

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Governor's Office.

DEP/WHA/1 # 27

No.

L 25/16

Date of Receipt.



From		SUBJECT.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.		WHALING-LICENCE to British Antarctic Whaling Company.
No.	Date.	
50	26th April, 1916.	Licence for 1 floating factory } for South Shetland and 3 whalers ^{and} } and Graham Land.

Colonial Secretary's Record No.

625/16.

Registered Number of last Despatch

MINUTES.

Hon Col Sec

For your information and to note in Whaling licence Register.

21. 6. 16

[Signature]
for

Registered
23.6.16 *[Signature]*

H. E. / noted in Whaling licence Register. Precise of correspondence noted on C.S. 625/16.

[Signature]
11.7.16

[Signature]
C.S.
23.6.16.

No. next Despatch

Reference to previous correspondence:—

Falkland Islands.

Secretary of State's
Despatch

} Despatch No. 37, of 21st of April 1916.

No 50.

Downing Street,

26th April 1916.

Sir,



I have the honour to transmit to you

the papers noted below on the subject of the proposed grant to the British Antarctic Whaling Company of a whaling licence for the South Shetlands and Graham's Land.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. BONAR LAW.

The Officer Administering

the Government of

the Falkland Islands.

Date.	Description.
1916.	
7 th February	From Messrs. C. Humphries and Co
11 th "	" " " "
15 "	To " " "
12 th April	From " " "

CRW

ENCLOSURE TO DESPATCH

No. 50. OF 26/4/16

Charles Humphries & Co.,

36, Basinghall Street,
London, E.C.

7th February 1916.



The Secretary of State
for the Colonies,
Whitehall.
S.W.

COPY.

Sir,

We have the honour to submit to your favourable consideration the accompanying Memorandum embodying proposals for conducting Whaling operations in the South Shetlands and South Georgia, and to make formal application for the necessary Licenses in connection therewith.

It will be observed that the Promoters of the enterprise have arranged to take over the organisation and equipment of the Antarctic Whaling Co. This will place at their immediate disposal the Factory Ship "Polynesia" of 7000 tons, and 4 Whalers, and the services of Captain J. Magnus Larsen of Larvik, Norway, who was the pioneer of Whaling in the South Seas.

The practical working of the enterprise will be under the management of Captain Larsen and his staff, who are Norwegians with an extensive experience in the trade.

The operations of the Company will be under the control and direction of an English Board of Directors in London. Of these Mr. Horace Mann (late of the firm of Mann Verner & Co.) has for many years been engaged in handling Colonial produce, and Mr. Matthews G. Hale is a Partner in the well-known firm of Hale & Son of Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.

Ample Capital will be available, not only to carry out the present proposals, but also to provide for future requirements and developments and business proceeds.

We trust our Client's application will receive your favourable consideration.

We are, (Sgd) CHAS. HUMPHRIES & CO.

COPY.

THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC WHALING COMPANY.

Capital £50,000 in £1 Shares.

DIRECTORS

HORACE MANN ESQ of Great Missenden Bucks
(Director of Indian Tea Company of Cachar &c)
MATTHEW G. HALE of Hale & Son Colonial Broker,
10, Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.
CAPTAIN MAGNUS LARSEN of Christiania.

SOLICITORS

CHARLES HUMPHRIES & CO.
36, Basinghall Street, E.C.

BANKERS

THE NORTHERN BANK OF COMMERCE
REGISTERED OFFICE AND SECRETARY.

The objects of the Company are to carry on the capture of Whales in the South Seas and the treatment and sale of the resulting products and byproducts.

The Company has made arrangements with the Antarctic Whaling Co. of Norway (a Company which has for many years carried on successful Whaling enterprises in the South Seas) by which that Company's Factory Ship and 4 Whaling Boats with all necessary apparatus and full equipment will be acquired for the purpose of carrying on the Company's operations in South Georgia and South Shetlands.

The Company's local management will be under the direction of Captain Magnes Larsen who was the pioneer of Whaling in the South Seas, and has the Norwegian practical knowledge and experience essential to
the

COPY.

the successful conduct of the business.

A Factory will be established in the South Shetlands as soon as the necessary Licenses from the Colonial Office have been obtained.

How far the necessary processes for preparing the oil for manufacturing purposes, can be carried out in the Islands depends on the supply of white labour available or capable of being imported. The establishment of this Industry in the South Shetlands should be a great Commercial advantage to those Islands.

The principal product is whale oil, which will be shipped to England and sold here. Steps will be taken to secure that none of the products will find their way through neutral Countries to Germany, Austria Hungary, Turkey or Bulgaria. This is made an essential condition by those connected with the Company, and will probably form a condition of the Colonial Office's grant of the Licenses. In view of the above mentioned arrangements by which the Company will have at its immediate disposal all the shipping and plant necessary for the conduct of its operations, the capital now provided is ample.

Arrangements have already been for the provision of a further £50,000 if necessary for the acquisition of the additional shipping and plant as and when required, and the further development of the Company's operation.

Application is now being made at the Colonial Office for the necessary Licenses to operate in South Georgia and South Shetlands and the establishment of the necessary Shore stations etc. in conjunction with the floating

floating facilities possessed.

Mr. Mann has been associated with Shipping and Colonial produce for upwards of 25 years and has an intimate knowledge of all its details. And he will be in charge of the London Office.

The Secretary of State
The Admiralty
The Colonial Office

COPY.

CHARLES HUMPHRIES & CO.

36, Basinghall Street,
London, E.C.

11th February, 1916.

Sir,

Whale Fisheries, South Shetlands.

Referring to Mr. Horace Mann's interview with Mr. Darnley yesterday, and the two points upon which Mr. Darnley desired further information, we beg to say :

(a) The British control of the Company can be secured by a provision in the Memorandum and Articles of Association that the majority of the Directors shall at all times be of British Birth and Nationality and that a Quorum of the Board shall not be constituted unless the majority of the Directors present shall be of British Birth and Nationality. Counsel will be instructed to settle the Memorandum and Articles on this footing.

(b) As regards putting the ships under the British flag, this might during the War considerably handicap the Company's operations, and would increase materially the Insurance rates.

It is our Clients intention as soon as possible to have their fleet under the British flag.

We are, etc.

(Sgd) CHAS. HUMPHRIES & CO.

The Secretary of State
for the Colonies
Falkland Islands Department.

COPY.

No. 6120/16

Downing Street.

15th February 1916.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bonar Law to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 7th and 11th of February, in which you apply for Whaling licenses in the South Shetlands and South Georgia on behalf of a company to be formed under the name of the British Antarctic Whaling Company.

2. Mr. Bonar Law will be prepared to recommend the Governor of the Falkland Islands to grant to the Company a licence for the employment in the South Shetlands and Graham's Land during the season 1916-17 of a floating factory and three whaling steamers on payment of the usual fees and on the following conditions

- (1) that the approval of the Treasury can be obtained to the formation of the proposed Company
- (2) that the Company is registered in the United Kingdom
- (3) that it is shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State that the Company is in possession of the necessary vessels and has a sufficient working capital paid up in cash
- (4) that British control of the Company is secured in the manner indicated in your letter of the 11th February
- (5) that bond for £5,000 is given that the licence will be fully worked during the 1916-17 season.

3. The licence may be renewed for the 1917-18 season, but, owing to the policy of protection of whales, which is only temporarily in abeyance owing to war requirements, it is highly improbable that the licence could be further renewed:

4. Mr. Bonar Law is not at present prepared to entertain an application for whaling facilities in South Georgia or for permission to erect a land station in the South Shetlands, but he will at a later date consider further whether permission to employ a fourth whaler can be granted.

5. All whale oil obtained in the South Shetlands and Grahams Land is required by law to be brought to the United Kingdom.

6. It is understood that all or nearly all ~~of the~~ of the capital of the Company is to be found in Norway, and I am to say that it is probable that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury would be unable to approve of a proposal to raise any considerable part of it in this country.

7. A copy of this correspondence is being sent to the Treasury.

(Sgd) H.W. JUST.

Messrs. Charles Humphries & Co.

COPY.

CHARLES HUMPHRIES & CO.

36, Basinghall Street,
London . E.C.

12th April 1916.

Sir,

6120/1916

Referring to our letters to you of the 7th and 11th February last and your reply of the 15th February last, Captain Magnus Larsen has now returned to England.

We are instructed by him and the English Gentlemen acting with him to say that the conditions stated in your letter will be agreeable to them and will be carefully complied with.

Captain Larsen is proceeding to Norway to complete the arrangements, and we have received the necessary instructions to proceed with the registration of the Company.

We will report the progress of the business to you from time to time.

We are, etc.

(Sgd) Chas. Humphries & Co.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office
S.W.