

C.S.

INDUSTRIES.

(Misc.)

CUL/GEN/1#13

193 2.

No. 169/32.

Manager, F. Is. Co. Ltd.

SUBJECT.

193 2.

30th May.

Possibility of market for Falkland Islands garden produce in Montevideo.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1. Letter from Manager, F. Is. Co., Ltd., of 30/5/32.

y.p. Schmal for information.

Jud

1. 6. 32.

Hon. C. S.

Noted with interest

*J.S.
1-6-32*

b.f. 10. 12. 32.

b.f. 2. 10. 32

Jud 4. 10. 32

Jud 2. 6. 32

Subsequent Paper.

Spoke to the L. G. H. Jony.

No prospects at present.

MCH

20.12.32

Minute from H. E. the Governor of 22.7.39. (2)

Telegram to H.B.M. Minister, Montevideo of 22.7.39. (3)

MCH

S.A.
25/7/39.

Telegram from H.B.M. Minister, Montevideo, 28.7.39. H.

B. A. 10.8.39.

MCH. 31.7.39

Yh.

Submitted.

MCH

C.S.
10.8.39.

Correspondence for Legation put

5-8

up with draft acknowledgment to

typing to my signature please

Yh. 10/8/39

1/0 Letter to Br. Minister, Montevideo
11/8/39.

9-10.

①

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

Stanley

AGENT FOR LLOYDS.

AGENTS FOR
THE PACIFIC STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

TELEGRAMS FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY VIA RADIO.

30th May 1932

Sir,

SWEDES.

I regret that the Uruguyan duties (5cents per Kilo) preclude the development of this business.

I am, however approaching the Uruguyan Government *as to* whether there is any possibility of their being reduced.

POTATOES.

There is a demand for these at Montevideo at certain seasons, the duties being reduced at times when local supplies are finished.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

W. J. ...
Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

STANLEY.

or about
£6 a ton

1/2
or say
 $\frac{2}{3}$ a lb.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.....

To H. B. M. Minister, Montevideo.....

Despatched: 22nd July, 1939. *Time:*...

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

I am very anxious to promote the export trade to Uruguay of turnips and swedes. These and other vegetables of the finest disease free quality can be raised here but I understand that the customs tariff in Uruguay is prohibitive. I will be grateful if you will inform me by telegram of the amount of any duty and whether there is any prospect of getting it modified for the Falkland Island small farmer.

GOVERNOR.

(4)

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H. M. Minister, Montevideo.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 28th July, 1939. *Time:* 1907.

Received: 29th July, 1939. *Time:* 1230.

Red 3.

Your telegram 24th July have made full enquiries but regret prospect hopeless details by mail.

PRODROME.



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With the Compliments
of
His Majesty's Consul.

BRITISH CONSULATE,
MONTEVIDEO.

28/7 193 9

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E. Millington-Drake Esq., C.M.G.,
H. M. Minister to Uruguay.

Minute of the Possibility of Importing Turnips
and Swedes from the Falkland Islands

1.- The Memorandum from H.M. Legation was delivered at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs yesterday afternoon.

2.- The Commercial Secretary, Señor Grucci, had to refer the question to the Ministry of Agriculture, and he now informs me as follows:- That the present duties on turnips and swedes work out at \$3.87 per 100 kilos at the Controlled exchange and at \$4.32 per 100 kilos at the free rate, and that these duties are of themselves prohibitive.

3.- Further, there would seem to be no point in securing a reduction of these duties, since turnips are grown locally and are cheap, not being highly prized as a vegetable.

4.- The importation of swedes seemed to offer more prospects as it was thought that the larger varieties might, with advantage, be fed to cattle and hogs. However, the Ministry of Agriculture advised that cattle are purely grass fed and that the raising of hogs is not an organised industry, and this being so, hogs are raised only where the food is produced naturally.

5.- Señor Grucci was apologetic at not being able to help and he reiterated his goodwill towards us, saying that if there was any other product of the Islands that offered more possibilities he would be only too willing to do anything in his power to be helpful.

Exchange Secretary.

Copy to H.E. Sir Herbert Henniker Heaton K.C.M.G.

Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Falkland Islands,
Port Stanley.

(8)

BRITISH LEGATION,

MONTEVIDEO,

28th July, 1939.

Dear Henniker-Heaton,

On the receipt of your telegram of the 24th July, about the export of turnips and swedes to Uruguay, I asked Vice-Consul Leslie to make enquiries.

Leslie first interviewed Bottrill, of Messrs. Maclean & Stapledon (the agents of the Falkland Islands Company in Montevideo), who told him that he remembered that his firm made an experiment, some years ago, in importing turnips and swedes, but it was discovered that Uruguayan customs duties were quite prohibitive and, together with port charges and other expenses, amounted to about 8 centésimos.

Leslie next called on the Customs clearing agent who works for us and learnt from him that turnips are assessed at 5 centésimos per kilogramme with nominally 52 per cent. duty; with the gold surcharge and other extras, however, the total cost would be about 5 centésimos per kilogramme.

The question of an exchange quota would also have to be arranged. The shipment would have to be accompanied by a certificate legalised by the Uruguayan Consul to the effect that no plant diseases existed in the Colony -- though evidently no difficulty would be experienced in this connexion.

As far as the quality of the proposed export is concerned, Bottrill told Leslie that it was first-class and met with acceptance from the people of Central European countries who are accustomed to this class of vegetable, but, as already stated, the duty here is prohibitive and the price at which it could be sold could not stand it.

Further /

Sir Herbert Henniker-Heaton, K.C.M.G.

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2.

Further, Leslie tells me that the owner of two of the principal vegetable stalls in the Central Market here has been interviewed, but his views do not coincide with those of Bottrill, as he says the public are not accustomed to consume turnips to any great extent and that what is necessary can be grown in the country. A bunch of six or seven fresh turnips, weighing about half a kilogramme, is sold retail at 5 centésimos, so that the wholesale price would be about half that amount.

The success, or otherwise, of the project depends on the good will of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and I regret to say, after speaking to Dr. Guani on this subject, that his attitude gives one little or nothing to hope for. Consequently I am to-day despatching a telegram to you to this effect.

Nevertheless, I have instructed the Exchange Secretary to see the Head of the Commercial Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon, in a further effort to gain approval of the project. If, as seems probable, Walsh will be unable to report in time to enable me to tell you in this letter of the result of his visit, he will make a minute for me and send a copy direct to the "Lafonia".

I wish I could have sent a more cheerful report.

Best remembrances
Yours sincerely, *Yrs ever*
J. M. D. H. K. e

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

11th August, 1939.

Dear Millington-Drake,

Many thanks for your letter of the 28th of July. This Government is very greatly obliged for the trouble taken by the Legation to ascertain the possibilities of producing turnips and swedes in the Falkland Islands for export to Uruguay. I would like particularly to thank the Vice Consul Leslie.

Although there appears to be no possibility of developing a trade in these products, I am hopeful of room being found for other vegetables. I believe that considerable quantities of potatoes are imported annually in Uruguay and we could certainly grow them in large quantities of the best quality. I have been informed that other garden produce such as rhubarb cannot be raised in Uruguay. If there is any hope

of/

HIS EXCELLENCY
E. MILLINGTON-DRAKE, ESQ., C.M.G.

of find a market for this or other vegetables I would be grateful to learn of it.

As you are I think aware we share the unemployed problems with other countries and it would be a great boon to the Colony if work could be found for the surplus on the land.