

C.S.

Scientific

Mass

1929.

No.

413/29

H. McConnel. Gen. Sec.

SUBJECT.

1929.

19th July

Previous Paper.

Mr. H. Roberts, Winnipeg
Request for Tussack Grass Seed.

MINUTES.

Letter from H. McConnel. General Sec. 19/7/29

lost Nationalist.

Can you assist in this matter?

S.R.H.

Ag. Sec.

16 VIII. 29

The Hon. Col. Secy.

The seeds can be obtained between Sept and October. I think seeds from Tussack Islands are preferable to those in Stanley.

In what quantity should they be sent, please?

S Georgia might be asked for a few heads.

In Mr Roberts' letter (1) it is of interest to see the statement that the grass dies down in winter under the severe temperatures of Winnipeg.

Subsequent Paper.

R. J. Bennett

19/8/29

ag. Sec.

H.C.I.

Mr. Bennett suggests that 2 to 3
lbs of mussock seed be sent to Mr.
Roberts.

C.C.C.
22/8/29.

Letter to H.B. his Consul General, 23rd Aug, 1929. 3.
Minute to Magistrate, South Georgia " " " 4.

9. Submitted with draft letter to
H.B.M. Consul General. Buenos Aires.

M.H.B.
A.C.C.S.
24. VIII. 29.

M.H.
24/29.
8

P.A.
29/8/29

Letter to Director Royal Botanic Gardens, Kent 28/8/29 5-8
Minute from H.B. the Gov. 1/7/29 9

C. Please ask Mr. Thomas to see me M.H.B.
2. IX. 29

Minute from Magistrate S.G. 7/9/29 10

C. Please attach paper in which Mr.
Hall was written to in reply to Red 3.

(Reds)

M.H.B.
A.C.C.S.
3. X. 29

B.H.
19/10/29

Bring up again when Flewus
next returns from So Geo M.H.B.

24. X. 29

Note.
1929 Nov. 6. Services of Launch
 in connection with collection
 of turrae grass seed for University
 of Manitoba £ 5. 0. 0
 10/-
 Cost of collection ~~deducting~~ £ 10. 0. 0

C.C.
 Has mention been made in
 'Penguin' as instructed by His
 Excellency - Vide Red 9.

G.H.B.
 A.G. 15
 7. XII. 29.

W.A.G. Bennett.

I am obliged for your
 trouble in this connection. I
 presume the seed is being got
 ready for shipment by the 'Laguna'

G.H.B.
 A.G. 15
 7. XII. 29.

Hon. Secy.

Seed can be sent at any time now.

Send to Kew? or to Winnipeg direct please?

agrs
as Nat
9/12/29

(14. Naturalist,

Will you please arrange to have
seed packed and despatched to
Prof. H. E. Roberts, University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Canada, by Laguna next week.

S.H. 18
An C.S.
12. x 11. 24.

Letter from H. H. Hill, Esq. 8/10/29 10
Letter to Director, Royal Bot. Gardens. 3/1/30. 12.

Letter to Professor H. E. Roberts. 8/1/30 13-14.
Letter to the Crown Agents, 8/1/30 15.

Letter from H. Hill, Esq. 28/4/30

(16)

PA
28/4/30

V.B. Submitted.

S.H. 18
An C.S.
23. IV. 30

M
22/4/30

PA
24/4/30

PA
24/4/30

C.S.O. No. 412/29

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 3

1719 letter from Professor Roberts 19/3/30.

98.

Subitted to no outside

expenditure was incurred in this

connection in view of "A"

on this I fear there is

an alternative but to do so

Change ?

W.S.

2. 5. 30.

H.W.S.

The usual thing get everything
you can for nothing! yes, we
shall have to sup this

change.

MA

2-5-30

PM

2-6-30.

C/AA letter 8/6/30

20/16.

P. A. J. m. 2

19.6.30

Minute from Magistrate 14/6/30 (27)

G. E.

S. Chittell. Re view of

Re correspondence which has now
been exchanged with W. Roberts

I do not think that G. E.
will visit this parcel of seed
forwarded on to him?

2. Vet Off. might be

consulted as to what use can
best be made of it?

①

→

3. I will thank Nagibnitz

C.S.O. No. 413/29

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No 4

for the trouble to check the

has been in the matter.

1/28

27.6.30.

Hon C.S.

Dear Sir,

27/30. AM
6

28. Minute to Magistrate, South Georgia. 2nd July, 1930.

Vet. Off.

Referred to you

ccord. please

1/28

2.7.30.

Hon. Col. Secy.

Major H. H. Toomey has a sample
package of Tuzsac seed
to be sent for experimental sowing,
and package was sent to The
Russett Research Institute.

If Tuzsac is successfully
cultivated from these seeds it is
not improbable that requests from
other Research workers in the W. H.,
will be received, for similar packages.

I would suggest that the lot of
seed dispatched from S. Zengier
be retained as stock, - the
germination power should be good for
several years.

J. Horton

V.O. 3. 7. 30.

J. E.

Submitted.

I will ^{hand} ~~send~~ be

send over to Vet. Off. who should
retain it, as he suggests, at the
same time keeping an eye on it
to ensure that it is not left
to lose its germinating power or
become useless.

J. H.

3. 7. 30.

C.S.O. No. 413/29

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 5

1/4m C.S.

Please.

ADH.

$\frac{3.30}{7}$

Vet. Off.

Accordingly, please

judging

A.W.

1.0.
5.7.30

4.7.30.

~~8/7/30~~

(19) Letter from Australia. Esq 9/7/30.

Stock Inspector

Could you arrange to
obtain a small quantity
of tussock seed?

WCH
CS.

30.9.35

Hon. Col. Sec.

I will arrange to collect
a supply of tussac seed during next week if it
is urgently required, but would suggest that
better seed could be collected during November
when it is ripe.

A. M. Bonner

Stock Inspector.

31/8/35.

B. f. after
arrival of flask
mail. referred to in 29 to
may then come to
hand. MCH
2.9.35

15/9/35
O/Sui

Has the flask
arrived?

MCH
CS
16 9 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

The flask does not appear to
have arrived by this mail please.

16/9/35.

Letter to A. W. Hill, Esq., of 18/9/35.

(30)

31/10/35
18.19/9/35
C.

Hes

Thermos flask was received
by this mail
28/10/35

Stock Inspector

When will the seed be
ready.

mcH
cl.
29. 8. 35

Hon. M. Sec.

I have filled the flask with seed
& packed it ready for despatch by the next
mail.

A. M. Bonner
Stock Inspector
30/10/35.

(21)

Letter to H. J. Roberts Esq, 1/11/35

(32)

— A. W. Hill, Esq, 1/11/35

Yh

With reference to re

(2) I have to record the
great deal of trouble and
ready assistance given by
Mr. A. M. Bonner, Stock Inspector,
in getting the seed required.

2. The Stock Inspector has
taken particular care to get
the seed at its best and has
had it under his personal supervision.
I feel sure that the seed will
give the best results due to

the care the S.I. has taken in
in its collection and preparation.

McH
C.I.
J.I. X. 35-

See with pleasure

11/11 1/4
Post Inspector.

To note:

McH
C.I.
J.I. XI. 35-

Letter from H.S. Roberts Esq 19/8/35

(33)

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted, thank you.

WMB
S.D.
7/11/35.

Letter to H.F. Roberts, Esq, of 9/11/35.

(34)

11
Letter from A.W. Hill of 5/11/35.

(35)

Letter to A.W. Hill of 28/12/35.

(36)

PK

(37)

38-39

Letter from Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 4/12/35.

Letter from H.F. Roberts of 18/12/35.

Stock Inspector

To see. The seed does not appear to have been properly ripe when seen.
In your recommendations, please.

MCH
C/

27.1.36

Hon. Col. Sec.

The seed was not properly ripe when collected (as stated in my Minute of the 31st Dec. 1935) the seed is not ripe until November & I recommend that a new supply is collected in November of this year.

WMB
J.D.

3/2/36.

Stock Inspector.

Do you know please what part of the plant is, referred to as "A" of letter?

MCH
C/

5.2.36

Hon. Col. Sec.

"A" refers to young tussock plants, which could be collected & ready for transmission within three days of receipt of your instruction.

WMB
J.D.

4/1/36

On reverse of sheet 5.

B.f. when the
mass re. arrived.
MCH
4. 2. 36

~~PAID 10/1/36~~

~~cf 26/3/36~~
~~cf 26/3/36~~

cf 29/3/36.
cf 26/3/36.
G.C.

Letter from A.W. Hill of 21/1/36.

(40)

Has the mass been
received?

H.C.S.

The mass has not yet been
received.

G.C.
28/3/36.

J.A.

With reference to red 39 it would
appear that the lowest seed sent to
Professor Roberts was gathered too soon.
November is the time and a further
quantity of seed will be obtained then.

2. The mass referred to has not
yet come to hand. Young plants
could be sent. Professor Roberts
should pay the cost?

MCH
50. 5. 36.

H.C.S.

This is unfortunate to say the least. We should do our best to repair the failure and make quite sure that we actually are sending ripe seeds. We should send some both to Kew and to Mon. Sta. and without making any charge. The same in respect of the young plants.

2. We are incidentally hoping to persuade Sir Arthur Hill to take Mr. Evans for two years at Kew and this would all help. Will you please write to him and to ~~Prof.~~ Robert saying what we are doing and expressing regret to the latter.

W.H.H. 24/3/36

Stock Inspector,

The previous lettuce seed obtained by you was unfortunately not properly ripe and proved useless.

2. Will you please arrange to obtain two packages of seed when it is thoroughly ripe in Nov^r, one package for Professor Roberts and one for Sir Arthur Hill.

3. As soon as the necessary packing moss has been received from Professor Roberts please obtain under-ground rhizomes (growing shoots). Probably two or three dozen would do for Professor Roberts and the same for Sir Arthur Hill. As these rhizomes will be delicate they should be obtained a day or so before the mail leaves. They should be packed in the damp moss in small boxes. They will be addressed and forwarded by this office.

MCH-1
51. 5. 56.

Office When these young plants have been obtained the H.S. Coy should be asked to forward the packages by refrigerator MCH

- (41) Letter to Prof. H. F. Roberts of 31/3/36.
 (42) ——— Sir Arthur W. Hill, ———
mch

Stock Inspector.

Please see Hon. Col. Sec's
 minute of 31/3/36 on opposite sheet.

C.D. for 1/4/36

Hon. Col. Secretary,

As stated previously the tussac seed was
 not ripe when despatched to Mr. H. F. Roberts in
 October of last year.

Arrangements will be made to collect a
 quantity of the seed when it is ripe and for packages
 to be despatched to Professor Roberts & Sir Arthur
 Hill.

Upon receipt of the packing moss and just
 prior to despatch a quantity of under-ground rhizomes
 will be collected, packed and handed to your Office
 for despatch in accordance with the instructions
 contained in your Minute of 31/3/36.

A.M.B.

S. I.
 28/4/36.

*B. I. when the
 packing moss is
 received.
 28/4/36*

*lf. 31/7/36.
 29/4/36
 C.D.*

Letter from Prof. H. F. Roberts of 17/2/36. 43-45.

~~bf. 8/6/36.~~
~~Ed. 16/5/36~~

Letter from Sir Arthur W. Hill of 20/5/36. (46).

Stock Inspector.

With reference to your minute of 28 April, 1936, the mass has now arrived.

Will you please arrange to have the under-frames rhizomes collected and packed at a suitable date for transmission by this office.

~~bf. 15/8/36.~~
~~Ed. 22/6/36.~~

~~bf. 20/8/36~~
~~Ed. 11/4/36.~~

~~C. D. J.~~
~~Ed. 20/8/36.~~

Hon. Col. Sec.

I am instructing the Common Ranger to attend to this matter, next trip of Fitzroy to Montevideo or other vessel if prior to Fitzroy.

~~Ed. 8/10/36.~~

Y.E.

— Res (46) and the minutes herein are submitted for the information of Y.E.

In view of the many kind considerations received from Sir Arthur Hill I will endeavour to arrange a very special despatch to Professor Roberts & to Kew.

W. D. J.

~~Ed. 9/7/36~~

Yes. ~~Ed. 2/12/36~~

C.S.O. No.....

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No.....

Stock advise.

To see the previous minutes dated 9/1/36.

A very special effort should be made to ensure as far as possible that the seed and plants received will be (46) & arrives in New & in Canada in good condition.

Jes.
2/12/36

- (47) Letter to Manager, H.S. Co. 16/11/36
- (48) " to Professor Roberts 16/11/36
- (49) " to Sir. Austine 16/11/36

Y.E.

Reqs 47-49 are submitted for the information of Y.E. before dispatch.

In the absence of the stock advise the consignments have been prepared by the Common Range.

Jes.
17/11/36

Good

T.H.H. 17/11/36

P.H.
18/11/36

Letter from Professor
H. J. Roberts 13/5/36

(50)

Letter from Sir Arthur Hill of 6.2.37.
----- 9.2.37.

P.A.
11/12/36
51.
52.

Agricultural adviser.

No note.

C. S. L.
J. L. S.
12/3/37

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted

D. A. M.
12/4/37

P.A.
B/4/37

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL,
BUENOS AIRES.

19th. July 1929.



Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. H.F.Roberts, Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Manitoba, in which he states his desire to obtain a quantity of tussock grass seed which is a native of the Magellan region, the Falkland Islands and South Georgia Island.

I have requested H. M. Consul at Magallanes and my Vice-Consul at San Julian to endeavour to obtain a quantity of the seed and forward it direct to Mr. Roberts.

As Mr. Roberts, however, desires to obtain seed from the Colonies under Your Excellency's governorship I venture to forward a copy of Mr. Roberts' letter for any action Your Excellency may wish to take.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient,
humble Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. M.'s Consul General".
H. M.'s Consul General.

His Excellency,

The Governor of the Falkland Islands,

Port Stanley,

Falkland Islands.

COPY

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA,
Winnipeg, Canada.

Department of Botany.

June 12th. 1929.

British Consul General,
Buenos Aires.
Argentine.

Dear Sir,

The writer would beg to ask if it would be possible for your office to kindly put the following request in the hands of some proper department of the government of Argentina, presumably the Department of Agriculture. I desire to obtain from Lower Patagonia, seed of the grass known in English as "Tussock Grass" (Poa flabellata Hook.), native to the Magellan region, the Falkland Is. and South Georgia island. Some four years ago, I succeeded in obtaining seeds from the Falkland Is., and have been increasing the grass, and testing it with reference to its endurance of the climate here. I find that the species is completely winter-hardy in an exposed plot near Winnipeg, and that it is a tender and luxuriant grass, starting very early in the spring, being some 5-6 inches high before there is a sign of green on the native prairies. It appears to be some two weeks earlier than the native grasses, and it is the writer's opinion that Tussock Grass will form a valuable addition to agriculture in western Canada, especially as a pasture grass for dairy cattle. I am now, therefore, endeavouring to obtain seed of the species from as many different places as possible within its native habitat, in order to be able to get the variations within the species. I find in the plot that I have, that there are several very interesting variations. It would appear, therefore, that under cultivation, the grass is plainly susceptible to improvement by ~~xxx~~ selection of special strains. Any assistance that your office may be able and willing to render with regard to the above will be exceedingly appreciated. I should also like to request the Spanish and the native Indian names for the species, if obtainable. In the case of Indian names, kindly request the tribe using the name, and oblige.

Very truly yours,

(sgd.) H.F. Roberts.

Ass't Professor of Botany.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

23rd August, 1929.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 413/29.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 19th of July, 1929, enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. H. F. Roberts, Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Manitoba, in which he requests that a quantity of tussock grass seed should be sent to him from the Falkland Islands and South Georgia.

2. The best season for the collection of the seed in this region is at the end of September or the beginning of October and I have given instructions for compliance with Mr. Roberts' request at that time.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

ITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSUL GENERAL,
BUENOS AIRES.

No. 413/29.

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

MINUTE.

23rd August, 1929.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

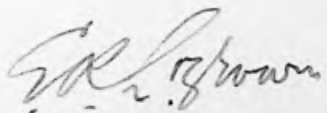
To The Magistrate,

SOUTH GEORGIA.

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that a request has been received from Mr. H. F. Roberts, Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Manitoba, for a quantity of tussock grass seed from South Georgia.

2. His Excellency will be glad if you will comply with Mr. Roberts' wish, sending him direct a small package of the seed of about 2 or 3 lb. Please inform me when this has been done.

3. It is understood that the best season for the collection of this seed is about the end of September and the beginning of October.


Acting Colonial Secretary.

413/29.

28th August, 29.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st of July, 1929, enclosing a report by Professor H. F. Roberts of the University of Manitoba on the result of the tussock grass seed from the Falkland Islands sent to Canada some years ago.

2. His Excellency is very glad the seed is doing so well in Canada and will be interested to learn from time to time the outcome of the experiments being made in growing the plant in its new surroundings.

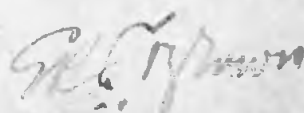
3. With regard to the request for a further supply of the seed, I am to say that Professor Roberts has already approached the British Consul General at Buenos Aires in the same connection and that steps are being taken to meet his wishes. I am to enclose for your information copies of the correspondence that has passed on the subject.

4. The seeds of *Carragana* and *Cupressus macrocarpa* which you have been so good as to send were received safely. His Excellency has asked me to thank you for your kindness in sending these seeds.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Director,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
KEW, SURREY.

8 (3)

All communications should be
addressed to

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

THE DIRECTOR

1st July, 1922.

Sir,

You may be interested to see the enclosed letter that I have received from the Assistant Professor of Botany, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada with relation to the consignment of Tussock grass seed, which was very kindly sent by you to Kew some few years ago for transmission to Canada.

It is very interesting to learn that the seeds germinated and that the plants have grown so well. Should you be able to send a further consignment of seed, as Professor Roberts requests, I shall be very glad to forward it to him on receiving the seed from the Falkland Islands. You will see that in my reply, a copy of which I enclose, I have suggested that they should attempt to raise seeds from their Canadian plants.

received { With reference to your letter which I received a few days ago asking for seeds of *Carragana* and *Cucurbitus macrocarpa*, I hope to be able to send you these in the course of a few days.

Filed in 45/26

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Hill
Director

His Excellency
The Governor,
Falkland Islands.

C O P Y.

7 (2)

University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Canada.

June 11th, 1929.

Dr. Arthur W. Hill, Director,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew, Surrey,
England.

Dear Sir,

A

You were kind enough a few years ago to obtain for the undersigned, seed of Poa flabellata Hook - Tussock Grass - from the Falkland Islands, through the kind instrumentality of the Governor of the Islands. Plants were grown from the seed thus sent, and we now have a flourishing plot of considerable size, which has proved entirely winter-hardy for the past three winters, growing in an exposed and entirely unprotected location. The grass is exceedingly early, being some six inches high before there is a sign of green on the native prairies. It is a very tender grass when young, of a rich dark green colour, like Poa pratensis, and it is the writer's opinion that the species is exceedingly desirable for introduction into western Canada as a pasture grass to replace the native grasses. I am therefore writing to ask if it might be possible to obtain from the Falklands a few pounds or so of the seed, for distribution to our experimental stations, and to a few of the more enterprising seed firms who make a business of growing their own seed. We would not be able, of course, to go to any expense in the matter, but if the government of the Falklands could afford the courtesy of obtaining for us a few pounds of the seed - or any reasonably practical amount - it would probably be of the greatest value to Canadian agriculture. That at least, is the outlook at present. Any assistance that can be rendered would be most exceedingly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) H. F. ROBERTS.
Ass't. Professor of Botany.

(6)
1

C O P Y.

Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew, Surrey.

29th June, 1929.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your letter of June 11th and for your postcard of June 12th correcting the name of the Tussock grass.

I am very glad to hear that you have raised so good a plot from the seeds you received from the Falkland Islands, and also to learn that this grass is quite hardy with you. It seems from what you say that it has a distinct future in Western Canada.

I am writing to the Governor of the Falkland Islands asking him whether he can send you some more seed, but it may be a somewhat difficult matter to get a good supply and of course you quite realise that it will be some time before a supply can reach you.

I hope you will make an attempt to save seeds from your own plot and so propagate the species directly in Canada as I think you are likely to have more success in this way owing to the great difficulty of getting seed from the Falkland Islands.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) ARTHUR W. HILL.

Professor H.F. Roberts,
Department of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
Canada.

18. Professor Roberts has made a similar request⁽⁹⁾
through Consul General J.A.

M. P. 413/29.

JB

24. VIII. 29.

Hon C. S.

Put Encl^{re} 2 in Penguin with suitable
remarks. Very interesting. Letter to Mr. Hill
and enclose copies from M. P. 413/29. Say I
received seeds and am very glad Tursoe is
doing so well in Canada, etc. etc. JH 24/29.
8

090/8/29
10
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

C.S. No. 413/29

MEMO.

Departmental Number.

From Ag Magistrate, South Georgia.

S.G. No. 147/29.

Date 5th September, 1929.

To Hon: Colonial Secretary,
Port Stanley.

Reference
Numbers.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd August with reference to a supply of Tussock Grass Seed being forwarded to Mr H.F. Roberts of Manitoba, Canada, and to inform you that at present there is too much snow at South Georgia and the time for seeding of the abovementioned Grass at this Island is about March, I will endeavour at the seeding time to collect a quantity of the seeds and forward them, at the same time I will inform you this is done.

W.B. Stuart

Ag Magistrate.

All communications should be
addressed to

THE DIRECTOR

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

8th October, 1929.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge with best thanks the receipt of your letters No. 465/26 of 17th August and No. 413/29 of 28th August which I have read with interest.

I am very glad to have a further report on the condition of the trees and shrubs planted in Stanley and hope in due course to hear how the seeds which you received on January 16th of this year have germinated. //

With regard to the tussock grass, I am very glad to hear that steps are being taken to meet the wishes of Professor Roberts of the University of Manitoba.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Arthur Hill

The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

413/29.

3rd January,

30.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 8th of October, 1929, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the supply of tussock grass seed to Professor Roberts of the University of Manitoba, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that a quantity of tussock grass seed has now been collected on the East Falkland and is being forwarded to you for transmission to Professor Roberts by the s.s. "Bogota" leaving this port on or about the 8th of January.

2. I am to say that His Excellency will be glad to learn from time to time the outcome of the experiments being made in growing the grass.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

THE DIRECTOR,

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
STANLEY.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

8th January, 1930.

Professor H. F. Roberts.

To the Government of the Falkland Islands.

Services of Launch "Penguin"
for one day.

£5. 0. 0.

Collecting seed.

10. 0.

£5. 10. 0.

413/29.

8th January, 30.

Sir,

With reference to your letter to the British Consul General at Buenos Aires, a copy of which was sent to the Governor of this Colony, I am directed by His Excellency to inform you that in compliance with your request a package of tussac seed is being despatched to you by the mail leaving here on the 10th of January.

2. I enclose an account of the expenses incurred in this connection amounting to £5. 10/- which sum I am to request you will be so good as to pay to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4 Millbank, Westminster on behalf of this Government.

3. I am to say that the only locality from which this seed could be obtained was from an island in Port William and that the cost of its collection was on that account high.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. R. Brown
Ag. Colonial Secretary.

Professor H. F. Roberts,
Department of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
CANADA.

413/29.

8th January, 30.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that Mr. H. F. Roberts, Professor of Botany, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg has been requested to pay to you the sum of £5. 10/- in respect of a package of tussac seed supplied to him by the Naturalist Department of this Government.

2. I am to request that this sum when received may be credited to the Colony's General Account.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank, Westminster,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

All communications should be
addressed to

THE DIRECTOR

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

28th February, 1930.

Sir,

In further reply to your letter No. 413/29
dated 28th August, 1929, I have to acknowledge with
best thanks the consignment of seed of Tussock grass,
Poa flabellata which you have so kindly sent me.

I am distributing some of this to Canada
and to the West of Scotland where I hope it may prove
successful.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Hill

The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.



19

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

WINNIPEG, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

A. H. REGINALD BULLER, PROFESSOR
HERBERT F. ROBERTS, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
CHARLES W. LOWE, LECTURER

19th March, 1930.

The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands,
Via Montevideo,



Dear Sir,-

Your favour of January 8th, 1930, No. 413-29 is received. I beg to say that I am very greatly surprised. In my letter to H.B.M. Consul-General at Buenos Aires, of 12th June, 1929, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, I made no reference to any collection of Tussock grass seed being made in the Falkland Islands, in fact, I specially mentioned in my letter the fact that I already had a packet of seed from the Falklands from which a plot was now growing. What I did request was some assistance with regard to obtaining seed from the Magellan region. I did not have in mind obtaining any further seed from the Falklands, but simply desired, if possible, further seeds from other localities to which the grass was native. The fact that H.B.M. Consul at Buenos Aires voluntarily wrote to the Falklands, as per his letter, copy of which is also enclosed, was not at my request, I cannot see why the collection of seed in that locality should be at my responsibility, since I made no request with reference to seed from the Falklands. I therefore, do not see that the expense bill enclosed with your letter should be charged to my account. If the matter had been presented to me in advance I should have been obliged to negative it in view of the expense, which is quite too much for either the Department of Botany here, or myself, to have undertaken.

I trust that this will make the matter clear that at no time did the undersigned request the collection referred to. I duly enclose copies of my letter of 12th June, 1929 to the British Consul-General at Buenos Aires and of his reply thereto of the 18th July, 1929.

Regretting exceedingly the circumstances, which I trust you will not desire to make embarrassing, in view of the facts as stated, I beg to remain,

yours very truly,

HFR/MH

Assistant Professor of Botany

18

C O P Y .

June 12th, 1929.

British Consul-General,
Buenos Ayres,
Argentina.

Dear Sir:-

The writer would beg to ask if it would be possible for your office to kindly put the following request in the hands of some proper department of the government of Argentina, presumably in the Department of Agriculture. I desire to obtain from lower Patagonia seed of the grass known in English as "Tussock Grass" (Poa flabellata, Hook.), native to the Magellan region, the Falkland Is. and South Georgia Island. Some four years ago I succeeded in obtaining seeds from the Falkland Is., and have been increasing the grass, and testing it with reference to its endurance of the climate here. I find that the species is completely winter-hardy in an exposed plot near Winnipeg, and that it is a tender and luxuriant grass, starting very early in the spring, being some 5 -6 inches high before there is a sign of green upon the native prairies. It appears to be some two weeks earlier than the native grasses, and it is the writer's opinion that the Tussock grass will form a valuable addition to agriculture in Western Canada, especially as a pasture grass for dairy cattle. I am now, therefore, endeavouring to obtain seed of the species from as many different places as possible within its native habitat, in order to be able to get the variations within the species. I find, in the plot that I have, that there are several very interesting variations. It would appear therefore, that under cultivation, the grass is plainly susceptible to improvement by selection of special strains. Any assistance that your office may be able and willing to render with regard to the above, will be exceedingly appreciated. I should also like to request the Spanish and the native Indian names for the species, if obtainable. In the case of Indian names, kindly request the tribe using the name, and oblige.

Very truly yours,

H. F. Robert

Assistant Professor of Botany.

(7)

C O P Y .

British Consulate-General,
Buenos Aires,

18th July, 1929

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 12th June, which I have read with interest, I regret to have to inform you that tussock grass seed of the kind you require is not available in Buenos Aires.

I have, therefore, passed a copy of your letter to His Majesty's Consul at Magellanes and to my Vice-Consul at San Julian, as well as to the Governor of the Falkland Islands, and I have no doubt that in due course you will receive a communication from these officials.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Sgd) H. W. Wilson,

H.M.'s Consul General

H.F. Roberts, Esquire,
Assistant Professor of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
Canada,

AEY/M



46

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.
THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE AND THE
DATE OF THIS LETTER BEING QUOTED.

P/Misc.Falk.Is.1.

TELEGRAMS: "CROWN, LONDON."

TELEPHONE: 7730 VICTORIA.

4. MILLBANK,
WESTMINSTER,
LONDON, S.W.1.

3th May 1930.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.413/29 of
the 8th January 1930, stating that Mr. H.F.Roberts,
Professor of Botany, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg,
had been requested to pay to us the sum of £5.10.0.
in respect of a package of tussac seed supplied by
the Naturalist Department, Falkland Islands, I have
the honour to enclose, for you information, a copy
of a communication which we have received from him
on the subject.

21.4.30.

and
Enclosures

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W A R Wichham

FOR CROWN AGENTS.

The Colonial Secretary,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

AHH

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

C.S. No. 413/29

MEMO.

Departmental Number.

From Magistrate, So. Georgia.

131/30

Date 10th June, 1930.

To Hon. Col. Sec., Stanley.

Reference
Numbers.

With reference to your memo. of the 13th of August, 1929, I beg to inform you that owing to there being no postal parcel service from South Georgia I am forwarding by the present voyage of the S/S "Fleurbaey" one box containing a quantity of tussock grass seeds. I should be glad if you would be good enough to cause them to be re-directed to Mr. H. F. Roberts, Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Manitoba.

H. Barlas
MAGISTRATE.

No. 413/29.

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

MINUTE.

2nd July, 19 30.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To Magistrate,

South Georgia.

With reference to your memo No. 131/30, I am directed by the Governor to thank you for the trouble you have taken in the matter of the collection of the tussac grass seed which was received safely by the s.s. 'Fleurus'.

Colonial Secretary.



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

9th July, 1935.

quoting the following number :—

2/F.I./2.

Sir,

I beg to refer again to the matter of seed of the Falkland Islands Tussock Grass, Poa flabellata, of which His Excellency the Governor sent us a supply of seed in 1929 for transmission to Prof. H. F. Roberts, Professor of Botany in the University of Manitoba.

Professor Roberts is very anxious to obtain a fresh supply of Tussock Grass seed and I shall be very glad if you can arrange for a supply, which I suggest should be transmitted to him direct. I have requested Professor Roberts to send you a Thermos Flask in which the seed may be despatched, in order that it may arrive in Canada in a good viable condition. It is very difficult for seeds of any plants to cross the equator in safety unless placed in a Thermos Flask, which prevents their getting unduly heated on the voyage.

I shall be extremely grateful, therefore, if you will be so kind as to have some seeds collected and sent over to Prof. Roberts when you receive the Flask from him. For your guidance I may refer to the number 413/29 and letters dated August 23 and 28, 1929.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

His Excellency
the Governor,
Government House,
STANLEY, Falkland Is.

Arthur Hill
DIRECTOR.

Ans. Falkland Is. 27/10/35

firmly corked & well packed.

29

413/29.

18th September,

35.

Sir,

With reference to your letter 2/F.I./2 of the 9th July, 1935, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Tussock Grass Seeds required will be collected next November.

2. I am to add that the Thermos Flask mentioned in your letter has not yet been received.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. J. H.
Colonial Secretary.

Red 29.
A.W. Hill, Esq.,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew,
Surrey.

413/29.

1st November,

35.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that, in response to a request made by Mr. A.W. Hill of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, a thermos flask containing Tussac seed is being forwarded direct to you by the mail scheduled to leave here on or about the 23rd instant.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. F. Roberts

Colonial Secretary.

H.F. Roberts, Esq.,
Assistant Professor of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
CANADA.

415/29.

1st November,

35.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of even number dated the 18th September, 1935, I am directed to inform you that the thermos flask referred to therein has now been received. It has been filled with tussock seed in accordance with your instructions, and is being sent to Canada direct, by the mail leaving here on or about the 23rd instant. Professor Roberts has been advised of its despatch.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. H.

Colonial Secretary.

A.W. Hill, Esq.,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
KEW,

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

WINNIPEG, CANADA

19th. August,
1935.

His Excellency, The Governor,
Port Stanley,
Falkland Is.

Dear Sir:-

In accordance with the suggestion of Dr. Arthur W. Hill, Director of the New Gardens, I am sending to your address a Thermos bottle for the purpose of serving for the shipment of seeds of the Tussock Grass, *Poa flabellata* Hook, from the Falkland Is. to Winnipeg, in case Your Excellency can find it possible for arrangements to be made for the collection of the seed. Dr. Hill suggested that he would write you requesting the favor of a small amount of seed of the above species, in case it be possible to send it. I will say that we received seed of this grass from the Falklands in, I think, 1929, and have had the plants growing here ever since, and have made distributions of the seed from time to time, to other points in Canada. However, on sending some seed recently to the United States Department of Agriculture in return for favors of seed sent here, I find that their expert agrostologist, Dr. A.S. Hitchcock, has identified the seeds as those of *Poa palustris*, a plant which appears not to be of Magellanic origin. The question as to how this other species can have come in is not readily soluble, since the original packet of seeds from the Falklands, was germinated by the Dominion Seed Laboratory here, and the seedlings grown to maturity and planted out by myself, and the plots from these plants gradually increased from year to year since then. In order to solve the problem, we wish to try again with an undoubted sample of seed of the Tussock Grass, and see what we can get out of it. The Tussock Grass, as I understand from the older reports, grows from 6-8ft. high along the coasts of the Falkland Is. and South Georgia. I presume this height is a maximum under favorable conditions. The grass seems to be quite distinctive, and if the name is constantly employed for this one species of grass there, one would suppose that there would be no especial difficulty in securing an authentic sample of the seed. The writer is sending a typed MS. giving a series of botanical notes upon the grass to Your Excellency.

In concluding, it must be said that we are not in position to be able to pay for an expedition after the seed, if that is necessary, but will pay postal expense to Winnipeg. I regret that our university funds would not justify a further outlay. We are endeavoring to secure grass species from all possible localities that might seem profitable to try in Canada, and if we can be kindly assisted again in our attempt to obtain the genuine *Poa flabellata* (Tussock Grass) from your region, we would gladly reciprocate by sending any seeds that might seem promising in your locality. Thanking Your Excellency for any possible assistance in this regard, I beg to remain,

Yours Respectfully,

Ass't. Professor of Botany.

413/29.

9th November,

35.

Sir,

Red 33

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 19th of August, 1935, and to refer you to my letter dated the 1st instant, informing you that a thermos flask containing tussock seed has been sent to you direct.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

H.F. Roberts, Esq.,
Assistant Professor of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
CANADA.



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

quoting the following number :—

2/F.I./2.

5th November, 1935.



Sir,

Red 30
I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter no.413/29 of September 18th in which you kindly tell me that His Excellency the Governor is arranging to have the Tussack Grass seeds collected for Professor Roberts of Manitoba this November. I hope that by now the Thermos Flask for the seeds has reached you. At the time you wrote your letter it was, of course, not possible for it to have arrived from Canada, but I hope everything will be in order for the despatch of the seeds, as I feel sure they would reach Canada quite safely by this method.

Mal. 465/26
As I am writing, I should like to enquire how the trees and shrubs are doing that were planted round about Port Stanley some years ago, with the idea of testing the possibility of growing trees in the Falkland Islands. We sent you some seeds of Caragana arborescens and Cupressus macrocarpa in August 1929 and I received a short report on the forestry experiments together with a letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary (no.465/26 of 28th August, 1929) acknowledging the receipt of these seeds. Since then I have heard nothing about the progress of the experiments and I shall be glad to know how the trees may be growing - both those recently sent and those which formed part of the original consignments of many years ago.

If/

The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY,
Falkland Islands.

If there is any chance of the experiments succeeding, I shall be pleased to send out some further material should it be so desired.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Hill

DIRECTOR.

413/29.

28th December,

35.

Sir,

Red 35
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 2/F.I./2 of the 5th of November, 1935, and to refer you to my letter of the 1st of November, 1935, regarding the tussock seed forwarded to Professor Roberts.

2. With regard to the seed of trees, I have to inform you that those of *Caragana arborescens* proved unsuccessful and in this connection I would refer you to my letter No 147 of the 8th of March last. Those of *Cupressus macrocarpa* have flourished but only in a sheltered position. As stated in the letter above referred to it would appear that conditions in this Colony are unsuited to the growing of trees.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

A.W. Hill, Esq.,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew,
Surrey.



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,
KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,
quoting the following number :—

2/F.I./2.



The Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, presents his compliments to the Colonial Secretary, Falkland Islands, and begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of his letter no.413/29 of 1st November, 1935, in which he informs the Director that a thermos flask containing tussoc seed was to be despatched to Prof. Roberts in Canada on November 23rd.

The Director is extremely grateful for all the trouble that the Colonial Secretary has taken in this matter.

4th December, 1935.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

WINNIPEG, CANADA

18th December, 1935.

Mr. M. Craigie Hackett,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Dear Sir,

Reds 3434

I have to acknowledge your two letters of the 1st and 9th November, together with shipment of thermos flask containing Tussock Grass seed, which arrived yesterday, and for which I beg to express very greatly our thanks to H.E. the Governor. I am, however, very regretfully obliged to say that the examination made thus far of the contents of the flask seems to show beyond question that practically the whole of the matter consists of unripened florets of the Tussock Grass and not of the ripened seeds. I have examined samples from throughout the flask very carefully with a microscope, and I can find no seeds in any of them. I can find only the stamens and so forth enclosed in the chaff but no seed within.

It appears to be the case that the material was unfortunately gathered before maturity so that the seeds had not set. I noticed the flattened ~~stem~~ and shrivelled condition of the florets as soon as I began taking the material from the flask. Under the lens also I note that there is a considerable amount of green colour in the florets, showing their unripened condition. I am going to have the entire material gone over very carefully by the Dominion Seed Laboratory in Winnipeg and will advise you of their examination. I regret very much to have to make this statement regarding the shipment which you so kindly and obligingly sent, but it would appear at the present time that we shall not be able to get germinable seeds from it.

A

It occurs to the writer that it is possible if portions of the under-ground propagating stems (known as rhizomes) could be packed in damp moss and shipped in a package and kept in the ship's refrigerator, that these might arrive in living condition so that we could grow plants from them in the greenhouse. I think the experiment is well worth trying, if His Excellency the Governor would be disposed to favour it. I understand that Tussock Grass grows from six to 8 feet high in the Falklands, and produces abundantly horizontal propagating stems which run for a considerable distance. If some of these

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

-2-

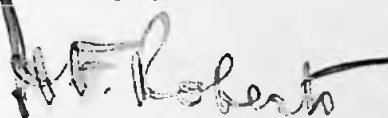
WINNIPEG, CANADA

could be dug out, rolled up and packed in moist sphagnum moss I am inclined to think that they might come through provided they are kept in the ship's refrigerator. The seed shipment came through in twenty-three days or approximately three weeks. In case it would be possible to send some of these propagating stems, I am sending you by an early mail a package of sphagnum moss for packing purposes, together with waxed paper for wrapping the moss. In case shipment is made in this matter, I would advise packing the moss closely around the rhizomes and then wrap the whole package in waxed paper and enclose it in some carton for shipment.

Might I suggest, in case it is considered possible to send some of these under-ground rhizomes, that the package should be sent in duplicate, one to Dr. Arthur W. Hill, Director of the Kew Gardens, and one here, so that in case one lot should not succeed there would be a possible chance that the other would.

With apologies for these details,
I am, Sir,

Very truly yours,



Assistant Professor of Botany.

HFR/LH



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

21st January, 1936.

quoting the following number :—

2/F.I./2.



Sir,

Red 36
Please accept my best thanks for your letter no.413 of December 28th in reply to my letter of November 5th, 1935.

I have heard from Professor Roberts with regard to the Tussock Grass seed that you kindly sent him, but I fear from what he tells me there was no ripe seed in the flask. I hope, therefore, you may have an opportunity of getting some ripe seed collected and, if you could send it either to me or to Professor Roberts, I should be greatly obliged.

I am interested to have your news of the trees which were sent to you in connexion with the experiment of growing trees in the Falkland Islands and I regret to hear that Caragana arborescens was not successful and that plants of Cupressus macrocarpa have flourished only in a sheltered position. No doubt tree-growing in the Falklands is by no means an easy matter, but I still believe that with a competent Forest Officer it would be possible, with the aid of sheltered belts, to raise a certain number of hardy trees in the neighbourhood of Port Stanley, though no doubt it would be some time before any successful results might be obtained.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY,
Falkland Islands.

Arthur Hill
DIRECTOR.

415/29.

31st March,

36.

Sir,

Red 39.
I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 13th of December, 1935, and to express regret that the seed of the Tussock Grass plant which was sent to you on the 1st November last proved to be faulty.

2. It would appear that the seed in question was collected about a month too soon and before it was thoroughly ripe. Arrangements have been made to collect a further quantity in November next to replace that which was sent to you. A package of the seed will also be sent to Sir Arthur Hill at Kew Gardens.

3. I am to add that arrangements will be made to obtain for you under-ground rhizomes of the plant and these will be despatched marked for conveyance in ship's refrigerator, as soon as the necessary packing moss has been received.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Professor H. F. Roberts,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
CANADA.

413/29.

31st March,

36.

Sir,

Red 40

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 2/F.I./2 of the 21st of January, 1936, and to inform you that arrangements have been made to procure a further supply of the seed of the Tussock Grass plant when it is thoroughly ripe, usually in the month of November. Seed will be sent to Professor Roberts to replace that which he found to be faulty, and a package will also be sent to you.

2. I am to add that arrangements have also been made to obtain and send to Professor Roberts under-ground rhizomes of the plant and these will be despatched, together with a package addressed to you, when the packing moss has been received which Professor Roberts is sending for the purpose.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

McH

Colonial Secretary.

Sir Arthur W. Hill,
Director
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew,
SURREY.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

WINNIPEG, CANADA
17th February, 1936.

The Colonial Secretary,
Port Stanley,
Falkland Islands.



Dear Sir,

I am sending by a following mail a package of dried sphagnum moss in the hope that it may be possible at such time as might be convenient to send us some of the underground stems (rhizomes) of the Tussock Grass, so that we may attempt to grow plants from them. It seems impossible, according to information we now have, to get viable seeds of Poa flabellata (Tussock Grass). As I understand it, the Tussock Grass propagates largely by vigorous horizontally growing underground stems called rhizomes, from which new plants come up to the surface, and on this account it appears that the plant has gradually given up the production of seed. I think it might be possible, however, to pack portions of these rhizomes in sphagnum moss wrapped in waxed paper, which I am also sending, and the whole enclosed ~~and the whole enclosed~~ in a dry paper cover. If it could be arranged with one of the ship's officers to keep the package of Tussock Grass rhizomes in the ship's refrigerator during the voyage, I think they should come through in satisfactory condition. In this connection may I ask that in case it should be possible to send these specimens, it would be very agreeable if they could be sent equally to Dr. Sir Arthur W. Hill, Director of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, Surrey, England, as well as to our department here, in the hope that plants may be grown in one place or the other. I shall have to say that we would be unable to afford expense in the matter, and therefore are rather hesitant at imposing further upon your obliging assistance, and shall leave it entirely to your judgment as to whether it would be possible to obtain and ship the rhizomes in question.

I enclose herewith a portion of a letter received from the Assistant Agrostologist, Bureau of Plant Industry, U.S. Department of Agriculture, regarding seeds of Poa flabellata, and also statement from a letter from Mr. F. Foulds, Supervising Analyst of the Dominion Seed ~~Gen~~in Laboratory at Winnipeg. I sent to his office the entire lot

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

WINNIPEG, CANADA

-2-

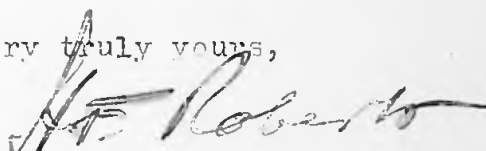
The Colonial Secretary,
Port Stanley

of seed received from the Falklands for examination. I am doing this simply to show that the absence of viable seeds in the sample was not due to any oversight on our part.

To conclude, I beg to again thank your office most sincerely for your very kind co-operation in undertaking to help us by sending the seed which you so kindly gathered. It is evident that the plant ordinarily does not produce viable seeds on account of the fact that it reproduces so extensively by vegetative means, that is, by the underground propagating stems which we call rhizomes.

Again thanking you, I beg to remain.

Very truly yours,



H. F. Roberts.
Assistant Professor of Botany.

HFR/MI

Miss Agnes Chase

Extract of letter from the Assistant Agrastologist,
Bureau of Plant Industry, U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C. U.S.A.

"Seeds of Poa flabellata have been sent to the Division of Plant Introduction, Department of Agriculture, from time to time for 20 years or more, and were sent to this office for verification. So far as I know plants have never been grown from material received. Repeatedly in reporting the identification I annotated the packets "no grains developed". I have never seen a grain though we have plenty of specimens. I surmise that Poa flabellata, vigorously reproducing vegetatively, is one of the grasses that rarely produce seed. Again and again, grasses from plots where Poa flabellata was planted have proved to be other specimens--P. flabellata never germinated and invaders took possession."

Extract of letter from Mr. F. Foulds, Supervising Analyst,
Dominion Seed Grain Laboratory, Winnipeg.

"Professor H. F. Roberts,
Department of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Dear Sir:

Some weeks ago you forwarded me a sample of Tussock grass which you secured from the Falkland Islands. We went over quite a quantity and are not able to find any "seed" that has a caryopsis.

Since then I have received your letter quoting Miss Agnes Chase. Her statements are very interesting."



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,
KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

quoting the following number :—



20th May, 1936.

Sir,

Red 42
I have to acknowledge with best thanks receipt of your letter no.413/29 of March 31st in which you inform me that arrangements have been made to procure a further supply of the seed of the Tussock Grass for transmission to Professor Roberts and that arrangements have also been made to send him some under-ground rhizomes of the plant.

I also note that you are kindly sending a package to Kew, which I shall be pleased to receive.

Hoping that this further supply will reach Canada in living condition and with my best thanks for the help you are giving with regard to the introduction of this valuable grass to Canada,

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Hill
DIRECTOR.

The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY,
Falkland Islands.

413/29.

16th November,

36.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that two cases, measuring 18"x9"x9" respectively, containing tussock rhizomes, are being forwarded, by the s.s. "Fitzroy" sailing on the 19th inst, to :-

- (1) The Director, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London.
- (2) Professor H.F. Roberts, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada.

2. I am to request you to be so good as to ask your Agents in Montevideo to accept delivery of these cases, and to arrange for their onward transport by the first opportunity in the cold storage rooms of vessels proceeding to the Countries indicated above.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

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

413/29.

16th November,

36.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 17th February, 1936, I am directed to inform you of the impending despatch to you, on the 19th instant, of a box, size 18" x 9" x 9", containing tussock rhizomes, and to state that arrangements have been made to give effect to your instructions regarding the mode of transport. By the same opportunity a package of the seeds of the Poa flabellata is being sent to you through the post.


2. I am to say that similar quantities of rhizomes and seeds are being forwarded to Sir A.W. Hill at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

3. I am to add that the waxed paper mentioned in your letter under reference has not been received.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Acting Colonial Secretary.

Professor H.W. Roberts,
Department of Botany,
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg,
CANADA.

413/29.

16th November, 36.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 20th May, 1936, I am directed to inform you of the impending despatch to you on the 19th instant, of a box, 18"x9"x9", containing tussock rhizomes, and to state that arrangements are being made for its conveyance in the cold storage room of a vessel proceeding to the United Kingdom from Montevideo. By the same opportunity a package of the seeds of the Poa flabellata is being sent to you through the post.

2. I am to add that similar quantities of rhizomes and seeds are being forwarded to Professor Roberts of the University of Manitoba.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Acting Colonial Secretary.

Sir Arthur W. Hill.
Director,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew,
LONDON.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

WINNIPEG, CANADA May 13th. 1936.

Mr. H. Craigie Hackett,
Colonial Secretary,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands,

Dear Sir:-

I am sending you by this mail two packages, one containing dried Sphagnum moss, for the purpose of packing the rhizomes (under-ground stems) of the Tussock Grass, in case it is possible to have them sent. If they are sent, they should be packed in the moss, well moistened, and this wrapped in waxed paper, which is also being sent. The whole can then be regularly wrapped for parcel post shipment. I would suggest the advisability of an arrangement with the ship's captain to store the parcel in the ship's refrigerator, in case the temperature does not run below freezing. The rhizomes should be kept cool to prevent mould and rotting, and if possible a little above the freezing point, but not below.

I beg to request, in case the rhizomes of the Tussock Grass can be sent, that one lot be sent to The Kew Gardens in England, in care of Dr. A.W. Hill, Director, Kew, Surrey, England, and the other lot here.

In case the above would involve any expense, kindly dispense with the thought of it, as we would only be able to pay parcel post charges.

Very truly yours,

H. F. Roberts
Ass't. Professor of Botany.

2413/29

(51)
No. 94



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,

KEW,

6th February, 1937.

SIR,

Box containing Tussock Rhizomes. Unfortunately all are dead due, in all probability, to packing in an air tight box and to conveyance in the refrigerator during the voyage.

The seed of Poa flabellata arrived at the end of December in good condition and the donation bears our reference No. 1012/1936.

I have to acknowledge the receipt this day of the contribution mentioned in the margin, made by you to the Royal Botanic Gardens, for which I beg to tender my best thanks.

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur H. Hill
Director.

To The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley,

Falkland Islands.



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS,
KEW, SURREY.

All communications should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,

quoting the following number :—

9th February, 1937.

2/F.I./2.



Sir,

I have to acknowledge with best thanks receipt of your letter no.413/29 of November 16th, and of the box containing Tussock rhizomes, which reached us on 6th February.

I am sorry to say that the rhizomes appear to be quite dead. I fancy that they must have got frozen on the journey home owing to being placed in the cold-storage room and also because they were sent in a closed box. They arrived quite soft and brown and I fear that there is no chance of any portion of them being alive. I much fear also that if the rhizomes have been sent to Prof. Roberts in a similar manner to those sent to us they will not reach him in a living condition.

The seeds of Poa flabellata, which you mention in your letter as being sent through the post, arrived, I am pleased to say in good condition, and some of them are already beginning to germinate.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

DIRECTOR.

The Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
STANLEY, Falkland Islands.