

C.S.

WHALING & SEALING

(Sealing.)

1935

No.

75/35

Mr. D. R. Watson.

SUBJECT.

1935.

25th February.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES SEALINGCOMPANY -

Previous Paper.

Requests Government assistance to enable
Company to operate.

589/27.

MINUTES.

1-2

Letter from Mr. D. R. Watson, 25th February, 1935.

Yk. Submitted. A somewhat similar application was made in 1934, read 207 in attached papers. The S. of S. was asked to agree to a bounty of £2 per ton on oil produced but was unable to approve the proposal. The cost of production is high, due to the heavy cost of coal and high wages.

To produce 350 tons the Company would only require to work for three months.

Unfortunately the Sealing Coy has been mismanaged in the past and is now involved to the extent of about £12,000, the great

Subsequent Paper.

part of which is due to the F.H. Co.
It would certainly be an advantage
from an employment point of view
if the Company could commence
operations again, but the past
history of the Co. has not
made the Col. Office sympathetic,
and I do not think that the
S. of S. would sanction any
assistance from public funds.

MCH
CS
28. 2. 55

Will you please send up the
file containing last prices for whale oil
and ask Mr. Hamilton to see me at
11 o'clock tomorrow morning

TTTTT 20/2/55

A.R. spoken. Mr. Hamilton asked to
see A.R. at 4 o'clock 1st March
MCH

J.R. Papers required by J.R.
attached.

MCH
CS
1. 3. 55

Have you a copy of the memorandum
by Mr. Hamilton referred to by Mr. Ellis at the
back of p. 27 in vol. 589/27? He says he sent it
in. Unless you see any objection he might
have this file for reference as I have asked him
to suggest the conditions for a new lease. ~~and~~
initiate

TTTTT 2/3/55

75/35

Sheet 2

Mr. Hamilton

Papers passed to you.
Your ^{memorandum} ~~enclosures~~ will be
found in enclosures 199-204
in attached file.

McH
C.S.
2.5.35

Hon. Col. Sec.

3. Suggestions for condition
for a really ~~line~~ ~~drawn~~
plane.

2. The sections in my
memorandum - 201 in 509/27
marked in red pencil might
be useful as indications to
the really company of the best
methods to employ

2800 Hamilton

4-11-35

4. Submitted. The suggested conditions
are practically the same as the
conditions set out in red 152, with
the exception of suggested para's
7 and 8. 6 and 7 of red 152
were inserted on the instructions
of the S. of S.
2. In red 180 I drew
attention to the practice of
drawing seals long distances

and in para. 2 of rec 205 the
S. of S. agreed that the practice
should be prohibited. This condition
also could be insisted if the
Company apply for a licence.

mcH
ct.
14. 3. 35

I regret that I cannot
see my way to assisting the Company
on the lines proposed but if it proceeds
with its operations and it can be shown
that the Government is anxious that
it should do so in order to give
employment I would consider sympathetically
an application for a grant at the end
of the season if operations were well
conducted and a loss resulted. I do
not see why they should not be shown
this. They should be given a copy of
Mr. Hamilton's memorandum and a
note as in para (3) of the terms on
which a licence would issue

9/3/35
It should be pointed out that the
object of all the conditions is to ensure
the greatest possible prosperity for the
industry as a permanent factor in the
life of the Colony subject only to the
restriction that it is not possible at
present to give different treatment to their
Coys. and to others operating within the
jurisdiction of the Government

Yk. The Sealing Coy. have been offered £15 per ton for first grade oil and £14 per ton for second. On these prices the question of assistance does not arise. I am expecting a communication from the Sealing Coy. confirming the above.

MCH
CS.
10. 3. 35

Yak 11/3/35

4. Letter to D. L. Watson, Esq., of 12/3/35

P.A.
12/3/35

5-8. Letter from Board of Directors of -

Yk. Submitted.

2. The Coy must procure the small box files with silencers as recommended by Mr. Hamilton, but under (7) page 3, it is asked that they may be allowed to use the .303 under certain conditions.

vd. inf

3. With regard to the number of seals which may be taken (8000)

It would probably be preferable to wait the report of the sealing officer, should the Company wish to take any number in excess of 8000. In some seasons seals are more numerous than in others, and it seems to me to be a matter for the officer on the spot to judge as to the numbers which may be taken without injuring the rookeries.

4. The Company cannot obtain an Engineer locally and they propose to get a Norwegian from S. Georgia. For the safety of the men employed an Engineer is required to look after the boiling down machinery and I think the Coy might be allowed to get a Norwegian, subject to the condition that an Engineer cannot be obtained locally.

MCH
19.5.55

I approve your recommendation. The Company should be told that the spirit in which their willingness to give full effect to the wishes of the Government and the terms of the licence is manifested, will have a considerable bearing on any further application from them in this and subsequent years. The use of the .303 at all this year is required to be

limited to the minimum dictated by practical necessity and the number of wounds should be recorded and reported

~~18/5/35~~ 18/5/35

9. Letter to Captain D.R. Watson, of 19/3/35.

C.A.
19/3/35

10. Letter from Capt. D.R. Watson 20/3/35

Yr. Submitted. The Sealing Coy. apply to take elephant seals and if this is granted it would mean that work could commence in May. In 1933 the Coy were permitted to take elephant seals, the number being limited to 300.

154 mi
589/27 and
159.

2. In any case it would appear to be necessary to refer to the S. of S. the proposed issue of a licence authorising the Coy to take 8000 Hair Seal (in accordance with Hamilton's recommendation). It might be added that it is proposed to include elephant

Seals not to exceed 300 on the
conditions laid down in S. of S.
tele: No 35 of June 1933 (red 154 in
589/27)

mch
cs.
1. 4. 35

Will you please let me have a draft
telegram Ref. might be made to
necessity for firing employment

11/4

Tele. to p. please

2/4

Telegram No 35 to Soff 8/4/35

Letter to D.R. Watson. Esq. 8/4/35

Letter from Mr E.R. Cusack. 8/4/35.

Letter from Mr B. Stewart 8/4/35.

Letter to Mr E.R. Cusack 8/4/35

Letter to Mr. B. Stewart 8/4/35.

(11)

(12)

(13)

(14-15)

(16)

(17)

R.H.
9/4/35

Telegram from Soff No 37 of 15/4/35.

Copy to H.L. the Governor

mch
cs.
16. 4. 35

Yh. Draft of proposed conditions
of licence submitted.

mch
cl.
17. 4. 35

App:

~~Null~~ 17/4

(19) Letter to Dr Watson. Esq 17/4/35.

Yh. Licence as put up together
with conditions may now be
issued to the J. L. Sealing Coy?

mch
cl.
30. 4. 35

~~Null~~ 1/5/35

(20-21) Copy of Sealing Licence 20/4/35
(22) Letter to Dr. Watson. Esq 1/5/35

Yh. Reds 13 and 14 Submitted.
I think it would be preferable
to appoint as Sealing Officer some
officer holding a permanent post
in the Govt. Service. Mr E. Wilson

Gov. Storekeeper acted as Sealing
officer with the 1933 expedition -
he proved entirely satisfactory but
it is doubtful whether he could
be spared for this expedition as
the P.W.D. is short-handed by the
absence on leave of Mr G. L. Challen.

Mr A. G. Bennett, Customs officer,
could be spared but having regard
to the rough conditions associated
with Sealing I doubt whether it
would be fair to ask him to go.

Constable Swain formerly gunner
on the "Afterglow" is a sailor
accustomed to boats. He could stand
the rough conditions. He is a
thoroughly reliable and conscientious
officer. Arrangements could be
made for his release from the Police.

Allowance at the rate of 6/- per
night is paid to the officer during
absence from Headquarters.

MCH
CS.
3. 5. 35

Appoint of Constable Swain
approved if the Chief Constable can
spare him an off. constable being
appointed in his place

W.H. 2/5/35

Chief Constable spoken and stated that he could release Constable Swain for duty as Sealing Officer.

mch

4. 5. 55

23-24. Letter to Mr. E. Swain (Thro' Chief Constable) of 9/5/35.

P.A. "Port Richard" sailed with Sealing Officer at a.m. on 12th May.

25. Telegram from Mr. Swain, 9/6/35.

The Sealing Officer reports that the rook rifle is ineffective and that the .303 rifle does not frighten the seal.

mch
et

10. 6. 55

10/4/35

P.A. mch

(16)

(17)

Letters from Dr Watson Esq 7/8/35
" " 7/8/35

Yr. Submitted. The mail officer
who was recently at Albenask
informed me that Seals were
plentiful.

2. In red (11) the S. of S. was
informed that it was proposed to
authorize the Coy to take 8000 Seal
and the S. of S. approved in red (18).
The Company now asks to take a
further 5000 and the Sealing officer
states that he sees no reason
why permission should be granted.
It will be necessary to refer the
matter to the S. of S., but I fear that
in view of the recommendation^x of
Mr J. Hamilton approval will not be
given in which case Sealing will
end about 1st Sep^r

MCH
CS
9. 8. 55-

x. Number of Seals
Killed not to exceed 8000.

I think that we might try to get SPS approved
the number^{being} extended up to 10000 in
all as the Seals are so very plentiful

1975

28. Telegram to S.O.S. of 12/8/35.

~~Def. 16/8/35.~~
~~12/8/35.~~

~~b. 1 20.8.35~~
~~in ch. 16.8.35~~

~~Def 17/8/35~~

Yh.

Submitted. No reply has been received to red 28. The Sealing Coy have informed the Ls. Coy that they expect to finish on the 24th inst. The delay on the C.O. in dealing with a matter recommended from this end is regrettable.

2. Might a reminder be sent?

in ch
CS

22.8.35

Certainly ~~Allegre~~ ~~Allegre~~



22/8

Telegram to S. of S. No. 57 of 23/8/35. (29)

Letter to G.I.C., of 26/8/35. (30)

~~BU 28/8/35~~

Telegram from S. of S. No. 69 of 26/8/35. (31)

Telegram to Operator, Fox Bay of 27/8/35. (32)

Yr. Submitted for information.
mch
ct.
27.8.35

PA. ~~mch~~ 27.8.35
Gard 27/8

Letter to W.R. Watson, Esq., of 28/8/35.
Letter from H. Collier 28/8/35

(33)
(34)

Hon. Sec.
To Sec.

mch
ct.
28.8.35

Hon Collier.

Seen thank you.

W.D.
for Col Sec.

28.8.35

PA

Inside Minute Paper.

Y. Capt. Watson has asked if Y. will grant him an interview regarding continuance of sealing operations and the possibility of obtaining permission to take 1,000 sea elephants.

Mr. Watson today
said 500 in
i.e. 800 in
all MCH
25.9.35

2. Under the conditions of the license the Coy may take 300 elephants. The license expires on 31st Oct - resub.

MCH
Ch.

23.9.35.
Capt. Watson states in (10) that sea elephants almost entirely disappear at the end of August and do not reappear until November. Vidsch. p. 2 of 27
2. It is no use my seeing him on this without a recommendation from the Capt. Watson. Is he still incapacitated? It

will probably be best to consult
Mr. Hamilton relative at the end
of October before deciding the question

3. However I would like to hear
details of the season's working from
Capt. Watson & will please
enough for him to call at 11.07 a.m.
tomorrow 25

W.H. 24/9

Y. Captain Watson informed
that Y. will see him at
11 a.m. tomorrow.

2. The Ag. Naturalist
resumed duty today.

MCH
C.S.

24.9.55

I have seen Mr. Watson
I am prepared to listen to any recommendation
from the Ag. Nat. Scientist

W.H. 25/9

Ag. Naturalist

To see. The Company under
their licence may take 300 Sea
Elephants but I understood that
they wish to take a further
500.

2. After his interview with

H.E. the Governor, Capt. Watson told me he was going to discuss the matter with you. I also mentioned the matter when I saw you this morning.

3. After you have seen Capt. Watson please furnish your recommendations regarding the question of allowing any further number of Sea elephants to be taken.

MCH
Ct.

25. 9. 55

Hon: Col: Secy

Capt Watson has interviewed me this morning (as above). While I have every sympathy with every possible industry, I must admit, in all honesty, that the amount of Sea Elephant present in the Colony & their life history, is not known to me.

I think it possible that those Elephants found within the Colony may form a local race, & there is a possibility that they breed here; so far, no breeding spot is known in the Falklands, although several spots are suspected, in every case most difficult of access.

Capt Watson seems to wish to take a thousand Elephant including about

240 yet to be taken on existing licence.

I have made it very clear to Capt Watson that the killing of any immature animal, or female, is not only most undesirable, but is highly destructive without benefit to anyone - a point in which he agrees. I have also suggested that in my considered judgement the male Sea Lion should be at his very best, from an oil point of view, in November & December - immediately before breeding commences, & failing Elephants to revert to Sealions.

I gather that supplies, (coal etc) are not sufficient for more than a very brief period of operation.

I have understood from Mr J E Hamilton that he is not in favour of Elephant killing & this may be due, in a large measure, to the fact that the Sealing Co, some years ago, killed many Elephants - really infants. I have dental evidence that many Elephants then killed were less than 1 year of age.

In so long as only fully adult males are killed little or no damage is done to the stock as a whole, but to propose a safe number for killing is quite beyond me - I have no idea as to the size of the stock or have I any reference to figures for none exist.

Al Bennett

26. 9. 35.

Yh. Report of Aq. Naturalist
Submitted. He can make no
recommendation as he has no
knowledge of the size of the
stock. It might be safe to
increase the number to 500.
The Sealing Coy have already
taken 60 and this would leave
440 to take.

2. On the other hand the
Sealing Coy still have some
900 Hair Seal to take to
complete 10,000. authorised, but
Capt. Watson explained that
he could not go on Sealing
in Nov^r even if permitted
to do so as his Engineers and
some of the labour have
to leave for S. Georgia on
the 11th Nov^r.

3. If the Company are to
take Elephant Seals then
I think the Aq. Naturalist
should accompany the expedition

and if he does not consider
that there are sufficient or
that they are immature then
none should be taken.

McH
es.

26.9.35

If I am right in assuming that
permission cannot be given without the
approval of the S.O.S. and that takes
apparently a fortnight to secure, there must
be a long delay. We had better wait
for Mr. Hamilton's return when he
can go out in the vessel. The fishing
Co. have an engineer to replace the
man returning to S. Georgia and I
shall do not believe that there would be

difficulty in getting the labour. If
Captain Wata expresses his willingness
to proceed after Mr. Hamilton's return
I will telegraph the S.O.S. saying that
the season has been very successful, and
that sea-elephants are reported to be
far more numerous than was supposed and
asking whether permission may be given
to kill up to 1000 adult males if
Mr. Hamilton on personal inspection
of the portlands recommends an increase
in the number allowed

~~McH~~ 27/9/35

Yh.
I have spoken with Captain Watson and he will consult his Directors. He states they may decide to finish now the killing of harp seal and sea elephants authorised under their licence and then proceed after Mr. Hamiltons return if there is any likelihood of his Coy being authorised to take additional sea elephants.

2. Under the licence the Company still has 900 odd harp seal to take and about 250 elephants.

3. The Company should endeavour to instal a furm plant so that there will be no waste. The production of furs from 10,000 seals would probably pay the seasons working. Moreover with improvement of pastures in view there should be a ready

marked locally.

mch
cs.

27. 9. 35

Yes

~~tht~~ 27/9

1. I saw Capt. Watson this morning.
He expects to leave for Albemarle
tomorrow night to take the balance
of seals authorised by the hunter.

2. He states that his company
would like to get permission to
take a further number of elephants
towards the end of October.

Mr. Hamerton should arrive about
20th October.

3. Draft telegram to S. of S.
put up.

mch
cs.

30. 9. 35

~~tht~~ 30/9

Telegram to S. of S. No. 63 of 30/9/35.

(35)

✓ P. A.

mch

30. 9. 35

Captain L.R. Watson seen and
informed regarding red. 35

mch

1. 10. 35

Vrs for travelling and Subsistence allowance for period 12th Aug to 19th Sep^r = 130 nights at 6/- prepared for payment to Mr E. Swain. Sealing Officer. mch
30.9.35

Mr Swain informed that Sealing Coy would resume operations and instructed him to hold himself in readiness to proceed in the "Porpo Richard".
mch
1.8.35

(36) Minute from Chief Constable 30/9/35

P.A.

mch

(37) Minute to Chief Constable, 1/10/35.

Captain Watson called to see me and stated that he expected to sail for Albemarle on Saturday the 5th Oct^r.

mch
4.8.35

G. 16/10/35.
J. 4/10/35.
C. 4/10/35.

(38) Telegram from S. of S. No. 82 of 10/10/35.

Yh.

Submitted. This is satisfactory.

MCH
C.I.

11. X. 55

B.f. on arrival
of Mr. Hamilton
MCH 11. X. 55

~~11/10/35~~ 11/X/35

~~11/20/35~~ b.f. 23/10/35.
~~11/21/35~~ C.I. 21/10/35.
b.f. 30. X. 55
MCH 24. X. 55

Yh.

Mr. Hamilton arrived on
the 26th inst. Does Yh. wish
him to proceed to Albemarle
to examine the sea elephant
rookeries. I understand that
he should go out about the middle
of November when sea elephants
appear in larger numbers.

2. Perhaps Yh. would wish
to see him regarding this matter.

MCH
C.I.

20. X. 55

Yes pl.

12.30 p.m. Liner 31

~~30/11~~ 30/11

C.S.O. No. 75/35

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 13

Note to Mr Hamilton.

MCH
30.X.35

Yr. Mr Hamilton will attend
at Gov. House at 12.30 today.

MCH
31.X.35

Seen.
Reports from the Sealing Office and
the Manager are awaited

MCH 31/X/35

Chief Clerk.

Please tell Constable Swain
to submit his report as early as
possible.

MCH

Sealing Report. 1935 - Mr E. Swain

Letter from Capt D. Watson 4/11/35

Letter from Capt D. Watson 5/11/35

Reports on Sealing operations
from May to October, 1935, received
from Sealing Office and the
Sealing Coy.

Yr. Submitted. The report from
the Sealing Office will be put
into shape later.

2. The Sealing Coy apply

(3948)

(43-51)

(53)

to take the balance of 224
remaining under their license
together with a further 750.

3. Perhaps J.R. would wish
Mr. Hamilton to see the reports
and to state his recommendations
regarding the application to take
a further 750 sea elephants.

MCH

CS

G. XI. 55

Yes to Mr. Hamilton please
I am anxious for him to visit the
rockeris where sea elephants have been
stated as v. plentiful. I gather though
that it may be some weeks before
they land up.

Does A (50) mean what it
says viz that something like 90% of sea lions
have been taken at each rockery? ("must
more than 10% left left")

Mr. J.R. Hamilton, M.R.

To you accordingly, please.

In "A" of red 50 the Sealing
Co show that they have complied
with 6 of the conditions of their
license red (20).

MCH

CS

7. XI. 55

Hon. Col. Sec.

I have examined the report referring to the elephant seal and have interviewed independently the sealing officer and Mr. Watson.

2. I am satisfied that there is no objection to an extension of the sealing company's licence for another month for the purpose of taking elephant seals out but no damage to the stock should ensue if the operations are conducted under the strict supervision of the sealing officer.

3. The killing should be restricted to adult males only and care should be taken that when more than 50 adult males are found 10% of them are left alive and that when less than 50 are found 25% are left.

4. It would be useful if the sealing officer would take measurements of seal skulls. What is wanted is the total length in a straight line as possible from the tip of the snout to the end of the short tail which lies between the hind flippers.

5. The sealing officer should keep a note book and record everything referring to the elephant seal which comes to his notice. Particularly numbers seen and counted whenever possible and what proportion of small and medium and large seals are omitted.

With regards for delay please,

J. H. Hamilton

13. XI. 35

YH.

Submitted. Mr. H. Hamilton
raises no objection to the taking
of elephant seal provided the
taking and killing is done under
the supervision of the Sealing Officer.

2. The house might be
extended for one month and
the company authorized to take
974 Elephant Seal Subject to
conditions 3. recommended by
Mr. Hamilton, but in other
respects Subject to the conditions
in res 20 in so far as they
may be applicable.

3. It is at present uncertain
when the expedition will leave
here. The months extension
should I think date from the
day of arrival at the Sealing
grounds.

Mac H.
C.I.
14. XI. 35

Approved

A copy of pages 3-5 of Mr. Hamilton's
minutes to be given to the Sealing Officer
with instructions to adhere closely to the
recommendations

14/XI/35

84 Letter to Capt. O.R. Watson of 14/11/35.
 85 ——— Mr. E. Swain of ———
 86 Minute to Chief Constable of ———

Mr. Hamilton M.Sc.

Mr. Watson has seen me regarding condition 6 in red 54. He points out that this will be carried out as regards herds of elephant seal but states in most cases such seal are found in small groups of 4 upwards, and that therefore it will probably be difficult for the Coy to get any seal if they are not permitted to take small groups of say up to 10 without leaving 25%.

2. It would perhaps get over the difficulty if the Coy could take small groups up to 10 but any number in excess of up to 50 to leave 25%.

Will you kindly say if you agree.

M.C.H.
 C.H.
 15. XI. 35-

Hon. Col. Sec.

I consider that if the Sealing Co. will leave one out of every 10 up to groups of 10 it should suffice if thereafter up to 50 25% is left.

J. B. Hamilton

15. XI. 35

The sealing officer should notice that this is not intended to apply to say 6 groups of perhaps 8 seal each all on the one beach since there would then be actually 48 seal on the beach and of these 12 must be left. He will have to exercise his discretion in the matter.

J. B. H.

Letter from Manager. H.D. ps Sealing Co 7/11/35 (89)

Submitted. It is clear that the Sealing Co cannot take seal from the mainland and islands comprised in Lafonia without the consent of the Falkland Is. Co. Ltd.

McH. C. S.

15. XI. 35

Yes

15/11

88. Letter to Mr. E. Swain of 18/11/35.

89. ——— Capt. W.R. Watson ———

(90-1) Minute from DRW 19/11/35

1. Red 91 Submitted. Mr. Watson saw me about this morning. He stated he could not proceed as he was still three men short.

2. The demands of the men appear to me to be unreasonable. Overtime is not so far as I am aware paid by the Whaling Coy. Increased hours of work means a larger production of oil which benefits the workers by way of the bonus.

3. With reference to the statement that better conditions are required because the "Port Richard" has no certificated Master or Engineer. I have to state that in recent years when owned by the Gov. this vessel was run without a certificated Master or Engineer. The terms offered by the Sealy Coy appear to be reasonable - I do not see that the

They can be expected to guarantee
£12 a month. Should the sealing
from unsuccessful then the men
will receive a month's pay for
practically nothing but if it is
successful then they are certain
of earning a bonus.

4. If men on unemployment
benefit refuse to go then I think
the Committee might be authorised
to strike them off. On the
other hand it seems doubtful
whether men working for Govt.
should be discharged from their
work because they refuse to
go. These men can be discharged
on the ground stated in para: 1
of red 90 it would then be
clear that their refusal to
go sealing had nothing to do
with their discharge.

MCH
- 21
19. XI. 35

The men are I understand
offered the standard rate of wage
for sealing work and the unemployed
if as I assume they are considered
fit and suitable for the work will be
struck off relief. Those who are

temporarily in employment by the
P.W.D. will of course be ~~able to~~ receive
their notices if no longer required

~~19/11/35~~ 19/11/35

Director Public Works.

To note Mr's minutes.

mcH
 — ch.
 19. XI. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

3 men on unemployment relief were considered by the Committee to be fit for sealing work, they have refused to accept it and will be sent notices informing them that they are no longer entitled to receive relief.

Other men that refused to accept, and who are now working for the Government will in common with others be discharged as their jobs become completed.

C. Roberts.

D.P.W.

22/11/35.

✓
 mcH
 — 25. XI. 35

P.A.

Letter from the Sec. HoDeps
Sealing Co 30/11/35

(924)

Director Public Works.

Refs 92-94 for your consideration
and observations, please.

2. The Manager of the Sealing
Co saw me and states that he thought
that married men employed by his Co
should receive the same concession as those
employed for seasonal camp work, and
advised that this was the reason why
his Company could not get the men
they require. I informed him that
the dependents allowance to married
Seasonal hands was granted to bring
the total up to the amount the man
would earn if working in Stanley,
approximately £10-£11 per month, but
that from his own showing men
employed by the Sealy Co earned a
similar amount since they received
£7 per month plus bonus averaging
£4 per month, which appeared to be
fair and reasonable. If these men
received dependents allowance as well,
then their earnings would be £11
per month plus £3-£4 for dependents re.
While I agree that wages should be
made up in the same way as
Camp hands, I do not agree that
any allowance should be made where
the earnings are shown to be £11
per month. I fear there would
be some danger in agreeing to any
such proposal as that put forward

by Mr Watson

MCH
C.S.
2. XII. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

The manager of the Sealing Co stated that the men could earn £12 per month.

The Unemployment Relief Committee have agreed that this is a fair wage.

I am of opinion that the men want to make sure of something more than £7 per month.

I think there exists a lack of confidence.


The bonus is a complete gamble in which the Sealing Co should take their share.

I consider the Co should make a compromise by offering £10 per month certain wages, and reduce the bonus figure.

I do not like the idea of extending the dependents allowance to the Sealing Co, if this is continued there will be no end to the vicious circle, it encourages employers to keep the wages down. I understand there is no question of the Co working at a loss as the farms are.


Exactly

Oil is selling at a good price and
there should be no need for Govt assistance.
It is the same old cry blame the Govt.
As stated previously I do not think the Govt
should give assistance to the Sealing Co.

 D.P.W.

D.P.W.

3/12/35.

 Submitted. I agree with the views
of the D.P.W.

2. Mr. Watson came to see me and
said he considered the Govt. responsible
for his Company not being able to get
men. He said his Company wanted to
commence sealing at once and that he
could get the men if the Govt. would
grant independent allowance in the same
was as that to seasonal workers in the
Camp. I informed him that I
was not prepared to agree to such a
proposal and suggested that his Coy
would get the men if they raised
the wages to £11 per month and
dropped the bonus.

3. The position is that the workers
have no confidence in the managers -
they have had trouble over their wages
on previous occasions.

4. I cannot discern any grounds for recommending that the Govt. should pay dependent's allowance to men employed by the Sealing Coy. I consider that the Coy has the settlement of the matter in their own hands. If the workers consider the bonus uncertain then the Coy could satisfy them by guaranteeing wages and bonus of a minimum of £11 per month.

mcH
21
3. R.H. 55

(95) Letter from Mr D.R. Watson (Auditor)
(96) Letter to Mr D.R. Watson.

There can be no question of the
franchise to dependent's here

Will you please discuss this
with Mr. Young if I am right
in supposing that the F.I.L. is taking
over control of the sealing machinery
& opposite which is I believe fully
comprised by the Unapishkati

9/4/35


J.R. I have spoken with Mr: Young.
He is opposed to any allowance
being paid from public funds to
men employed for sealing. He
states that he was seeing the
manager sealing log and would
suggest that the wages should
be raised to £9 per month so
as to bring wages more or less
on a level with those paid to
wharf labourers. In addition a
bonus would be paid.

I think the Sealing Log will
obtain men if they offer the
increased rate.

Mr: Watson whom I have seen
now agrees that the grant of a
defendant's allowance would make
it difficult in future.

MCH
C.S.
10. XII. 35

Thankyou

 10/11/35

Letter to Capt. D.R. Watson of 10/12/35. (97)

Director Public Works.

To see.

MCH
C.S.
10. XII. 35

C.S.O. No. 75/35.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Seen thank you.

C. Roberts.

D.P.M.
11/12/35.

✓
P.A. McH.

7/11 The Manager Sealing Coy has informed me that his Coy have offered £9 per month plus bonus and that they now have the men required. The Coy propose to leave Stanley on the 28th Dec^r to commence Sealing. This latter period will suit the views of Mr. J. Hamilton who was of opinion that elephant seal should be taken late in the year.

McH.
CS
18. XII. 35

Good

~~THH~~ 15/XII/35

(98-9)

Letter from Sec. J.R.L. 9/12/35

Minute to Chief Constable 18/12/35 (100)

Durciv Public Works.

For your observations on red 99, please.

At that time the Sealing Co were offering £7 per month plus bonus which according to the statement of the manager of the Sealing Co made a total of about £12 per month.

Presumably the Unemployment Relief Committee considered this reasonable employment otherwise men refusing would not have been struck off relief.

MCH

18. XII. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

This question has been thoroughly discussed and decisions given in this M/P.

I have marked off Red 99-100 and give the following replies.

(1) Statement correct

(2) Men's request was considered by the Unemployment Relief Committee to be unreasonable, and the wage offered was accepted as a fair one.

I entirely agree with their view

(3) Men selected as suitable for the work were taken off relief for refusing to accept, re para 4 of your minute 9/11/35 Sheet 16.

Men have not been discharged from Government employment for refusing sealing work. 8 men have been discharged from the Public Works Dept during the last 3 weeks, owing to lack of funds, amongst this 8 were those that did not accept sealing.

Re para 4 of your minute 9/11/35 Sheet 16.

(4) Same reply as to 2.

(5) Fair play and justice can safely be left to the Relief Committee.

I notice the Reform League? and not for the first time, refer to the Director of Public Works as being the cause of most of their troubles. I suppose they are aware that there is such a body as the Relief Committee, with local representation, who deals with these questions, and that that Committee is largely guided by the decisions given by the Colonial Secretary. I suggest that the

statements in the letter Ref. 90-100 are inaccurate as most of their statements are.

I put forward a suggestion that much valuable time would be saved if the Hon the Colonial Secretary were to act as Chairman of the Unemployment Relief Committee. He would then be au fait with everything that was happening instead of one having to write screeds of explanation.

C. Roberts.

Chairman Unemployment Relief Committee.

19-12-35

H.

Submitted. I think the League really means to refer to the U.R. Committee and not the D.P. Wks.

2. The statement in para. 2 of their letter is inaccurate. The U.R. Committee considered the terms offered by the Sealing Coy to be reasonable and very properly struck off relief those who refused to take the employment offered.

3. The Sealing Coy have since

turned the wages and according to the managers of the Coy have obtained what men they require.

3. I think the League might be informed on the basis of the above and that matters concerning employment and relief are considered and decided by the U.K. Committee and not by the D.P.W.s.


McH.
C.S.

20. 11. 35

I attach a note of the reply which should be sent. Before issuing it will you please confirm the fact x to x.

I do not want any blame fastened on the Committee or the D.P.W. where avoidable and reference to them is avoided.

You cannot be Chairman of a Committee where much ground for contention exists as I look to you to advise. The composition of the Committee could not be improved and I hope for a future opportunity of tangible recognition of the Chairman's services.

 24/11/35

Letter to the Secretary, F.S.R. of 24/12/35. (101-2)

Mr. G. Roberts

Chairman U.R. Committee

To note Mr's minute and
to see reds 101-102.

McH.

CS

28. XII. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

noted thank you.

G. Roberts.

Chairman U.R.C.
28/12/35.

Letter to Capt. W.R. Watson, of 30/12/35.

(103)

p. a.
McH

Letter from Sec. F.S.R.L. 4/1/36 (104-5)

Submitted. The question
of wages was verified from
the manager, Mr Watson but
I understood that when the Coy
was first formed and was under
a Norwegian manager very high
wages were paid - this is what
the League refer to and not to more
recent years.

McH

CS

5. 2. 36

H.C.

We can only acknowledge and say that as a result of enquiries it appears that the fact of the letter of the 24: Dec. dealing with wages should have excluded the first (?) year of the Company's operations.

That was I take it for one year only but I wd like that definite before the letter is issued

H.C. 7/2/36

(106)

Letter to Captain W.R. Watson, of 7/2/36
P.A.

(107)

Letter from Capt. D.R. Watson 14/2/36

(108)

Letter to Captain W.R. Watson of 17/2/36.

(109)

Letter to Secretary, H.F.R.L., of 17/2/36.

P.A.

mch

(110-111)

Letter from Capt. D.R. Watson 20/2/36

(112-113)

Report from Mr. E. Swain, 26/2/36.

Yh.

Reds 110-113 Submitted.

2. The Sealing Coy. were authorised to take 974 elephant seal but of this number they were only able to take less than half i.e., 453 in all.

Unfortunately the seal were in poor condition and only yielded 293 barrels of oil or only .648 of a barrel per seal. A very poor average and one which indicates that in future Sealing should be commenced at the proper season.

McH
S. S. S. B.

~~TTTTT~~ 2/2/36

Revised Sealing Report, 29/10/35. 114-116.

Yh. I do not know whether Yh. wishes to send the reports on Sealing operations rebs 112-116 to the S. of S.?

McH
S. S. S. B.

Pl. thank sealing office for their excellent reports. I do not consider it necessary to send them to the S. of S. yet at all events Mr. Hamilton's see

~~TTTTT~~ 16/3/36

117. Letter to Mr. E. Swain of 17/3/36.

Send to Mr. R. Hamilton M.C.
when he arrives in Stanley.

McH
C.P.
16.5.36.

(118) Letter from Mr. W. R. Watson of 17/3/36.

R. Submitted. The F1. Sealing
Coy apply for a permit to take
12000 hair seal and 10000
Elephant Seal.

2. The Sealing Coy were
authorised to take 974 Elephant
Seal during Dec^r 1935 and
January 1936. Of this number
they actually took 453 of
which all but 16 were taken
from Laponia with the
permission of the F1s. Coy.
Mr. Watson spoke with me
today and said his Coy were
anxious to go on to Albemarle
on the 21st inst.

3. I fear that there
will be some delay if
the matter has to be
referred to the S. of S. as

doubtless Mr. J. Hamilton
advice will be required, or
perhaps it would be as well to
refer the matter to Mr. Hamilton
first. In any case the
Company still has 521 Elephant
Seal to take to make up the
previously authorized number of
974.

MCH
C.L.
17.3.36.

We can give provisional permission
now for half the number sought -
viz 3000 hair seal and 500 elephant.
adding that authority is being sought
for number to complete. Then refer
to Mr. Hamilton please

17/3/36

Letter to Captain W.R. Watson of 19/3/36.

(119)

J.R.

Conditions of license it is
proposed to issue, submitted. Para:
6 contains as regards elephant seal
the condition suggested by Mr. J.
Hamilton.

2. Conditions in previous
license regarding the use of
the rock rifle or lance have
been omitted.

3. The Company wish to take elephant seal from the 22nd of March to the 15th of May and hair-seal from the 15th of May to the 31st October 1956. The seal are in best condition during the months of winter.

4. Constable Swami might accompany the expedition as Sealing officer on the same conditions as heretofore, provided the Chief Constable can spare him.

MCH
C.S.
19.5.56.

Approved
An acting constable to be appointed.

~~19/5/56~~ 19/5/56
Ch. Constable spoken. He states that he will require another Constable in place of Mr Swami, particularly during the winter.

MCH
C.S.
19.5.56

To be sent to Mr Swami as per 24. also for him to send to Sealy Co. as copies of conditions. (4 copies)

Copy of Sealing Licence of 20/3/36. 121-122.

Letter to Mr. E. Swain of 20/3/36. 123-124.

Letter to Capt. D. R. Watson of 23/3/36. 125.

Papers to go to Mr. J. R. Hamilton
when he arrives in Stanley.

Mr. Hamilton to consider the
proposal regarding the taking of
a further four hair seal and
500 Elephant seal. mcH
23.3.36.

31/3/36.
J. R. 23/3/36.
C. (126)

Letter from Falk Is. Office of 23/3/36.

/Hon. Treas.

To note. Will you kindly
withdraw cheque for £33-6-8,
on account of fur hair by
the H. Coy. Ltd. on behalf
of the F.I. and Dependencies
'Sealing Co. for a Sealing
licence. mcH
23.3.36.

Hon. Sec.

Cheque withdrawn & receipt
attached.

Will it be necessary to cancel
(124) in view of the recent arrangements
that Mr. Swain should act as
Customs officer? St
30/3/36

127. Letter to Manager, H. Is. Co., of 30/3/36.
 128. Letter to Mr. E. Swain of 31/3/36.

Harbour Master

Have you been able to arrange for the release of Mr. B. Ratchffe when required as Sealing Officer.

MCH
 C.I.
 31.3.36

129-130. Minute from Hon. Treasurer, 3/4/36.

Mr. B. Ratchffe is on the Sick list

MCH
 6.4.36.

Director Public Works.

Do you know of any men on the unemployment list who might be suitable as Sealing Officers.

MCH
 6.4.36

Hon. Col. Sec.

I do not think there is a man suitable on the unemployed list. From men on P.W. books I suggest I Dexon would be suitable the

at present employed on painting work
his wages are £9-16-3 per week.

Should he be selected I suggest
that an unemployed man might take
his place in Stanley.

1

A. Roberts.

D.P.W. 8/4/36.

131

P.S. - List of unemployed attached for
information please.
Enc.

Hon. Treasurer,

For your observations please
as to the D.P.W.'s suggestion in
his minute of 8/4/36.

A. J. G.
for Ld.
14/4/36.

Hon. C.S. I have discussed this matter with the D.P.W. and suggest
that the appointment of F. Dixon as ^{Assistant} ~~Assistant~~ Office
be approved. The D.P.W. should be asked to ~~arrange~~
the rate of pay which should be offered.
2. On the return of Mr. B. Latchford to duty, perhaps
the D.P.W. could arrange to employ E.F. Linton
during the absence of F. Dixon.

J.T. 15/4/36

C.S.O. No. 75/35

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 27

D.P.W.

For your consideration
Please

C. J. J.
for M.
12/4/36

Hon Col Sec.

Suggest wage of £4 per week
be offered.

D. P. W.
16/4/36.

Yr.

Will your Excellency be
pleased to approve of the
appointment of J. Dixon as
leading office with wages at the
rate of £4 per week.

Constable Swain will be required
to act as Customs officer during
Mr. Bennett's leave of absence and
Mr. B. Ratchiff, who is at present on
the sick list, cannot be spared.

C. J. J.
for M.
16/4/36.

Approved

ttttd 20/4/36

Hon. Treasurer,

to note.

Letter will come to Mr. Discom
in due course.

Presumably a Special Warrant
will be required to cover wages.
Will you please advise as to the
Head under which the service should
appear? Thereafter, will you kindly pass to
S.P.W. to note. A.D. 10/15.
20/4/36

Hon. Sec.

Suggest a new Inv. Head
under XV - Naturalist - Temporary Healing Office.

J.T.
23/4/36

Letter from Mr. H. R. Watson, 20/4/36.

(132-133)

Letter to Mr. F.B. Discom d/27/4/36.

134-135.

Mr. Hamilton

Submitted in accordance with
H.S. minute of 17 March 1936 on the back of
Sheet 24.

2. For your advice on (132) and (133) from
the F.I. & D. Healing Co.

J. Q. Ed.
29/4/36

Hon. Col. Sec.

2 submit a note hereon please.

J. Hamilton

136-140

8-V-36

- (146) Letter from manager, H. Is. Co. of 5/5/36.
 (147) Letter to manager, H. Is. Co., of 12/5/36.
 148 Letter from Sealing Office, 16/5/36.
 149 Minute from Mr. Hamilton, 13/5/36.
 150 Letter from manager, J. Is. Co. 14/5/36
 151. Telegram to Sealing Officer, Albemarle, 20/5/36.

Y/E.

Reds (133) and (136 to 145) submitted.

In order to obtain further capital the Falk. Is. & Dependencies Sealing Company submit an application for the consideration of Y.E. to grant them a licence for a period of seven years - para. 8 (133)

2. They also seek permission to take annually 15,000 to 20,000 hair seals, 1,000 elephant seals and whales to an unlimited quantity - para 8 (133)

3. As regards sealing the Company are agreeable to limits being fixed and suggest Fox Bay Heads to New Island.

4. The correspondence was sent to the Govt. Naturalist for his observations, and his reply is at reds (136-145).

5. In dealing with the points referred to in para's. 1, 2 and 3 above the Govt. Naturalist states)
 para. 1. He considers the following further information should be obtained

- (a) The exact financial position of the Sealing Co.
- (b) The probable source of new working capital.
- (c) The proposed re-organization of the Co., and
- (d) The proposed whaling operations - para. 2 of

red (145).

The/

The Government Naturalist states that he is unable to recollect that the system of annual licences has never prevented the whalers, whose annual expenses are very large, from fitting out their expeditions and that while there are still whaling companies operating under Colonial licences it does not seem desirable to establish a precedent in such a manner. Para 3 (1) - red (145). He goes on to say that Mr. Watson does not seem to realize that there would probably be no question of his licence not being renewed as long as the sealing was conducted in a reasonably proper way but he also points out that the Company has in the past frequently offended against the conditions of the licence and that its general conduct has been open to criticism - para. 3 (2) red (144).

He advocates an annual licence and he gives reason in para. 4 of red (144).

Re para. 2 above the Govt. Naturalist considers that a total of 10,000 bulls may be killed annually up to 1950 - para 11 (b) red (141). This it will be observed is between 5,000 and 10,000 less than the Company's requirements.

In para. 14 (c) Mr. Hamilton suggests that the number of elephant seal be restricted to 500.

With regard to whaling Mr. Hamilton suggests that the only restriction should be that the Right whale be excluded from the licence.

Finally Mr. Hamilton suggests the following seasons :-

Sea Lions - 1st June - 31st October.

Elephant Seal 1st March - 30th September.

Re: para. 3 above Mr. Hamilton suggests that an area of reserve should be established vide para. 3 (b) of red (145).

6. Although inexperienced in the matter of sealing I feel in agreement with the views expressed by Mr. Hamilton, particularly on the information contained in para 13 of red

(139), para 14 of reds (139 - 138), and submit a draft reply to the Company for the consideration of Y.E.

Ag. C. S.
6/6/36.

As in draft of C.S.O.

A draft should also be asking that
function may be paid for holding the
estimated 6000 making the total
the same number as before in 1935.
A reply by telegram should be sought.

9/6/36

152-154 Letter to Secretary, F.R. & Dep. Sealing Co of 10/6/36.

155. Letter to Manager, F.R. Co., of 11/6/36.

(156) Letter from Manager, F.R. Co. of 12/6/36.

157. Letter to Sealing Officer of 19/6/36.

(158) Letter from Mr. J. B. Dixon of 1st July, 1936.

Report of an interview granted to the Hon. G. J.
Selton & Mr. D. R. Watson on 8/7/36 by H.C.
the Governor.

Y.E. Submitted.

I should be glad to know if Y.E. considers that the
notes made in reds (159) - (161) include all the points
raised during the interview.

9/7/36

As amended plan

10/7/36

Letter from the Secretary, ^{H.L. & W.} Sealing Co. of 9/4/36. (162-3)
" " " Directors, " " 9/4/36. (164)

Letter to Hon. G.J. Felton of 14.7.36. 165.
" " Hon. W.J. Hutchinson of 14.7.36. 166.

T.E.,

W. Felton came to see me this afternoon and mentioned that elephants keep coming up in small groups and that the licence expired on 15 June. His Company have only taken 180 elephants including "Lafonia" and they now wish the period to be further extended for another month.

2. The licence has already been extended from 15 May to 15 June vide red (147).

3. Will T.E. approve of the further extension for another month from say tomorrow?

Res.
17/7/36

Note. H.E. approved of the extension of one month. ~~as the telegram may not reach today~~ Res. 18/7/36

Mr. Hamilton.

Please investigate & report on "A" in red (163) & "B" in red 162 and any other information you can offer.

Res.
21/7/36

Hon. Col. Sec.

My observations herewith please.

J. Hamilton
28.7.36

170-172.

- 167-168 Despatch to S. & S. No. 106 of 17/7/36.
 169 Letter to Hon. G. J. Selton, 18/7/36.
 170-172 Minute from Mr. J. E. Hamilton.

Y.E. submitted. I have made an additional copy which Y.E. may wish to take with you on tour.

cf. ed.
27/7/36

(173) Minute to J. E. Hamilton, Esq. of 31. 7. 36.

(174) Minute from Mr. J. E. Hamilton, of 27/7/36.

~~(175-177) Minute from Mr. J. E. Hamilton, of 27/7/36.~~

(178) Minute from Mr. J. E. Hamilton 7/8/36.

Y.E.

Red (175) is submitted w.r.t. and (173) Mr. Hamilton proposes visiting Albermarle on or about 12th Sept. and I should be glad to know if this will meet the approval of Y.E.

Red
12/8/36

I am glad to hear of Mr. Hamilton's proposed visit. It is however unlikely that the Company will be operating in September. The season so far has been exceedingly poor and seats have not been put up. The workers wish to return to Stanley unless there are very early signs of improvement. 12/8

C.A.
14/8/36.

Telegram from Sealing Officer of 14.8.36. (176)

Y.E. Submitted

In view of (168) I submit for approval that I may inform the sealing office that for the present 6000 seals may be taken and if a further amount is likely to be required a telegraphic application should be sent to this office before the figure of 6000 is reached.

P.S.C.S.
17/8/36

I have no hesitation in giving
up to
permission for taking 8000 (and will
consider 10,000 if necessary later)
10/8/36

Telegram to Manager, Sealing Company, Albemarle of 18/8/36. (177)
— — — Sealing Officer, Albemarle of 18.8.36. (178)

Letter from Manager, P.S.C.S. 24/8/36. (179) P.A. 18/8/36.

- Y.E. Originally at red (119) permission was given to take 6000 seals.
2. At red (167) an additional 4000 was mentioned in the Desp. to the S.P.S.
 3. In view of Y.E.'s minute dated 18/8/36 - above - permission was granted to take 8000 in all ⁽¹⁷⁷⁾ or an addition of 2000 to the number referred to in para 1 of this minute.
 4. As an additional 4000 only has been referred to the S.P.S. and as Y.E. mentioned 10,000 in the above minute perhaps authority could be given to take 10,000 in all.

P.S.C.S. 27/8/36

Approved for 10,000 but
no hope of any increase
over this number can be given
28/8/36

- (180) Letter to Manager, F. I. & Dep. Sealing Co., of 1.9.36.
 (181) Telegram from S. of S. No. 82 of 1.9.36.
 (182) Telegram to Sealing Officer, Albemarle of 2.9.36.

Y.E.

Ref (181) submitted.

although the Company asked for 12,000 in all
 only 10,000 were allowed vide ref (179) + (180)

2. Only 500 ^{ELEPHANT} seal were allowed vide
 ref (171) but the S. of S. has authorised 1000.

3. The period for taking Elephant seal was
 restricted i.e. from 22nd March to 15 May.
 This period was extended at the request of
 Mr. Felton to 18th August vide (169) no
 further extension was asked for.

4. Perhaps Y.E. would like to discuss this
 matter with the F. I. C. manager or
 representative of the F. I. & D. Sealing Co.

R.C.S. 2/9/36

I do not propose to issue
 authority for killing in excess of
 the 10,000 unless the need is
 clearly indicated but I am glad to
 have the extra 2000 in hand. Nor
 do I propose to grant further permits in
 for sea elephants for the same reason unless
 clear desirability is shown.

Please telegraph to Sealing Officer
 asking him to report W. of sea lions + elephants
 killed to 31st of August and to send further
 fortnightly reports of sea lions taken

2/9/36
~~THH~~

Telegram to Sealing Officer, Allemarle 2/9/36 (183)

P.A.
3/9/36

Letter from Capt. Dr Roberts 7/9/36 (184)

P.A.
4/9/36

Telegram from F.B. Dixon, Sealing Officer, 11.9.36. (185)

Y.E.

- Rebs (184) + (185) submitted.

It will be observed that from 1/1/36 have still approx 3700 seals which they may take and the original allocation of Elephant seal will not be exceeded.

Red.
12/9/36

P.A.
14/9

ttttt 14/9/36

Telegram from F.B. Dixon of 15.9.36. (186)

Y.E.

- Submitted.

The total taken up to 14/9/36 is 7588.

Red.
18/9/36

ttttt 18/9/36

P.A.
19/9/36

187. Telegram from Sealing Officer, of 29. 9. 36.

-1.E.

a total of 9148 seals were taken & the F.I.D. & Co.

Y.F.
2/12/36

2/4/36
T.M.

188-192

P.A.
31/10/36

Report made by Sealing Officer - Season 1936.

Y.F.

submitter.

Mr. Dixon's report will no doubt be very useful and it is a good effort for a first report.

2. It will be seen from para 6 sub (170) that the average no. of seal per barrel was 3.933 and in the second para of sub (172) Mr. Hamilton estimated 3.6 seal per barrel. The figures compare favourably with the information given at the time of sub (137).

3. Perhaps one copy of the report could be sent to Mr. Hamilton for his information. I have not yet received the report of his visit to Albemarle.

Y.F.
13/12/36

A well written report read with interest. Pl. thank the F.I.D.
It is rather difficult to reconcile the weekly catch with the dead stock of

the station as I saw it at the beginning
of August:

Mr. Hamilton should see the
report.

Will you please arrange for Capt.
Watson to call to see me ~~possibly~~
this on Thursday at noon if that
time is convenient to him

TTTTT 13/12/36

Note.

Capt. Watson will be pleased to
attend at His Excellency's Office at
12 noon on Thursday. (arranged by
telephone) J.C. 13/12/36.

Letter to Mr. E.B. Dixon of 7/11/36.
Minute to Mr. J.C. Hamilton of 14/10/36.

(193)

(194)

P.A.
14/10/36.

Report from Sec. of Sealing Co 7/11/36
Minute from H.E. Shelton 7/11/36

Minute to Mr. J.C. Hamilton of 7/11/36
Letter to Capt. D.K. Watson, of 7/11/36.

195-203

(205)

(205)

(206)

P.A.
6/11/36.

C.S.O. No. 75/35

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 33

(207-9)

Minute from J.E. Hammeton, Esq 6/11/36

Y.E.

Reds (207) - (209) submitted.

2. May paras 2 (or 208) to para (8) on (207) be sent to the Company for their information.
3. w.r.t. the date of commencing work referred to by Mr Hammeton in para 2 of (209) the Company propose to leave on 15 Nov. vide the final para of (201) to which I don't suppose there is any objection.

Pres.
9/11/36

Yes
till 9/21/36

(210-212)

Letter to Capt. W. R. Watson, 11/11/36.

P.H.
12/11/36.

Y.E.

The Reading Officers report is at 189-192.

Pres.
13/11/36

till 14/11/36

P.H.
14/11/36.

Letter from Dr Watson. Esq 10/11/31 (213)

Y.E. Submitted for information.

Red.
20/11/36

Mull 20/11/36

Letter from Manager, Falks. Co. of 10/11/36

P. 1
20/11/36
(214)

Acknowledgements of receipt. 8/3/37 (215)

Y.E.

Submitted. I note from red 164 that the F.L. Sealing Coy raised the question of a Sealing and Whaling concession for seven years to a reorganized Coy in which the F.L. Coy would be included. In red 165 the F.L. Sealing Coy were told that Y.E. would be prepared to seek the approval of the S. of S.

2. The F.L. Coy now state they would be prepared to take an active part in the reconstructed company. This being so it is assumed that adequate capital, skilled personnel and plant will become available to enable Sealing and Whaling to be carried out in an efficient manner.

3. The position of the present Sealing Coy is such that it is unable to obtain additional capital or plant and its only hope is reorganization with

the F.S. Coy. holding a financial interest.

WCH
C.S.
11.3.37

Please reply that on the 14th of July last I informed the directors of the ~~Whaling~~ F.S. and Dependencies Sealing Coy. that I wd. be prepared to seek the approval of the Gov. of State to the grant of a monopoly for seven years to a reconstructed company for sealing and whaling in Falkland Island waters and the offer remains open. The conditions of such a licence would be the same, as those now imposed in respect of sealing and whaling licences. It is the desire of the Gov. to assist the industry but the Gov. must be satisfied that adequate capital to be as in para 2 of yr. minute.

ttttt 12/3/37

RCS.
of letter
please
WCH

216. Letter to Managers. J. B. Coy. 16/3/37.
✓ WCH

~~Shropshire~~
~~Cheshire~~
 15/4/37.
 21/3/37.
 (217)

Letter from Manager, F.L. Co. 6/4/37.

F.L. Submitted. Taking horse business
 the usual annual number authorized
 to be killed is 10,000 hares sent.
 Elephants say 500 but this may
 require some modification. A whaling
 licence would no doubt be issued
 on the same terms as those issued
 in the Dependencies. Whales would
 require to be taken as laid down
 in the laws and regulations.
 Presumably there would be no call
 to restrict the number of whales
 to be taken. Season will require
 consideration as it will be
 different to the Dependencies.

MCH
 Ch.

Please let him have a copy of a
 sealing and a whaling licence and refer to para 2
 of yr. letter of the 16th March adding that
 apart from the possibility of restricting the no. of sec.
 elephants in the interests of the industry the only
 other matter for consideration will be an alteration in
 the season for killing whales to suit local conditions.
 I am sure that the interests of the industry are the paramount consideration. 7/4/37.

218-219. Letter to Manager, E. & S. Co., of 8. 4. 37.

P.A.
8/4/37

(220)

M.H.
8. 4. 37.Extract from letter from Hon. L. W. H. Young
of 17/5/37. (M.P. 250/33)

Yr.
 Ref 220 submitted. I understand from Mr. Watson that adequate capital is forthcoming if the insistence can be given an assurance that a license for seven years will be granted. Mr. Young informed me verbally in the same sense and said that probably insistence would be given the period a license would be granted for. No doubt the inability of the Coy to give this information will render it difficult to attract capital.

2. The Sealing Coy wish to commence operations early in June. The Secretary of the Coy has informed me that no license will be asked for elephant seal but that his Coy apply for a license to take up to

10,000 Hai sent this season. I
note from red 181 that 12,000
were authorised in 1936.

The Coy is anxious to prepare an
an early date for sealing. From
red 181 it would seem that the
question of numbers must be
referred to the S. of S. This I
fear will cause delay. It is
very desirable that the resolution
should commence as early as
possible.

McCl.

19. 5. 37.

I authorize - licence for
10,000 in anticipation of the
S. of S. sanction

The question of the licence for
7 years - can only be decided in
Laden. I will take the matter
up there.

~~ttttt~~ 17/5/37

Telegram to S. of S. No. 42 of 18. 5. 37.

(221)

Letter to Mr. Young of 18/5/37.

(222)

Office - I propose draw licences
on basis of previous licence or
best

best
19. 5. 37

223. Telegram from S. of S. No. 58 of 25.5.37.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Draft Licence submitted. Dates of commencement ~~to~~ and termination to remain the same as in Rec 121. ? Will the fee too remain at £33-6-8. ?

AB: for C.S. 26/5/37

Draft licence approved.

Fee to be £33-6-8.

In rec 132, Mr. Hamilton did not oppose the dates for taking Hari Seal. The period can be inserted 1st June - 31st October.

In CH
ag. Gov.

224-226.

Letter to Capt. J. R. Walton 28/5/37.

Hon Treasurer

To note

AB: for C.S.
28/5/37.

Hon Col Sec

The sum of £33-6-8 was paid to the Treasurer on Rec 9117 of 25.5.37

ABP
for Col Sec.
1/6/37

(227)

(228)

Letter from Hon. Sec. L. S. R. L. of 28/5/37.
Letter from Mr. G. Brechin of 28/5/37.

H. C. S.

With draft letters to
H. R. L. and the Sec. F. I. and
D. Sealy Coy. Ltd. I fully
agree that Camp Haver should
not be employed on Sealing.
The Agric. Adviser informs me
yesterday that Mr. Bonner of
San Carlos Station required
3 or 4 hands. This is a
good sign.

2. I think Mr. Brechin
will do quite well as Sealing
officer. He is an intelligent
person. Carelessness shown when
he was whaling officer was largely
due to his inexperience. He
should not have been put in
charge without some previous
experience and training.

If you concurs he can be
appointed Sealy officer at pay at
the rate of 9/- per diem. As the
ordinary Sealy workman averages
£11 to £13 per month, I do not
think we can offer the officer
less than 9/- per diem. Before
informing Mr. Brechin please
see Captain Watson as to when
he is likely to commence operations
and tell him that Mr. Brechin
will go as Sealy officer.

Yours
H. C. S.

By. Gov.

2.6.57

229. Letter to Mr. W. J. McHlasney of 2.6.37.
 230. — — — Sec. F.I. and Dep. Sealing Co., Ltd., 2.6.37.

Y.E.

With regard to the employment of Mr Brechin as Sealing Officer, I attach C/10/31 which contains on Sheet 3 an extract from the Minutes of Executive Council of 22/6/31 for Y.E.'s information.

If the employment of Mr Brechin cannot be entertained in view of the extract, perhaps Mr J. Dison may be prepared to go. Mr Dison is at present at the Lighthouse but returns on the 15th of this month to Stanley. The new Principal Keeper is due to arrive on the 22nd by "Lafonia" in which case it might be possible to arrange for the light-keeper at present in Stanley (J. Bernstein) to relieve Mr Dison.

I have spoken to Captain Watson who informs me that he will be leaving Stanley in the "Port Richard" any day after the 6th June.

I have suggested Mr Dison as he is familiar with the work.

K.B.
for C.S. 2/6/37

Mr Dison must remain at the Lighthouse until the new keeper takes over.

C/10/31.

2. With reference to the decision of Ex. Co. in June, 1931, is it not a fact that Mr G. Brechin has been in Govt. employ for some time and that recently he was appointed a member of the Unemployment Relief Committee and thanked

In his services? I see no reason
for keeping a man down if he has
since made good and turned out a
respectable member of the community.
In 1934, when difficulty was being
experienced over whaling labourers
this person as a leader of the
Reform League assisted in getting
men to go.

W.H.

2-6-37

Y.P.

Mr Brechin has been employed by
the P.H.D. as workman. As the appointment
of Sealing Officer will not include anything
of a financial nature and as the applicant
would appear to be the only person available
perhaps in the circumstances he might be
given another chance. Letter of appl. to
issue?

H.B.

for C.S.

3/6/37

Captain Watson of the H. Sealing
Co. requested an interview. I saw
him this afternoon. He stated that
his Co. knew that the League was
referring to last Sealing Season when
two men from Port Stephens and one
from Inset Bay Strs were employed with
the concurrence of the Managers of
those Stations. Had any Station been
short of men they would have
complained. Captain Watson further
pointed out that food workers were
required for Sealing and preferably
men with experience. He did not wish
to take Camp hands unless the
Managers of a Station agreed to let
them go.

I informed Captain Watson that as he was aware farmers wanted men with experience of farm work and that it was desirable that such men should take Camp work instead of Sealing or whaling. At the same time I made it clear that there was no suggestion of interfering in any way with his Company over the question of labour. The conditions under the License were that H. workers must be employed and his Coy. must comply with that condition.

2. I understood that Mr. Brechani has been laid up. Please ascertain if he is alright again. You had better send for him and explain the duties and then ascertain if he is willing to go.

Captain Watson said he hoped to go within a few days, so Mr. Brechani should hold himself in readiness to go on early notice. mes
4.6.35.

See previous instructions to Seely Officer. Henry - observing rookeries re.

Y.E.

I have seen Mr Brechin who is willing to accept the appl. I have instructed him with regard to the duties. He states that he is quite well now. Letter of appl. as in the case of Mr Dixon Red. (135) with necessary alterations?

Y.B.
for C.S.
4/6/37.

✓
MCH
S.S. 57.

Letter to Mr. G. Brechin of 4/6/37. (232)

Hon Treasurer.

To note

Y.B.
for C.S.
7/6/37.

Hon Secy.
noted.

And. J. for Hon Treas.
8/6/37.

Minute from Hon. S.M.O. of 10/6/37. (233)

Y.E.

Submitted. There does not appear to be any question as to Mr. Brechin's medical fitness.

Y.B.
for C.S.
10/6/37.

I concur. We have taken the precaution of having him medically examined. The certificate by the S.M.O. covers us.

MCH
10.6.37

P.A.
10/6/37.

234. Letter to Mr. G. Brechin of 17.6.37.

Y.E.

Sp. W. to cover the salary of the
Dealing Officer submitted for approval.Rd
1/7/37

Hon. Ct.

Landed.

MCH

1.7.37

S/ls. passed to Treasury 1/7/37.

Govt. Naturalist.

This should have been passed to
you. Will you please prepare vouchers
for Mr Brechin's pay, with effect from the
17th June, 1937. Vouchers for the same period
should be prepared as soon as possible.

R.S.
for C.S.
8/7/37.

Hon: C.S.

Vouchers passed into Treasury

Agg
9/7/37PA
9/7/37

Closea
Secret

139/37

March 30
19

Sir,

With reference to previous correspondence in connection with Sealing to be undertaken this Season, and for which license has been granted already for the taking of Otaria Byronia - or ordinary H-air Seal or Sea Lions (males only), we hereby apply for permission to also kill and process Male Sea Elephants (Macrorhinus proboscideus).

This Company has in previous Seasons been granted permission to kill and process male sea-elephants, and the taking of a proportion of such animals, greatly facilitates the work as one large sea-elephant is equal to 8 seals in regard to oil produced.

Also sea-elephants are in better condition earlier than sea-lions and sealing, for the elephants only, could be commenced anytime after the first of May.

The animals remain around the Islands until about the end of August, after which month they almost entirely disappear, and do not re-appear until the second week in November.

If Government are satisfied with the manner in which the principal season will have been worked, both in regard to Sea Elephants and Sea Lions, this Company would then appreciate permission to also kill and process Sea Elephants only, from the 1st November until the end of the following February, as by this means men will be longer in employment and the Sealing Company may possibly obtain some larger benefit from a larger production of oil.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. R. Watson

for THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THE HON:

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
CANBERRA.

Sir,

We have had an offer for approximately 300 tons of seal oil. The price suggested by the prospective buyers is £14-.-. per ton C.I.F. Glasgow.

At this price it is not possible to arrange financial assistance for the season with Messrs The Falkland Islands Co Ltd., as the estimated margin of profit between estimated cost of production £12-12-4 per ton, and the price offered is so small that there is not sufficient margin to guard against any unforeseeable contingencies.

The last time the sealing company worked in 1932 we were offered £15-.-. per ton - we produced 300 tons and the nett profit for the season's work was only £400 (approximate). Actually we did not receive £15-.-. per ton for the 300 tons shipped, as some of the oil was re-graded in England and buyers insisted upon paying at a lower rate in accordance with usual practice in Europe.

Also the said £400 profit did not take into account any allowances for depreciation of plant and cost of maintaining plant when idle.

Under these circumstances we beg to enquire whether Government can assist in any way to make it possible for the Sealing Company to work during this season in order to take advantage of the offer received for oil and to keep the industry on the basis of a 'going concern' for one season more.

The advantages to the general public (or any Colonial revenue) need not be stressed. It would mean remunerative work for about 50 local labourers and for a period of 3 months or more.

We refrain from stipulating in any way what form official assistance might take, but any form of assistance, sufficient to warrant the production of 350 tons of seal oil would be welcome.

But perhaps official assistance may be considered in any of the following forms:-

- a) A bounty or subsidy on oil produced.
- b) A cash contribution per month per man engaged by the Company and taken off the roll of men at present in receipt of Government relief.
- c) Provide finance for the season out of Government funds (under audit and control) and be prepared to stand the cost of any eventual loss on the season's working.
- d) Guarantee any deficit on season's work so as to obtain finance elsewhere. Accounts to be under Government audit.

A prompt solution in connection with this subject would be much esteemed as it will be necessary, not only

to clinch the bargain with the prospective buyers in England but also to obtain certain spare parts of equipment from South Georgia and a considerable amount of preliminary work also needs to be done on the station at Althamarle before sealing could be commenced on the 1st July next.

We have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servants.

B.R. Watson.

for the Board of Directors.

*The Honble
The Colonial Secretary*

Suggested conditions under licence to seal might be issued.

1. This licence to kill seals applies only to the species locally known as the Hair Seal, that is, the Southern Sea Lion (*Otaria byronia*) and to adult males alone. It expires on the 30th October 1935.
2. The licence is valid only for the Colony of the Falkland Islands and does not apply to the Dependencies.
3. The usual fee of £33 6 8 is payable on the issue of the licence.
4. The oil produced will be subject to export duty at the current rate.
5. The number of seals killed is not to exceed 8,000 (eight thousand).
6. The animals are to be killed in a humane manner and with as little disturbance as possible.
7. The only firearm ^h which may be used is the 295/300 rook rifle and it should be fitted with a silencer.
8. A supply of lances must be procured and used whenever possible in place of firearms.
9. The ~~h~~ whole carcass of every seal killed is to be utilised.
10. Full monthly and seasonal returns shall be made and shall show the number of seals killed, the ~~in~~ exact localities from which they were taken, the amount of oil produced from each batch and such other information as may be required.
11. All operations under this licence shall be subject to the supervision of a sealing officer appointed by the Governor and maintained by the licencees without cost to the Government.
12. Only local labour may be employed.
13. This licence is not transferable and is issued subject to the provisions of the Seal Fishery Ordinance and the regulations made ~~xxx~~ thereunder and is liable to cancellation or modification with or without reason assigned.

J. E. Hamilton

+ 2/d/ta. 8/1921

75/35.

12th March,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 25th February, 1935, and to inform you that His Excellency regrets that he cannot see his way to assist your Company on the lines proposed.

2. I am however to state that if your Company proceeds with its operations, and the Government is anxious that it should do so in order to give employment, His Excellency would consider sympathetically an application for a grant at the end of the Season if operations were well conducted and a loss resulted.

3. I am to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of a Memorandum by Mr. J. Erik Hamilton M.Sc., together with a note of the terms in which a licence would issue. I am to point out that the object of all the conditions is to ensure the greatest possible prosperity for the industry as a permanent factor in the life of the Colony subject only to the restriction that it is not possible at present to give different treatment to your Company and to others operating within the jurisdiction of the Government.

D. R. Watson, Esqr.,
Secretary, F.I. Sealing Co. Ltd.,
STANLEY.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

mch
Colonial Secretary.

THE FALKLAND AND DEPENDENCIES SEALING Co.

Sir,

We are in receipt of and thank you for your favourable letter of 12th inst.. (No 75/35)

We wish to express our deep appreciation of his Excellency the Governor's promise to consider an application for a grant at the end of the Season if, in spite of operations being well conducted, a loss is experienced on the Season's work.

We sincerely hope that no loss will be experienced and we beg to assure His Excellency that, the undersigned and his collaborators, will spare no personal effort in order to bring the Season's work to a satisfactory conclusion.

We have to add that Messrs The Falkland Islands Company Ltd. have agreed to finance the Season's work, and that negotiations are almost concluded with a purchaser in England who has offered £15.- per ton for Grade "A" seal oil and £14.- per ton Grade "B" seal oil, and for a minimum quantity of 300 tons. The prices for seal oil are C.I.F. English port.

Thus far the negotiations are on a clear basis and everything in order to commence necessary repairs to the plant and proceed work as soon as the seals are in sufficient numbers on their breeding grounds.

CONDITIONS OF LICENSE.

In this connection the Sealing Company is quite naturally anxious to meet Government requirements to the fullest extent possible, nevertheless there are certain points which it may not be possible to satisfy immediately — and we would here remark that Sealing operations have been conducted during 1928, 1929 and 1930 and again in 1931 during which periods it would have been possible to test the efficacy of the hunting procedure at present laid down had the Company been aware at the commencement of its operations that such hunting procedure was desirable.

As it is at present the Sealing Company could not guarantee the carrying out of such requirements to the letter, but can promise to endeavour by every means possible to meet the said requirements.

KILL WITH LANCE.

None of the men likely to be employed by the Company can be relied upon as sufficiently expert to use a lance in the manner laid down. Nevertheless the Sealing Company will procure lances and every effort will be made to perfect the killing of seals by this method.

KILLING BY FIREARMS.

Up to the present .303 Army pattern rifles have been used and have proved very efficient, both in regard to killing the seals

outright and in regard to the general wear and tear that the rifles undergo.

However, as a 295/300 rook rifle cartridge with an 80 grain solid lead bullet is recommended by Government, the Sealing Company will procure this equipment together with silencers, and every effort will be made to prove the suggested change of weapon desirable.

Unfortunately no weapons of this caliber 295/300 firing an 80 grain bullet are procurable locally — the nearest we can get is a "Sherwood" rifle by Westley Richards .300 bore firing a copper capped bullet of 120 grains, and arrangements have already made to borrow this weapon (it has a silencer) together with 600 rounds of ammunition which are available locally.

Other equipment will have to be ordered by cable from Messrs B.S.A. Ltd. — rifles £5-5-0 each, silencers, £1-12-6 each, and .300 ammunition 80 grains solid bullet from I.C.I. Ltd. at £3-8-4 per 1000. None of this extra equipment can arrive here until end of May or early June next.

DRIVING SEALS.

The observations made in this connection will be constantly borne in mind and if any seals succumb while being driven the blubber will be collected and utilised.

PARTICULAR CONDITIONS OF LICENSE.

- 1) The Company agrees to only kill adult males of the fair seal, or Southern Sea Lion (*Otaria byrona*) the license to expire on 30th October 1935.
- 2) Sealing operations will only take place in the Falkland Islands proper.
- 3) The fee of £33-6-8- will be deposited before sealing commences.
- 4) Export duty will be deposited on each parcel exported and at the time of export.
- 5) In regard to the number of seals fixed at 8,000 we respectfully suggest that the number is small and 12,000 seals could be taken this season without fear of depleting the stock. Last year no seals were killed, and when the license was first issued to the Company the figure was placed at 20,000.

While it is quite possible that even less than 8,000 seals may be taken during the season, the Company would not like to have a possible successful season hampered by being restricted to 8,000 seals. The date for the terminating of the license, 30th October 1935, already protects against seals being taken at a wrong epoch.

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co.

4.

- a) number of seals to be taken.
- b) type of firearms to be employed.
- c) Engineer of foreign nationality.

will be much appreciated.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your obedient servant

L. R. Loatson

for the Board of Directors.

THE HON.
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.
ST. JAMES'S PLACE.

75/55.

19th March,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter undated, and to inform you that your Company should obtain and use the type of rifle recommended by Mr. J.M. Hamilton M.Sc., for its forthcoming sealing operations. I am to add that the use of the 303 rifle at all this year is required to be limited to the minimum dictated by practical necessity and the number of rounds used should be recorded and reported.

2. I am to state with reference to the condition that the number of seals killed is not to exceed 3000, that it will be necessary to await the report of the Sealing Officer attached to the expedition before consideration can be given to any modification of that number.

3. I am to inform you that there is no objection to your Company employing a Norwegian Engineer, provided that an Engineer cannot be obtained locally.

4. I am to state further that the spirit in which your Company's willingness to give full effect to the wishes of the Government and the terms of the licence is manifested will have a considerable bearing on any further application from your company in this and subsequent years.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Attn D.R. Watson,
Managing Director,
Auckland Islands Dependencies
Sealing Company, Ltd.,
STANLEY.

Colonial Secretary.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Governor.

To The Secretary of State.

Despatched : 2nd April, 19 35. Time : 18.30.

Received : ... 19 Time :

No. 25. Sealing Company have applied for licence for forthcoming season. After consulting Hamilton propose to authorise Company to take 8,000 hair seal under supervision of Sealing Officer. Recommend in addition that Company be permitted to take elephant seal not exceeding 300 subject to the conditions set out in your telegram No. 35 28th June, 1933. If Company can operate it will provide a productive outlet for men in need of employment and relieve the burden of unemployment. I strongly recommend approval.

Governor.

75/35.

6th April,

35.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th March, 1935, applying for permission to take and kill male sea elephants (*Macrorhinus proboscideus*.) and to inform you that the matter has been referred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

2. I am to add that a further communication on this subject will be addressed to you in due course.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

D.R. Watson. Esq.,

Secretary,

The Falkland Islands

& Dependencies Sealing Co.Ltd.,

STANLEY.

Stanley
April 5. 1935.

Sir,

Having heard that the Sealing Co. are working during the coming season, I wish to apply for the post of Sealing Officer.

I lease the Arch Islands, & in addition to being well acquainted with the locality, I am familiar with the work.

I am

Sir

Your obedient servant

E R Lusack

The Hon Colonial Secretary

(14)
Stanley 5th April 1933.

Sir,
I hereby beg to make application
for the post of Sealing Officer for
the Colonial Government

I understand that the Sealing Season
is to commence shortly.

I have not furnished any references as
there are already, four copies together with
a letter from the Estate Louis Williams
dated 23rd March 1933, and also full
particulars regarding my career, in

14
your office.

I hope His Excellency the Governor
may consider my application favourably.

I remain, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

Berke Fleuret

To. The Colonial Secretary

Stanley.

75/35.

8th April,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 5th April, 1935, and to inform you that your application has been noted.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

W. C. H.

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E.R. Cusack.
STANLEY.

75/35.

8th April,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 5th April, 1935, and to inform you that your application has been noted.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

h. H.

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Bertie Fleuret.
STANLEY.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

To GOVERNOR.

Despatched: 15th April,

19 35. *Time:* 1920.

Received: 16th April,

19 35. *Time:* 1100.

No.37. Your telegram No 25. Sealing licence I approve.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

75/35.

17th April,

35.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 75/35 of the 6th of April, 1935, I have the honour to inform you that the Secretary of State has approved the issue of a licence to your Company to take 8,000 hair seal and 300 male elephant seals.

2. I have to request that you will inform me as early as possible of the date it is proposed to commence actual sealing operations. It is suggested that the licence might commence on the 15th May and terminate on the 31st October.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

mcH

Colonial Secretary.

D. R. Watson, Esq.,
Secretary,

Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

S C H E D U L E.

CONDITIONS OF LICENCE.

1. That a fee of £33. 6. 8. is paid on the issue of the licence.
 2. That the usual duty on the export of Seal Oil is paid.
 3. That the licence is valid in respect of the Falkland Islands, to the exclusion of the Dependencies thereof, and shall commence on the 15th May, 1935, and terminate on the 31st October, 1935.
 4. That the seals to be killed are restricted expressly to the species known as hair-seals (*otaria byronia*) and elephant seals (*macrorhinus proboscideus*) and to adult males alone.
 5. That the number of seals killed is not to exceed in the case of hair-seal 8,000 (eight thousand) and in the case of elephant seal 300 (three hundred).
 6. That at least 10% of the adult male seals are left at each rookery.
 7. That no pups or females are killed, and that no immature or under-sized seals are killed.
 8. That the seals are killed in a humane manner and with as little disturbance as possible, and are not to be driven long distances.
 9. That the 295/300 rook rifle is used fitted with a silencer. That the use of the .303 rifle at all is limited to the minimum dictated by practical necessity and the number of rounds used must be recorded and reported.
 10. That lances are used whenever possible in place of firearms.
 11. That the whole carcase of every seal killed is utilised as far as possible for the extraction of oil and that there is no undue waste.
 12. That full returns shall be made, monthly, annually and as otherwise required shewing the number of seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the amount of oil produced and such other information as may be required.
 13. That all operations conducted under this licence shall be subject to the supervision of a sealing officer appointed by the Governor who shall be maintained totally and permanently on board the vessel or vessels employed by the licensees without cost whatever to the Government.
 14. That no trespass is committed on private land where seal rookeries are situated other than is strictly necessary for the purpose of killing or trying out seals.
 15. That this licence is not transferable.
 16. That the Company must employ local labour.
 17. That the licence is subject to cancellation or modification at any time on commission of any breach thereof or without cause assigned.
-

COLONY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SEALING LICENCE.

The Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley.

30th April, 1935.

Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Seal
Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921, a Licence
is hereby granted to

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES
SEALING COMPANY, LIMITED,

to take seals of the species known as hair-seals and
elephant seals in the Colony of the Falkland Islands,
subject to the terms and conditions specified in the
schedule annexed hereto and during the period therein
prescribed up to the 31st of October, 1935.

Mr. Virginia Hawker

Colonial Secretary.

75/35.

1st May, 35.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 75/35 dated the 17th April, 1935, I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to grant a sealing licence to your Company for the period 15th May to the 31st October, 1935, in respect only of the Colony proper.

2. I have to enclose a licence prepared accordingly with validity up to the 31st October, 1935, and to request that you will be good enough to pay the fee for same, £33.6. 8, to the Colonial Treasury.

3. I have to add that you will observe from Condition 5 of the Schedule of Conditions annexed to the licence that the seals to be killed are restricted expressly to the species known as hair-seals and elephant seals and to adult males alone. The number of seals killed is not to exceed in the case of hair-seal eight thousand (8,000) and in the case of elephant seal three hundred (300).

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. H.

Colonial Secretary.

D.R. Watson, Esq.,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co.,
STANLEY.

75/35.

9th May,

35.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint you to be Sealing Officer for the purpose of accompanying the Sealing Expedition of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd. which will operate in the Falkland Islands during the period 15th May to the 31st October, 1935.

2. I have to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of the conditions on which the licence has been issued, and to add that it will be your duty to supervise the operations and see to it that the conditions of the licence are duly observed.

3. You are required to keep a diary in which you will record daily the number of hair-seals and elephant seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the quantity of oil produced. You are required also to make careful observations of the rookeries with a view to reporting on the

Mr. E. Swain,

STANLEY.

(Thro' Chief Constable).

estimated number of hair-seals thereon and of furnishing such other information as may be of value to the Government.

4. The Company have been authorised to take three hundred elephant seal. You should record the estimated numbers of this species observed by you and the localities where seen.

5. I have to state that in addition to your Police Salary you will receive an allowance at the rate of Six Shillings per night reckoned from the date of leaving Stanley to the date of your return.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WCH

Colonial Secretary.

4 The Coy has been authorised to take 6000 hair-seal and 500 Elephant Seal. In the meantime the approval of the Govt is being sought. The Company being permitted to take a further 6000 hair-seal and a further 500 Elephant Seal. With regard to the taking of Elephant Seal you should follow the instructions conveyed to you in my letter No 72/55 of the 18 Nov 1925

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From MR. SWAIN,

To COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Despatched: 9th June, 19 35. *Time:* 1700.

Received: 10th June, 19 35. *Time:* 1030.

Satisfied rook rifle ineffective. Noises from 303 rifle
does not frighten seal.

SWAIN.

(7)

Albemarle,

7th August 1935.

The Faland & Dep. Sealing Co.Ltd.

The Honourable,
The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that we have now killed and boiled down 5,600 seal and produced from this over 1200 barrels. I hereby apply for permission to kill a further 5000 seal, if conditions of weather permit we should finish the 8000 in about 12 days.

Seal have now come up on the Islands and are plentiful. We have only killed 53 elephants, the summer months seem to be the season for these animals as stated before from the 15th November to end of February. It is our intention to work this season if permission of the Government can be obtained. The men are all very keen and want to stay out as long as possible, in all I have 30 men and boys employed.

I am referring this to the Government Sealing Officer (Mr Swain) for his remarks on the extension applied for.

Mr Swain is out continually in the Port Richard and has been of great assistance to us during the time Captain Lindenberg has been off duty.

I shall be glad if you will cable us reply as early as possible as we have delays in getting our messages without telephone communication.

I am,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

Manager Sealing Co.Ltd. 1935 Season

L.R. Lawson.

Albemarle,
7th August 1935.

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

Mr E. Swain,
Sealing Officer,
Albemarle.

Dear Sir,

Following our conversation of last evening I forward you herewith a copy of letter to the Honourable The Colonial Secretary Stanley. I shall be glad if you will kindly add your remarks to the bottom of this note and I will enclose same with my letter. Any other message you care to send in reference to this I shall be pleased to forward on to Port Stephens for communication to Fox Bay.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. R. Watson
Manager Sealing Co. Ltd.
1935 season.

Hon Col. See

I see no reason why permission should not be granted for additional seal to be killed. at present they are plentiful & oil production is good

E. Swain
Sealing Officer

75/35.

26th August,

35.

Sir,

With reference to your verbal enquiry on the 22nd inst., regarding an application made by the Falkland Islands Sealing Company, to take an additional number of hair seal, I have to inform you that the matter was referred by telegram to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the 12th of August, and a further telegram was sent on the 25th August, requesting an early reply.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

McH

Colonial Secretary.

Reds 28-29.

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

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 12th August, 19³⁵ *Time:* 12.00

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

No. 56. With reference to my telegram No. 25 of 2nd April Sealing Company have applied for permission to take a further 2,000 hair seal making 10,000 in all. Sealing Officer reports seals very plentiful and I recommend that number authorised to be taken be extended up to 10,000

GOVERNOR.

● DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. THE GOVERNOR,

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

Despatched: 23rd August, 19 55. *Time:* ...

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

No. 57. My telegram No. 56 would be grateful for early reply otherwise Sealing Company will have to finish operations within the next few days.

Governor.

Red 25.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

To H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

Despatched : 26th August, 19 35. *Time* : 1948.

Received : 27th August, 19 35. *Time* : 1130.

No. 69. Your telegram No. 56 I agree that increase up to 10,000 provided that you are satisfied that the Company is in a position to cope with the increased number.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Recd 28.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From COLONIAL SECRETARY,

To OPERATOR, FOX BAY.

Despatched : 27th August, 1953. Time : ...

Received : 19 ... Time : ...

URGENT. Following for Sealing Officer, Port Albemarle.
Sealing Company are authorised to take an additional 2000 hair
seal making in all 10,000 message ends. Request you will
arrange for delivery of this message with least possible delay.

Colonial Secretary.

75/55.

23th August, 55.

Sir,

Red 27.
With reference to your letter dated the 7th of August, 1955, applying for permission to kill a further 5000 hair seal, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has authorised an increase up to 10,000, that is, an addition of 2000 over the 2000 authorised under your licence.

2. I have to point out that the licence granted to your company is valid only to the 31st of October next and I am to enquire whether an extension is desired beyond that date.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

D.R. Watson, Esq.,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co.,
ALBEMARLE.

(32)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" VIA RADIO.

Stanley.

28th August, 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.75/35 of 26th inst. and to thank you for your verbal message of yesterday's date informing me that sanction had kindly been given for the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co.Ltd., to kill an additional 2000 Seal. I have to inform you that this information was cabled to the Manager at Port Albemarle.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. F. Hodgson

for Manager.

The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

LH/JT.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. THE GOVERNOR,

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Despatched: 30th September, 19 35. *Time:* ...

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

No. 63. Sealing season has been very successful. Sea elephants are reported to be far more numerous than was supposed. Recommend that Company be permitted to take up to 1000 adult male sea elephants inclusive of number mentioned in my telegram No. 25 of the 2nd April, 1935, provided Hamilton on personal inspection of rookeries recommends an increase in the number allowed.

Governor.

No.

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

MINUTE.

September 30th 19 35

From *John Constable*

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I beg to report that Constable Swain reported for duty today Monday the 30th September 1935

J H Woolley
C. C.

MINUTE.

No.75/35.

1st October, 19 35.

From

To CHIEF CONSTABLE,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

With reference to your minute of the 30th of September last,
Constable Swain will be required to resume duty as Sealing Officer when
the Sealing Company is ready to continue its operations. It is expected
that Sealing will be completed by the 20th of October, 1935.

Mich

Colonial Secretary.

Red 36

● DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

To H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

Despatched: 10th October, 19 55. Time: 1230.

Received: 11th " 19 " Time: ,1045.

Red 35.

No. 82. Your telegram No. 63. I concur.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Honourable
the Colonial Secretary

Stanley
29-10-35

Sir

- I have the honour, to submit my report on the sealing operations carried out by the Falkland Island & Dependencies sealing company during the May-Oct 1935 season.
- 2 The company's steamer Port Richard proceeded to Port Albemarle from Stanley on May 12th arriving there on the evening of the 15th May but actual sealing did not begin until the 27th of May. During this interval necessary repair work to the station was done including the erection of a new jetty.
- 3 Owing to sickness among the men & adverse weather conditions operations were suspended from the 16th Sept to 7th Oct. The Port Richard returning to Stanley. This was most unfortunate as during this period seal were plentiful, and when the Port Richard returned & work resumed seal were scarce & few killed.
- 4 The number of the catch during the season 27th May - 16th October is made up as follows.

Seal	9214	
Elephants	76	
Leopards	36	
Total	<u>9331</u>	and the localities

Arch Island	2372	including 17 Elephants + 10 Leopards
Sand Bay Is	2973	including 4 Elephants + 8 Leopards
Tussac Island	969	including 2 Leopards
Cape Meredith Lagoon	2726	including 60 from Cape Meredith
Barren Island	163	including 15 Elephants
Ten Shilling Is	72	
Sea Lions Is	40	Elephants
Lucas Bay	16	Leopards

I make note that only one drive of 60 seal was made this season from Cape Meredith to the Lagoon. There was no deaths on this drive. This number is included in Lagoon seal.

Month	Catch	Production 40 Gall Barrels	Seal per Barrel
from 27 th May & June	2198	480	4.57
July	2519	630	3.99
Aug	3431	640	4.97
up to 16 th Sept	1007	240	4.19
Oct	178	40	4.45

2080

5 Throughout the operations (with exception of the period mentioned para 3) there did not appear to be any shortage of seal, & above the required number of 10% was left on all rookeries

6 The Port Richard left the station on May 27th to hunt Elephants, visiting several Islands. this hunt was to late in the season for this species as only 120 was located 100 of these being at sea lion Island but only 27 was taken owing to adverse weather. the other 20 being at Barren Island 13 of these was taken. Apart from these another 60 was seen during the season the localities being the Arch Islands, Cape Meredith, Elephant Cays, Sea lion Islands & Barren Islands 36 of these being taken making a total for the season of 180 located 76 killed. It is worthy of report here that on the 14th of October at East sea lion Island some 9 female Elephants with very young calves were seen

7 The use of the 295/300 rook rifle proved to be unsatisfactory from time saving & humane view points. Being a non. magazine or repeating rifle time was lost in reloading & even after several shots had been fired at the animal resulting in wounds which meant that a .303 had to be at hand to instantly kill & thus avoid the wounded seal returning to the sea. later to die & be a loss. for this reason its use was discontinued & the .303 employed. The noise of the .303 rifle has no frightening effect whatever on seal I witnessed the killing of a herd of 150 seal & during the operation another herd of about 200 seal at a distance of 50 yards remained on the beach undisturbed. Photographic record of the can be produced,

I also mention that a .44 revolver was also tried but with similar results as rock rifle

In conclusion I am to say that the rules of the Company's licence to the best of my knowledge were strictly adhered to

I have the honour to be

Sir

your Obedient servant

C. Swain

Sealing Officer

STANLEY.

SCHEDULE OF SEAL HUNTING 1935 SEASON.

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>NO. TAKEN.</u>	<u>WHERE TAKEN.</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
June 1.	92	Main Arch	
2.			
3.	78	Sand Bay	
4.			
5.	I47	Main Arch	
6.	II4	Sand Bay	
7.			
8.	68	Tussac Island	
9.	II2	Sand Bay	
10.			
11.	I26	Main Arch	
12.	I20	Sand Bay	
13.	II0	Tussac Island	
14.	I65	Main Arch	
15.	I49	Sand Bay	
16.			
17.			
18.	II7	Main Arch	
19.	I07	Tussac Island	
20.			
21.	I55	Sand Bay	
22.			
23.	I08	Main Arch	
24.			
25.	II3	Sand Bay	
26.	80	Tussac Island	
27.			27.28.29th loading oil
28.			and discharging coal
29.			from Lafonia.
30.	I76	Sand Bay	

2I42			

Elephants taken 56 from Sea Lion & Arch Islands.

Unless otherwise stated blank days are due to bad weather.

DATE. NO. TAKEN. WHERE TAKEN. REMARKS.

July.	1.			
	2.	188	Main Arch	
	3.	131	Tussac Island	
	4.	183	Sand Bay	
	5.	110	Main Arch	
	6.	53	Tussac Island	
	7.	72	Ten shillig Bay	
	8.			
	9.	135	Main Arch	
	10.			
	11.			
	12.	240	Lagoon	
	13.	95	Main Arch	
	14.	33	Sand Bay	
	15.	63	Tussac Island	
	16.			
	17.	217	Lagoon	
	18.	88	Main Arch	
	19.	30	Sand Bay	
	20.			
	21.			20 & 21st discharging
	22.			coal from Lafonia.
	23.	240	Lagoon	
	24.	33	Sand Bay	
	25.	96	Main Arch	
	26.	120	Lagoon	
	27.	57	Tussac Island	
	28.			
	29.	55	Main Arch	
	30.	169	Lagoon	

		2504		

Elephants taken 3 from Main Arch

Leopards taken 10 Rookery Bay.

2517

Sealy's office
shows of 2519 ?

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>NO. TAKEN.</u>	<u>WHERE TAKEN.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
August 1.	244	Sand Bay	
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.	177	Main Arch	
6.	177	Sand Bay	
7.	162	Main Arch	
8.			
9.	276	Lagoon	
10.	150	Tussac Island	
11.			
12.	127	Lagoon	
13.	210	Sand Bay	
14.	149	Main Arch	
15.	151	Tussac Island	
16.			
17.	248	Lagoon	
18.	97	Main Arch	
19.			
20.	195	Lagoon	
21.	77	Tussac Island	
22.			
23.	107	Sand Bay	
24.	69	Main Arch	
25.	243	Lagoon	
26.	169	Lagoon	
27.	50	Tussac Island	
28.			Repairing shore boiler.
29.			
30.	230	Lagoon	

3425

3481

Elephants taken	3	from Main Arch
Leopards	3	Rookery Bay

45

<u>-DATE.</u>	<u>NO. TAKEN.</u>	<u>WHERE TAKEN.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
Septr. 1.	86	Sand Bay	
2.			
3.	141	Main Arch	
4.			
5.	96	Sand Bay	
6.	219	Lagoon	
7.			
8.			
9.			All hands affected by influenza epidemic.
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.	154	Lagoon	
14.			
15.	223	Lagoon	
16.	81	Sand Bay	

	1000		

1007

Elephants taken

Leopards

7 from Lucas Bay.

(24)

<u>DATE.</u>	<u>NO. TAKEN.</u>	<u>WHERE TAKEN.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
October II.	I48	Barren Island	

Elephants taken I4 from Sea Lion & Main Arch Island

Leopards I6 Rookery Bay.

198

THE FALKLAND & DEPENDENCIES SEALING CO.LTD.

SCHEDULE OF OIL PRODUCED FOR 1935 SEASON.

JUNE.	480	barrels of 40 gallons each
July	630	
AUGUST	690	
SEPTR.	240	
OCTR.	40	
TOTAL.	2080	barrels of 40 gallons each.

Kelvin House,
November, 4th. 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith report on the Seal Hunting operations carried on between the dates of May 15th. and October 30th. 1935.

The expedition left Stanley on the 12th. of May and after calling at Salvador and Fort San Carlos, arrived at Albermarle on the 15th.

Before commencing Seal Hunting it was necessary to build a new jetty and to do sundry repairs to the Station. This work was completed on the 26th. The s.s. "Port Richard" left for Sea Lion Islands on the 27th. and on arriving it was found that sea-elephants were still hauled up in good quantities. A landing was made and sixteen sea-elephants were shot down; great difficulty was experienced in getting these on board owing to the heavy surf on the beach and the wind having hauled to the S/E. it was decided best to clear out from the Island and go back to Albermarle with only a part cargo. The Elephant Cays and Barren Island were also visited and a further thirteen elephants taken.

The first trip for sea-lions was made on the 2nd. of June and it was found that sea-lions were plentiful and fat on the Arch Islands and work was carried on from this date. On the 12th. of July the first trip was made to the Lagoon (Cape Meredith) and sea-lions here were also plentiful.

On the 1st. September s.s. "Lafonia" called at Albemarle to load oil. It was only after contacts had already been established between the shore and the ship that the Manager learnt that some of the vessel's crew had suffered from an epidemic of influenza.

In consequence of these contacts the epidemic was contracted by the sealing crews and became acute on the 6th. September when it was found impossible to continue working the men.

An effort was made on the 13th. and 15th. September to re-commence work, but the crews still being unfit the Manager decided to close down the Station and take the men back to Stanley where they would have better attention during convalescence.

The s.s. "Port Richard" and all hands arrived back in Stanley on 19th. September.

When work was interrupted on 6th. September sea-lions were very plentiful at the Lagoon and they were in excellent condition and had Seal Hunting been possible for a further 5 days the total number of sea-lions allowed by the license would have been taken.

After the men had recovered in Stanley it was decided by the Board of Directors to go out again and try to complete the licence for sea-lions and sea-elephants. The expedition left Stanley on the 6th. of October arriving at Albemarle on the 7th. On inspection of the Sea Lion Islands and the Arch Islands it was found that sea-lions had all gone to the water and that sea-elephants had not hauled up in sufficient numbers to make it a paying proposition. It was decided to return to Stanley and go out at a later date if approved.

Thirty men and boys were employed on the Sealing operations from the 12th. May until the 20th. September, and twenty men were employed on the later trip. At present two men have been left on the Station so that everything will be in readiness if work is resumed at a later date.

A full statement is attached shewing the dates, number of seal and localities where taken. Also a summary of the number of barrels of oil produced in each month.

A | Only adult males of hair-seals (or sea-lions) and of elephant-seals have been taken and much more than 10% of adult male Seals have been left at each rookery.

A small number of sea-leopards have also been taken as shewn on the detailed statement.

The seals have been killed in as humane a manner as possible and in no case have they been driven long distances.

Rook rifles (295/300) fitted with silencers were procured and every effort made to use them successfully. As the results with these rifles shewed too many wounded seals, it was necessary to revert to the old type of 303 rifle as used on previous occasions.

It was also attempted to use lances in killing the seals, but none of the men were expert enough to make a success of this method.

49

In dealing with the carcasses at the trying out works there was no waste, and boiling down was continued day and night.

With the exception of an Engineer for the s.s. "Port Richard" only local labour has been employed. As this Engineer (a Norwegian from South Georgia) has thoroughly overhauled and tuned up the engines, it will be possible to work the s.s. "Port Richard" successfully with a local mechanic, for some considerable time to come.

But weather interfered on several occasions and sealing had to be temporarily suspended, and a very unfortunate interruption in the work, and at a most important period, (when seals were especially plentiful and in prime condition) took place during September owing to an influenza epidemic, as already explained.

Excepting for this the workmen enjoyed good health and would seem to have been happy and interested in their work, and many of them have repeatedly applied for further sealing work.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

P. R. McAtson.

for and on behalf of the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

THE HONOURABLE

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

(83)

Kelvin House
Stanley,
November 5th 1935.

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

Sir,

I beg to refer to the license granted to this Company to take 300 sea-elephants (or elephant-seals).

Owing to the fact that these seals were not obtainable in sufficient quantities on such visits as were made during the past sealing operations, only 76 sea-elephants have been taken.

Also as sea-lions were in sufficient numbers and in good fat condition, work was concentrated on taking sea-lions.

Sea-lions having now "put to sea" and no longer being in prime condition, this Company seeks license to continue taking sea-elephants, for the balance of 224 head under the previous authority and to take a further 750 head of same.

224 under
old license
750 new
application
974

These seals are in prime fat condition and, according to records of previous sealing operations, they are to be found in large numbers from the second week of November and continuing hauled up on beaches during all the summer months.

This Company would therefore seek license to take approximately 974 head of male sea-elephants.

Operations to commence about the 15th of November 1935 and to terminate about the 15th February 1936.

The localities from where this Company would endeavour to take male sea-elephants are :-

The Coy have
the permission
of the H. Coy.

Sea Lion Islands
Barren Island
Bull Point
Kelp Islands
Elephant Cays
Driftwood Island
Lively Island
Cow Bay and the Arch Islands

over.

(2)

Possibly Sedge & Wreck & Bird Islands.

This Company has a sufficient number of men bespoken for manning the ship (Port Richard) and for trying out works at Albemarle, but the men are becoming rather impatient owing to the uncertainty as to whether sealing operations are to be continued, and we should very much like to be able to give the men their definite engagement orders as soon as possible.

Two men have been left at the works at Albemarle and the boiler is still filled with water with a view to recommencing work with the least possible delay.

We hope that his Excellency the Governor may see fit to grant us license to recommence sealing operations.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servants,

for and on behalf of the Board,

B. R. Deane
Secretary,

The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

75/35.

14th November,

55.

Sir,

Red 83: With reference to your letter dated the 5th of November, 1935, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency has approved your Company taking and killing 974 Elephant Seal, and the extension of one month of the Sealing Licence dated the 30th of April, 1935, forwarded to you under cover of my letter No. 75/35 of the 1st of May, 1935. The extension of one month will date from the day of the arrival of the expedition at the Sealing grounds.

2. I am to add that this extension is subject in all respects to the conditions attached to the licence of the 30th April, 1935, with the exception of conditions 3 to 6. Condition 6 is substituted by the following :-

"The killing must be restricted to adult males only and care should be taken then when more than 50 adult males are found 10% are left alive and that when less than 50 adult males are found 25% are left alive."

3. I am to state that Mr. E. Swain will accompany the Expedition as Sealing Officer.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D.R. Watson,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd.,
STANLEY.

75/35.

14th November,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency has been pleased to approve your continuing duty as Sealing Officer and that you will be required to accompany the Sealing Expedition which is due to leave Stanley on or about the 17th of November, 1935.

2. I am to state that the Company has been authorised to kill and take a total number of 974 adult male elephant seal, and have been granted an extension of their licence for one month to date from the day of the arrival of the expedition at the Sealing ground.

3. I am to add that the extension is subject in all respect to the conditions attached to the licence dated the 30th of April, 1935, with the exception of conditions 3, 4, 5, and 6. Condition 6 is substituted by the following :-

"The killing must be restricted to adult males only and care should be taken that when more than 50 adult males are found 10% are left alive and that when less than 50 adult males are found 25% are left alive."

4. I am to forward the accompanying extract from a minute by Mr. J.E. Hamilton, M.Sc., and to instruct you to adhere closely to his recommendations.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WCH

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. Swain,
STANLEY.

No. 75/35.

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

MINUTE.

14th November, 19 30

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To Chief Constable,

STANLEY.

I am to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to approve Mr. E. Swain continuing duty as Sealing Officer with the Sealing Expedition.

Mr. Swain will require to accompany the Expedition which is expected to leave Stanley on or about the 17th instant. It is expected that he will be absent for approximately one month.

MCH
Colonial Secretary.

Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

15th November, 1935.

Sir,

With reference to your letter 75-35 dated 14th inst., as the Falkland Islands Co. Ltd advise me that the Sealing rights in Lafonia are their property, I presume that the extension only applies to taking seals from lands other than the mainland and islands of Lafonia and that before we may seal in Lafonia, we must come to some arrangement with the Falkland Islands Co.Ltd.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. R. Watson

Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

75/35.

18th November,

35.

Sir,

(Red 85)

With reference to paragraph 3 of my letter dated the 14th of November, 1935, I have to inform you that the Sealing Company may be permitted to take small groups of Elephant Seal up to 10, but one in every 10 must be left alive.

2. You will note however that this is not intended to apply to say 6 groups of 8 seal each all on the same beach since this would be a total of 48 seal and 25% or 12 must be left alive. It is suggested that you should see Mr. J. L. Hamilton who will explain to you what is required.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

McH

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. Swain,
STANLEY.

75/55.

18th November,

55.

Sir,

Red 87

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th of November, 1955, and to inform you that the Sealing rights on the mainland and Islands comprised in Lafonia are the property of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

2. Your Company may only take seals in Lafonia with the authority of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

McH

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D.R. Watson,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co.,
STANLEY.

No.

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

MINUTE.

19th November, 19 35

From. Director of Public Works,
~~XX~~

Stanley.

~~XXXX~~ To.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

As you are no doubt aware men are required by the Sealing Company. Up to the present Mr. Watson has been unable to obtain the required number.

2. In accordance with instructions received I have sent out letters (as copy attached) to 4 men employed by this department, also letters, on similar lines, to 4 unemployed men. These men were selected by Mr. Watson as being suitable for the work.

3. This morning I have received a deputation from these men protesting that the conditions offered in the letter are not sufficient for the work.

4. Their demand is £11 per month and found. Overtime to be paid at the rate of 1/6d. per hour after an 8 hour day, 2d. bonus on each barrel of oil, and a signed agreement before sailing. They state that they were informed they would be required to work 12 to 16 hours per day when and where required.

5. One of their arguments for requiring good conditions is that they are risking their lives on the "Afterglow", as the vessel has not a qualified skipper or engineer.

6. I informed the spokesman that the Unemployment Relief Committee considered that £12. 0. 0. per month was a fair wage. The reply was that the Committee ought to be made to go sealing for that figure. The £12. 0. 0. is not guaranteed and the earnings are more or less a gamble.

7. I am holding up notices of discharge and discontinuance of relief payments until I receive further instructions on the subject.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

I have by letter informed the various authorities in the various towns concerned, and in my last letter to the various authorities, that the relief payments are to be discontinued until further notice. The various authorities are to be informed that the relief payments are to be discontinued until further notice. The various authorities are to be informed that the relief payments are to be discontinued until further notice.

I am,

Very truly yours,

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

Received by the various authorities

I have by letter informed the various authorities in the various towns concerned, and in my last letter to the various authorities, that the relief payments are to be discontinued until further notice.

Very truly yours,
C. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

yes
much

(90) (4)

Public Works Department,

Stanley.

18th November, 1935.

Sir,

I have to inform you that it has become necessary to reduce the number of employees in the Public Works department, and to say that work is offered by the Sealing Company, for which you should report to Mr. E.R. Watson at the earliest opportunity.

2. Wages offered are £7. 0. 0. per month plus 2d. bonus for each drum of oil. It is stated that the cost of living is approximately £1. 0. 0 per month. The average earnings during the last sealing operations are stated to be approximately £12. 0. 0. per month.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

Messrs. A. Clifton.
S. Cletheroe.
C.R. Skilling.
G. Short.

S. Halliday Unemployment relief.
J.S. Davis Unemployment relief.
T. Hicks Unemployment Relief.

W. Riggs

*Unemployed applied for relief
and was offered Sealing. I
understand this man is willing
to go.*

*yes.
MCH*

(94)

THE FALMLAND & DEPENDENCIES SEALING COMPANY, LIMITED.

20th. November, 1935.

Sir,

Confirming my verbal report regarding the difficulty I have encountered in obtaining suitable labour for the purpose of continuing to work the Sealing Station at Albemarle, I beg to put forward my observations in concrete form, as follows:-

Rates of Pay offered.

The rate of pay offered for workmen was £6.0.0. per month wages, plus £1.- per month cash allowance for victuals plus usual quantity of mutton issued free.

These rates compare favourably with the usual pay granted to farm labourers who are paid £6.- per month if on the "permanent" gang, or £7.- per month if only engaged for the Season. On the farms the men pay for all victuals excepting mutton which is issued free to the cookhouse.

The basic conditions of pay offered by the Sealing Company were therefore equitable to ruling standards and local conditions.

But in order to further compensate the men working in the Sealing Company, a Bonus allowance of 2d per barrel is also paid, this being calculated to cover the extra cost to the men in the matter of spoilt clothing and also for working during special hours.

This Bonus allowance on an estimated production of 480 barrels per month, would therefore represent an extra cash payment of £4.- per month per man.

Sir, we consider given present day conditions, the remunerations obtainable by workmen as employees of the Sealing Company thus compares most favourably with other local work in industry such as on the farms.

Difficulties with the men.

Nevertheless, we have been unable to get sufficient men to take work with the Sealing Company under these terms, and as far as I can make out the men are making a comparison between these conditions and certain special conditions under which some married men have been sent to the camp to work for the Season only. I understand these men have been granted from Public Funds, certain cash allowances to maintain their wives and families, and apparently certain labourers who would ordinarily be suitable for the Sealing Company, have refrained from applying for work unless their wives and families are granted similar allowances.

Other men who will become unemployed.

The Sealing Company has at the present time, on its pay roll 9 men, 1 boy, 1 skipper and a mechanic, say 12 men all told, and as they will be paid off this afternoon presumably some will shortly be applying for Public Relief.

The position is therefore that the Sealing Company loses the opportunity of making about 200 tons of seal oil, just at a time when the price of oil is fairly good, and 12 men already in work will become a charge on Public Funds or other resources

all because another 8 men cannot be found to join the Sealing Company's pay roll.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

your obedient servant,

B. R. Deaton.

Secretary,

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

THE HONOURABLE,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

STANLEY.

95/55
THE FALKLAND & DEPENDENCIES SEALING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Recd 4. XII. 15
Sir,

Further to my letter of 30th. November re difficulty in obtaining sufficient labour with which to continue operating the Sealing Station at Albemarle, I have been approached by several of the men who until this week have been employed with the Sealing Company, inquiring as to the chances of the operations being recommenced.

I am unable to give these men any promise of further work until the difficulties I have already put before the Government in my letter of 30th. November last are solved.

I shall therefore esteem it a favour if I may be furnished with an official reply with some indication as to whether Government will take measures to solve the difficulties I have reported.

My Company have already decided to increase the Bonus of oil produced from 2d to 4d per barrel on any excess over 480 barrels per month, provided the price of seal oil continues at its present level, but it is of no use my giving this out as any inducement to labourers to apply for work with the Sealing Company until I know what measures, if any, the Government may decide upon adopting to obviate the existing unfavourable comparisons being adduced by certain of the workmen as between work on the farms and at Albemarle.

I have the honour to be, Sir

your obedient Servant,

L. A. Watson

Secretary,
The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. LTD.

75/35.

5th December,

35.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th of November, 1935, together with a further communication, (undated), on the subject of the difficulty experienced by your Company in obtaining labour to carry out Sealing operations.

2. The question raised by your Company of granting to married men employed for Sealing work allowances similar to those granted to seasonal Camp workers must await the consideration of the Governor. His Excellency's decision in the matter will be conveyed to you in due course.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D.R. Watson,
STANLEY.

Red 94-95

75/35.

10th December,

35.

Sir,

Red 96.

In continuation of my letter No. 75/35 dated the 5th of December, 1935, I am directed to inform you that it is not possible to grant to married men employed for Sealing work allowances similar to those granted to seasonal Camp workers.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D.R. Watson,
STANLEY.

Stanley
Kalkland Isles

9th December. 1935



To the Hon Colonial Secretary

"Sir

1. I have been instructed by the members of the F.S. Reform League to write to you on the matter of the Sealing Company as you are probably aware of, a certain number of men working for Government and some on the relief list were "told off" to apply to the manager of the Sealing Co. for work.

2. These men put forward a request for higher pay than that offered. and the request was considered by the Director of Public ^{works} to be quite reasonable.

3. The Sealing Co. refused to give the wages ~~offered~~ ^{asked}, as of course they had the right to do, but these men have been put off work, and stuck of the relief fund for not going sealing on the Company's terms.

4. If as the Director of Public works said, the men's terms were quite reasonable then it follows that the Sealing Co.'s terms were unreasonable and why then are they penalized for not accepting unreasonable terms?

The League is of the opinion that the discharged men should be re-instated, and that the men

thrown off the relief fund should be replaced thereon.

The League asks H. E. the Governor to see that fair play & justice is done in this matter, for it seems that any man who refuses to work on Captain Watson's terms is to have not further help from the Government.

5 { 2, I am to inform you, that if the Sealing Company, would pay men at Government rate of £2. 12. 6. per week at 8 hours a day, with the addition of being found in food, there would be at least 20 men willing to go. These men would not work for oil money, or overtime (which are both doubtful and problematical sums)

These terms, we consider are fair, and would in no wise cripple a new industry, which industry the League wishes prosperity, but fears it will not be prosperous until a wiser management is in place.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant

Clement Harrison (Sec. F.R.C.)

No. 75/35.

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

MINUTE.

18th December, 19 35.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Chief Constable,

STANLEY.

With reference to my Minute No. 75/35 of the 14th November last, I have to inform you that the Sealing Company propose to leave Stanley for the Sealing grounds on the 28th instant.

2. Mr. Swain should be warned to hold himself in readiness to accompany the Expedition.

M CH
Colonial Secretary.

75/35.

(103

30th December,

35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to transmit for the information of your Company the following extract from a letter received from the Falkland Islands Reform League regarding the terms which the League considers fair for men employed by your Company :-

"I am to inform you that if the Sealing Company would pay men at Government rate of £22. 12s. 6d per week of 8 hours a day, with the addition of being found in food, there would be at least 20 men willing to go. These men would not wish for oil money, or overtime (which are both doubtful and problematical)".

"These terms we consider are fair, and would in no wise cripple a new industry, which industry the League wishes prosperity".

2. I am to impress on your Company that the quality of the food supplied to the men employed is a matter to which your Company should pay particular attention, whatever wages are paid.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

for e H

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D.R. Watson,
STANLEY.

75/35.

24th December, 35.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th December, 1935, and to inform you that His Excellency has given full consideration to your letter and that he is unable to waive the rule that men who are capable of taking up suitable employment where the wages offered are on the standard rate being paid at the time and are sufficient for their subsistence shall not be eligible for support at the public expense. In the particular case under reference it appears that the wages offered were at the usual rate at which men have been engaged in sealing operations in this and past years during which time no complaints appear to have been received that the wages were inadequate. His Excellency has, however, been very pleased to learn that owing to an increase in the price of oil it has become possible for the Sealing Company to offer a higher rate of wages and though the Governor sincerely trusts that the increased pay for sealing and whaling may long hold good the fundamental position regarding relief payments will not be affected.

2./

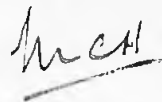
Mr. C. Harrison,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands Reform League,
STANLEY.

2. I am to add that the attention of the Sealing Company is being drawn to the second paragraph of your letter regarding the terms which the League considers to be fair and that in this connection His Excellency is also impressing on the Company that the quality of the food supplied is a matter to which the firm should pay particular attention, whatever wages are paid.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. C. H.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Colonial Secretary.

Stanley
Falkland Isles

Feb 14th 1936

To the Hon Col Secretary

Sir,

This letter and the one that accompanie it is somewhat late, but I field it over on account of the period of National mourning

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 24th Dec 1935. No 73/35.

It was read at our last meeting and I am instructed to point out that the rate of wages were not so high as in previous years

I have had previous agreements put in my hand, which show that £10.0.0 per month, 3^d on each barrel of oil, and one shilling and one penny 1/2 per hour overtime was paid. also, men found in foot.

It seems that H. E. the Governor has been mis-informed on these points

and it is well that his information
should be corrected

I am, Sir,

your obedient servant

Clement Harrison

(Sec Reform League)

75/35.

7th February,

36.

Sir,

Red 105

I am directed to request that you will be so good as to furnish me with a statement showing the rate of wages, bonus per barrel and overtime rates paid to sealing workers by your Company in the first year of its operations and in each succeeding years operations were carried out.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Captain W. R. Watson,
STANLEY.

(107)

Kelvin House,
Stanley,

14th February 1936.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.75/35 of the 7th February date and to reply as follows:-

1928. Norwegian crew were paid at the rate £7 per month and 3d per barrel bonus. Bonus for some of the crew in Port Richard was increased to 6d. Overtime was paid to some of the men 1/- per hr Free victualling to all men. Oil prices £39 per ton.
1929. Part Norwegian and part F.I. crew at the rate of £7 per month. Bonus 3d for some and 6d for others according to class of work. Towards the end of the season the manager paid at the rate of 2/- per seal brought in, and 9/- per elephant this was the bonus to crew of Port Richard, this rate was stopped by the Directors. Overtime 1/- per hour, and free victualling. Oil prices basis of £36.
1930. Wages £7 per month bonus 3d per barrel, overtime 1/- per hour but number of hours very much reduced. Free victualling. Oil prices working of the season based on £35 per ton but owing to the slump in market sold eventually on a basis of £15 for No.1. This - Company obtained average about £12 - 10/-
1933. Wages £6 per month and bonus 2d per barrel no overtime paid and victualling on the same principal as farm cookhouse, free meat supplied Oil prices on a basis of £15.
1935. Wages £7 per month and 2d per barrel, the latter short season for elephants wages were, crew of Port Richard £9 per month and 2d per barrel, on shore station £8 per month and 2d per barrel. The extra £1 being allowed towards the expense of victualling. Oil prices on a basis of £15.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B.R. Leventhal
Secretary,

The Hon,
The Colonial Secretary,

Sealing Co. Ltd.

75/35.

17th February,

36.

Sir,

Red 107
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th of February, 1936, and to thank you for the particulars furnished of wages, etc., paid by your Company in the years 1928 to 1935.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. CH

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
The Falkland Islands Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

75/35¹/₂

17th February,

36.

Sir,

Red 105

With reference to your letter dated the 4th of February, 1936, I have to inform you that from ~~the~~ statement the Falkland Islands Sealing Company have been asked to furnish it would appear that the part of my letter dated the 24th of December, 1935, dealing with wages should have excluded the years 1928 to 1930, when the price of oil in 1928 and 1929 averaged 236 per ton, afterwards falling to 215 per ton.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

McN

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
The Falkland Islands Reform League,
STANLEY.

44

Kelvin House,
Stanley,
February 20th 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for your information the report of sealing operations carried on at Albemarle Station.

The S.S. "Port Richard" left Stanley with sealing crew at 2.a.m. on the 29th of December 1935 and arrived back to Stanley on the evening of the 30th, of January 1936.

It was found on investigating the Islands that the Elephants were practically all shed and ready to go to the water, many being already in the water. Operations were carried on until the 20th of January.

293 Catch. Four hundred and fifty three were killed and boiled down, from which thwo hundred and ninety three barrels was produced. The elephants were all of a fair size but the blubber was very thin and contained little oil. These elephants had been hauled up from about the 15th of November, and it was obvious we were six weeks too late in commencing operations.

Elephants were taken from the following places:-

Arch Island	16
Barren Island	21
Sea LionIsld	105
" " "	30
E.Cays	59
Driftwood	50
Bull Point Isl.	15
Bull Point	43
Tussac Isld -	
-Sea Lions	21
East Sea Lion	38
Bull Point	11
Kelp Isllds.	44

Total. 453

over.

-----2-----

Twenty men were employed from the 29th of December until the 31st of January. Although men were disappointed in being too late for a good catch all were satisfied with conditions and the money they had received. Most of these men have asked to be taken back when sealing operations are resumed.

I have the honour,

to be,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

D. R. Watson

Secretary Sealing Co. Ltd.

The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley,
26th February, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit a report on the Elephant sealing operations carried out by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, during the months of December, 1935, and January, 1936.

2. Operations were commenced on the 31st of December, 1935, but with disappointing results. This date was found to be too late in the year and therefore not many seals were killed. The elephants taken were in a very poor condition. It would appear that the best time for this species to be hunted is from the middle of November when they haul up for shedding and are in excellent condition. As soon as they haul up they commence to go down in condition consequently the longer they are on the land before being killed the smaller will be the oil production.

3. The total catch amounted to 453 elephants producing 293 barrels of oil with an average of 1.546 elephants per barrel. The following statement shews the date, locality from which the seals were taken, and the number killed :

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Locality.</u>	<u>Seals killed.</u>
31st December.	Arch Islands	16.
1st January.	Barren Island	21.
2nd "	Sea Lion Islands	105.
5th "	Elephant Cays	59.
7th "	Driftwood Island	50.
8th "	Bull Point Island	15.
	Bull Point	43.
10th "	Tussock Island, Sea	
	Lion Islands	21.
	Sea Lion Islands	30.
11th "	East Sea Lion Island	38.
12th "	Bull Point	11.
17th "	Kelp Island	44.
Total ...		453.

THE HONOURABLE
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
STANLEY.

4. In accordance with instructions I took measurements of several Elephants killed, the largest being 16 feet 8 inches and the smallest 12 feet 3 inches from snout to tail. I also made an accurate count as possible of elephants observed on each rookery visited and I give below the number found at each locality :

Arch Island	...	...	40
Barren Island	...	...	47
Sea Lion Islands.	...	...	269
Elephant Cays	...	...	86
Driftwood Island.	...	...	87
Bull Point Island	...	...	34
Bull Point	...	...	60
Tussock Island off			
Sea Lion Islands	...	...	46
East Sea Lion Island...			182
Kelp Island	...	...	82

Total ... 933

5. With regard to the proportion of sizes of elephant seals from my observations I found that about half the number were large while medium and small were about equal in numbers with the exception of East Sea Lion Island. where small seals were in the majority. A number of cows were observed on this Island.

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

F. Swain

Sealing Officer.

64 barrels per seal

Stanley,

29th October, 1935.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report on the sealing operations conducted by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, during the season May to October, 1935.

2. The Company's vessel "Port Richard" proceeded to Port Albemarle, West Falkland, from Stanley, on the 12th of May arriving there on the evening of the 15th of May. Actual sealing operations were not, however, commenced until the 27th of May. During the interval necessary repair work to the Shore Station was carried out including the erection of a new jetty.

3. Owing to sickness among the men and adverse weather conditions operations were suspended from the 16th of September to the 7th of October, the "Port Richard" returning to Stanley. This was most unfortunate as seals were plentiful during this period and when the vessel returned and resumed work seals were scarce and few were killed.

4. A total catch of 9,331 seals was made which yielded 2,080 barrels of oil giving an average of 4.48 seals per barrel. The catch was made up of 9,219 seals, 76 elephants, and 36 leopards, and the statement below shews the localities from which they were taken :

Arch Island	...	2,372	including 17 elephants and 10 leopards.
Sand Bay Island..		2,973	including 4 elephants and 8 leopards.
Tussock Island...		969	including 2 leopards.
Cape Meredith Lagoon		2,726	including 60 from Cape Meredith.
Barren Island	...	163	including 15 elephants.
Ten Shilling Is..		72.	
Sea Lion Island..		40	elephants.
Lucas Bay	...	16	leopards.

9,331.

THE HONOURABLE
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
STANLEY.

222
Barren Is.
Seal

5. One drive overland only of 60 seals was made during the season from Cape Meredith to the Lagoon and no deaths occurred as a result of this drive.

6. The following table shews the catch, production of oil and the average number of seals per barrel :

<u>Month.</u>	<u>Catch.</u>	<u>Production -</u> <u>40 gall barrels.</u>	<u>Seal per</u> <u>Barrel.</u>
27th May to			
30th June.	2,198	480	4.57.
July	2,517	630	3.99.
August	3,431	690	4.97.
1st to 16th			
September	1,007	240	4.19.
October	178	40	4.45.

7. Throughout the season (with the exception of the period mentioned in paragraph 3 of this report) there did not appear to be any scarcity of seals and a number in excess of the required 10% was left at every rookery from which seals were taken.

8. On the 27th of May, the "Port Richard" left the Station to hunt Elephants when she visited several of the Islands. The result of this hunt proved disappointing as it was found to be too late in the season for this species. One hundred and twenty elephant seals only were located, 100 of these being found at Sea Lion Island and 20 at Barren Island. Owing to weather conditions it was not possible to take more than 27 from Sea Lion Island and a further 13 were taken from Barren Island. In addition to the above number a further 60 elephants were observed during the season in the localities of Arch Islands, Cape Meredith, Elephant Cays, Sea Lion Island and Barren Island. Of this number 36 were taken making a total for the season of 180 located and 76 killed. On the 14th of October, some 9 female elephants with very young calves were observed at East Sea Lion Island.

9. The 295/300 rook rifle used by the Sealing Company
at

114

at the beginning of the season for killing seals proved unsatisfactory both from a time-saving and humane point of view. Being a non-magazine and non-repeating rifle time was lost in re-loading and even after several rounds had been fired at a seal wounding only resulted. It was found necessary to use the .303 to kill instantly the animal and thus prevent it from returning to the sea and escaping only to die and be a loss to the Company. The use of this rook rifle was therefore discontinued and the .303 rifle employed for the remainder of the season. The noise caused by the report of a bullet discharged from the .303 appeared to have no frightening affect whatever on the seals. I witnessed the killing of a herd of 150 and during the operations another herd of about 200 seals at a distance of 50 yards remained on the beach undisturbed. Photographic evidence of this can be produced. I would mention that a .44 revolver was tried also as a means of killing seals but with similar results to those obtained with the rook rifle.

10. In conclusion I would state that the conditions of the Company's licence were to the best of my knowledge strictly adhered to.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. Surin

Sealing Officer.

75/35.

17th March,

36.

Reds 112-116

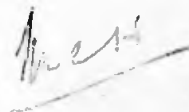
Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge and to thank you for your excellent reports on the Sealing Operations conducted by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., during the Season May to October, 1935, and on the Operations regarding the taking of Elephant Seal during the months of December, 1935, and January, 1936.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Colonial Secretary.

To
Mr. L. Brown
S.O. 112/35

THE FAIRLAND & DEPENDENCIES SEALING COMPANY, Limited.

Stanley, 17th March 1936

Sir,

We beg to refer to your letter of 17th April 1935 (75/35) informing us that the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies had approved of a License being granted this Company to take 8,000 hair seal and 300 male elephant seals - that was for the 1935 Season.

We now beg to apply for a License for the current year, 1936, to hunt and take:-

12,000 male hair seal, and

1,000 male elephant seals.

521 from number 10000
10000 additional, 100000

We are pleased to report that we have already made tentative arrangements to employ Twenty local labourers, seamen, etc., and propose to increase the number of hands employed to Thirty men as soon as the amount of work on hand justifies increased staff.

In accordance with permission already granted to us we are employing only one Foreign National, a Norwegian engineer (from South Georgia) for the simple reason that no man with equivalent qualifications can be obtained locally.

We do not propose to kill any male hair seals until the 15th of May 1936, but we should like the License to permit us kill male elephant seals from the 22nd of March 1936, as they are now hauling up on the beaches in sufficient numbers and in good condition for boiling down.

We trust that His Excellency the Governor may see fit to grant us this License, against payment of the usual fee, and remain,

Your obedient servant,

B.R. Loebson

for the Board of Directors.

Red 19

714 Elephant
Seal
Latter to latter
224 to latter
The boy were
arranged to
Latter a further
750 making
6 latter of
474

Presumably
arranged to
974
Latter 453
to latter 521

75/55.

19th March,

56.

Sir,

Red 118

With reference to your letter dated the 17th of March, 1936, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency is prepared to grant your Company provisional permission to take ~~half~~ the numbers sought viz: 6000 hair seal and 500 elephant seal.

2. I am to state that authority is being sought for the numbers to complete those applied for.

3. I am to add that a licence will be issued in due course embodying the terms and conditions under which your Company may operate.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Met

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D. R. Watson,
The Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd.,
STANLEY.

SCHEDULE.

CONDITIONS OF LICENCE.

1. That a fee of £33. 6s. 8d is paid on the issue of the licence.
2. That the usual duty on the export of Seal Oil is paid.
3. That the licence is valid in respect of the Falkland Islands, to the exclusion of the Dependencies thereof, and shall commence on the 22nd March, 1936, and terminate on the 31st October, 1936. *1st June - 30 September*
4. That the taking of elephant seals shall be restricted to the period 22nd March to the 15th May, 1936, or to such other period as may be approved by the Governor. That the taking of hair seals shall be restricted to the period 15th May, to the 31st October, 1936. *1st June*
5. That the number of seals killed is not to exceed in the case of hair-seal 6000 (six thousand) and in the case of elephant seal 500 (five hundred).
10000
1000

Provided that subject to the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies the foregoing numbers may be increased by 6000 (six thousand) and 500 (five hundred) respectively.
6. That in the case of hair-seal at least 10% of the adult male seals are left at each rookery. That in the case of elephant seal the killing must be restricted to adult males only and care should be taken that when more than 50 adult males are found 10% are left alive and that when less than 50 adult males are found 25% are left alive.
Recommendation of the H. C. Committee
7. That no pups or females are killed, and that no immature or under-sized seals are killed.
8. That the seals are killed in a humane manner and with as little disturbance as possible, and are not to be driven long distances.
9. That the whole carcase of every seal killed is utilised as far as possible for the extraction of oil and that there is no undue waste.
10. That full returns shall be made, monthly, annually and as otherwise required shewing the number of seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the amount of oil produced and such other information as may be required.
11. That all operations conducted under this licence shall be subject to the supervision of a sealing officer appointed by the Governor who shall be maintained totally and permanently on board the vessel or vessels employed by the licensees without cost whatever to the Government.
12. That no trespass is committed on private land where seal rookeries are situated other than is strictly necessary for the purpose of killing or trying out seals.
13. That this licence is not transferable.
14. That the Company must employ local labour.
15. That the licence is subject to cancellation or modification at any time on commission of any breach thereof or without cause assigned.

S C H E D U L E.

CONDITIONS OF LICENCE.

1. That a fee of £33. 6s. 8d is paid on the issue of the licence.
 2. That the usual duty on the export of Seal Oil is paid.
 3. That the licence is valid in respect of the Falkland Islands, to the exclusion of the Dependencies thereof, and shall commence on the 22nd March, 1936, and terminate on the 31st October, 1936.
 4. That the taking of elephant seals shall be restricted to the period 22nd March to the 15th May, 1936, or to such other period as may be approved by the Governor. × That the taking of hair seals shall be restricted to the period 15th May, to the 31st October, 1936.
 5. That the number of seals killed is not to exceed in the case of hair-seal 6000 (six thousand) and in the case of elephant seal 500 (five hundred).

Provided that subject to the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies the foregoing numbers may be increased by 6000 (six thousand) and 500 (five hundred) respectively.
 6. That in the case of hair-seal at least 10% of the adult male seals are left at each rookery. × That in the case of elephant seal the killing must be restricted to adult males only and care should be taken that when more than 50 adult males are found 10% are left alive and that when less than 50 adult males are found 25% are left alive.
 7. That no pups or females are killed, and that no immature or under-sized seals are killed.
 8. That the seals are killed in a humane manner and with as little disturbance as possible, and are not to be driven long distances.
 9. That the whole carcase of every seal killed is utilised as far as possible for the extraction of oil and that there is no undue waste.
 10. That full returns shall be made, monthly, annually and as otherwise required showing the number of seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the amount of oil produced and such other information as may be required.
 11. That all operations conducted under this licence shall be subject to the supervision of a sealing officer appointed by the Governor who shall be maintained totally and permanently on board the vessel or vessels employed by the licensees without cost whatever to the Government.
 12. That no trespass is committed on private land where seal rookeries are situated other than is strictly necessary for the purpose of killing or trying out seals.
 13. That this licence is not transferable.
 14. That the Company must employ local labour.
 15. That the licence is subject to cancellation or modification at any time on commission of any breach thereof or without cause assigned.
-

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COLONY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SEALING LICENCE.

The Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley.

20th March, 1936.

1st April 1936

Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921, a Licence is hereby granted to

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES
SEALING COMPANY, LIMITED,

to take seals of the species known as hair-seals and elephant seals in the Colony of the Falkland Islands, subject to the terms and conditions specified in the schedule annexed hereto and during the period therein prescribed up to the 31st of October, 1936. 1937

W. C. H.

Colonial Secretary

75/35.

20th March,

36.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint you to be Sealing Officer for the purpose of accompanying the Sealing Expedition of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., which will operate in the Falkland Islands during the period 22nd March to the 31st October, 1936.

2. I have to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of the conditions on which the licence has been issued, and to add that it will be your duty to supervise the operations and see to it that the conditions of the licence are duly observed.

3. You are required to keep a diary in which you will record daily the number of hair-seals and elephant seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the quantity of oil produced. You are required also to make careful observations of the rookeries with a view to reporting on the estimated number of hair-seals thereon and of furnishing such other/

Mr. E. Swain,
STANLEY.

(Thro' Chief Constable.)

other information as may be of value to the Government.

4. The Company has been authorised to take 6,000 hair-seal and 500 elephant seal. In the meantime the approval of the Secretary of State is being sought to the Company being permitted to take a further 6,000 hair-seal and a further 500 elephant seal. With regard to the taking of elephant seal you should follow the instructions conveyed to you in my letter No. 75/35 of the 18th of November, 1935.

5. I have to state that in addition to your Police Salary you will receive an allowance at the rate of six shillings per night reckoned from the date of leaving Stanley to the date of your return.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

h.c.H.

Colonial Secretary.

75/55.

23rd March,

36.

Sir,

Red 119

With reference to paragraph 3 of my letter No. 75/55 of the 19th of March, 1936, I have the honour to transmit herewith the licence granted to your Company, and to request that you will be good enough to pay the fee for same £33. 6s. 8d to the Colonial Treasury.

2. I have to add that you will observe from the Schedule of Conditions annexed to the licence that the seals to be killed are restricted expressly to the species known as Hair-seals and elephant seals and to adult males alone. In the first instance the number of seals killed is not to exceed in the case of hair-seal six thousand (6,000) and in the case of elephant seal five hundred (500).

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M C M

Colonial Secretary.

Captain D. R. Watson,
The Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd.,
STANLEY.

(126)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" via RADIO.

Stanley

25th March 1936

Sir,

On behalf of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company Ltd., I enclose a cheque for £ 33 . 6 . 8 covering the cost of a licence issued by you on 20th March, 1936.

I should be glad if you would forward the receipt to me.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

K.T.

75/35.

30th March,

36.

Sir,

Recd 126

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th of March, 1936, forwarding a cheque for 335. 6s. 8d in respect of the sealing licence issued to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, for the year, 1936, and to enclose herewith receipt No. 6950 for the amount in question.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

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

75/35.

31st March,

36.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 75/35 of the 20th March, 1936, I am directed to inform you that your appointment as Sealing Officer has been cancelled as you will be required to act as Customs Officer during the absence of Mr. A. G. Bennett.

2. I am to request that you will return to this office the copy of the conditions on which a licence was granted to the Falkland Islands Sealing Company.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. Swain,
STANLEY.

(Thro' the Chief Constable.)

Stanley.

3rd April, 1936.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

Sir,

With reference to your minute on sheet 26, of M.P. 75/35, red 63 in M.P. 234/34 and my minute of the 26th March, on sheet 10 of M.P. L/27, I have the honour to report as follows:

2. I have spoken to Captain Hutchison regarding the release of Mr. B. Ratcliffe, but he is unable to agree to a crew of less than three men.

3. Mr. B. Ratcliffe has now been placed on the sick list, and the earliest date on which he is expected to return is the 16th of April.

4. Meantime, Captain Hutchison has informed me that owing to the strenuous work involved, it will be necessary to relieve Mr. Howard Ratcliffe on Monday next.

5. The position is, therefore, that (a) it might be necessary to appoint another sealing officer, and (b) a relief has to be found for Mr. Howard Ratcliffe, by Monday.

6. With regard to (a) in para. 5, would Government consider the engagement of a reliable man, from the list of unemployed, to go as sealing officer? If a member of the permanent establishment is appointed sealing officer in addition to his ordinary salary he receives 6/- a day subsistence allowance. If a suitable unemployed person could be found, he could be paid £10 a month, in which case the additional cost to Government would only be about £1 per mensem *less savings of "Doll"*

7. With reference to (b) in para. 5, I should be glad to have your authority to engage a man to relieve

/Mr.

Mr. H. Ratcliffe on Monday, should this be absolutely necessary.

A Mr. Luxton and a Mr. Skilling have both been mentioned as suitable for this work, as both possess a knowledge of reading compass bearings, etc.

8. A copy of this correspondence has been placed in each file, i.e.- M.Ps. 234/34, 107/35, 75/35, and L.27

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Treasurer, Collector of
Customs, and Harbour Master.

LIST OF MEN RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF
IN WEEK ENDING 4th APRIL, 1936.

T.E. Robson.	(Single).
W.G.E. Peck.	(Married).
F.S. Davis.	(Married).
A.W. Summers.	(Married).
C. Clifton.	(Married).
D.J. McLeod.	(Married).
N.T. Paice.	(Married).
C.J. Skilling.	(Married).
H.P. Riggs.	(Married).
T. Hicks.	(Married).
D. Morrison.	(Single).
Edw. Barnes.	(Married).
F.C. Short.	(Married).
M. Lehen.	(Single).
J.H.A. Clarke.	(Married).
E.F. Luxton.	(Married). <i>Motor boat "Alert"</i>
C.P. Skilling.	(Married).
A. Clifton.	(Married).
J. Clarke.	(Married).
C. Thompson.	(Married).
W.C. Gleadell.	(Married).
C.C. Short.	(Married).
J.A. Holliday.	(Youth).
H.S. Hansen.	(Married).
E. Hirtle.	(Married).
W. Hirtle.	(Single).
R. Gleadell.	(Single).
A. Boyer.	

(132)

THE FALKLAND & DEPENDENCIES SEALING Co., Ltd.

List of shareholders

20th April 1937

Permanently resident in the Falkland Islands.

The Hon. W.H.Kuxton	holding	£ 350.--.--
R. C. Pole Evans, J.P.		200.--.--
Mrs. R.C.Pole Evans		50.--.--
The Estate of G.F.Johnsen		50.--.--
James Robertson, J.P.		500.--.--
Michael Robson, J.P.		300.--.--
Albert Newing, J.P.		50.--.--
E. G. Rowe		50.--.--
x Gordon Roberts		100.--.--
x L. B. White		50.--.--
A. G. Barton, J.P.		100.--.--
Mrs. A. G. Barton		50.--.--
The Hon. G. J. Felton, J.P.		500.--.--
J.D.Creamer, J.P.		50.--.--
Mrs. J.D.Creamer		50.--.--
Captain D.W.Roberts		100.--.--
Hugh Harding		100.--.--
Fred. G. Langdon, J.P.		400.--.--
Edward Crawford (Crawford)		100.--.--
Mrs. Crawford		50.--.--
Duncan Russell Watson		1200.--.--
John Turner		100.--.--
Andrew Watson		150.--.--
Sydney Shannon		100.--.--
Jason Hansen		500.--.--
the Estate of Andreas Pitaluga		250.--.--
John Davis		500.--.--
Mrs. J. Davis (senior)		250.--.--
W. J. Hutchinson		100.--.--
J. W. Grierson, J.P.		250.--.--
x Mrs. A. R. Hoare		100.--.--
G. I. Turner		100.--.--
Mrs. Cheek		100.--.--

Shareholders with permanent interests in the Falkland Islands are:-

George T. Dean	250.--.--
Estate of R.H.Cobb	500.--.--
E.B.Goddard	500.--.--
George Bonner, O.B.E.	200.--.--

Shareholders previously resident in the Falkland Islands, since retired.

T. G. Slaughter	200.--.--
Charles Peters	100.--.--
E. G. Creece	100.--.--

Norwegian shareholders

W. Gmeiner (allotted in part payment of vessel)	1000.--.--
E. Peterzans (allotted in part of wages as first Manager)	50.--.--

All shares were paid for in cash with the exception of the last two, listed. No free shares were ever issued or allotted for fees or special remunerations on the formation of the company.

(133)

Stanley, 20th April 1936

Traced 21/4/36 75/25.8

Sir,

I have the honour to address you regarding the affairs of the Falklands & Dependencies Sealing Company Limited.

The company was formed, almost entirely with local capital, late in 1927 and early 1928, on the basis of representations made by Norwegian Nationals who offered to supply a suitable ship and crews etc.

This Company has not been fortunate in the conduct of its business partly due to mistakes made in policy at its inception, mistakes that were seriously accentuated by the very heavy and sustained fall in the price of seal oil.

One of the company's gravest mistakes was to import Norwegian Nationals as sealing crew, on the mistaken assumption that local hands would not be expert enough to undertake the work - but early in 1930 this mistake was realised and every effort made to do without Foreign Labour and work the station with local hands.

However, by that time the company's cash resources had been entirely swamped and the price of seal oil had fallen so low that very little could be done to retrieve the position.

Nevertheless, with the assistance of cash advances from Messrs The Falkland Islands Co. Ltd., the company has been kept going, but it is now desirable that it be placed on a proper working basis and to do this it will require reorganization.

New working Capital will be required and nothing can be done in this respect unless the Company holds a license to seal and whale covering a term of years.

I therefore beg to request that you will kindly consider placing before His Excellency the Governor the application of this company for the granting of a license for a period of seven years from 1st January 1937, to permit us to take annually:-

15.000 to 20.000 hair seal
1.000 elephant seal
and whales to an unlimited quantity.

As regards sealing we should be agreeable to limits being fixed wherein we could seal and would suggest from Foxbay Heads to New Island, thus leaving a large area protected against sealing.

A list of the present shareholders in the F. & D. Sealing Co., Ltd., is attached.

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

J.R. Watson

Secretary to the F. & D. S.C.Ld.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary
Stanley.
Falkland Islands.

75/85.

27th April,

36.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint you to be Sealing Officer for the purpose of accompanying the Sealing Expedition of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., which will operate in the Falkland Islands during the period 1st May to the 31st October, 1936.

2. I have to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of the conditions on which the licence has been issued, and to add that it will be your duty to supervise the operations and see to it that the conditions of the licence are duly observed.

3. You are required to keep a diary in which you will record daily the number of hair-seals and elephant seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the quantity of oil produced. You are required also to make careful observations of the rookeries with a view to reporting on the estimated number of hair-seals thereon and of furnishing such

other/

Mr. F. B. Dixon,
STANLEY.

(Thro' the Director of Public Works.)

other information as may of value to the Government.

4. The Company has been authorised to take 6,000 hair-seal and 500 elephant seal. In the meantime the approval of the Secretary of State is being sought to the Company being permitted to take a further 6,000 hair-seal and a further 500 elephant seal.

5. With regard to the elephant seal the Company may be permitted to take small groups of elephant seals up to 10, but one in every 10 must be left alive. You will note however that this is not intended to apply to say 6 groups of 8 seal each all on the same beach since this would be a total of 48 seal and 25% or 12 must be left alive. It is suggested that you should see Mr. J. E. Hamilton who will explain to you what is required.

6. I am to add that you will be paid wages at the rate of 24 per week with free messing.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

Hon.Col.Sec.

With reference to red 132 it may be observed that the total is £9,800 which does not agree with red 103 in 589/27 where the share capital is stated to be £10,250.

Red 133. The Norwegians were of course necessary to begin with since no one here knew anything of sealing.

2. Since I feel the desirability of some assurance that all information is available I would suggest that Mr. Watson might supply detailed information on the following heads; a, the exact financial^a position of the sealing company; b, the probable source of the new working capital; c, the proposed reorganisation of the company; and d, the proposed whaling operations.

3. The reserve proposed in this letter seems to have been suggested without due consideration. It is true that the coast^a between Fox Bay and New Island has supplied most of the seal except those killed on the Falkland Islands Company's land but has Mr. Watson forgotten that the sealing company has taken elephants from Boat Point in Fitzroy Camb, or does he think that the Falkland Islands Company's sealing rights extend to all its land instead of only to the original grant of Lafonia?

Nevertheless this seems to be a good opportunity to make a reserve where the seal will be undisturbed and I would suggest that it should include all lands and islands to the north of fifty one degrees thirtyseven minutes south latitude which is, ~~roughly~~, a line running to the north of New Island and cutting off a large proportion of the breeding rookeries.

3. (1) With regard to the necessity of the company having a long-term licence before being able to acquire new capital I am unable to recollect that the system of annual licences has ever prevented the whalers, whose annual expenses are very large indeed, from fitting out their

expeditions. Moreover while there are still whaling companies operating under colonial licences it does not seem desirable to establish a precedent in such a matter.

(2) Mr. Watson does not seem to realize that there would probably be no question of his licence not being renewed as long as the sealing was conducted in a reasonably proper way. If he would recall the history of the company he will appreciate that it has frequently offended against the conditions of the licence and that its general conduct has been open to criticism but that nevertheless its privileges have not been curtailed. (vide red 25 in 589/27)

(3) It should be obvious that from the start Government has gone to great lengths to foster this industry and I do not see why Mr. Watson should anticipate any change since the case for maintaining the sealing is a strong one and entirely in the public interest.

4. In the history of sealing there is practically not invariably nothing to show that the commercial sealer is grasping, destructive and lacking in foresight. (The Pesca Company in South Georgia has proved itself an exception to this licensee for with the result that it is still the ~~holder~~ of a valuable sealing concession). An annual application for a licence is a valuable reminder to the administration that it is necessary to keep a close watch on sealing activities and the suggestion of insecurity implied by it must be an incentive to the observation of the conditions imposed although no sealing or whaling licence once granted has ever been suspended or ^{renewal} refused.

Yearly renewal affords an excellent opportunity for a general review of the way in which the work has been carried on and for alterations in the conditions of the licence as they show themselves to be desirable. It may be opportune to remark that even now there are large gaps in our knowledge of both the sea lion and the elephant seal so that it is not possible to regard as final any

any decision which may be taken at this time.

5. The following quotation is pertinent-----

"The nature of sealing as a business is such that restrictions of a fixed and absolute character are highly impractical. Living animals subject to the ravages of disease, to the inroads of natural enemies, to the vicissitudes of an (unusually) stressful existence and to the varying results of peculiar breeding habits can not be successfully managed under inflexible rules laid down in advance.

"The Establishment of close season for game animals is quite a different matter from the restriction of killing of fur seals.

"Among wild animals the fur seal is unique in many respects. Although not actually under domestication it is by nature and habits almost strictly comparable to a domestic animal and the principles governing its management should unquestionably be those employed by breeders of stock. Rigid rules of procedure, therefore, are as inadvisable in the case of seals as they would be with horses, cattle or sheep. So far as possible regulations should be sufficiently elastic to take advantage of conditions as they arise. ----- d of

"Whether the herd be large or small, diminishing or progressing, good management demands ----- that action must be governed by circumstances.

"Inflexible rules applied to living animals are dangerous under any circumstances-----

"The relative proportions of males and females should be the same in a herd of a thousand seals as in one of a hundred thousand or a million, and in any case it is wholly a matter of proportion not of fixed numbers." (Fur Seal and other life of the Pribilof Islands, 1914. Bulletin of the Bureau of Fisheries, Washington, 1915, pp98-99.)

The sea lion is closely related to the fur seal and their habits are strikingly similar. What is set forth

forth above applies equally well to the sea lion in the Falkland Islands.

6. In arriving at a forecast of the numbers which may be taken annually it has been necessary to make certain assumptions in the light of our present knowledge but I would emphasise the point that the acquisition of more exact data may necessitate changes in these basic assumptions. It is possible that the number of surplus (killable) males may be less than estimated but on the other hand it may be more; this is a matter of vital importance which only prolonged observation can elucidate. It will be obvious that, when they entail the use of unconfirmed figures, estimates should be made on conservative lines and such I have followed throughout.

7. Up to the end of this season I had counted about 74,000 pups but the census is not complete and after consideration I have concluded that 90,000 is a safe figure to adopt for the number of pups present in 1935. This number of pups entails the presence of the same number of cows, the sea lion being uniparous, and since, so far as is known, the sexes are born in equal numbers and there is no differential death rate and since the bulls become adult at the same age as that of the ^{cows} ~~pups~~ when they pup for the first time, 90,000 pups entail the presence of 90,000 bulls also. Up to the end of 1935 27,272 bulls had been killed which left an available stock of 69,628 since during the years when bulls had been killed there had of course been a number reaching maturity

8. For the annual rate of increase I have adopted the figure of 7% per annum. The northern fur seal cows increase at the rate of 8% and our own fur seal in a period of seven years increased at the rate of 6% per annum. The sea lion, it is a true, is a more robust creature than the fur seal but the death rate in early life is very high so that I do not consider it prudent to use a higher figure than 7%.

The rate of increase of both cows and bulls, then, is calculated on 90,000 increasing at 7% per annum.

*Summer and
to be too
high. 1935
1936 & 1937*

10. Another factor now introduces itself, namely that it is not known what is the saturation point for sea lions in the Falklands. It is quite certain that the herd will not go on increasing indefinitely, but whether there is room—that is to suitable breeding places—for a hundred thousand or a quarter of a million cows cannot be foreseen, and at 7% the higher figure might be attained in about thirteen years. It is probable that as less advantageous sites ^{may} have to be occupied the deaths of pups from storms on them will be higher than on more protected places.

11. The optimum size of harem is not yet known and will only appear as the result of considered management of the herd. In 1930 245 bulls were observed to have an average harem of 7.8 cows. Of them 27.7 per cent had only 5.4 cows and 23.4 per cent had 10.2 cows each. Of all these bulls 72.3 per cent had an average harem of 9.15 cows. I have therefore used a ratio of one bull for every nine breeding cows in these calculations since this number would ^{not} place undue strain on the sexual capacity of the males. It might be found in the course of years that a harem of nine was too small and if this were so fresh calculations could be made. A reservation has ~~therefore~~ to be made of one bull for every nine breeding cows, but this is not sufficient, some allowance has to be made for the service of stray cows and particularly the virgins and for the existence of unknown factors; an addition of 20 per cent ^{therefore} has ^{been} made to the number of bulls required for the breeding cows.

12. The factors which affect the number of killable bulls are these ~~therefore~~; original stock; natural deaths; number ~~there~~ required for breeding; ~~there~~ calculated increase.

(13) A table is attached which shows the result of calculations based on these factors for a period of sixteen years beginning with 1936. It appears from it that 10,000 bulls may be killed annually until 1950 but after that the number might be increased. The scheme depends on the ability of the cows to reach a number of about 170,000, which appears between

1944 and 1945 and this number should be able to maintain ~~the~~ a surplus of 10,000 annually.

The allowance for natural deaths is made after deducting the number to be killed from the total stock since a proportion of those killed would have died naturally.

This ⁵forecast is based on the using up of the accumulated surplus of bulls, which exists and should contribute largely to the maintenance of the sealing industry until the herd is so large that the annual increase will compensate for the killing.

It will be observed that from 1945 to 1950 there is a deficiency in the number of bulls since the whole herd (in January) is less than the number of bulls required for breeding. The maximum deficit is 2,509 in 1947 but since this is nearly covered by the estimate for contingencies (end of para 10) and since the sub-adult bulls show signs of sexual potency it does not seem necessary to be alarmed at the prospect.

12. I wish most earnestly to emphasize that figures such as these which refer to an animal whose natural history is not yet completely known cannot be regarded as giving a necessarily correct forecast. It is imperative that killings should be conservative and that the herd be kept under constant and competent supervision.

A single census is not sufficient; counts must be repeated and selected rookeries kept under observation in the breeding season. By such means alone can there be acquired the essential knowledge which will permit of maintenance and exploitation based on observed fact.

13. ~~The value of~~ an annual killing of 10,000 may now be estimated. The records are unfortunately not good but ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~for as I can see the~~ following are the results of value in this connection. Allowances has been made for elephants when they occurred in the returns but not for leopards which are few and have been assumed to equal sea lions, as I consider is reasonable

(139)
7.

1928,3139	seal	produced	1	barrel	of	oil	for	every	2.5	seal
1929,2065	2	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2.61	"
1930,4941	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3.6	"
1931,7819	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4.2	"
1935,9219	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4.48	"

There is a resemblance between these results and what, in the past at least, was observable in whaling returns, namely that the larger the catch the smaller the yield of oil per animal and it is desirable that the attention of the sealing company be drawn to the low figure of the last season.

I would suggest that the ability of the company to ~~max~~ handle so large a number as 10,000 in a season requires consideration, 9,000 might be sufficient. There is an illustration here of the use to which an annual licence may be put, since the threat of reducing the catch could be used to spur the company to efforts in economy of raw material.

At 3.6 seals per barrel 10,000 seals should yield 2778 barrels or 463 tons which at £25 per ton is equal to £11,575 and at the lower figure of 4 seals per barrel 10,000 seals would produce 416 tons valued at £10,400.

14. Passing now to the elephant seals, in 1928 the then manager naively admitted that a large proportion of those killed were little more than pups and in 1930 I found carcasses of which the majority were undersized and among them was a pregnant female. 1933 was the first year in which a sealing officer accompanied these people and only 25 elephants were killed, I believe. In 1935 during the main season only 112 elephants were taken and after that a special licence was issued under which, the company having missed what they state to have been the best of the season, 453 elephants were killed and yielded the extremely bad average of 25.9 gallons which should be contrasted with the following from the sealing company's report of 1930.

April, 249 elephants, average 54.61 gallons

April, 249 elephants, average 54.61 gallons
May, 52 elephants, average 54.00 gallons
" , 92 elephants, average 52.00 gallons
July, 106 elephants, average 34.70 gallons

I would remark that I consider that the company has again started too late-the first group above, 249, was taken in April

I cannot see that the company has any reason to expect that they will get more than about 500 elephants and therefore propose that they should be limited to that number.

On the assumption that an elephant is worth only 40 gallons 500 of them will produce 83 tons of oil with a current value of £25 per ton amounting to £2,075 which would bring the gross revenue of the sealing company to something over £12,000 for 3273 barrels of oil.

15. The question of the best season for sealing is important since it is mere waste to kill the seal when they are out of condition. There seems to be some tendency for the sealing company to believe that seals are in good condition and abundant when they have not^{killed}, or have not been allowed to kill them.

All stages of the sea lion fall off in oil content of the blubber in summer and this species must be given time to fatten before killing. The period of the current licence, May 15 to October 31 seems reasonable although June 1 would probably be better for the start if the question of employment did not arise.

The season for elephants might well coincide with that in South Georgia, March 1 to September 30 and, until the position is clarified, in December, but they should not be killed in January or February. These periods would^{partly} omit the potential breeding season ~~October and November~~ and although the elephant seal is phlegmatic in the extreme I consider that every encouragement to breed should be given to it. This species requires careful watching in order that there may be acquired information as to its habits and prospects in the

Sea
Elephant
Seal

A

Falklands.

16. With regard to whaling the only restriction I would suggest is that the Right Whale should be excluded from the licence. It now receives practically world-wide protection

17. It is proposed in this paper that the sealing company be asked to provide further details of its state and intentions, that a seal reserve be instituted, that the licence to seal be an annual one, and cover 10,000 sea lions and 500 elephant seal and all whales except the right whale with seasons as set out in para 17. Attention is drawn to the low output during the last season and particular emphasis is laid on the necessity for prolonged and careful observation and supervision especially of the sea lion. (paras. 4, 5, 6, 12 and 15)

para. 2
para. 3
para. 4. par. 11
paras. 14, 16
para. 13.

J. S. Hamilton
8-V-36.

Table I.

Year	Breeding cows	Bulls required for cows	Total bulls	Killing	Residue after killing	Natural deaths	Residue	Increase at 7%
1936	96,300	12,840	69,028	10,000	59,028	8,433	50,595	6,741
1937	103,041	13,739	57,336	10,000	47,336	6,762	40,574	7,209
1938	110,250	14,700	47,783	10,000	37,783	5,398	32,385	7,713
1939	117,963	15,729	40,098	10,000	30,098	4,300	29,798	8,253
1940	126,216	16,829	34,051	10,000	24,051	3,436	20,615	8,838
1941	135,054	18,008	29,453	10,000	19,453	2,779	16,674	9,450
1942	144,505	19,268	26,124	10,000	16,124	2,303	13,821	10,116
1943	154,620	20,616	23,937	10,000	13,937	1,991	11,946	10,827
1944	165,447	22,060	22,773	10,000	12,773	1,825	10,948	11,583
1945	177,030	23,604	22,531	10,000	12,531	1,790	10,741	12,393
1946	189,423	25,257	23,134	10,000	13,134	1,876	11,258	13,257
1947	202,680	27,024	24,515	10,000	14,515	2,074	12,441	14,184
1948	216,364	28,916	26,625	10,000	16,625	2,375	14,250	15,183
1949	232,047	30,940	29,433	10,000	19,433	2,776	16,657	16,245
1950	248,292	33,106	32,902	10,000	22,902	3,272	19,630	17,379
1951	265,671	35,423	37,009	11,000	26,009	3,716	22,293	18,594

g. robbins

8 - v - 36

10/305- (146)
The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" VIA RADIO.

Stanley.

5th May, 1936.

Sir,

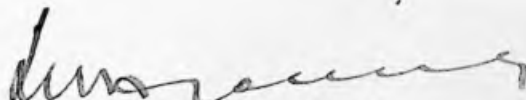
22/3/36
15/5/36
On behalf of the Falkland Islands & Dependencies Sealing Co.Ltd., I beg to request that the time limit for taking Elephant seals be extended from 15th May to 15th June next.

The Company has only just commenced operations, hence this request.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Manager.

The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

LY/AF.

75/35.

12th May,

36.

Sir,

Red 146

With reference to your letter dated the 5th of May, 1936, written on behalf of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, I am directed to inform you that the request from that Company to extend the time limit for taking elephant seals from 15th May to 15th June is hereby granted.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

4
Acting Colonial Secretary.

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

S. S. Port Richard. 148
Albemarle.

16th May, 1936.

Sir,
I beg to inform you that I have drawn the attention of the Manager of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., to Paragraph 4. (Conditions of Licence) which states — That the taking of elephant seals shall be restricted to the period 22nd March to the 15th May, 1936, or to such other period as may be approved by the Governor. That the taking of hair seals shall be restricted to the period 15th May, to the 31st October, 1936.

The Manager replied:—

- 1 That these regulations apply only to sealing on Government lands.
- 2 That the Sealing Company has permission from the Falkland Islands Co. to take an unlimited number of both elephant and hair seals from their land (Lafonia) during any period of the year.
- 3 That seals taken from Lafonia are not included in quota of 6000 hair seals and 500 elephant seals, granted under the Government licence.
- 4 That he intends taking elephant and hair seals from Lafonia, whenever necessary, irrespective of dates and numbers.

Mr. J. E. Hamilton informed me that the same restrictions apply to sealing on Lafonia as on Government lands, therefore, I shall keep a strict record, etc. of all seals taken.

Contrary to the Government regulations, on 8th May, 30 lion seals were taken from Barren Island.

The manager informs me that the period for taking elephant seals has been extended to the 30th June, 1936.
Please advise.

The Hon Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

I am,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
F. B. Discor.
Sealing Officer.

No.

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

MINUTE.

May 13 1936

To
From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To From

J.R. Hamilton

Stanley

Red 5
136-145

With reference to my recent memorandum on sealing in the Falklands, I should be glad if a copy could be sent to Dr. Kemp, Director of Research, "Discovery" Investigations.

J.R. Hamilton

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" ... RADIO.

Stanley.

14th May 1936

Sir,

147
I have to acknowledge your letter No.75/35 dated 12th inst., granting to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, an extension of the time limit for taking elephant seals.

The Manager of that Company is being advised accordingly.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Manager.

The Honorable

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

H.T.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

(151)

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number

Office of Origin

Words

Handed in at

Date

20/5/36.

To

SEALING OFFICER,
ALBEMARLE.

Sealing Company have been granted extension of time limit for
taking elephant seals from 15th May to 15th June, 1936.

Colonial Secretary.

Telephoned to W/T Station - 19.00. 20th May.

Time

75/35.

154
10th June, 36.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 20th of April, 1936, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that after careful consideration of the proposals contained in your letter, His Excellency does not consider that sufficient cause has been shown to justify a departure from the usual practice of issuing annual licences as, so long as sealing operations are conducted by your Company in a satisfactory manner, there would be little likelihood of a refusal to renew the annual licence.

2. With regard to the number of animals which may be taken annually His Excellency desires me to state that the number of sea lions and elephant seal which may be taken will be considered at the time of application but it appears probable that it will be necessary after this year to restrict the total number to be taken from all areas and by all operators within the limits of the Colony to 10,000 sea lions and 500 elephant seal in any one season.

3./

The Secretary,
The Falkland Islands and Dependencies
Sealing Company, Limited,
ALBEMARLE.

3. In this connection I attach a statement showing the yield of oil produced by your Company from sea lions during the years 1928 to 1935. From this statement it will be observed that the larger catches yielded less oil per animal and indicates that the best use has not been made of the raw material as the catches increased in numbers. I am to impress upon your Company very strongly the paramount importance of utilizing to the fullest possible extent all carcasses.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CS

Acting Colonial Secretary.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE YIELD OF OIL PRODUCED BY THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES SEALING COMPANY,
LIMITED, FROM SEA LIONS DURING THE YEARS 1928 to
1935.

<u>1928.</u>	3139	seal	produced	1	barrel	of	oil	for	every	2.5	seal.
<u>1929.</u>	2065	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2.61	"
<u>1930.</u>	4941	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	3.6	"
<u>1931.</u>	7819	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4.2	"
<u>1935.</u>	9219	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	4.48	"

1 in 1930.
58 56 lions
were killed
have more been
selected to look with?
VSD

75/35.

11th June,

36.

Sir,

Red 148

I am directed to forward to you the attached extract from a report received from the Sealing Officer attached to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, and to request that you will be good enough to confirm the statement that your Company have granted permission to the Sealing Company to take an unlimited number of both elephant and hair seals from your land within the boundaries of Lafonia at any period of the year.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

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

(156)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" RADIO.

Stanley.

12th June, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterdays date, and, with reference to your enquiry, to inform you that the Sealing Company have not been granted permission to take an unlimited number of seal within the boundaries of Lafonia.

Permission has been granted subject to the following conditions:- That no fur seal be taken - that 10% of adult males be left on each rookery and that no females, pups, undersized or immature seals be killed. This license is valid until September 30th of this year.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. W. B. B. B.

For Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

DR/JT.

Stanley.

75/35.

19th June,

36.

Sir,

Red 148

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th of May, 1936, and to confirm my telegram despatched to you on the 20th of May reading as follows :

Red 151

"Sealing Company have been granted permission of time limit for taking elephant seals from 15th May to 15th June, 1936."

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter I am to say that the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, have granted permission to the Sealing Company to take seals within the boundaries of Lafonia subject to the following conditions :

That no fur seal be taken.

That 10% of adult males be left on each rookery and that no females, pups, undersized or immature seals be killed.

3. This licence is valid until September 30th of this year.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

LB
Acting Colonial Secretary.

F. B. Dixon, Esq.,
Sealing Officer
Falkland Islands & Dependencies
Sealing Company, Limited,
ALBEMARLE.

Aldemarle,

1st July, 1936.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 75/35 of the 19th of June, 1936 referring to the taking of seals from the Falkland Islands Company's land (Laponia). With reference to your telegram despatched on the 20th of May, 1936 which reads: "Sealing Company have been granted permission of the time limit for taking elephant seals from 15th May to 15th June, 1936." This telegram, I received on the 24th of May, 1936.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

F. B. Dixon.

Sealing Officer.

The Hon Colonial Secretary,
Stanley.

NOTES FOR YOUR EXCELLENCY.

M.P. 589/27.

Reds (15 and (16) Original Licence to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company.

M.P. 75/35.

Red (133) Request of Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company.

Reds (136) - (145) Report by Mr. Hamilton on the request of the Company.

Reds (135) - (136) In para. 14 the average number of gallons of elephant seal oil produced by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company was 48.83 gallons per elephant during the 1930 season whereas in the same season the Cia. Argentina de Pesca produced an average of 73.04 gallons per elephant.

Reds(152) - (154) The reply to the request of the Sealing Company.

Red (125) Authorizes 6,000 hair seal and 500 elephant seal.

Reds (144) - (145) Paras. 3 and 4 - grounds on which the Government Naturalist - Mr. Hamilton - considers that only an annual licence should be granted.

M.P. 250/33.

Crown Grant relating to Lafonia.

Sealing Reports, South Georgia 1928 - 1935.

*He of C1
Thank you.
We saw Mr. Jellie & Mr. Watson
today re sealing & whaling and the former
is to write to you on the aims of the Sealing
Company*
W.H.H. 8/7/36

The Hon. G. J. Felton and Mr. D. R. Watson applied for an interview with His Excellency at Government House on the 8th of July, 1936.

The interview was granted for 12 noon on that day.

In addition to His Excellency and the gentlemen referred to above the Acting Colonial Secretary was present.

During the interview His Excellency brought to the notice of Mr. Watson, Secretary of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, the statistics relating to the production of seal oil for the years 1928-1935 which shewed a very poor yield of oil for the number of seals taken as compared with the production by the Cia. de Pesca at South Georgia.

Mr. Watson explained that the reason was probably due to larger seals caught in South Georgia waters. His Excellency then asked Mr. Watson if he would explain why the percentage of yield from seals caught by his own Company had shewn considerable decreases. Mr. Watson replied that this was probably due to elephant seals being included with the sea lions in the returns of the years shewing the higher yield and offered to investigate the matter. Mr. Watson then stated that it was in his opinion impossible to obtain a higher yield of oil from sea lions than they were obtaining at present and assured His Excellency that there was no waste whetsoever of any part of the carcass.

Mr. Felton and Mr. Watson asked if His Excellency would approve of the grant of a monopoly to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company for a period of 7 years maintaining that such a monopoly would result in the employment of 50 men for 8 months in the year if whaling as well as sealing operations were conducted. They stated that it had been impossible for them to induce the Falkland Islands Company to provide the additional capital required for the extension of the sealing operations and for the addition of a whaling industry in the absence of the grant

of/

of a monopoly for 7 years.

Mr. Felton further asked if His Excellency would permit introduction of Norwegian capital for the continuance and development of the Company.

In reply His Excellency pointed out that over a period of 30 years the issue of an annual licence had never been a deterrent to the whaling or sealing industries and that there was no record of a case where renewal of an annual licence had been refused during that period. He could not say that he would be prepared to grant a monopoly for 7 years as the Falkland Islands Company must say what they want as a precedent to their furnishing the additional capital required. While His Excellency was prepared to encourage the Falkland Islands Company to take part in the operations of the Sealing Company he could not approve of a monopoly for a period of 7 years to either Company except in association with the other. There was no room for two Companies working independently.

Mr. Felton pointed out that the Falkland Islands Company had now complete financial control of the Sealing Company which was indebted to them in the sum of £15,000 and could put it out of business; therefore the Company in which he was interested were anxious to receive a monopoly for taking seals elsewhere than in Lafonia to protect their interests, particularly as they were pioneers of the industry locally.

In support of this Mr. Watson stated that the Falkland Islands Company had already considered the possibility of placing equipment at Darwin but that he thought Darwin could not be considered as a suitable place as there were not enough seals in the vicinity. He knew that Capt. Roberts, (the Master of the "Lafonia") had had instructions to investigate the possibilities of selecting an alternative station.

Mr. Watson further stated that a rough scheme of amalgamation had been drawn up by Mr. Young whereby the Falkland Islands Company would take part cash only by way of repayment and the balance in shares in the Sealing Company. This would fully

satisfy/

satisfy the latter. His Excellency said that he had already discussed the matter with Mr. Young the Manager of the Falkland Islands Company, and gathered from him that something of the sort was under consideration.

Finally His Excellency stated that he would render every assistance to encourage the Falkland Islands Company to join with the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company in the further development of the Sealing and Whaling industry in the Colony.

Mr. Felton was asked by His Excellency to write to the Colonial Secretary with a view to obtaining an estimate of the extent to which Government would be prepared to grant concessions on receipt of which it would be for Mr. Felton to communicate results to Mr. Young with the object of obtaining the consent of his Directors for the formation of a new Joint Company under the control of the Falkland Islands Company as the largest shareholders.

Stanley, 9th July 1936.

Sir,

I have to own receipt of your favour dated 10th June, to which I have been unable to reply before due to my being out at the Sealing Station at Albemarle.

On behalf of my company I much appreciate the assurance that, so long as sealing operations are conducted in a satisfactory manner, there would be little likelihood of a refusal to renew the annual licence.

This matter, of licences etc., has since been gone into thoroughly at an interview with His Excellency the Governor and a separate letter of this same date is being addressed to you in connection with the views expressed by the Governor at that interview.

Number of seals and sea-elephants to be taken.

I note that the number of these animals to be taken in any one season will be considered at the time of application for each licence, and that it appears probable that after this year it may appear necessary to restrict the total number to be taken, by all operators within the limits of the Colony, to 10,000 sea lions and 500 elephant seals in any one season.

These number of animals would roughly permit the production of between 400 and 500 tons of seal oil, which in itself would not justify much further capital being put into the business and would not provide much room for employing extra labour, but if the negotiations now in progress for extending the operations of the company into Whaling are successful, the restrictions in the number of seals to be taken will not hamper the expansion and reorganisation of the company which is now contemplated.

Yield of Oil.

I regret that the figures as at present on record in the Colonial Secretariat would seem to indicate that the yield has gone down in recent years, and beg to assure the Government that under the writer's personal supervision at the sealing station every effort is made to prevent waste and to obtain the greatest yield possible in relation to the number of seals slaughtered.

The 'yield' in 'seals to the barrel' is considerably influenced by the greater or less proportion of sea-elephants that may be boiled down, as these animals produce considerably more oil per head than the sea-lions.

In order to enable me to check and possibly rectify the figures quoted in your statement, I beg of you to furnish me with copies of the reports from which these figures have been extracted, as I particularly wish to remove any false impression that may exist as to whether the company is or is not making the best of the raw material that they handle.

A.

II.

B

Unfortunately I cannot immediately draw up a comparative statement to shew the correct yields because the company's records were not very well kept during the first three years that it worked, the management then being in the hands of Norwegian Nationals.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. R. Watson.

Secretary to the Falkland &
Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

To The Hon.
Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

Stanley, 9th July 1936.

Sir,

The undersigned, G.J.Felton and Duncan R.Watson, both Directors of the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., hereby refer to the interview granted them by His Excellency the Governor on 8th inst.

From this interview they understand that the views of the Government in regard to Sealing and Whaling in waters of the Falkland Islands proper are, more or less, as follows:-

That His Excellency the Governor will be prepared to favourably consider the granting of a monopoly for seven years to a reorganised company in which the present Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co.Ltd. would be joined financially and administratively with Messrs The Falkland Islands Company Limited in the business of sealing and whaling in waters of the Falkland Islands proper.

But that His Excellency the Governor would not consider it advisable to grant any such monopoly to either one or the other of these companies.

On behalf of the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd., we hereby beg to express our agreement to this statement of policy, and our agreement to join forces with Messrs The Falkland Islands Co. Ltd. for sealing and whaling.

We shall be extremely obliged if a confirmation of His Excellency the Governor's views can be furnished us in order to communicate same by air mail to the Directors of the Falkland Islands Co.Ld. in London, with a view to arranging the reorganisation and new finance with the least possible delay.

We are, Sir,
Your obedient servants.

Director.

Director &
Secretary.

To the Hon.
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley
Falkland Islands.

G. J. Felton.

D. R. Watson

75/35.

14th July,

36.

Sir,

Red 164

With reference to your letter dated the 9th of July, 1936, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that the terms contained in your letter explain the position and that His Excellency is prepared to seek the approval of the Secretary of State with a view to obtaining the concession you seek for whaling and sealing operations to be conducted by your Company in conjunction with the aid of the Falkland Islands Company.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J.F.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable
G. J. Felton, M.E.C., J.P.,
STANLEY.

75/35.

14th July,

36.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

With reference to the interview you had with His Excellency, on the subject of a fresh concession for sealing in the Colony, I am to inform you that it appears that the maximum number of seals permitted to be killed annually will not for some time exceed 10,000 to 12,000. His Excellency regrets therefore that he cannot hold out a hope of the issue of a fresh licence.

2. Negotiations are now taking place which it is considered will improve the position of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Acting Colonial Secretary.

Mr. W. J. Hutchinson,
STANLEY.

168

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.
No. 106.

17th July, 1936.

Sir,

With reference to your telegram, No. 82 of the 10th of October, 1935, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the sealing licence granted to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, I have the honour to inform you that the Company have applied for a licence to take 12,000 hair seals and 1,000 elephant seals during 1936 and that I have granted them provisional permission to take up to 6,000 in the case of hair seal and 500 in the case of elephant seal during the 1936 season pending a report by Mr. J. E. Hamilton.

In duplicate.

2. This report has now been completed and I enclose a copy for purposes of record and a further copy for transmission to Dr. Kemp, Director of Research, 'discovery' Investigations.

3. Prior to the receipt of Mr. Hamilton's report the Government undertook to seek your sanction for permission for the Sealing Company to take 12,000 seals this year that being the number allowed in 1935. I consider that Mr. Hamilton's recommendation is for an absolute minimum and I am strongly of the opinion that the full number should be permitted during this and possibly next year. At the end of 1937 the results/

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
W. G. ORMSBY-GORE, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

- 2 -

results can be ascertained.

4. The reasons for my recommendation of this comparatively small addition are

- (1) That the result of killing of superfluous males by say 4,000 cannot have any notable effect on the main herd of some quarter of a million seals, and
- (2) The country is still in the transition stage regarding unemployment and it is advisable on political grounds to give opportunity for as much work as possible at present.

I would add that the position regarding unemployment has been steadily improving during the last year and it would be most unfortunate were any check to be imposed now.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

(Sd.) H. HENNIKER-HEATON

75/35.

18th July,

36.

Sir,

With reference to your interview with me, I am directed to inform you that the request from the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, for an extension of time in which to take elephant seals is hereby granted for the period of one month with effect from to-day.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

HONOURABLE
J. J. FELTON, J.P.,
STANLEY.

The Honourable The Colonial Secretary,

Referring to reds 162 and 163 A and B, since "the company's records were not very well kept during the first three years" I do not see that Mr. Watson is in a position to rectify figures extracted from former papers unless he has others which have been withheld. I would suggest further that the uses of "Norwegian nationals" as scapegoats are now exhausted.

I have marked another paragraph on red 163 and would state that I consider that Mr. Watson, no doubt inadvertently, has placed rather a low estimate on the yield to be expected from the seals. At 40 gallons per elephant the 500 should yield 83 tons of oil and the 10,000 sea lions will yield 463 tons at 3.6 seals to the barrel or 413 at 4 to the barrel - the aggregate being 546 and 496 tons.

It is however satisfactory to observe that the numbers 500 and 10,000 are considered sufficient.

From information which has recently come to hand I do not anticipate that, under the present management, the addition of 4,000 seals to the number to be killed is likely to increase the amount of labour employed by the sealing company.

It will be remembered that last summer the company was most remiss in taking advantage of its special elephant licence and also neglected to begin in good time this season. Further although they were informed that there were plenty of sea lions at Cape Meredith Lagoon in the earlier part of this season they (the company) made no effort to take them but merely lamented their absence after time had been wasted in searching for elephants.

It seems clear that this company is still being run in an inefficient manner and that they have not yet learned anything of what is mostly essential for them-namely the seasonal occurrence of seals, or if they have it is hoped that increased concessions will enable the company to avert the consequences of their neglect to take advantage of opportunity.

It is not precisely pertinent to the foregoing but should nevertheless be stated that there is nothing in the history of this company to lead one to believe that they have the slightest regard for anything but the profits of the immediate season.

This outlook has always and pre-eminently characteristic of sealing as a whole.

My estimate of 90,000 pups applies to the whole colony including the islands adjacent to Lafonia and (I would draw attention to the point that the herd under crown control is the less by the population of these islands and that the licence therefore is issued with reference to a herd of bulls correspondingly smaller.) It follows that the total catch anticipated by the company consists not only of the number specified in the crown licence but includes in addition bulls killed under permit from the Falkland Islands Company.

I have made calculations as to the effect on the herd of killing 4,000 additional bulls and find that from 1943 to 1951, if the increase shown in red 136 is correct, there will be a deficiency of bulls which reaches a maximum of 17% in 1946. The allowance for the service of virgins and for unknown factors is 20% so that it is practically wiped out in the year indicated.

The management of the sea lion herd is in an experimental condition and has therefore to be conducted with the greatest caution, overkilling, even for a season or two might quite easily defeat the object of creating a permanent industry.

I would therefore most respectfully but earnestly suggest that any increase beyond the number of 10,000 is likely to be a serious danger to the future of the herd and in consequence to the existence of the industry. Moreover, in red 163 Mr. Watson states that this number would attract a certain amount of fresh capital and that if the project to start whaling materialises it will be sufficient to permit reorganisation of the company.

170

Since the company seems rather unwilling to do anything but make generalisations and ask for further concessions I would suggest that it might supply definite and full information as to the proposed reorganisation, including the total capital with a list of shareholders and their holdings, an accurate description of the ships and plant to be used with positions of the latter, an estimate of the oil production and of the labour to be employed, with rates of pay of all ranks.

Signed

J. E. Hamilton

J. E. Hamilton.

28. 7. 36.

No. 75/35.

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

MINUTE.

31st July, 19 36.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To J. E. Hamilton, Esq.,

STANLEY.

Red 172

With reference to your minute dated the 28th July, 1936, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency desires that you should inspect the operations of the Falkland Islands & Dependencies Sealing Company at Albemarle as early as possible with particular reference as to the percentage of oil obtained from carcasses.

2. After your inspection His Excellency would be pleased to receive a detailed report on your observations.

ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No.

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

MINUTE.

27. VII. 36 19

To Hon. Col. Sec

From J. S. Hamilton.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

The attached sheets are, so far as I can see, an addition to the records of the sealing Co.

Since they belong to a period when the company was taking much undersized animals they are perhaps not very important except as evidence of misdeeds.

J. S. Hamilton.

No. 73/35

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

MINUTE.

178
(175)

August 7.

1926

To Hon. Col. Sec

From

J. H. Hamilton.

Stanley

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

With reference to your minute dated July 31

I would state that I am informed by Mr. C. Robertson that leopard seals are plentiful in Port Stephens in September/October and I am desirous of procuring material from this species.

I therefore propose to proceed to Port Stephens by the voyage of "Lafonia" about September 12? and to remain there for about a month.

During this time there would be opportunity for two or three visits to alliemants which I would take particular trouble to make.

J. H. Hamilton.

Recd 173

75/25. (12)

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From F. B. Dixon, Sealing Officer,

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 14th August, 1936. *Time :* 1400.

Received : 15th August, 1936. *Time :* 1100.

SEALING COMPANY HAVE TO DATE TAKEN 4475 SEAL. HAS
PERMISSION BEEN GRANTED TO TAKE OVER 6000.

F. B. DIXON.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				18. 8. 36.

To

MANAGER
SEALING COMPANY?
ALBEMARLE.

PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED FOR SEALING COMPANY TO TAKE
UP TO 8,000 SEALS THIS SEASON.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				18. 8. 36.

To

SEALING OFFICER,

ALBEMARLE.

Red 176

YOUR TELEGRAM 14TH AUGUST SEALING COMPANY HAS NOW BEEN GRANTED
PERMISSION TO TAKE UP TO 8,000 SEALS THIS SEASON.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

(179)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" RADIO.

Stanley.

24th August, 1936.

Sir,

On behalf of the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co, I have the honour to request sanction to kill a further 6,000 Seals. We are given to understand that Seals are now plentiful.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Geo. Pugh.

for Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

Stanley.

LH/JT.

75/35.

1st September,

36.

Sir,

Red 179.

With reference to your letter dated the 24th of August, 1936, relative to the number of seals which may be taken by your Company, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency approves of the taking of 10,000 seals in all (i.e. a total of 4000 in excess of the 6000 stipulated in my letter of even number dated 19th of March, 1936).

Red 119.

2. I am to add that no hope can be held out that any increase over this ^{amount} can be given.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JB

Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
The Falkland Islands &
Dependencies Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies,

To H. E. The Governor.

Despatched: 1st September, 19 36. *Time:* 2239.

Received: 2nd September, 19 36. *Time:* 1030.

No. 82. Your despatch No. 106 in the circumstances I am prepared to accept your recommendation that permission should be granted to take 12,000 hair seal and 1,000 elephant seal this season. As at present advised I am not prepared to commit myself at this stage to similar numbers for 1937.

S. of S.

Red 168

181

184

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				2. 9. 36.

To SEALING OFFICER,
ALBEMARLE.

Red 178

MY TELEGRAM 18TH AUGUST SEALING COMPANY HAS NOW BEEN GRANTED
PERMISSION TO TAKE UP TO 10,000 SEALS IN ALL DURING THIS SEASON.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
--------	------------------	-------	--------------	------

2. 9. 36.

To
SEALING OFFICER,
ALBEMARLE.

TELEGRAPH THE NUMBER OF SEA LIONS AND ELEPHANTS KILLED UP TO
31ST AUGUST AND SEND FURTHER FORTNIGHTLY REPORTS OF THE NUMBER
OF SEA LIONS TAKEN.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Time

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" & RADIO.

Stanley.

4th September, 1936.

Sir,

On behalf of the Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.75/35 of September 1st, and to thank you for granting permission to take a further 4,000 seals

It is noted that no more than 10,000 seals in all will be allowed for this season.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. W. W.

for Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

Stanley.

LH/JT

1865

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From F. B. Dixon, Sealing Officer,

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 11th September, 19 36. *Time*: 1130.

Received: 12th September, 19 36. *Time*: 1015.

Redo 182 and 183.

Received telegrams of 2nd and 3rd inst Sealing Company
have to August 31st taken 6280 seal 180 elephants.

F. B. Dixon.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From F. B. Dixon, Sealing Officer,

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 15th September, 19 36. Time: 1030.

Received: 16th September, 19 36. Time: 1030.

DURING FORTNIGHT ENDED 14TH INST. 1308 SEALS HAVE BEEN
TAKEN.

F. B. DIXON.

6280
288
1560
91 6

75/35
(87)
DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From F. B. Dixon, Sealing Officer,.....

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 29th September, 19 36. *Time:* 2100.

Received: 30th September, 19 36. *Time:* 1100.

During Fortnight ended 28th inst. 1560 seal were taken.

Sealing ceased 28th inst.

F. B. DIXON.

195

Stanley,

Falkland Islands.

9th October, 1956.

Sir,

I beg to submit, for your information, a report upon the activities of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, for the season May - September, 1956, inclusive.

The "Port Richard", the only vessel operated by the Company during the season, left Stanley on May 3rd, 1956, with the schooner "Gwendolin" in tow, for Port Albemarle, calling at Pleasant Point en route where 47 elephants were obtained. Whilst weather bound at Speedwell Island from the 6th to the 12th of May, a visit was made to Barren Island where a catch of a further 4 elephants was made. Speedwell was left on May 15th but owing to the boisterous weather conditions prevailing it was found necessary to shelter in Fox Bay; the vessel arriving at her destination on the following day.

From 14th until 19th May was spent in preliminary work about the station - on the 19th the blubber obtained on the outward voyage being tried out. The first trip was made to Barren Island, Sea Lion Island and Bull Point. No elephants were obtained at Barren Island, weather conditions at the Sea Lion Islands were unfavourable, but a catch of twelve was made at Bull Point, the ship returning to Albemarle on May 24th.

The second trip was to Driftwood Island where 11 elephants were taken, Sea Lion Islands 58, Bull Point 4, and Elephant Cays 11, the vessel arriving at the station on the 29th May. On May 30th 9 elephants were taken from the Arch Islands. The

last/

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary,
STANLEY.

last voyage May 31st / June 4th was to the district of Lafonia; 14 elephants were taken from the Triste Islands and 10 from Motley Islands. Driftwood Island, Bull Point and Sea Lion Islands were visited on the return journey but no elephants were seen. One of the chief localities, viz: East Sea Lion Island, frequented by these animals was not visited during the season owing to the unfavourable weather conditions prevailing whenever the ship was in this locality. The total catch of elephants was 180 from the places mentioned; they averaged 15' 8" in length, the oil produced amounting to 1 barrel per animal.

It is obvious that during the latter part of the month of May the animals are migrating, as is shown in the marked decrease in numbers seen on visiting the same beaches as the month goes on.

Elephants were also encountered at Cape Meredith. On one occasion a bull being seen with 6 females, and on four other occasions pairs were observed. Yearlings were seen at different times, alone^{and} with herds. The total number of elephants located during the season was 234.

During these trips made for elephants 126 lion seal were taken from Barren Island.

Lion sealing actually commenced on June 3th and ended on September 28th, the catch amounting to 9,086; this figure includes 7 leopards.

The localities and numbers obtained from each being :

Tussac Island	716
Big Arch Island	1,684
Natural Arch Island	517
Sandbay Island	2,585
Cusack Island	19
Lagoon	2,018
Cape Meredith	384
Stephens Bluff	495
Tea Island (Beaver)	40
	<hr/>
	8,960.
	<hr/>

Month/

(190)

Month.	Catch.	Production 40 gall. barrels.	Seal per barrel.
May.	111	22	5.
June.	1,412	353	4.
July.	1,797	458	4.1
August.	2,898	687	4.22
September.	2,868	775	3.7
	<hr/> 9,086	<hr/> 2,275	

The difference in the above figures amounting to 126 seal, is the number of lion seal obtained whilst elephant sealing.

Average number of seal per barrel for season - 5.933.

During the months of June and July seals were very scarce in the vicinity of the station, but upon proceeding to Beaver and the adjacent islands it was found that similar conditions prevailed.

The Natural Arch Island was worked this season for the first time since 1930. About 1/10th of the area - on the south-west portion of the island - is frequented by male seal, the remainder being breeding rookery. Owing to the rough nature of the island gathering is difficult, and many seal escape. The anchorage is also very unsuitable, and only with extremely favourable weather conditions, is the vessel able to work this island.

The seal obtained from Cape Meredith were driven over to the Lagoon and shipped from there. The distance of approximately 1½ miles was covered in about 2½ hours; only one seal died on the way. When given time and driven carefully the animals seem to suffer from no ill effects and arrive at the Lagoon in quite a fresh condition.

The maximum number of seal observed on any rookery, at any time during the season, was approximately 1,800. This was at Cape Meredith on September 24th; after this date migrating commenced, and by September 23th only 180 remained,

the/

the majority being on the beach.

After September 19th very few seal were to be seen on the Arch Islands. (This does not refer to breeding rookeries.)

Before concluding I would mention that all clauses and stipulations, as contained in the conditions laid down with the renewal of the licence, were, to the best of my knowledge adhered to. There was no undue waste at any time or place during the season, but the residue from the digesters, at present dumped, could doubtless be utilised, if the Company possessed a fertiliser plant.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F B Dixon.

Sealing Officer.

In accordance with instructions received from Mr. J. E. Hamilton, the following weekly return for the season is enclosed :-

Lion Seal.			oil production in barrels.	
May		111	22	
Week ending June 7th		15	5	
"	"	" 14th	459	114
"	"	" 21st	351	87
"	"	" 28th	442	112
"	"	July 5th	278	71
"	"	" 12th	521	140
"	"	" 19th	269	66
"	"	" 26th	457	101
"	"	Aug. 2nd	447	104
"	"	" 9th	687	157
"	"	" 16th	777	185
"	"	" 23rd	905	223
"	"	" 31st	501	115
"	"	Sept. 7th	588	102
"	"	" 14th	920	253
"	"	" 21st	823	250
"	"	" 28th	737	190
<hr/>			<hr/>	
9,086			2,275	
<hr/>			<hr/>	

(193)

75/35.

14th October,

36.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your report on the sealing operations of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company during the season May-September, 1936.

2. I am to convey His Excellency's thanks for your well written report which he has read with interest.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

Mr. F. B. Dixon,
STANLEY.

No. **75/35.**

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

MINUTE.

14th October, 1936.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To J. E. Hamilton, Esq.,

Government Naturalist,

STANLEY.

I am directed by the Governor to transmit for your information and return, a copy of a report by the Sealing Officer, Mr. F. B. Dixon, on the operations of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company during the season May-September, 1936.

gfb
Acting Colonial Secretary.

99
100

Kelvin House,
October 29th 1936.

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

Schedule of Seal Hunting. 1936 Season.

Elephant Seal.

	Locality.	Number.
May. 4th.	Pleasant Roads	41
5th.	do.	6
8th.	Barren Island	3
23rd.	Bull Point	12
26th.	Driftwood	11
27th.	Sea Lion Isld.	54
28"	do.	4
28::	Bull Point	4
29::	Elephant Cays	11
30::	Arch Islands	7
	Total.	153

Seal Lions.

May. 8th.	Barren Island	30
21st.	do. do.	81
	Total.	111

Oil produced from Elephants	153 barrels
Oil produced from Seal Lions	22 do.
Total.	175

(199)

Elephant Seal.

June.	Locality	Number.
1st.	Triste Island	14
2nd.	Motely Isld.	10
4th.	Barren Isld.	1
10th.	Arch Isld.	1
14th.	do. do.	1
Total		27

Seal Lions.

June. 4th.	Barren Isld	15
8th.	Sand Bay Isld. No 2.	130
9th.	Arch Isld. No.3	93
10	; ; 3	29
11	; ; 1	103
14	No.2 (72) No.3 (32)	104
16	No.2	21
17	Ten shilling Isld	85
18	; ; ;	18
19	Cusacks Isld.	19
20	No.3 Arch	158
21	No.3 Arch	50
22	No.2 Sand Bay	106
24	No.2	95
25	No.1	37
26	No.2	76
27	No.3	128
28	Ten shilling Isld	110
30	No.3	35
Total.		1412

Oil produced from Elephants 27 barrels

Oil produced from Seal Lions 353 do.

Total. 380

(198)

Seal Lions.

July.	Locality	Number.
Ist.	Arch Isld. 3	90
3rd.	No.2	43
6th.	4	129
7.	3	106
8.	Ten shilling Bay	76
9.	Ten shilling Bay	70
10.	Arch Isld No.2	39
11.	4.	90
12.	3.	11
14.	4.	79
15.	Lagoon	74
16.	Ten shilling Bay	8
17.	No.4 (42) No.1 (35)	77
18.	2.	31
20.	3.	66
22.	Tea Island	40
22.	Ten Shilling Isld	27
23.	Ten shilling Isld.	29
24.	2.	110
25.	1.	89
26.	3.	96
27.	2.	107
28.	1.	45
29.	4.	109
30.	2.	59
31.	Lagoon	55
31.	Ten shilling Bay	42
Total.		----- 1797 -----

Oil produced 438 Barrels.

Seal Lions.

August.	Locality.	Number.
Ist.	Ten shilling Bay	30
4. 2nd	Arch Isld No. 2.	178
6th.	3.	109
7.	3	56
8.	2.	219
9.	2.	125
10.	1.	97
11.	Lagoon	245
12.	3.	96
13.	2.	168
14.	1.	103
15.	4.	68
17.	Lagoon	161
18.	2.	46
19.	3.	94
20.	2.	196
21.	2.	115
22.	3.	102
23.	Lagoon	189
24.	Lagoon	128
28.	2.	57
30.	Lagoon	217
31.	1.	99
		---2898---
	Total	2898

Oil produced

687 barrels.

(196)

----- 5 -----

Seal Lions.

September.	Locality	Number.
Ist.	Rookery (West Arm)	5 (Leopards)
3rd.	Arch No.2.	29
3rd.	Lagoon	88
4.	Lagoon	123
7.	Lagoon	143
8.	No.2.	243
9.	3.	119
10.	2.	61
11.	3.	144
13.	2.	113
14.	Lagoon	240
16.	1.	105
17.	Lagoon	135
18.	2.	88
19.	3.	70
20.	Lagoon	244
21.	Lagoon	181
22.	2.	58
22.	Lagoon	93
23.	Lagoon	265
24.	Lagoon	106
26.	Lagoon	156
28.	Lagoon	59
	Total.	2868

Oil produced

775 barrels.

191

Summary of Season 1936.

May.	<u>No. of Elephants</u>	<u>Seal Lions</u>	<u>Oil produced</u>
	I53	III	I75
June.	27	I4I2	380
July.		I797	438
Aug.		2898	687
Septr.		2868	775
	-----	-----	-----
	I80	9086	2455 Barrels.
	-----	-----	-----

The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co., Ltd.

Kelvin House,
Stanley, 3rd November 1936

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith report on the Seal Hunting operations carried on between the dates of May 3rd and September 30th, 1936.

The expedition sailed from Stanley on 3rd May, and after calling at Pleasant Roads, Speedwell Island and Fox Bay, it arrived at Albemarle on the 15th May.

The taking of Elephant Seals actually commenced on the 4th May at Pleasant Point, it being the intention to take Elephant Seals from different localities on the way to Albemarle. Due to very rough weather and a snow storm intervening the expedition was weather bound for about a week, and it was not possible to reach Albemarle (shore station and try works) until the 15th.

Due to this delay the seals taken en route produced oil that was somewhat dark in colour, but there was practically no waste.

The company's drifter S.S. "Port Richard" then sailed for Sea Lion Islands, but found weather conditions too rough to work on those beaches. It then proceeded to Bull Point, Barren Island, etc. and when it eventually was able to get to the Sea Lion Islands it was learnt from the shepherd living there that Elephant Seals had been hauled up on those beaches in large quantities, but the greater portion had since taken to the water and many gone away altogether.

The actual dates, localities and numbers of Elephant Seals and Sea Lions taken are shewn in detail on the attached schedules.

It will be seen that during the month of May only a small number of seals were actually taken. During June and July Sea Lion Seals still continued to be rather scarce, but those taken were found to be in good condition.

I attribute the rather small quantities of seals available during June and July to the fact that the weather was relatively mild, and it was most noticeable that as soon as the weather became more rough and wintry the Sea Lion Seals left the water and hauled up on the land.

In mid-July seals were very scarce on the Arch Islands, and it was decided to make a trip to Beaver and adjacent islands, where so far the seals had not been molested. On arriving at these islands it was also found that the seals were not hauled up on the land in anything like the usual numbers. This would confirm the opinion I have formed that sealing operations have neither depleted the stock of available seal or driven them away from their usual haunts, but that the dates, and numbers that hauled up on the land, were governed by weather conditions. During fine or mild weather they seem to spend more time in the water. During rough weather and snow storms they seem to prefer hauling up on the land, and only go into the sea for short intervals for feeding.

From early August until the 28th September, seals were available in satisfactory numbers, and the work proceeded without any hitch. As soon as it became apparent that the seals were leaving their hauling grounds and taking to the water in larger quantities, it was decided to close down the station.

In all 409 tons of Seal Oil was produced. 250 tons have already been shipped to Glasgow. The remainder should be shipped about 21st November.

In order to meet an enquiry from London, a small trial shipment of Sea Lion hides were salted and shipped in August. Up to the present no information has been received as to the value obtainable for such hides.

The S.S. "Port Richard" and all hands arrived back in Stanley on the 2nd October.

It has been decided not to leave a caretaker at Albemarle for the present off season.

Thirty men and boys were employed in the Sealing operations from the 1st May to the 30th September.

The total sum of money paid out by the Company for the season's Salaries and Wages, plus Bonus on 2454 drums of oil, amounted to £ 2055.12.5 All of this money has been paid to local people with the exception of £142.14.3 which was paid to the Norwegian Engineer who was obtained from South Georgia as being necessary to attend to the engines of the S.S. "Port Richard" and other machinery.

The actual wages and bonus paid to each man employed during the season, were:-

5 months wages @ £7.- plus £1.-victualling,	£40.--.--
Bonus on 2454 drums of oil at 2d.	20. 9.--
Total	<u>£60. 9.--</u>

This does not represent the full total sum of money put into circulation as wages by the operations of the Sealing Company, because wages are also earned by many other labourers in the shipping and handling of stores, coal, etc., in the docking, overhauling etc. of the company's ships and equipment, and in wages paid for instance by the ship that eventually takes the oil production to Montevideo.

The general health of all the employees was satisfactory during the season. One man had to visit the Medical Officer at Fox Bay due to a sprained ankle, and there were several minor abrasions and cuts sustained by the men during their work, but none of any consequence.

Visit of His Excellency the Governor.

On the 3rd August the station at Albemarle was honoured by a visit of H.E. H. Henniker-Heaton, Esq., C.M.G. He was accompanied by the Hon. G.J. Felton, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Sealing Company.

His Excellency the Governor made a thorough tour of inspection and was keenly interested in watching the various operations - such as boiling down the seals' carcasses and finally running off the oil from the digesters.

His Excellency the Governor talked freely with the workmen and inspected their various living quarters, and also enquired from them whether they had 'any complaints'. We understand that no complaints were formulated.

Official Visit by the Senior Medical Officer.

It was very gratifying to have an official visit paid to the station by the Senior Medical Officer, the Hon. R.L. Cheverton, M.D. etc. He made a complete inspection of all living quarters, both ashore and afloat, water supply, stores, sanitation etc. The men's cook house was visited a second time while the men were actually having their midday meal.

This officer suggested several improvements to the ventilation in the cook house, and these alterations have already been carried out. (Date 3rd July).

Official Visit by the Government Naturalist.

Mr. J. E. Hamilton visited the station from the 25th to 29th September. At this time the station was working full time, with both day and night shifts.

Several suggestions made by Mr. Hamilton with a view to determining how long the carcasses should be boiled in order to get the most oil, were carried out under his supervision.

All other suggestions made by Mr. Hamilton were promptly complied with.

In General.

As in previous years only local labour has been employed with the exception of one Norwegian National as an Engineer, it not being possible to obtain a suitable engineer locally.

All the 'local' employees were British subjects with the exception of one, Fuhlendorff, who is a very old resident of the Falklands.

On the whole the season may be looked upon as a successful one, although it cannot be determined whether it will prove to be a profitable one to the finances of the Sealing Company until the balance of the oil is actually sold and the accounts for freights, brokerage and other expenses come through.

Future Sealing Operations.

At the moment it is proposed to recommence Seal Hunting about 15th November, provided reports come in regarding suitable quantities of Elephant Seals being available. If reports do come in to the effect that Elephant Seals are to be had in sufficient numbers, efforts will be made to obtain a suitable crew, although some difficulties are foreseen because 13 of those previously employed at Albermarle have gone to South Georgia and 9 others have either resumed their permanent employment on farms or else taken temporary seasonal employment on farms.

I have the honour to be, Sir
Your obedient servant

J. R. Robertson

for and on behalf of the Falkland & Dependencies
Sealing Co., Ltd.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

From His Excellency the Governor

to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Plan up to Mr. Hamilton requesting
him to comment on it and make suggestions
for the future conduct of operation where
improvements can be effected
Captain Watson should also be thanked

Httht 3/4 36

No. **75/35.**

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

MINUTE.

5th November, 19 36.

To J. E. Hamilton, Esq.,

Government Naturalist,

STANLEY.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I am directed by the Governor to transmit the report, which has been received from the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, on the operations carried out by them between 3rd May and 30th September, 1936, and to request that you will furnish your comments on it and make any suggestion you may have for the future conduct of operations where improvements can be effected.

2. The report should be returned with your reply.


Acting Colonial Secretary.

75/35.

5th November, 36.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge and to thank you for the report which has been received on the operations of your Company during the period 3rd May to 30th September, 1936.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

Captain D. R. Watson,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

EXTRACTS FROM A REPORT BY MR. J. E. HAMILTON ON THE SEALING OPERATIONS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES SEALING COMPANY.

... ..

2. There is an unnecessary amount of dirt introduced into the boilers on the carcasses; they should be washed clean before being cooked. There was a patch of bare earth over which some of the seal had to be drawn and the manager said we would cover this up and try to improve the cleanliness. He told me that he had received a letter from Mr. Gaddes who suggested that the unduly deep colour of the oil might be due to blood.

When the earth was covered up it was only with loose sheets of iron since the station had no nails. The jetty was cleaned after my suggestion had been advanced but the water supply was becoming so low that only once could seals be washed.

3. The method of cooking could be improved. The seal are brought in already gutted and before they are put in the boilers the front flippers are cut off together with the shoulders and long pieces of the flanks. Each carcass is thus divided into three pieces which are all cooked for the same length of time. It is obvious that the thinner pieces will be cooked long before the thicker parts - particularly the head and neck. An examination of the scrap from the boilers provides ample evidence that this is so. It is a common occurrence to find large lumps with the skin and hair still adhering and oil can be seen to be still present when these masses are cut open.

4. The decision as to whether the boilers have been
steamed/

steamed long enough appears to lie with any one of several persons; I am unable to state what length of time is given but suspect that there is no rigid adherence to a standard.

5. Pieces of seal which come to rest against the doors are not cooked since the steam cannot heat these pieces properly.

6. The water supply is inadequate and there is no means by which sea water can be pumped up and used for washing carcasses etc. There is talk of increasing the water supply by building another dam.

7. I consider that the efficiency of this business would be increased

1. by washing the carcasses clean

2. a by cutting the thicker parts open or perhaps better by b using separate boilers for them which would necessitate cutting the carcass into a greater number of pieces.

3. by putting metal screens inside the doors to keep the materials away from them and renewing the dividing plates in the boilers where necessary.

4. by standardising the length of time for which steam is allowed to pass into the boilers; it would require some experiment to ascertain the correct period. Some means of testing the quality of the oil should be used: I believe that a simple method exists.

5. by employing two men only for the actual cooking and ensuring that they become trained to the work.

8. Fuel would be economised and cooking be more efficient if the boilers were lagged; the whalers always have this done. The general equipment of the station appears to be capable of improvement.

... ..

Hon.Col.Secretary.

are

In the attached note[^] set out the results of my visits to Albemarle with suggestions which should lead to an increased production of oil. There is therefore little left to write with reference to Mr.Watson's report.

2. I have however numbered three paragraphs in pencil and offer comments on them.

Red 203(1) It is my opinion that the company would find it advantageous to begin working on March 1 since in 1930 for example Elephant seals were taken in some numbers in March and April.

Red 201(2) The experiments were inconclusive. They should be carried out for several weeks at the beginning of the season so that the most profitable method could be adopted. I would refer to para 7 of my note.

3. I consider that it would be wiser for an official of the company to inspect the better known hauling grounds for elephants rather than to wait for reports. I do not see how reports from the Sea Lion Islands are likely to reach Stanley.

J.R. Hamilton

6 - XI - 36

Hon. Col. Secretary.

I beg to submit a short note of my observations on the sealing station at Albemarle which I visited on two occasions in September. The first visit was for one day, the 20th., and the second extended from the 26th to the 29th.

2. There is an unnecessary amount of dirt introduced into the boilers on the carcasses; they should be washed clean before being cooked. There was a patch of bare earth over which ~~the~~ some of the seal had to be drawn and the manager said he would cover this up and try to improve the cleanliness. He told me that he had received a letter from Mr. Geddes who suggested that the unduly deep colour of the oil might be due to blood.

When the earth was covered up it was only with loose sheets of iron since the station had no nails. The jetty was cleaned after my suggestion had been advanced but the water supply was becoming so low that only once could seals be washed.

3. The method of cooking could be improved. The seal are brought in already gutted and before they are put in the boilers the front flippers are cut off together with the shoulders and x long pieces of the flanks. Each carcass is thus divided into three pieces which are all cooked for the same length of time. It is obvious that the thinner pieces will be cooked long before the thicker parts-particularly the head and neck. An examination of the scrap from the boilers provides ample evidence that this is so. It is a common occurrence to find large lumps with the skin and hair still adhering and oil can ~~still~~ be seen to be still present when these masses are cut open.

4. The decision as to whether the boilers have been steamed long enough appears to lie with any one of several

persons; I am unable to state what length of time is given but suspect that there is no rigid adherence to a standard.

5. Pieces of seal which come to rest against the doors are not cooked since the steam cannot heat these pieces properly.

6. The water supply is inadequate and there is no means by which sea water can be pumped up and used for washing carcasses etc. there is talk of increasing the water supply by building another dam.

7. I consider that the efficiency of this business would be increased 1. by washing the carcasses clean

2. & by cutting the thicker parts open or perhaps better by b using separate boilers for them which would necessitate cutting the carcass into a greater number of pieces.

3. by putting metal screens inside the doors to keep the materials away from them and renewing the dividing plates in the boilers where necessary.

4. by standardising the length of time for which steam is allowed to pass into the boilers; it would require some experiment to ascertain the correct period. Some means of testing the quality of the oil should be used: I believe that a simple method exists.

5. by employing two men only for the actual cooking and ensuring that they become trained to the work.

8. Fuel would be economised and cooking be more efficient if the boilers were laged; the whalers ~~xxxxxx~~ always have this done. The general equipment of the Station appears to be capable of improvement.

J. H. Hamilton.

75/55.

11th November, 36.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to transmit for your information and guidance extracts from a report on the sealing operations of your Company submitted by Mr. J. E. Hamilton, Government Naturalist.

2. I am to add that there would be no objection to your Company commencing operations on the 15th November.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ys

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Captain D. R. Watson,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

(73)
The Falkland & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd.

Kelvin House,
Stanley,

19th November, 1936.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter
No. 75/35 dated 11th November 1936, and to thank you
for the report on Sealing operations as submitted
by Mr J.E. Hamilton.

2. I am to thank you for permission to commence
sealing operations from the 15th November, but regret
to inform you that at the present we are unable to
get a suitable crew to carry on with the work.

I have the honour,

to be,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

for and on behalf of the Directors,

W. A. Watson

(214)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" RADIO.

Stanley.

3rd March, 1937.

Sir,

The reconstruction of the Falkland Islands & Dependencies Sealing Co. Ltd has been under consideration for some time past and providing that a license for a period of years, to seal in and around the Colony, could be obtained, it is thought that this would then be possible.

The term of years suggested is between seven and ten and, providing that a ten year license could be secured, it would be possible to raise such additional capital as may be required.

It is further suggested that a license to kill whales for a like period also be issued with a proviso that should it not be made use of within three years from date of issue, it should be void.

Providing that a license for a term of years is obtainable, my Company would be prepared to take an active part in the management of the reconstructed Company.

I therefore beg to request that you will kindly advise me if Government would be prepared to issue a license to Seal and Whale for a term of years, preferably ten, to a reconstructed Company, and if so on what conditions.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Manager

Manager.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

LY/JT.

218

No. 75/35

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

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
STANLEY, FALKLAND ISLANDS,

..... 8th March 1937

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your *letter*.....
dated..... 3rd March 1937 and to state
that a further communication will
be addressed to you in due course

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) M. C. Craigie-Halkett,

Colonial Secretary.

The Manager.
Falkland Is. Co. Ltd

75/35.

16th March,

37.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter, No. 75/35 of the 8th of March, 1937, I am directed to inform you that on the 14th of July, 1936, the Governor informed the Directors of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, that His Excellency would be prepared to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to the grant of a monopoly for seven years to a reconstructed Company for sealing and whaling in Falkland Island waters and the offer remains open.

2. I am to say that the conditions of such a licence would be the same in substance as those now imposed in respect of sealing and whaling licences.

3. I am to add that it is the desire of the Government to assist the industry but the Government must be satisfied that adequate capital, skilled personnel and plant will become available to enable sealing and whaling to be carried out in an efficient manner.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. V. H.

Colonial Secretary.

(217)

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1851.)

REGISTERED 1902.

AGENTS FOR LLOYDS.

TELEGRAMS "FLEETWING PORTSTANLEY" RADIO.

Stanley.

6th April, 19 37.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 75/35 dated 16th March 1937, re the granting of a monopoly for seven years to a reconstructed company for Sealing and Whaling in Falkland Islands waters, I beg to enquire as to what restrictions would be laid down as to the number of seals or whales killed, seasons etc. etc.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Manager.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

Stanley.

LY/JT

75/35.

8th April,

37.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 6th instant, on the subject of a monopoly for 7 years to a reconstructed Company for Sealing and Whaling in the Falkland Islands, I am directed by the Governor to transmit for your information the attached copies of Sealing and Whaling Licences. Attached to the Sealing Licence will be found the usual conditions under which a licence is granted. In the case of Whaling there are no special conditions attaching to the licence but fishing may only be carried out in conformity with the law and regulations made thereunder.

2. In this connection I am to refer you to paragraph 2 of my letter of the 16th March, 1937, and to add that apart from the possibility of restricting the number of sea-elephants in the interests of the industry the only other matter for reconsideration would be an alteration in the season for killing whales to suit local conditions.

3./

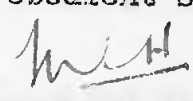
The Manager,
Falkland Islands Company, Limited,
STANLEY.

3. I am to make it clear that the sole interest of the Government is the permanency and success of the industry of Sealing and Whaling in the Falkland Islands.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Colonial Secretary.

Excerpt from letter addressed to the Colonial
Secretary by the Hon. L. W. H. Young, 17/5/37.

... ..

Whilst on matters of sealing, I would like to refer to the reorganisation of the Sealing Co. I believe that additional Capital can be raised providing that a licence to whale and seal for seven years has been granted. Would it not be possible for Government to grant this now and include a proviso that if the Company had not been reorganised with one year from date of issue, then it became null and void.

To attract Capital, it is most necessary that the licence has been first secured.

... ..

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 18th May, 19 37. *Time:* ...

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

No. 42. With reference to my despatch No. 106 of the 17th July, 1936, Sealing Company have applied for a licence to take 10,000 hair seal during 1937. I have authorised the issue of a licence for that number in anticipation of your sanction.

GOVERNOR.

Red 165

221

Cobys.

(222)

18th May 1937.

Dear Mr. Young.

With reference to that part
of your letter dealing with the
reorganization of the F.I. and
Defence's Schooling Coy, I have to
inform you that the question
of a seven year lease can only
be decided in London.

H.E. the Governor will touch
the matter with the Col. Officer
on his arrival in England. This
will be far more effective than
writing. A lease will be
issued for 10,000 hand seal for
this season.

Yours sincerely
W. C. (Carm) Harris

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies,

To His Excellency the Governor,

Despatched: 25th May,

19 37. *Time:* 1944.

Received: 26th May,

19 37. *Time:* 1030.

No. 58. Your telegram No. 42 I approve of the issue
of licence to take 10,000 hair seals during 1937.

S. of S.

Red 221

223

S C H E D U L E.

CONDITIONS OF LICENCE.

1. That a fee of £55. 6s. 8d. is paid on the issue of the licence.
2. That the usual duty on the export of Seal Oil is paid.
3. That the licence is valid in respect of the Falkland Islands, to the exclusion of the Dependencies thereof, and shall commence on the 1st June, 1937, and terminate on the 31st October, 1937.
4. That the taking of hair seals shall be restricted to the period 1st June to the 31st October, 1937.
5. That the number of hair seals killed is not to exceed 10,000.
6. That at least 10% of the adult male seals are left at each rookery.
7. That no pups or females are killed, and that no immature or under-sized seals are killed.
8. That the seals are killed in a humane manner and with as little disturbance as possible, and are not to be driven long distances.
9. That the whole carcase of every seal killed is utilized as far as possible for the extraction of oil and that there is no undue waste.
10. That full returns shall be made, monthly, annually and as otherwise required shewing the number of seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the amount of oil produced, and such other information as may be required.
11. That all operations conducted under this licence shall be subject to the supervision of a sealing officer appointed by the Governor who shall be maintained totally and permanently on board the vessel or vessels employed by the licencees without cost whatever to the Government.
12. That no trespass is committed on private land where seal rookeries are situated other than is strictly necessary for the purpose of killing or trying out seals.
13. That this licence is not transferable.
14. That the Company must employ local labour.
15. That the licence is subject to cancellation or modification at any time on commission of any breach thereof or without cause assigned.

*no dealing to be made with the permission
no managers of farms on which sealing is*

COLONY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

SEALING LICENCE.

The Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

1st April, 1937.

Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Seal
Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921, a Licence
is hereby granted to

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES
SEALING COMPANY, LIMITED,

to take seals of the species known as harr-seals in
the Colony of the Falkland Islands, subject to the
terms and conditions specified in the Schedule annexed
hereto and during the period therein prescribed up to
the 31st of October, 1937.

for Colonial Secretary.

75/35.

23th May,

37.

Sir,

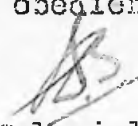
I am directed to forward herewith a licence to take "hair" seals" granted to your Company and to request that you will be good enough to pay the required fee of £55. 3s. 8d. to the Colonial Treasury.

2. I am to add that the taking of Elephant seals is not permitted under the licence.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


for Colonial Secretary.

Captain D. R. Watson,
Secretary,
Falkland Islands and
Dependencies Sealing Company,
STANLEY.

25/35

Sir

The members of the F. I. Reform League
instructed me to request His Excellency to use his
influence with the F. I. Sealing Company to not engage
Carap hands from the Stations for the duration of the
Sealing Season, but to engage unemployed men from
Stanley as there are plenty willing to go

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your obedient servant
W. J. McAtamney
Hon. Secretary

The Hon.

Colonial Secretary
Stanley

(240)

Port Stanley
25th May 1907

Hon. Col. Secretary
Stanley.

8215

Sir,

I hear that the sealing company are about to commence their season's operations and that a Sealing Officer is required by the Government to accompany the Expedition.

I beg to tender an application for the post of Sealing Officer.

This work will not be exactly new to me as I have had experience as Whaling Officer + presume the two positions to be very similar. Trusting that your reply may be favourable.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant
Gregor Brechin.

75/35.

2nd June,

37.

Sir,

Red 227

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th of May, 1937, and to state that His Excellency agrees with the views of the League that Camp hands from Stations should not be engaged by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, but that unemployed men from Stanley should be employed for sealing work.

2. I am to add that the matter has been brought to the notice of the Sealing Company with the request that the Company should employ unemployed men from Stanley.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

KB

for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. W. J. McAtasney,
Honorary Secretary,
Falkland Islands Reform League,
STANLEY.

75/35.

2nd June,

37.

Sir,


I am directed by the Acting Governor to transmit the accompanying copy of a letter from the Falkland Islands Reform League.

2. I am to say that His Excellency trusts that your Company will employ unemployed men from Stanley and not Camp hands from Stations since it is understood that certain Stations are in need of men with Camp experience.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


for Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary,
Falkland Islands and Dependencies
Scaling Company, Limited,
STANLEY.

75/35.

234.
7th June, 37.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Acting Governor has been pleased to appoint you to be Sealing Officer for the purpose of accompanying the Sealing Expedition of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, which will operate in the Falkland Islands during the period 1st June to the 31st October, 1937.

2. I have to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of the conditions on which the licence has been issued, and to add that it will be your duty to supervise the operations and see to it that the conditions of the licence are duly observed.

3. You are required to keep a diary in which you will record daily the number of hair-seals killed, the localities from which taken, and the quantity of oil produced. You are required also to make careful observations of the rookeries with a view to reporting on the estimated number of hair-seals thereon and of furnishing such other information as may be of value to the Government.

4. The Company has been authorised to take 10,000 hair seal.

5./

Mr. G. Brechin,
STANLEY.

5. I am to add that you will be paid wages at the rate of 9s/- per day with free messing.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

for Colonial Secretary.

No.

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

MINUTE.

June 10 1937

To Hon. Col. Secretary

From S. M. O.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

This is to certify that Gregor Brechin is
in my opinion physically fit to discharge
the duties of a Sealery Officer.

Geo. Tennant

75/35.

17th June,

37.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you with regard to the conditions of the licence issued to the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company that the term Hair Seal applies in this instance to Lion Seals only and does not include Leopard or Elephant Seals.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. G. Brechin,
Sealing Officer,
STANLEY.