently have arrived at absolutely unjustifiable conclusions in cases where trouble has occurred.

Yours faithfully,

pp. THE COOPER TECHNICAL BUREAU.

(Sgd.) L.E. ROBINSON.

COPY

Air Mail. 14

No. C/4/43. COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS.

5th June, 1943.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter dated the 3rd March, 1943, which was handed to me by the Manager, Falkland Islands Company, on the 27th May, on the subject of a ram destroyed in quarantine.

2. This Government stands behind the action and reports of its own officers and cannot admit any liability.

I have, etc.

(Sgd.) KENNETH BRADLEY.

Colonial Secretary.

Chairman,
Messrs. Holmsted Blake and Co. Ltd.,
Southernhay,
Cavendish Road,
Weybridge, Surrey,
ENGLAND.

COPY

12^e

Falkland Islands.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

7th May, 1941.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the following
Romney Marsh Ram imported by
Messrs. Holmsted & Blake on 8th of
October 1940 on s.s. "Lafonia", and
which has been in Quarantine since
that date has been condemned as
suffering from Mycotic Dermatitis and
unfit for importation into the Colony:-

Ram Horkstow Manor No. 15 of 1939

Ear Marks - Right ear KERM 252
Left ear 13

(Sgd.) J.G.GIBBS.

Director of Agriculture.

23rd March, 1943. (12^c)

Sir,

In August, 1940 the Falkland Islands Company shipped on our behalf, per s.s. "LAFONIA" from Liverpool to Port Stanley, 6 Romney Marsh Rams which had been bred by Mr. Clifford Nicholson of Willoughton Manor, Near Lincoln. Mr. Nicholson is a well-known breeder of pedigree sheep and has a considerable export business.

The rams arrived Liverpool 28th August, 1940, were examined and passed by a Veterinary Officer and put on board without delay. Vessel sailed on 31st August, called at St. Vincent and Montevideo arriving Port Stanley 7th October where the animals were placed in quarantine on 8th idem.

One died on the voyage out and another shortly after landing into quarantine - believed due to pneumonia.

Whilst in quarantine and within one month from landing one developed a skin affection said by the Falkland Islands Agricultural Department to be Mycotic Dermatitis.

This ram was kept in quarantine and on 7th May, 1941 the Agricultural Department issued a certificate stating that it has been condemned as suffering from Mycotic Dermatitis. On making further enquiries we find that it was not then destroyed but kept at the Quarantine Station and experimented on by the Agricultural Department; it was ultimately destroyed early in 1942. Incidentally we understand that the Colonial Manager, Falkland Islands Company, expressed his desire to see it on several occasions but this was not convenient and he was never enabled to do so.

As we were not satisfied with the diagnosis we decided to pursue the matter further and put two queries before the Cooper Technical Bureau

1. Is Mycotic Dermatitis prevalent in England?
2. Is it possible that the skin would not show any sign even if the sheep had Mycotic Dermatitis?

to which they replied on 9th March, 1942 -

"In

"In reply to the questions that you raise in your letter of the 6th March:

- "1. So far as our experience goes, mycotic dermatitis is very rare in Great Britain. We have had one or two specimens of abnormal sheepskin and fleece submitted to us, showing bacterial staining and crusts, which we have considered to be cases of mycotic dermatitis. We cannot remember ever to have seen a reference to the occurrence of mycotic dermatitis in Great Britain in the veterinary literature.
- "2. Had the sheep in question recently suffered from Mycotic dermatitis, we would expect to find some evidence on the skin in the form of thickening and corrugation. Had the sheep been suffering from mycotic dermatitis at the time of embarkation from Liverpool, it is in the highest degree unlikely that the condition would have escaped the notice of the veterinary officer. It would also seem improbable that mycotic dermatitis could develop in the course of a voyage of little more than 5 weeks unless the sheep were transported under such conditions that their fleeces and skins were constantly wet. There is the possibility that the conditions during the voyage were such that the sheep developed some abnormal skin condition which the Falkland Islands authority certified as being mycotic dermatitis. Should you receive a specimen of the skin, we would be interested to see it."

2 We therefore decided to have the skin and fleeces sent Home for expert examination and this was done. We understand that when the Falkland Islands Agricultural Department were advised of our desire they expressed the view that "the skin will not show anything but the fleece will justify the condemnation of the animal". The skin and fleeces arrived in September, 1942 and were submitted to the Cooper Technical Bureau for examination and report.

They reported on 29th October last -

"Some days ago we received a case containing a dried sheepskin and two fleeces, which you inform us were shipped from the Falkland Islands by Messrs Houlder Bros. We have made a careful examination of both skin and fleeces

(12)

"fleeces and have failed to find the slightest evidence
"of mycotic dermatitis. The wool is rather dirty
"but, in our judgment, there is nothing wrong with
"its quality.
"We would suggest that you might submit the two
"fleeces for expert opinion, either to the Bradford
"Technical College, or to the Wool Industries Research
"Association, Toppingdon, Headingley, Leeds 6.
"There is something queer about the adverse report of
"the veterinary authorities in the Falkland Islands."

----- We then arranged for the Bradford Technical
College to examine and report and we attach copy of their
report dated 11th February, 1943, (together with copy of
covering letter dated 15th idem from the Cooper Technical
Bureau). We specially draw your attention to paragraph 8 -
"The wool does not show any signs of having come from a
sheep suffering from a skin disease", which emphasises that
no trace of skin disease could be found, and to paragraph
11 - "Respecting the better fleece, both the Wool Control
Appraisers and "ourselves agree that it is an ideal type
and equal to the best of this type of wool in all respects."
This reference to the very high quality of the fleece
confirms and strengthens our view that the loss of the
services of what was undoubtedly an exceptional ram is most
serious.

The importation of stud sheep into the Colony has
been increasingly difficult since war broke out and you will
appreciate that not only have we been deprived of the ram's
services to our flocks but there is a time lag which cannot
possibly be overtaken even if the ram could be replaced.

We hold that the opinion given by the Cooper
Technical Bureau in their letters of 9th March, 1942 and
15th February, 1943, and the Bradford Technical College's
report dated 11th February, 1943 prove conclusively that
the Falkland Islands Agricultural Department's diagnosis of
Mycotic Dermatitis was wrong and that there can be no
reasonable doubt a grave error of judgment has been made by
this Department of the Falkland Islands Government, which
has deprived us of the use of a costly ram the value of
whose stud services to our flocks cannot be estimated and
for which there can be no adequate redress.

We do, however, submit that we are entitled to
claim

claim compensation for the actual expenses incurred by us in purchasing, shipping out and whilst in quarantine which amount to £86.18. 11. (details attached).

We are therefore requesting the Colonial Manager, Falkland Islands Company, to submit this letter to you on our behalf and beg that we may be favoured with an early reply which kindly send to him.

We are, etc.

For HOLMESTED, BLAKE & COMPANY, LTD.

(Sgd.) ROBERT BLAKE,

Chairman.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
Port Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

12^a

"fleeces and have failed to find the slightest evidence
"of mycotic dermatitis. The wool is rather dirty
"but, in our judgment, there is nothing wrong with
"its quality.

"We would suggest that you might submit the two
"fleeces for expert opinion, either to the Bradford
"Technical College, or to the Wool Industries Research
"Association, Torrington, Headingley, Leeds 6.

"There is something queer about the adverse report of
"the veterinary authorities in the Falkland Islands."

----- We then arranged for the Bradford Technical
College to examine and report and we attach copy of their
report dated 11th February, 1945, (together with copy of
covering letter dated 15th idem from the Cooper Technical
Bureau). We specially draw your attention to paragraph 8 -
"The wool does not show any signs of having come from a
sheep suffering from a skin disease", which emphasises that
no trace of skin disease could be found, and to paragraph
11 - "Respecting the better fleece, both the Wool Control
Appraisers and "ourselves agree that it is an ideal type
and equal to the best of this type of wool in all respects."
This reference to the very high quality of the fleece
confirms and strengthens our view that the loss of the
services of what was undoubtedly an exceptional ram is most
serious.

The importation of stud sheep into the Colony has
been increasingly difficult since war broke out and you will
appreciate that not only have we been deprived of the ram's
services to our flocks but there is a time lag which cannot
possibly be overtaken even if the ram could be replaced.

We hold that the opinion given by the Cooper
Technical Bureau in their letters of 9th March, 1942 and
15th February, 1943, and the Bradford Technical College's
report dated 11th February, 1943 prove conclusively that
the Falkland Islands Agricultural Department's diagnosis of
Mycotic Dermatitis was wrong and that there can be no
reasonable doubt a grave error of judgment has been made by
this Department of the Falkland Islands Government, which
has deprived us of the use of a costly ram the value of
whose stud services to our flocks cannot be estimated and
for which there can be no adequate redress.

We do, however, submit that we are entitled to
claim

FALKLAND ISLANDS SHEEPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

"Southernhay",
Cavendish Road,
WEYBRIDGE, Surrey.

16th February, 1944.

Sir,

This Association desires to bring to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies the present unsatisfactory manner in which imported livestock is being handled by the Agricultural Department of the Falkland Islands whilst in their care in the quarantine station.

Several of our Members have reported cases which we briefly summarise below. We understand that they have taken these up with the Falkland Islands Government but without receiving any satisfaction.

Holmsted, Blake & Co., Ltd.

Re one out of a shipment (ex U.K.) of Romney Marsh Rams made in August, 1940 which arrived Port Stanley in October. The ram under reference was condemned on 7th May, 1941, it was shorn in 1942 and destroyed shortly after.

The matter is dealt with at length in their letter to the Colonial Secretary dated 23rd March, 1943, copy attached together with copies of Director of Agriculture's Certificate of Condemnation and Colonial Secretary's letter No. C/4/43, dated 5th June, 1943.

Since their letter of 23rd March, 1943 was written they were given to understand that the Director of Agriculture still had in his possession a packet of wool samples taken from the sheep he condemned and that some pieces of the wool have a black scab adhering to them. This information was passed on to the Cooper Technical Bureau. In view of a suggestion made by them, telegrams were then exchanged with the Port Stanley Office of the Falkland Islands Company. Relative papers are attached.

Messrs.

Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

Messrs. Holmsted, Blake & Co., Ltd. are of opinion they have made out a strong case against the action of the Director of Agriculture and one which calls for investigation. They also consider that their representations to the Falkland Islands Government have been dismissed in a most arbitrary and discourteous manner and trust that the Secretary of State will see fit to call on the Falkland Islands Government to justify their attitude and the action of the Director of Agriculture.

Messrs. James Lovegrove Waldron Ltd. imported five rams from the Argentine in April, 1943.

One died in the quarantine station, said to be of Braxy. This disease has never been diagnosed in the Colony before. In a recent issue of the Ministry of Agriculture Journal it is described thus -

"BRAXY AND BLACKQUARTER BRAXY, also known as "sickness" and "sough", chiefly affects young sheep (hogs) wintering on hill grazings. The bacterium lodges in the wall of the true stomach, and after death this organ is found acutely inflamed. The onset of braxy frequently coincides with the occurrence of hoar frosts in autumn and winter, but how this acts in precipitating the disease is not precisely known. Blackquarter in ewes is caused by a bacterium closely resembling that responsible for braxy. It is probably a wound infection. The poison secreted destroys the muscle tissue and produces death from blood poisoning."

The Agricultural Department's diagnosis is probably incorrect and we are of opinion that the true cause of death was inflammation following on faulty dipping.

When the remainder of this shipment was released from quarantine and arrived out at the Farm, the Manager found one with no wool on its back and scalded with dip right into the pelt. He writes:-

"I am very disappointed with the state in which these sheep arrived on the Farm on the 24th April. The Agricultural Department have not looked after them as they should have done, in fact the whole matter is a disgrace to the Department. Ram No. 514 has no wool left on its back at all, it has been burnt or scalded with dip even into the pelt. It is also in very

poor

We trust that after consideration of these facts the Secretary of State will see fit to call on the Falkland Islands Government for an explanation. We also request that we may be advised of the qualifications of the present Agricultural Adviser for the position he holds and the reasons for his recent reappointment for a further term.

Further, we submit that Farmers should be given an opportunity of expressing their views before appointments are made to the senior positions in this Department and finally, that the administration of the Stock Ordinance and Regulations be fully investigated by a small Committee appointed by the Falkland Islands Government and consisting of a Government officer not connected with the Agricultural Department, one Farmer from the East and one from the West Falkland, to be nominated by the Falkland Islands Committee of this Association.

We are, etc.

(Sgd.) ROBERT BLAKE Chairman.

(Sgd.) L.W.H. YOUNG Acting Secretary.

FALKLAND ISLANDS SHEEPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

"Southernhay",
Cavendish Road,
WEYBRIDGE, Surrey.

16th February, 1944.

Sir,

This Association desires to bring to the notice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies the present unsatisfactory manner in which imported livestock is being handled by the Agricultural Department of the Falkland Islands whilst in their care in the quarantine station.

Several of our Members have reported cases which we briefly summarise below. We understand that they have taken these up with the Falkland Islands Government but without receiving any satisfaction.

Holmsted, Blake & Co., Ltd.

Re one out of a shipment (ex U.K.) of Romney Marsh Rams made in August, 1940 which arrived Port Stanley in October. The ram under reference was condemned on 7th May, 1941, it was shorn in 1942 and destroyed shortly after.

The matter is dealt with at length in their letter to the Colonial Secretary dated 23rd March, 1943, copy attached together with copies of Director of Agriculture's Certificate of Condemnation and Colonial Secretary's letter No. C/4/43, dated 5th June, 1943.

Since their letter of 23rd March, 1943 was written they were given to understand that the Director of Agriculture still had in his possession a packet of wool samples taken from the sheep he condemned and that some pieces of the wool have a black scab adhering to them. This information was passed on to the Cooper Technical Bureau. In view of a suggestion made by them, telegrams were then exchanged with the Port Stanley Office of the Falkland Islands Company. Relative papers are attached.

Messrs.

Under-Secretary of State,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

Messrs. Holmsted, Blake & Co., Ltd. are of opinion they have made out a strong case against the action of the Director of Agriculture and one which calls for investigation. They also consider that their representations to the Falkland Islands Government have been dismissed in a most arbitrary and discourteous manner and trust that the Secretary of State will see fit to call on the Falkland Islands Government to justify their attitude and the action of the Director of Agriculture.

Messrs. James Lovegrove Waldron Ltd. imported five rams from the Argentine in April, 1943.

One died in the quarantine station, said to be of Braxy. This disease has never been diagnosed in the Colony before. In a recent issue of the Ministry of Agriculture Journal it is described thus -

"BRAXY AND BLACKQUARTER BRAXY, also known as "sickness" and "sough", chiefly affects young sheep (hogs) wintering on hill grazings. The bacterium lodges in the wall of the true stomach, and after death this organ is found acutely inflamed. The onset of braxy frequently coincides with the occurrence of hoar frosts in autumn and winter, but how this acts in precipitating the disease is not precisely known. Blackquarter in ewes is caused by a bacterium closely resembling that responsible for braxy. It is probably a wound infection. The poison secreted destroys the muscle tissue and produces death from blood poisoning."

The Agricultural Department's diagnosis is probably incorrect and we are of opinion that the true cause of death was inflammation following on faulty dipping.

When the remainder of this shipment was released from quarantine and arrived out at the Farm, the Manager found one with no wool on its back and scalded with dip right into the pelt. He writes:-

"I am very disappointed with the state in which these sheep arrived on the Farm on the 24th April. The Agricultural Department have not looked after them as they should have done, in fact the whole matter is a disgrace to the Department. Ram No. 514 has no wool left on its back at all, it has been burnt or scalded with dip even into the pelt. It is also in very

poor

12

Colonial Office,
Downing Street.

29th February, 1944.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

NO. 9



Sir,

16.2.44.

I have the honour to refer to my despatch No.7 of the 2nd February, 1944 forwarding copies of correspondence with the Falkland Islands Company Limited regarding the handling of livestock imported into the Falkland Islands by the quarantine authorities, and to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter, together with enclosures, which has been received from the Falkland Islands Sheepowners' Association in this country.

2. The Association has been informed that their representations have been communicated to you and I shall be glad to be furnished with your observations thereon by despatch in due course.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Sgd) OLIVER STANLEY

GOVERNOR
SIR ALLAN CARDINALL, K.B.E., C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.

Draft (13)

MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, FALKLAND
ISLANDS, IN REPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S
DESPATCH, NO. 9. OF 29th FEBRUARY, 1944.

1 The above despatch covered the second complaint that has been made within a month to the Secretary of State, over the signature of Mr. L.W.H. Young, concerning the handling of live-stock by the quarantine authorities in the Falkland Islands. The first complaint was signed by Mr. Young, as 'managing director' of the Falkland Islands Company, and the second as 'secretary' of the Falkland Islands Sheep Owners' Association. The present complaint made by the Falkland Islands Sheep Owners' Association concerns the identical complaints made by the Falkland Islands Company, and adds only specific details concerning one of them, *namely* —

2 ~~The additional details concerning the shipment of rams from the United Kingdom in 1940 and from Argentine in 1943, im- [These were~~ ported respectively by Messrs Holmstead Blake & Company and James Lovegrove Waldron Ltd.

3 The former company claims compensation amounting to £86. 18. 11, because they consider that opinions given^{to} them by Cooper's Technical Bureau "prove conclusively that the..... diagnosis of Mycotic dermatitis was wrong and that a grave error of judgement had been made by this[^] Department of the Falkland Islands Government."

4 Messrs Cooper's Technical Bureau is a commercial pseudo scientific organisation of poor scientific standing, which has submitted very definite opinions on evidence that would have been thought insufficient by any reputable scientific organisation. (c.v. the report of the Bradford Technical College on the same evidence).

5 *treatment* The ram affected with Mycotic dermatitis was treated by us in quarantine for 7 months without success and was then condemned. Our letter accompanying the certificate of condemnation advised the Company that we proposed to retain this ram for *further* experiments. It survived a very severe treatment applied in June 1941, as a result of which the dermatitis appeared to have been completely cured, and no further sign of infection was observed up till the time the animal was killed, 7 months later in January, 1942.

6 From time to time the Colonial manager of the Falkland Islands Company inquired whether the animal had been slaughtered, and requested the skin and fleeces "for insurance purposes" when they were available. These were submitted together with the a packet of wool containing the ^{of scab} scab which had fallen out of the first fleece after shearing. The Company refused to accept this packet of diseased specimens, as they were of no value to the insurance company, (which presumably would accept the certificate of the Department of Agriculture concerning the disease). Consequently, when the skin and fleeces were submitted to Messrs. Cooper's Technical Bureau, all evidence of disease had been removed.

7 It is impossible for anyone legally to examine sheep in quarantine without the permission of the Director of Agriculture.

13

No-one requested such permission in connection with this or the following case.

7 Consequently, any complaints concerning the diagnoses are without concrete foundation, and originate in the minds of men, who, by their written statement, know very little of the nature of these diseases, and who made no request for the evidence on which we based our diagnoses.

8 It is difficult to understand such complaints concerning diagnoses that were made by men who have had had some schooling in veterinary medicine and who possess the advantages afforded by a good reference library. The Department possesses specimens which prove the accuracy of the diagnoses of Mycotic dermatitis.

9 The complaint concerning the diagnosis of Braxy by Messrs. James Lovegrove Waldron Ltd. is also entirely a figment of imagination, since no person outside the quarantining officials examined this animal or were present at its death. The symptoms and course of the disease were those of Braxy, and not of poisoning by dip.

10 The object of the dip for sheep prescribed by the Livestock Regulations is to prevent the introduction into the Colony of live or sheep scab. Both these diseases are prevalent in South America and the latter can be controlled only by concentrations of dip that cause a certain amount of injury to the pelt of a few animals in every shipment. Dipping with lower concentrations is ~~apparently~~ unsatisfactory, and according to my private information, has apparently ~~permitted~~ this disease to enter New Zealand in recent years.

11 The injury which James Lovegrove Waldron's ram suffered has been grossly exaggerated and the statement that it was in poor condition when it left quarantine is completely false, as both myself and my Stock Inspector can bear witness.

12 The Falkland Islands Sheepowners' Association claim that farmers appreciate the value of the Livestock Regulations and claim that only few complaints have been made concerning their administration during the past 20 years. This is surprising as five stations were quarantined for lice between 1934 and 1939, and distemper, tuberculosis and ringworm have been introduced during the past 20 years, and have caused loss and considerable trouble and inconvenience.

13 The present Director of Agriculture is the Honourable, J.G. Gibbs M.E.C., J.P., Ph.D., M. Ag. Sc., Dip. Agr. (Linc.), F.A.A.S., who has been an officer of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture and the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for the past 18 years, and is seconded by that Government for services in this Colony. His work with the New Zealand Government has been entirely connected with agriculture and has given him experience in practically all parts of the country. The conditions in the Falkland Islands are not unlike those associated with the 'tussock lands' in New Zealand. Whether he is a stock man or not is beside the present issue, since that aspect of agriculture is covered by the Stock Inspector, but his training in plant pathology has given him a ^{keen} eye for signs of sickness or disease in animals, and there is ^{accumulated} evidence of his ability as a diagnostician, of veterinary diseases.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, FALKLAND ISLANDS, IN REPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S DESPATCH NO 7. OF 2nd FEBRUARY, 1944.

1. This despatch covers complaints made by the Falkland Islands Company to the Secretary of State, concerning the importation and management of animals in the Quarantine station at the Falkland Islands.

2. Since the evidence submitted in refutation of these complaints has become somewhat lengthy, the reply is briefly summarised in the following paragraphs, (3 and 4).

3. The complaints have been extracted from the letter of the Falkland Islands Company as six complaints and are cited in paragraphs 9, 11, 15, 20, 23, 25. of this memorandum.

Complaint No. 4. concerns the death of five rams in quarantine after dipping, and is understandable, though it seems peculiar that no claim has been made by the Company for the loss that they have suffered. When dipping these sheep, the instructions of the/
the/

(13^u)

the makers of the sheep dip concerning the mixing and application of the dip were followed implicitly, and we are unable to account for the deaths of the sheep.

4. The remaining five complaints are false or specious.

Complaint No. 2. is false since complaints have been made prior to 1940, and concern both the condition of sheep released from quarantine, and the diagnosis of diseases in quarantine.

Complaint No. 3. is specious in that it refers to the unsatisfactory condition of the bulk of a consignment of sheep, thereafter admitting that the bulk (21) were in 'passable' condition when they were released from quarantine. After they were released, they were held, without shelter, on the S.S. Fitzroy (Falkland Islands Company's coastal vessel), where they were exposed to a bitterly cold northerly wind on the night of 19/20 March, 1942, as a result of which some appeared to have contracted pneumonia.

Complaint No. 4. complains about the condition of sheep that entered the Quarantine Station in poor condition but were in better condition, on the average, when they were released.

Complaint No. 5. refers to the criticisms of the Department's diagnosis of diseases of animals while in quarantine. The criticisms are made by men who neither saw the diseases animals, nor can produce a shred of tangible evidence/

13^b

evidence for their opinions, which however can be refuted by evidence in the possession of the Department of Agriculture.

Complaint No. 6. is purely hypothetical. It is based partly on hearsay evidence and contains defamatory statements which could not be supported by fact, but which can be refuted by evidence in the possession of the Department of Agriculture.

5. There would appear to be some ulterior motive in complaints made on such flimsy grounds to the Secretary of State, by a man of Mr. Young's standing, especially since the Falkland Islands Company has not made a claim for compensation four months after rams died in quarantine after dipping.

6. I believe that the real reason for the complaints may be found in the Company's opposition to land improvement on a large scale, since the money invested in such improvement must bring about a temporary reduction of the profits, and they fear that a successful Department of Agriculture may force them to relinquish some of the advantages and wealth associated with large holdings owned by absentee landlords. It will be recalled that the owners petitioned the Government to close the Experimental Farm in 1928. though at that time it was not three years old and had only just been fully established, and had no opportunity to prove itself.

7. The system absentee landlords, where the owners and shareholders of ranching companies reside chiefly in the British Isles and withdraw a maximum of immediate profits from the Colony, leaves no incentive to improve the holdings. The local managers are satisfied with their remunerations and their relatively low responsibility, and

de/

13c

do not welcome suggestions concerning improvements that would increase their responsibility, presumably without any additional increase in remuneration. The criterion of a manager's value is the nett profit that he produces. Any money expended on improving the property must mean a temporary reduction of the profit, and if the proposal to improve emanates from the manager, he must assume the responsibility of securing from such capital expenditure an increased return in the years that follow. It is incredible to me that a Company, such as the Falkland Islands Company, which owns one and a half million acres in these Islands, which, apart from fences and woolsheds are completely undeveloped, has never thought it worth while to employ a trained scientific agricultural experimentalist to carry out investigations with the object of developing their properties. Under such conditions, it is not difficult to understand the opposition that has been expressed by the large owners whenever the administration has endeavoured to assist them to improve their holdings. Ranching has not changed since 1900 but I am convinced that by improved management alone, the carrying capacity of the islands can be increased three-fold.

5. The certainty of improving the carrying capacity of the Falkland Islands pastures and the possibility of developing dairying, seed potato production and possibly the production of swede and turnip seeds, is such, that the personnel of the Department should be increased by competent research officers as soon as possible after the cessation of hostilities.

Complaint No. 1.

9. "Five of 27 rams imported from Punta Arenas (Chile), in December, 1943 died after "dipping in quarantine.

Reply.

10. Twenty-seven rams were imported on 6th December, 1943 from Punta Arenas, accompanied by a clean health certificate. On admission to the Quarantine Station, two ecto parasites, Melophagus ovinus and Linognathus pedalis were found on these sheep. They were dipped with Kymac Fluid Dip on 7th and 20th December, and with Coopers Powder Dip on the 31st December, without suffering injury. After the final dipping, on 12th January 1944 with Coopers Powder Dip, made exactly according to the instructions on the packet, and mixed with rain water collected from the roof of the Quarantine Station, five of the twenty-seven rams died. We are positive that no sheep swallowed any dip, and nothing occurred during, or after the dipping that would explain these deaths. Coopers instructions concerning the application of this dip were implicitly followed. We are very concerned about this loss, and on 18th February, submitted a report on the matter to Dr. Tempary, Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with specimens of the dip and water used. We requested him to obtain expert opinion and advice concerning the suitability of the materials submitted for dipping sheep, and veterinary opinion as to the cause of the deaths. So far, no reply has been received, and we are not at present able to explain the deaths of these rams. The Secretary of State will no doubt, be able to ascertain the results of the inquiries made by his Agricultural Adviser. The Company has not as yet made any claim for compensation for the loss of these rams.

13^e

Complaint No. 2.

11. "For a long period, rams and horses imported from Punta Arenas have come through quarantine without loss of condition or mortality, but since 1940, this has changed.

Reply.

12. This statement is false, and Mr. Young must know of its inaccuracy.

13. Mr. W.H. Dean, owner of Port Stephens Station, (and a director of the Falkland Islands Company) made a complaint concerning the condition of the rams received from quarantine in 1936. In this case, the Falkland Islands Company, as agents for the importers, had received permission to quarantine rams on Sea Lion Island in Choiseul Sound. The responsibility for the care and management of the rams lay with the Falkland Islands Company, who had elected to have them quarantined on an island of their own choice. The Government's responsibility was merely to see that no communicable disease was introduced into the colony by these sheep.

14. In 1938, the Falkland Islands Company imported 248 rams from Punta Arenas, without a veterinary health certificate as required by the Livestock Regulations. Forty-nine of these rams were slaughtered under the Quarantine Regulations, by my predecessor, with the concurrence of a camp manager of the Falkland Islands Company, as being infected with lycetic dermatitis and caseous lymphadenitis, and the Company, who was liable to a penalty of £50 for each animal imported without a certificate, was fined £62 on 27th July, 1938. In spite of this, the Company protested on 15th June, 1939, over
Mr./

13

Mr. Young's signature, in the following words. "We are not fully satisfied that any of these rams were suffering from either of these diseases, and we consider that it is equally possible that the condition was due to the change of climate and food". Since this complaint was made over Mr. Young's signature in 1939, he must be aware of the falsity of his present statement

Complaint No. 3.

15. "The condition of the bulk of the Laguna Blanca rams which arrived here from quarantine on 20th March, was most unsatisfactory. Three were very poor indeed, six were just thin and the rest passable. On April 30th, one of these died, and a post mortem... exhibited all the symptoms of unresolved pneumonia.... The only conclusion which I can reach over these rams, are that :-

- "(1) When... these sheep were dipped in full fleece.... on a day which turned out badly, a chill must have been contracted
- " from which, owing to the unskilful handling and feeding afterwards, the weaker ones were unable to recover.
- "(2) That the ration given... was inadequate and/or unsuitable, in that being camp sheep they were unable to obtain sufficient good green feed.
- "(3) That the small amount of green feed available in the Quarantine Station was and is totally insufficient in both quantity and quality to sustain 30 sheep for/

9
13

" for 3 months, which have to endure 4
" dips in that period, and consequently
" need very ample food supply to enable
" them to put on condition.

Reply.

16. The day that these sheep were dipped in full
doses could not have been better. All were practically
dry by 4.30 p.m. and none contracted a chill then or at
any time during the period they were in quarantine.
A death among them, 40 days after arrival at Darwin,
cannot be attributed to the condition in which they left
the Quarantine Station.

17. After their release from quarantine, they were
held by the Falkland Islands Company on the S.S. Fitzroy,
during the night of 19/20th March, 1942. During this
night, they were exposed without shelter, to a bitterly
cold northerly wind of force 5 and more. It was undoubt-
edly this exposure that caused some of the sheep to con-
tract pneumonia.

18. The quarantine station occupies approximately
400 acres, and consists mainly of native Cortaderia
and a small amount of English grasses. This is poorer
in food value than the native pasture in Magallanes county
of Chile, and imported sheep naturally dislike it. Since
it forms the bulk of the pasturage in this Colony, they
have to learn to thrive on it. As the quarantine station
is usually grazed only 3 or 4 months during the summer,
there is sufficient feed for approximately 50 rams over
this period. However, it has been our practice to
supply a supplementary concentrate, to sustain and harden
the sheep, as a compensation for the severe treatment, (4
dips)

13

dipped) they have to go through while in quarantine. We do not agree that maize is essential in a supplementary ration for sheep. An equally good supplementary ration can be made from oats, pollard and bran.

19. Rams while in quarantine are given more individual attention and treated with greater care than is given to stud animals on most stations in the Falkland Islands. In view of the relatively poor grazing that is found throughout the Falkland Islands, and the fact that the rams are rarely fed with supplementary concentrates, we do not consider it wise to feed large quantities of this type of food in the Quarantine Station. If the Department adopted this practice, the rams would suffer a considerable setback when turned out with ewes on ordinary native pasture.

Complaint No. 4.

20. "Sixteen rams released from quarantine in March 1941, were not in good condition, but picked up considerably before being put to the ewes, with the exception of one ram which was not put out, but which made good recovery later.

Reply.

21. These rams were accepted into quarantine on the 4th December, 1940. They arrived in full fleece and were shorn before dipping.

22. When these rams were shorn, they were found to be in poor condition. They had the run of 90 acres of the Quarantine Station, and were fed with a mixture of oats, bran and pollard during the whole of the period they were in quarantine. At first the ration was half pound/

i
13

pound per head per day, and during the latter half of the quarantine period, they received one pound per head per day. These sheep were station bred and caused to hand feeding. It was some time before three of them accepted the supplementary feed, and these, having lost some condition, were put in a small paddock with better feed. Fifteen of the 16 sheep were in better condition when they were released from quarantine than when they arrived.

Complaint No. 5.

23. "Other farms have had somewhat similar experiences concerning importations from the United Kingdom 1940, and Argentine 1943.

Reply.

24. The complaints received concerning these shipments deal with the diagnoses of diseases observed on the sheep in quarantine, criticism being made by men who neither saw the affected sheep, nor made any inquiries concerning the nature of the disease; nor from their written statement do they appear to know anything of the diseases in question. They appear to accuse without any tittle of evidence, that the authorities responsible for quarantine are equally as ignorant as themselves.

Complaint No. 6.

25. "Fifty horses, shipped from Punta Arenas with a clean veterinary certificate were inspected on arrival at Fox Bay by T. Beatty, Stock Inspector, and cleared. Accordingly 20 horses were landed on the west, and 31 carried on to Stanley where, after inspection Dr. Gibbs thought some odd abrasions might be incipient ring-worm, and caused/

135

"caused the whole lot to be quarantined...
"One died, officially pneumonia, but a
"soldier... told me that it was found by
"himself in a ditch and that... the animal
"was pulled out and subsequently died in the
"stable. The animals landed on the West
"were released after a week's precautionary
"quarantine at Fox Bay. This is the second
"time that horses have been cleared by the
"Stock Inspector and then quarantined by the
"Agric. Adviser. The whole trouble about
"importing stock is that Dr. Gibbs is not a
"stockman, and seems to have had no practical
"experience with stock. He is very nervous
"about the possibility of letting diseases,
"which he knows very little about, be brought
"into the colony, and in consequence stock
"are left confined for much longer period
"than necessary in the quarantine station
"which is unsuitable and inadequate for deal-
"ing fairly with more than very few animals.

Reply.

26. The animals landed at Navy Point exhibited symptoms of ring-worm infection five or six days after their arrival. Examination revealed the presence of mycelium and spores within the hairs of the affected areas. My diagnosis of ring-worm was confirmed by Major N. Whittaker R.A.M.C., a university lecturer in medicine, who viewed the microscopic slides prepared from the diseased areas on the horses. The statement that horses were quarantined unnecessarily because "Dr. Gibbs thought some odd abrasions might be incipient ring-worm" is a defamatory statement without any founda-
tion/

ation^{and} which can be refuted by the examination of microscopic slides in the possession of the Department of Agriculture.

27. One horse became cast in a ditch that was dug without my knowledge, by the military, as part of their defence programme. The horse was released within an hour and was in good condition when released from quarantine. The horse which died of pneumonia also suffered from lampas and was weak on arrival. It had been stabled and hand fed on two occasions for several days before death supervened.

28. Two cases have occurred in which I, the Director of Agriculture, have quarantined horses after they have passed as clear by my Stock Inspector. In the second case, microscopic evidence of ring-worm was obtained from the animals in quarantine. The first occasion was when the Stock Inspector visited Port Howard to clear 20 horses for the West, from a shipment of 40 horses imported from Punta Arenas. He did not, on that occasion enter the hold of the ship, but only examined those which were actually being released in the West. On arrival at Stanley, three horses were observed to have many open crusted sores on their muzzles, and one was bleeding from circular sores from which the scabs had been rubbed off during unloading operations. Though this condition may be attributable to mechanical injury by thorns or thistles in the fodder, it is impossible, in the absence of a clinical laboratory, to determine whether such symptoms are due to mechanical injury or are caused by virus, bacteria, or fungi, all of which produce infectious diseases that are characterised by similar symptoms. The circinate nature/

nature of the sores and their prevalence on the affected animals was very suggestive of infectious origin. In the absence of any statement, sworn or otherwise, concerning the origin of these sores, the quarantining officer must hold the affected animals until he is satisfied that the condition is not dangerous to other animals, in the Colony.

29. The object of the Livestock Regulations under which quarantine is enforced, is to prevent the introduction of any disease or parasite that might prove injurious to livestock within the Colony. Prior to the establishment of the Department of Agriculture, most imported animals were quarantined on an island approved by the Governor, and usually belonging to the importer or his agent. The dipping was presumably done by the importer, without the supervision of the Stock Inspector, who examined the animals before they were released from quarantine. Under this system, the owners were, until about 1900, responsible for the management and feeding of animals in quarantine, and consequently were not in a position to make complaints to the Government on this score. The quarantine procedure does not appear to have been efficient, as judged by the prevalence of outbreaks of lice in sheep during the past twenty years, the introduction of Distemper, which killed a large number of shepherds dogs, and the introduction of tuberculosis and a virulent form of ringworm in different shipments of pedigree cattle during this period.

30. The introduction of these diseases suggests also that the officers administering the Regulations were

13

were not competent to diagnose the diseases mentioned or to take necessary precautions to prevent their entry to the Colony. A perusal of the names of Stock Inspectors who held office during this period appears to confirm this suspicion, for not more than two of the nine appear to have qualifications for the position of quarantine officer, and animal quarantine was at one time administered by the chief constable.

31. Since my arrival in 1940, the following diseases have been intercepted in the quarantine station :-
Mycotic dermatitis - Braxy, Melophagus ovinus, Linognathus setosus on sheep; Haematopinus suis on pigs; Warble fly on a bull; Ringworm on horses, and we have held a consignment of horses on suspicion of infectious stomatitis. I have specimens of each of the diseases or parasites marked with the asterisk(*), and are forwarding a part of each month for submission to a competent authority for confirmation of diagnoses.

32. In conclusion, attention is drawn to the peculiar morbidity of the originators of complaints which criticise the diagnoses, by quarantine authorities, of diseases on animals, which neither the complainants nor anyone representing them had examined, or requested permission to examine while in a diseased condition. Consequently the complaints are purely figments of imagination, and completely devoid of any possible foundation.

33. Though Dr. Gibbs is specialised in plant pathology, he has spent several years as a labourer or cadet on mixed farms in New Zealand, and has shown his 70 sheep per day. His initial academic qualifications required/

13

required a two year course in veterinary anatomy and medicine, besides having had general experience with all types of stock. There is not any operation concerned with the ordinary management of stock in New Zealand or the Falkland Islands that he has not performed and though he is relatively better informed concerning the arable and cultural side of agriculture, he has nevertheless, a better knowledge of the management and brood of stock, and the ailments and diseases that affect them, and the classing and presentation of wool for the market, than any of the managers that he has met in the Falkland Islands.

R. C. ...

Ph.D. M.A., Sc.

16b

MEMORANDUM FROM THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE, FALKLAND ISLANDS, IN REPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S DESPATCH, NO 9. OF 29TH FEBRUARY, 1944.

The above despatch covered the second complaint that has been made within a month to the Secretary of State, over Mr. L.V.H. Young's signature, concerning the handling of livestock by the quarantine authorities in the Falkland Islands. The first complaint was signed by Mr. Young as 'managing director' of the Falkland Islands Company, and the second as 'secretary' of the Falkland Islands Sheepowners' Association. The present complaint made by the Falkland Islands Sheepowners' Association concerns the identical complaints made by the Falkland Islands Company on 24th January, 1944, and adds only specific details concerning one of them, namely, the shipment of rams from the United Kingdom in 1940 and from Argentina in 1943.

2. These were imported respectively by Messrs. Holmstead Blake and Company Ltd. and Messrs. James Lovegrove Aldron Ltd.

3. The former company claims compensation amounting to £86. 7s. 11., because they consider that opinions given to them by Cooper's Technical Bureau "prove conclusively that the.... diagnosis of mycotic dermatitis was wrong and that a grave error/

16c

"error of judgement has been made by the" (Agricultural)
"Department of the Falkland Islands Government".

4. Messrs. Cooper's Technical Bureau is a commercial pseudo scientific organisation of poor scientific standing, which has submitted very definite opinions on evidence that would have been thought insufficient by any scientific organisation. (c.v. the report of the Bradford Technical College on the same evidence).

5. The ram affected with Mycotic dermatitis was treated by us in quarantine for 7 months without success and was then condemned. Our letter accompanying the certificate of condemnation advised the company that we proposed to retain this ram for further treatment. The ram survived a very severe treatment applied in June 1941 as a result of which the dermatitis appeared to have been cured completely, and no further sign of infection was observed up till the time the animal was killed 7 months later, in January, 1942.

6. From time to time the Colonial Manager of the Falkland Islands Company inquired whether the animal had been slaughtered and requested the skin and fleeces "for insurance purposes" when they were available. These were submitted together with a packet of wool containing the diseased scab, which had fallen out of the first fleece after shearing. The Company refused to accept this packet of diseased specimens, as they would be of no value to the insurance company, (which presumably would accept the certificate of the Department of Agriculture concerning the disease). Consequently, when the skin and fleeces were submitted to Messrs. Cooper's Technical Bureau, all evidence of disease had been removed.

7. It is impossible for anyone legally to examine sheep in quarantine without the permission of the Department of Agriculture.

No/

16d

No-one requested such permission in connection with this or the following case.

8. Consequently, any complaints concerning the diagnoses are without concrete foundation, and originate in the minds of men, who, by their written statements, know very little of the nature of these diseases, and who made no request for the evidence on which we based our diagnoses.

9. It is difficult to understand such complaints on such poor foundations against diagnoses that were made by men who have had some schooling in veterinary medicine and who possess the advantages afforded by a good reference library. The Department possesses specimens which prove the accuracy of the diagnoses of Mycotic dermatitis.

10. The complaint concerning the diagnosis of Braxy by Messrs. James Lovegrove Waldron Ltd., is also entirely a figment of imagination, since no person outside the quarantining officials examined this animal or were present at its death. The symptoms and course of the disease were those of Braxy, and not of poisoning by dip.

11. The object of the dip for sheep prescribed by the Live-stock Regulations is to prevent the introduction into the Colony of lice or sheep scab. Both these diseases are prevalent in South America. The latter can be controlled only by high concentrations of dip. Some dips at these concentrations cause a certain amount of injury to the pelt of a few animals in every shipment. Dipping with lower concentrations is unsatisfactory, and according to my private information, has apparently permitted this disease to enter New Zealand in recent years.

12. The injury which James Lovegrove Waldron's ram suffered has been grossly exaggerated and the statement that it was in poor condition when it left quarantine is completely false, as both myself and my Stock Inspector can bear witness.

13. The Falkland Islands Sheepowners' Association claim that farmers appreciate the value of the Livestock Regulations and claim that only few complaints have been made concerning their administration during the past 20 years. This is surprising, as five stations were quarantined for lice between 1934 and 1939, and distemper, tuberculosis and ring-worm have been introduced during the past 20 years, and have caused loss and considerable trouble and inconvenience.

14. The present Director of Agriculture is the Honourable, J.C. Gibbs, M.E.C., J.F., Ph.D., M. Ag. Sc., Dip. Agr. (Hinc.), F.A.A.S., who has been an officer of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture and the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for the past 18 years, and is seconded by that Government for services in this Colony. His work with the New Zealand Government has been entirely connected with agriculture and pathology of field crops and has given him experience in practically all parts of the country. The conditions in the Falkland Islands are not unlike those associated with the 'tussock lands' in New Zealand. Whether he is a stock-man or not is beside the present issue, since that aspect of agriculture is covered by the Stock Inspector, but his training in plant pathology has given him a keen eye for signs of sickness or disease in animals, and there is accumulated evidence of his ability as a diagnostician of veterinary diseases.



J.C. Gibbs
* J.C. Gibbs, Ph.D., M. Ag. Sc.
Director of Agriculture.

16

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,
29th May, 1944.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.
No. 30.

Sir,

Reds 1/1/42

I have the honour to refer to your despatches, Nos. 7 and 9 of the 2nd and 29th February, respectively, under cover of which you forwarded certain complaints by the Falkland Islands Company and the Sheepowners' Association regarding the treatment of imported livestock in the Quarantine Station at Port Stanley.

2. I enclose two memoranda submitted by the Director of Agriculture in which he answers in detail the charges brought against him.

3. I feel bound to agree with Dr. Gibbs that there is an ulterior motive behind these attacks and it is not far to seek. You are already aware from my secret despatch of the 6th August, 1943, and from the motion proposed at the last meeting of the Legislative Council which was referred to in paragraph 5 of my despatch, No. 63 of the 6th December, that the farming interests in the Colony are conducting a vigorous campaign for the abolition of the Agricultural Department. A weapon which has been consistently, though until now not openly used, in this campaign has been to belittle the technical and practical ability of Dr. Gibbs. The Sheepowners and their Managers having refused, with a few exceptions, to follow the advice given to them by any of the experts, with whom Dr. Gibbs agrees, are using this obvious and by no means uncommon method of attack in an attempt to justify their attitude/

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

O. F. STANLEY, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

(16a)

attitude.

4. I have insufficient technical knowledge to discuss these complaints and Dr. Gibbs' reply to them in detail, but I have no hesitation in expressing my confidence in his practical ability in the handling of stock and in the administration of the quarantine station. The latter is not perhaps fully adequate for the peace-time needs of the Colony but by the use of concentrated supplementary feeds it has been possible to give the three hundred and eleven animals which have passed through quarantine since June, 1940, sufficient nourishment to maintain and in most cases to improve their condition. In these letters and from other sources complaints of poor condition appear to refer to fifty animals since June 1940, but of these only fourteen show any apparent ground for dis-satisfaction. This is less than five per cent of the total quarantined, a figure which cannot be considered unreasonable in view of the rather drastic treatment which has to be administered to prevent the introduction of scab and lice so prevalent in South America.

5. While I know that Dr. Gibbs would welcome an impartial investigation into the administration of the Livestock Ordinance and Regulations, I do not consider that such an enquiry is necessary and, if it were, I think you will agree that a Committee composed as suggested in the last paragraph of the letter from the Sheeponers' Association would not, in the circumstances, be impartial.

6. I might add that a communication on similar lines to that enclosed in your despatch, No. 9 has been received from the Local Committee of the Sheeponers' Association to which I have replied that the matter is under discussion with yourself.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Sgd.) A. W. CARDINALL

23/44.

17

29th May,

44.

Sir,

Red 8

I have the honour to refer to your letter of the 1st April, which contained certain complaints regarding the administration of the Quarantine Station.

2. A similar communication having been received by the Colonial Office from your Committee in the United Kingdom, His Excellency desires me to inform you that he is corresponding with the Secretary of State on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

Joint Chairman,
The Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association,
(Local Committee)
Stanley.

(Copy)

200

THE COOPER TECHNICAL BUREAU,
(Affiliated with Cooper, McDougall & Robertson Ltd.)
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

25th April, 1944.

Your ref. Agric. 54.

Dr. H.A.C. Tempany, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.Sc.,
The Colonial Office,
Palace Chambers,
Bridge Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.

Dear Dr. Tempany,

We are very sorry to hear of the losses of sheep reported in your letter of the 18th April and in the enclosed extracts from the letter from the Director of Agriculture, Falkland Islands.

I have consulted our chief biologist and we have little doubt that the deaths were due to absorption or arsenic through the skin. The rapidity with which death occurred and the skin injury - loss of wool and scab-formation - point clearly to this, although it is perhaps unfortunate that no mention is made of the postmortem condition of the skin which can provide valuable evidence for differentiating poisoning by absorption from poisoning by ingestion.

It is less easy to dogmatise on the cause of this fatal degree of absorption, except to state our opinion that the small amount of seasalt in the water can have had no effect whatever.

It is true that only rams were dipped - and rams are notoriously more susceptible to injury and demand special care - that four dippings were given within 37 days, and that the final double dipping in arsenical dip was done at full strength on both occasions. On the other hand the sheep had been recently shorn and so would not carry excessive amounts of dip from the bath, the weather was cool, the arsenical strength of the wash was only 0.182% as As_2O_3 , and double dipping at this strength is common practice in the Falkland Is. and neighbouring countries. Taking all the factors into consideration and assuming that the dip was properly mixed, we should not have expected such a result as eventuated.

We do not know why the four dippings were carried out, for the extracts from the Falkland Is. letter do not mention the sheep as suffering from scab. (When scab is present, the skin injury inherent in this condition causes increased liability to absorption; if the rams in question were scabby, this would be a material factor for consideration). Apart from the question of death, we think that the four dippings in 37 days were not devoid of risk to the health of the sheep and, in absence of evidence to the contrary, probably unnecessarily drastic.

When dipping serially in arsenical and carbolic dips it is usual to dip first in the arsenic dip; on this occasion the practice was reversed. It is possible that one or more of the first three dippings damaged the skin of the rams and rendered it more permeable to arsenic, with the result that absorption took place at the fourth dipping.

In conclusion we very much regret that, at this distance, we cannot offer any categorical explanation of this regrettable accident.

Yours sincerely,

(copy)

206.
Palace Chambers,
Bridge Street,
Westminster, S.W.

3rd. May 1944.

Agric. 54.

Dear Gibbs,

I have received your letter of the 18th of February and its enclosures concerning the loss of sheep through dipping.

I have referred your letter to Mr. J. Smith, our Veterinary Adviser here, who, in a minute, writes as follows:-

"The symptoms are typical of arsenical poisoning. I feel that the sheep drank the dip - the ram which died early having taken more than the others. Were the sheep watered before immersion? The antidote to arsenical poisoning is Ferrous Hydrate and is really good. Made up in doses, it should be available at all tanks. I do not understand why various "dips" are used or why the tanks are cleaned out after each dipping".

In view of the fact that the incidents reported were connected with Cooper's dip, I took the matter up with Dr. Cahn of the Cooper Technical Bureau, who is a recognised authority on all these questions, and enclose a copy of his reply. You will note that he attributes the death to absorption of arsenic through the skin. He seems to think that the series of dippings was rather drastic and advises the use of/
of/

of arsenical dips first in the series.

I agree with Dr. Cahn that the small amount of sea-salt in the water could not have had any deleterious effect.

I hope that the modifications in dipping practice suggested by Dr. Cahn will prevent any recurrence of losses.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) H. Tempany.

H.C.S. Copy for your information.

20a

17th July, 4.

Dr. Tennany,
The Colonial Office,
Palace Chambers,
Westminster, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter, Agric 54. of 3rd. May concerning our loss of sheep while in quarantine.

We are very pleased with the information which you have secured for us concerning this accident. I am personally inclined to agree with Dr. Cahn's comments especially as we are reasonably certain that no sheep swallowed any dip. Our regulations specify 4 dips within a 3 months period and this has been practised since 1923 without recorded losses. The practice was adopted through fear of introducing scab and lice from Patagonia and Southern Chile, where both these troubles are constantly present.

The dip is cleaned out after each dip so that we can be sure of the concentration of the dip solution. In this case, Kymac was used because the sheep were infected with foot lice. An antiscab dip must be applied since even though the disease is not apparent, there is always the possibility that infection occurred in the port vehicle in which the sheep were transferred to the ship of shipment in South America. It would appear desirable to use only the so-called non poisonous dips and to rely on lime sulphur for scab control. It is because of the danger associated with repeated dipping in arsenic dips that we have used other dips for part of the treatment.

Edwards

No. _____

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



MINUTE.

17th May, _____

1944

20

From Director of Agriculture.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

Herewith are copies of correspondence received from the Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State concerning the loss or rams in Quarantine last January.

The veterinary officer does not appear to have considered all the evidence submitted or he could not have arrived at the conclusion he has recorded.


Director of Agriculture.

No. 23/44

MINUTE.

(21)

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

20th July, 19 44.

From The Colonial Secretary,

To The Director of Agriculture,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Red 20: With reference to your minute of 17th May covering correspondence regarding the loss of sheep in quarantine, His Excellency would be grateful, if in future official correspondence with the Colonial Office could be sent through this Office.

K. G. BRADLEY

Colonial Secretary.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS SHEEP OWNERS
ASSOCIATION, (24)
(Local Committee)
STANLEY, 10th August, 1944.

Sir,

We have the honour to request that we may be furnished with information on the following points -

- Red 10 in 90/43.* (a) How soon a reply may be expected to our Memorial to the Secretary of State dated 19th June, 1943, and whether such reply could be expedited? We understand that the Memorial was posted by you in August last.
- Red 16.* (b) Whether any information can be given regarding His Excellency's reply to the Secretary of State on the subject of the treatment of animals in quarantine. Our letter to you on the subject dated 1st April, 1944, covers similar ground to the letter addressed to the Secretary of State by the London Committee of the Association dated 16th February, 1944.
- Reds 8 & 12.* (c) Representation on Councils - We should be glad of any information regarding progress in this matter.
- 98/41.*

An early reply will be much appreciated so that the Local Committee may proceed with it's deliberations during the short period at it's disposal.

We are,
Sir,
Your obedient servants

(Sgd) D. W. Roberts
J. F. Bonner,
Joint Chairmen.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

25
117

90/43; 23/44; 98/41.

12th August, 44.

Gentlemen,

Red 24
416

With reference to your letter of the 10th August and to your interview with His Excellency in connection therewith, I am directed to reply as follows to the various points raised :

90/43.

2. It is not possible to say when a reply may be expected to the Memorial which was forwarded to the Secretary of State by His Excellency on the 6th August, 1943. The situation in regard to the transaction of business in the Colonial Office was explained to you by His Excellency. Not very long ago he was advised by the Secretary of State that delay in answering correspondence would be inevitable prior to and during the invasion period. This, therefore, does not seem a good moment to take any further action.

3. His Excellency wrote to the Secretary of State regarding the treatment of animals in quarantine on the 29th May. His despatch was a reply to one from the Secretary of State and cannot therefore be published without the latter's consent. His Excellency regrets he overlooked this fact in the above-mentioned interview, but he would point out that he was without papers. Actually the situation is that the whole matter lies at present before the Secretary of State.

98/41.

4. As regards representation on Councils, proposals for Constitutional Reform are now before the Secretary of State. The draft Bill submitted by His Excellency was received in the Colonial Office on the 29th October, 1943, and is now under consideration. This Bill will, as explained to you, be the basis of public discussion on the whole question of constitutional reform, before any final action is taken. It is regarded both by the Secretary of State and His Excellency as a matter of extreme urgency and importance but one in which much care and thought must be taken.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.

Joint Chairmen,
The Falkland Islands
Sheepowners Association (Local Committee)
STANLEY.

COPY.

26b

THE COOPER TECHNICAL BUREAU,
(Affiliated with Cooper, McDougall & Robertson Ltd),
BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

Your ref: Agric.54.

20th June, 1944.

Dr. H.A.C. Tempany, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.Sc.,
Colonial Office,
Palace Chambers,
Bridge Street, S.W.1.

Dear Dr. Tempany,

I can now reply in more detail
to your letter of the 12th June.

Analyses of the sample of dip sent
to us shows it to be completely normal, so that no
explanation of the accident lies in this direction.

The samples of wool are typical of
arsenical "scalding" due to absorption of arsenic
through the skin. Our chief biologist adds that
from our general experience death would be expected
to result if one sixth of the body surface were
affected in this way. The break reported in the
wool is similarly evidence of absorption. The
history of the accident shows also that the absorption
occurred at the final dipping.

We are very glad to have had the
opportunity of examining the dip and wool samples and
thank you for sending them.

Unfortunately, we cannot add anything
further as to the cause of this absorption; but it
would at least appear preferable to revert to the
practice of dipping in the arsenical dip first and
the coal tar dip last.

Yours sincerely,

R. S. CAHN.

COPY.

26a

Palace Chambers,
Bridge Street,
S.W. 1.

Agric. 54.

27th June, 1944.

Dear Gibbs,

Further to my letter (Agric. 54) of the 3rd of May, 1944, concerning your sheep dipping mishap the specimens you sent off duly arrived and I have had them examined.

I enclose a copy of a report by Dr. Cahn on these specimens and I am sure that what he has to say helps to clear up the mystery and will be useful to you as guidance.

Yours sincerely,

H.A.C. Tempany

J. G. GIBBS, ESQ.

No.

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



MINUTE.

26

6th September, 1944.

To The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

From Director of
Agriculture.
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Herewith I enclose copies of further correspondence from Dr. Tempany concerning the sheep accident in Quarantine Station in January.

2. I am not fully satisfied with the report because the injury occurred during the second dipping in Coopers Arsenic dip. Had the carbolic dip injured the skin one would have expected to experience some similar trouble during the first arsenic dip.

3. Secondly the specimen of dip was perforce taken from another packet than that used. Finally the sheep were infected with Foot lice and the carbolic dip used is much better suited to control this disease than is Coopers Powder dip. For this reason it was applied first and the Coopers later to prevent possible introduction of scab, which is not controlled by the carbolic dip.

Director of Agriculture.

29

FALKLAND ISLANDS.
No. 61.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,
12th September, 1944.

Sir,

Red 16

I have the honour to refer to my despatch, No. 30 of the 29th May, regarding complaints by the Falkland Islands Company and the Sheepowners Association and in particular to paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Memorandum by the Director of Agriculture which formed the second enclosure to that despatch.

2. You have no doubt seen the opinions expressed by Dr. Tompany in correspondence with Dr. Gibbs regarding the loss after dipping of the five rams imported by the Falkland Islands Company in 1943.

3. In the circumstances it seems that any claim for compensation submitted by the Falkland Islands Company in this case should be favourably considered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Sgd.) A. W. CARDINAL

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
O. F. G. STANLEY, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

30

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 11.

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 17th April, 19 45. Time: 1710.

Received: 18th April, 19 45. Time: 1030.

No. 104. Your despatches No. 30 and No. 61 of 19th May and 12th September Delay regretted. I have reached the conclusion that responsibility for loss of 5 rams must be accepted by the Falkland Islands Government and subject to your observations I propose Falkland Islands Company should be informed that their claim for £86 - 18s - 11d will be paid.

2. I agree with view expressed in paragraph 5 of your despatch No. 30 that there does not appear to be a case for an investigation into to Administration of Livestock Ordinance and Regulations and I propose to inform Sheepowners Assocoation accordingly. I should however mention that the Director of Agriculture appears to be misinformed with regard to Cooper's Technical Bureau (see paragraph 4 of memorandum enclosure 2 to your despatch No. 30). This Bureau is, on the contrary, of highest scientific standing.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Recd 16 829.

Recd 16.16.

Recd 16^b

DECODE.

34

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

M.P. Nos. 23/44.
S/4/43.

Despatched: 21st April, 19 45. Time:

Received: 19 ... Time:

Red 30.

No. 113. Your telegram No. 104 of the 17th April.

2. No (R) no claim has yet been made by the Falkland Islands Company in respect of the five rams referred to in paragraph 10 of the memorandum enclosure No. 2 to my despatch No. 30. If a reasonable claim is submitted I agree that it should be paid.

3. The £86 - 18 - 11d was not claimed by the Falkland Islands Company but by Messrs Holmstead Blake and Company in respect of one ram imported in May 1941 which died in quarantine. This case is referred to in paragraphs 2 - 9 of the memorandum enclosure No. 1 to my despatch No. 30. We have refused to entertain this claim as the Agricultural Department holds specimens as definite (R) definite evidence that it died of Mycotic Dermatitis and not of dip poisoning.

Red 16 b.

Red 16 a.

GOVERNOR.

G.T.C.

DECODE.

No. 75.

TELEGRAM.

35

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 11th May, 19 45. *Time:* 1415.

Received: 12th May, 19 45. *Time:* 1030.

Red 34

No. 140. Your telegram No. 113. I agree that a reasonable claim by the Falkland Islands Company in respect of 5 rams should be paid. They have been so informed.

from

2. I am advised that evidence of mycotic dermatitis would not be acceptable to a court in the case of 1 ram imported by Messrs. Holmstead Blake & Company and that severity of infection would be in question in death of this disease. In these circumstances I consider it unwise to risk being unable to substantiate a diagnosis and that the sum of £86. 18. 11. should be paid to the Company.

SECRETARY OF STATE.