1921

MIN/GUA/1#6

C.S.

Scientific
Research
(Industrial)

No. 649/21

Government Geologist

SUBJECT.

1921

25th July

Previous Paper.

Guano
Rodney Island.

G. O 422/20

MINUTES.

Minute from Dr Baker 25th July 1921 Encl (1)

H.C.S.
Will you please have telegram despatched to S of S as in draft attached.
D.R.
27 July 1921.

Telegram to Secretary of State sent 29th July 1921 . . . . . Encl (2)

Telegram from Secretary of State . . . Encl (3)

Govt: Geologist
Passed 8.4pm
W.E. Thompson
a.c.s. 22/8/21

Subsequent Paper.

H.C.S. Noted and returned herewith.
H.A. Baker.
Government Geologist
23/8/21.

~~H.E. the Governor~~
S of S. Despatch No 95 of 17th August 1921
Encl (4)

Government Geologist.
To note
Colonial Secretary
20th Sept 1921

Hon. Col. Sec.

I have carefully considered the information given in the letter of 11th August 1921, from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

I have compared the chemical analysis of Kidney Island guano with that of Peruvian guano from Lobos de Afuera Island, since the latter shows a close approach, in chemical composition, to the material from Kidney Island.

Assuming (1) that the Peruvian guano referred to is at present selling at £25 per ton, and (2) that the Kidney Island material is air-dried before shipment, I calculate that Kidney Island guano is worth at present about £16 per ton.

I have pointed out, in my report on the Kidney Island guano, that the island may be expected to yield 68000 tons of manure. Rounding this off to 70,000 tons, and making the liberal allowance that $\frac{4}{5}$ of the material is water, we are still left with 14000 tons, which, at £16 per ton, is worth £224,000. It must be left to others to decide whether the Kidney Island guano could be worked at a profit. I have included certain suggestions in my report. I am not competent to deal with the financial aspect of the question, but it seems to me that an undertaking involving a turn-over of the sum of money quoted, could surely be negotiated with profit to the Colony.

My examination of Kidney Island was conducted with the greatest care and thoroughness of which I am capable, in spite of the wretched conditions under which I carried it out, and my subsequent consideration of the evidence has been equally thorough. I now feel that, so far as the guano deposits of Kidney Island are concerned, the Government Geologist has done his part.

Herbert A. Baker, D.Sc, etc.
Government Geologist.
21st Sept. 1921.

C.S.O. No. 649/21

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2

G.B.

Submitted

2. No further action pending consideration of Dr. Bakers report by the home authorities?

23/5/4

23 SEP 1921

In value of deposit see 843/21.

26 May 1922

(1)

C.S. 6492

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

C.S. No.....

MINUTE PAPER.

Departmental Number.

Date 25/7/1921.

From Government Geologist

To Hon. Col. Sec.

SUBJECT.

Requests sending of telegram to Crown Agents or Director Imperial Institute.

Reference Numbers.

Sir,

In connection with a report on the guano deposit of Kidney Island, which I have in preparation, I am very desirous of knowing the average present values per unit per cent for the constituents nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in a guano or other manure.

If I were in possession of this information I should be in a position to calculate the present commercial value per ton c.i.f. for United Kingdom ports of Falkland Islands guano.

The latest data in my possession bearing on the point are for March 1914.

The information I seek can be obtained from the Director of the Imperial Institute or through the Crown Agents.

I have the honour to request, therefore, that His Excellency be asked to approve the sending of a telegram to either the Crown Agents or the Director of the Imperial Institute, asking for the information I require.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Herbert A. Baker,
Government Geologist

(3)

C.S. 649/21

TELEGRAM.

From : The Governor

To : The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Dispatched : 27th July..... *19* 21 *Time.* 1.55 p.m.

Received : ---------- *19* --- *Time* -------

UNDERRATED 134 REPRIRICAT TELEGRAPH AVERAGE THOUGSEAL PER UNIT PARHELION FLAXSEED CONSOLING NITROGEN PHOSPHORIC ACID POTASH IMBRIM GUANO OSMONDA MANURE.

MIDDLETON.

With reference to your despatch of 18th November, No. 134, request you will be good enough to telegraph average present value per unit per cent for the constituents, nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, in a guano or any other manure.

C.S. 649/21

TELEGRAM.

From : The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To : The Governor.

(?) *Dispatched :* 20th August.....*19* 21 *Time.* 2.20 p.m.

Received : 20th August.....*19* 21 *Time.* 11.55 a.m.

With reference to your telegram of 31st July, following unit values calculated from present market prices of nitrate lime, nitrate soda: 18/-, muriate potash, 50%: 5/4. Full particulars given in despatch sent by mail of to-day.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Copied from Original Telegram Sheet.

Please refer to Dr. Baker with previous papers for his information.

(intd) J. H.
20th August, 1921.

(4)

C.S. 649/21

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 95.

Downing Street,

17th August, 1921.

Sir,

In confirmation of my telegram of to-day's date, I have the honour to transmit to you, for your information a copy of a letter from the Ministry of Agriculture regarding the unit prices of the constituent nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in guano or other manures.

2. It was not possible to telegraph all the details given on the enclosed letter and my telegram was therefore limited to what appeared to be the more important particulars.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient

humble servant,

(sgd) WINSTON S. CHURCHILL.

GOVERNOR

J. MIDDLETON, ESQ., C.M.G.

etc. etc. etc.

COPY.

C.F.290/1921

ENCLOSURE TO DESPATCH
No. 95 OF 17 Aug

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

Whitehall Place,
London, S.W.1.
11th August, 1921.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter of the 3rd August, 1921, No.38480/21, enclosing a copy of a telegram from the Governor of the Falkland Islands regarding the unit prices of the constitutent nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in Guano, or any other manure, and I am to say that the Peruvian Guano at present being imported into this country is not being sold on a unitary basis, but at a price demanded by the Peruvian Exporters. The Ministry understands that the present price of Peruvian Guano is in the neighbourhood of £25. 0. 0. per ton.

With regard to the unit values of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in other manures, the following information may be of some assistance:-

Nitrogen.	Unit Value.
Nitrate of Lime	18/-
Nitrate of Soda	18/-
Sulphate of Ammonia	13/-
Phosphoric Aicd	
Basic Slag (30% tri-basic phosphate of lime)	9/4
" " (20% " " " " ")	8/9
Steamed Bone Flour (60% phosphate)	5/10
Raw Mineral Phosphate (African)	2/5
" " " (American)	2/9
Potash	
Sylvinite (French kainit) 14%	4/10
" " " 20%	5/6
Muriate of Potash 50%	5/4

It will be understood, of course, that the above values have been calculated from the prices ruling at present, and that the prices may fluctuate with market conditions.

The Ministry trusts that this information will be of assistance to the Governor of the Falkland Islands, but if any further particulars are required the Ministry will be happy to supply them.

I am etc.,
(Sgd) A.T.A.Dobson.

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