

C.S.

CONFIDENTIAL.

SHI/VES/2 # 10

1927.  
1924.

No.

9/27.

48 the Governor.

SUBJECT.

1927

13 June

Previous Paper.

Police Vessel to check illicit whaling.

MINUTES.

1-1

2a.

7-3.

Letter from Mr. E. H. Darnley, Colonial Office, 3 May, 1927.  
Telegram to P. of S. of 13 June, 1927.

Letter to Mr. E. H. Darnley, 15 June 1927.

1. Letter found and submitted for signature.

2. I have made certain alterations in G.S. draft  
in accordance with G.S.'s verbal directions. I forward this  
to you for G.S.'s approval.

Done  
15/6/27

J. M. S.

15. 6. 27.

8-14

Confidential despatch to S. of S. of 17 June, 1927.

Subsequent Paper.

3. Despatch found and submitted for signature.

by 30. 7. 27

by 20. 6. 27.

J. M. S.

18. 6. 27.

Copy of despatch to H.B. in Ambassador 15.  
 Buenos Aires, 17 June 1927.  
 Copy of despatch to H.B. in Minister Monte 16.  
 Video, 17 June 1927.

7

Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Council held on the 7th of July, 1927.

The Governor communicated to the Council the subject matter of the Confidential despatches, dated the 17th of June, 1927, which His Excellency had addressed to the Secretary of State relative to the unsuitability of the "Afterglow" for the purposes for which she had been acquired, the proposals which he had put forward for the transference of the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" from the service of the "Discovery" Expedition to the service of the Colony, and the duties on which he had suggested the latter vessel should be employed.

*G.M. Brown*

Clerk of the Executive Council.

of 20. 8. 27  
 p. 9. 8. 27.

Telegram to Secretary of State 25th Aug. 1927 17-18.

Confidential despatch of 27. 8. 27. 24-19  
 to S. of S.

Telegram from S. of S. of 1st Sept. 1927. 25.  
 " to " " 3rd Sept. 1927. 26.

~~" " " 5th " " 27.~~

~~to H.B. in Minister Monte Video. 5/9/27. 28.~~

Telegram from S. of S. 28th Sept 1927 27

*U.S.*

Submitted.

*G.M. Brown*

for C.S.

29 Sept 1927

of 11. 10. 27

p. 6. 9. 27

C.S.O. No. 9/27

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2

Hon C.S.  
Telegraph to Hon C.S. and say Sale of Aftonlow  
approved, ask him to try and sell in Monte Video.  
Colonial Office say £4000 should be starting  
figure.

29 27  
9

A.H.

28. Telegram to H.B. Williams, Monte  
Video. 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1927.

C.P.  
Submitted. Your Excellency  
requires this paper. E.H.V.  
30. 9. 27 for C.S.

29. Telegram to S. of S. of 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 1927.

4. 12. 11. 27

6 4. 11. 27.

30. Telegram from S. of S. of 14/11/27.

G.E. Submitted. No reference

is to para 11 or sub 19,

Jad

16. 11. 27.



Hon C.S.

Please inform Public and Westerns, ✓ Telephoned Min Gray  
State it will take Xmas Mail. closed 22. 11.27.  
Please arrange for some press to go  
to Mr. Scott from me. ✓ Teleph. to W. C. H.  
It is excellent news. 21. 11.27  
A.H.

16.27

Telegram from L of S. 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 1927 - 31. 11. 21. 11.27

to L of S. 11. 27.

to 21. 12. 27.

to 22. 11. 27.

Telegram to S of S. of 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1928. 32.

to 15. 1. 28

to 15. 1. 28

to 24. 1. 28.

to 17. 1. 28.

Inside Minute Paper.

Y. L. Schiller. This is very satisfactory.

2. I think that it is clear that

the sum of £ 2,000 authorized

is to meet expenditure & this

concerns from January to September, 1928,

then the new contract with the

Tonsberg Company will be concluded.

3. Unless there is unexpectedly

heavy expenditure in other directions this

will enable us to send the

"Plover" three times to Nankai-shan

if all else remains.

Y. L.

27. 1. 28.

How C. S.

I am very glad. Please cable Tonsberg Co  
as per our conversation this evening

27 28. A.H.

SofS Despatch No 26. of 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 1928 34-41

V.L.

N.L.

115/28

115/28

11.6.28

(42)

For record purposes.

Mrs. William Scoresby carried out an inspection of the seal rookeries in the Jason Island group, and found no evidence that the seal were being disturbed by seal poachers. (See C/5/44)

Telegram from S. J. S. 27. 1. 28.

33

Governor

Your telegram 4<sup>th</sup> January to  
cover cost of employment of Plemons  
up to September 1 office expenditures  
not exceeding £ 2000 in addition to

amount payable under existing contract.

Details of apportionment between City

and Department to be settled when

new contract with Trusting Company is

the effect September may provide for

additional amount as outlined your report

dated 27<sup>th</sup> August confidential despatch

follows regarding new contract

S. J. S.

Hon C.S.

Please cable as follows in code or cypher, whichever you  
generally use :- "Despatch leaves by Lobos in reply to  
Despatch letter re whaling." Y Return Fair's  
letter to M.E. with 7 questions answered at end. (2)  
11.27.  
6

J.S. Telegram 2 code box Downing Street,

has sent as directed.

3 May, 1927.

J.S. 13.6.27.

Please File  
15.27.  
6

Dear Hodson.

Yes  
I promised that I would send you a note  
to remind you that we should like to learn your  
views upon the question of employing a police  
vessel to endeavour to arrest any unlicensed  
whaling vessels that may be found committing a  
breach of the local whaling law within the  
territorial waters.

There are, as you know, certain legal  
difficulties, but assuming, as seems probable,  
that these can be overcome there remains the  
question whether the prospect of being able to  
cause any serious hindrance to unlicensed whaling  
is sufficient to justify the expense that would be  
involved and the loss of the use for other  
purposes of whatever vessel is employed. If that  
vessel were the 'William Scoresby' there would be  
considerable detriment to the scientific work for

which

A.W. HODSON, ESQ., C.M.G.



which she is specially designed.

It would, of course, be necessary to fit any such vessel with a gun, to give the necessary legal authority to the Master and First Officer as his deputy, to secure the presence of one or two trained gunners and to give detailed instruction about the manner in which instructions of the law are to be dealt with. It may be doubted whether such a vessel would be able to bring a floating factory to Gryt<sup>riken</sup> or Port Stanley for trial, but it should have no difficulty in bringing the Master and the witnesses. Meanwhile, it might be possible to place the accused vessels effectually under arrest by depriving them of essential portions of their machinery.

I hope to send you some further information regarding the amendments to the local law which might be useful, and the legal position generally.

If you feel that considerable time must elapse before you can form a considered opinion on this difficult matter, I should be glad if you will

send

I think an  
more some  
more as see  
to cope it  
never  
and it  
infir  
em.

DECODE.

29.

TELEGRAM.

*From* His Excellency the Governor.

*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

---

*Despatched :* 13th June, 1927. *Time :* 3.30 p.m.

*Received :* ... 1927 *Time :*

CHAPELRIES

LONDON

Despatch leaves by Lobos in reply to Darnley's  
letter re whaling.

GOVERNOR.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

STANLEY,

15th June, 1927.

Dear Darnley,

I sent a cable in answer to your letter of May 3rd to say I was sending a despatch by the 'Lobos'.

My own views are that, with certain qualifications, it will be desirable to employ a police vessel to check illicit whaling. The despatch in question will explain what I mean, but to amplify this I can say a few more things in a private letter which I do not care to write about officially.

First of all I do not think it will be advisable, for economic reasons, to employ a vessel solely for this purpose. Remember during the long winter she would be idle. Probably her crew would want special pay, and leave regulations, and one thing/

E. R. DARNLEY, ESQ.,

ETC., ETC., ETC.

(6)

thing and another. It would not be sound economically.

I think that the 'William Scoresby' would do well for the purpose if she were lightened of her scientific gear and subjected to minor alteration. She is sufficiently fast and it is not the size of your force which counts but mobility just the same as hunting brigands on the frontier. As you know at present she is overburdened and is down by the head which greatly reduces her seaworthy qualities. Please do not think for one moment I belittle her scientific activities. I do not. But I do consider the fact that she costs us £16,605 per annum or the interest at 5% on £332,000. Are the scientific results she obtains worth this? Whale marking can surely never be a success in this vast area? The chances of even finding a marked whale are far more remote than the chance one has of winning the Calcutta sweep. Trawling around the

Falklands/

Falklands is extremely interesting but does it warrant this huge outlay ?

We have the 'Discovery'. Surely she is sufficient ? The Dependencies are booming now but what will happen if the whales give out as they did in the Northern Hemisphere ? Have we not a terrible example of this in the cotton policy in Uganda ?

I should like to see a huge balance accumulating so that in time this Colony will be able to run its Administration on the interest received therefrom, only really useful and reproductive work being put in hand in the meantime.

But to return to our muttons. If we take over the 'William Scoresby' we should, I think, be able to run her for £10,000 or £12,000 per annum by effecting economy on fuel consumption and so save £8,000 to £10,000 per annum on the combined cost of the upkeep of the 'William Scoresby' on her present /



present basis and of the 'Afterglow' or £16,605 plus £4,000, £20,605 per annum in all.

Think what 'William Scoresby' would then do, and how useful she would be ? Patrol work, mail running to Port Desire and the ordinary Civil Service duties. It seems to me most attractive.

I hope you will not be angry with me for having aired my views so freely, but you will remember you asked me to when I was at home and I am taking you at your word.

I like the Falklands immensely. They are absolutely unique. The gales here are simply terrific. We had one the other night. My barometer dropped two inches and I really thought it would blow all the windows in. The worst kind of gale as depicted in a Drury Lane melodrama was nothing to it.

You can depend on me getting down to  
the/

the Dependencies next season. It is essential to study all these questions first hand. I do not mind in the least going in a catcher. I do not want a Man-of-War.

I am making a tour to visit the Farmers in the beginning of July. I wish it was a little warmer.

Ellis is extremely capable and a great help to me. I will write a further despatch about him later.

I will send you another letter about local conditions by next mail; I have not time to do it by this.

Please give my kind regards to Freeston and Allen, and with the same to yourself,

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

A.H.

14

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

17th June, 1927.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your despatch, No. 23 of the 16th of March, 1927, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the refit of H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" and also to the suggestion which has been made to <sup>ME</sup> ~~be~~ personally at the Colonial Office that it might be advisable to employ a vessel for the special purpose of checking illicit whaling operations in the Dependencies of this Colony. I would state at the outset that in my opinion such a vessel is required but that H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" is entirely useless for that purpose. However the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" with certain alterations could be made suitable.

2. I consider furthermore that H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" is almost useless for the purposes for which she is at present maintained. She is too slow to catch seal poachers as her speed does not exceed from eight to nine knots under favourable conditions and except in the rare spells of calm weather which occur locally she is quite unseaworthy even for coastal work round the Falkland Islands.

3. I attach a copy of a report in this connection which has been addressed to the Colonial Secretary/

RIGHT HONOURABLE

L. C. M. S. AMERY, F.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Secretary by the Harbour Master and in which he expresses the considered opinion that H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" is totally unfitted for any duties whatsoever in these degrees of South latitude and I would say that this opinion is confirmed by Commander Large, R.N.R., Captain of the m.v. "Lagarto" of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company who towed the vessel over to Punta Arenas in December last and who told me that in his view she would founder in a gale of any magnitude. Commander Large is an impartial critic with experience of the facts and I think that his view is of particular value.

4. In the circumstances it would appear that there is a very grave danger in bringing the vessel back from Punta Arenas to Port Stanley with a crew under her own power and I feel sure that you will agree with me that I should not be justified in risking the lives of those officers and sailors serving under me for whom I am responsible by ordering them to do so after the information which I have received without further instructions from you. In Gales of great ferocity spring up suddenly in these seas and while she would probably survive the crossing there is always the practical certainty of her loss in the event of really severe weather.

5. I have to suggest accordingly that H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" forthwith be sold for the best price obtainable - I fear that she may not realize any great sum - and that the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" be detached from the "Discovery" expedition and be used /

used for the general service of the Dependencies during the whaling season and for that of the Colony proper during the remainder of the year. I understand that the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" if lightened of her scientific gear would be sufficiently fast to serve as a patrol ship and to pay surprise visits among the whaling fleet while she would be perfectly fit to take the sea in any weather. It is as you are aware essential to take energetic measures to ensure more effective control of the whaling industry and I consider that the provision of a patrol ship is the measure first demanded. It is moreover most desirable that the Governor and other officials of the administration should have some suitable vessel in which to tour the Dependencies as well as the outlying parts of the Colony and should thus be independent of rather undignified calls for assistance on the whaling or other local Companies.

7. The vessel would not be required for work in the Dependencies except in the whaling season and would be available for use at the Falkland Islands from the months of May to October in each year. In this manner she would not be compelled to lie idle during the close season but could with ease combine the functions of H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" with her patrol duties and also be in readiness for any sudden emergency.

8. The capital expenditure required for the necessary alterations of a minor description to the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" would not be considerable

and /



and I think would properly be met from Dependencies funds. The annually recurrent expenditure on upkeep on a revised basis which as the vessel would not be continuously at sea would include a reduced provision for fuel should not exceed from £10,000 to £12,000, of which I would suggest that an amount not exceeding the present annual cost of the maintenance of H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" at £4,000 should be met from Colony funds and the balance from Dependencies funds. You will recollect the estimated running cost of the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" for the current year is £16,605 so that in this manner a probable saving of from £8,000 to £10,000 annually would eventuate to the credit of Dependencies funds.

8. I would add that I have caused the Honourable H. H. R. Gresham, the only unofficial member of the Legislative Council at present in the Colony to be sounded privately in this connection and I am informed that he is in favour of the proposal put forward by me on the understanding, however, that no additional expenditure is incurred on this account as a charge against the funds of the Colony.

9. I am addressing you in a separate despatch by this mail in regard to the possibility of arranging a regular mail service between the Falkland Islands and the United Kingdom through the Argentine. You will see that I propose to establish communication direct with Port Desire which is distant some 350 miles only from Port Stanley. I consider that when not employed in the Dependencies the "William Scoresby" could most conveniently operate on this

two days' run and during the winter months at least save the cost of a specially subsidised vessel. She would also be helpful, in maintaining an improved mail service between the Colony and South Georgia and the other Dependencies. By participation in such service she would contribute towards an increase in the trade and the revenue of the Falkland Islands and would herself bring in earnings from the carriage of passengers and local cargo.

10. The repairs to H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" at Punta Arenas are not due for completion until the month of August and I should be grateful if I could be informed by telegram whether my proposal not to bring her back but to dispose of her there as favourably as possible meets with your approval.

11. I have sent a copy of this despatch for information to the Ambassador at Buenos Aires and to the Minister at Monte Video.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

9

ENCLOSURE TO FALKLAND ISLANDS CONFIDENTIAL DESPATCH  
of the 17th of June, 1927.

COPY.

Harbour Masters Office,

Stanley,

11/6/27.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Stanley.

Sir,

Re our conversation of 10/6/27 I have the honour to report that I consider and have always considered the "Afterglow" to be totally unfitted for any duties whatsoever in these waters in this latitude South.

This type of craft is used extensively in fleet work now for provisioning ships, landing liberty men etc., in harbour only and they are not allowed even in the North Sea or Channel to proceed except under escort of some comparatively large vessel.

This being so in a part of the world where there are harbours every few miles and a comparatively small sea with barometer readings which can be taken to mean something, to allow one of these craft to work even off these Islands is dangerous and for her to proceed on long voyages is very much more so.

The weather round the coast changes with extraordinary rapidity, the barometer on many occasions conveying nothing to anybody and there is a lot of thick mist, the result being that as the craft

cannot/

cannot afford to be caught at sea and are wasted  
at anchor waiting for moderate wind and a clear  
atmosphere.

She may perhaps make nine knots when refitted  
and any poaching schooner with a small engine and  
sails well set would never be caught by her.

I have, etc.,

(SGD.) R. T. AMEDROZ.

Harbour Master.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

17th June, 1927.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for Your Excellency's information, the attached copies of despatches which I have forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

2. In connection with the proposed mail-service between this Colony and Port Desire, I feel sure I can count on Your Excellency's kind co-operation and assistance.

3. I am anxious, if possible, to increase trade between the Argentine and this Colony.

4. A further despatch will be forwarded to you on this subject in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's most

obedient, humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON

SIR MALCOLM ROBERTSON, K.B.E., C.M.G.,

ETC.,            ETC.,            ETC.



FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

17th June, 1927.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for your information the attached copies of despatches which I have forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

2. I am anxious, if possible, to increase trade between Uruguay and this Colony, and I feel sure I can count on your kind co-operation and assistance.

3. A further despatch will be forwarded to you on this subject in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HOBSON.

THE HONOURABLE ERNEST STOWELL SCOTT, C.M.G., M.V.O.,

ETC.,

ETC.,

ETC.

DECODE.TELEGRAM.*From* His Excellency the Governor.*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.*Despatched:* 25th August ... 192 7 *Time:* 12.00*Received:* .... 192 .. *Time:* ...

Confidential my despatch 17th June confidential concerning Afterglow Tonsberg Whaling Company is prepared to place steamship Fleurus at entire disposal of Government on payment of running expenses only amounting to approximately £40 daily. Vessel will make headquarters at Stanley and subsidy will be payable for days only on which actually engaged in Government service other than South Georgia mail contract. I consider that Afterglow should be scrapped in any case. Fleurus is excellent seaboat and has highly experienced captain and crew of 12 with invaluable knowledge of Dependencies and local conditions. Her employment on terms offered will be more satisfactory and much more economical than to take over Scoresby. Government will have no capital liability and no responsibility for personnel and maintenance and no outlay on periodical refit. On outside estimate of 100 days full steaming yearly in addition to voyages to South Georgia in accordance with existing contract expenditure of not more than £4,000 involved is less than the recurrent annual cost of Afterglow and it will be possible to patrol Falkland Islands and visit Dependencies in any weather. I earnestly beg your approval by telegram to employ Fleurus accordingly as this will provide entirely satisfactory settlement whole question. At risk of repetition respectfully wish to impress upon you that present proposal is better than previous suggestion/

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

*From* His Excellency the Governor.

*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Despatched*: 25th August ... 1927 *Time*: 12.00

*Received*: .... 1927 *Time*: ..

(CONTD)

suggestions in that it ensures efficiency and reliability without risk or worry at reduced cost despatch follows by mail.

Governor.

24  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY,

27th August, 1927.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I have the honour to confirm my telegrams of the 25th of August, 1927, relative to the employment of the s.s. "Fleurus" belonging to the Tonsberg Whaling Company on the service of this Government.

2. In the first place I would reiterate the statement already made that the patrol-boat, H.M.C.S. "Afterglow", is useless for any practical purpose locally and that her continued maintenance will only entail unnecessary expenditure, responsibility, and risk. Up to the present no offer to purchase her has been made nor does it appear probable that any offer will be made. I am arranging therefore to have her towed back to Stanley at the first convenient opportunity subsequent to the completion of the refit which should be completed in accordance with the latest advice received from the contractors by the end of August. On her return I consider that if it is impossible to sell her she should be laid up pending decision as to her ultimate disposal.

3. I foresee naturally that there may be some difficulty inherent in my suggestion that the R.S.S. "William Scoresby" should be handed over from the "Discovery" expedition to the local

administration /

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

L. C. M. S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

administration and I have been examining alternative solutions to the problem, with which I am faced, giving attention more particularly to its financial side. I think that I have now found a solution at once simple and satisfactory.

4. You will recollect that the s.s. "Fleurus" of the Tonsberg Whaling Company has for some time past been engaged by this Government on a contract to carry the mails between the Colony and South Georgia and once during the whaling season to the South Shetlands. As reported to you in another despatch by this mail I have returned recently from a visit to South Georgia in the s.s. "Fleurus" and have been highly impressed by her evident efficiency and excellent sea qualities. She is as I have reported a vessel of the trawler type of 144 tons register with a cruising speed of 9 knots per hour generated by engines of 750 I.H.P. and is manned by a Norwegian crew of twelve besides the captain who is a thoroughly competent seaman with long experience of the waters of the Colony, the Dependencies, and the coast of South America as well as of local conditions - ice, blizzards, and the like. I am satisfied that she is just the vessel that is required for the service of the Government and that she will be equally useful for the carriage of mail and cargo, for the conveyance of passengers including myself and Government officials on duty, and for general patrol work around the Falkland Islands and visits to the several Dependencies.

5. I understood in conversation with the captain that when not employed on the mail contract service between Stanley and South Georgia the

vessel /



vessel lay in harbour at Husvik with nothing almost to do. On my return to the Colony I caused the Colonial Secretary to communicate with the Tonsberg Whaling Company by telegram and to ascertain whether and on what terms they would be prepared to place the vessel at the whole-time disposal of the Government with headquarters at Stanley. The reply received was that the running cost of the s.s. "Fleurus" is £16 a day exclusive of docking coal and overtime and the suggestion was made that the Government should take her over on payment of the running cost and the cost of coal and overtime such payment being leviable only in respect of the days on which the vessel was actually engaged on the service of the Government. The captain has informed the Colonial Secretary that he estimates his coal consumption at about 7 to 9 tons per day according to the distance made at a cost dependent on the price of coal of from £20 to £25 and that the liability for overtime will in the normal course be so small as to be negligible. You will see therefore that for an approximate payment of £40 per day it will be possible to secure whenever desired the services of a vessel of proved reliability without capital investment, administrative anxiety, or periodical expenditure on repairs.

6. It is not anticipated that in addition to the regular service to South Georgia it will be necessary to call upon the services of the s.s. "Fleurus" for more than one hundred days in each year but even on this outside estimate and allowing

for /

for the maximum coal consumption on each day the annual cost involved will amount to £4,000 only as compared with an actual outlay of £4,187 under Head VI. "Port and Marine - B. Patrol Boat" of the Expenditure in 1925, the last year during which H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" was in full commission.

7. I would here state that the principal purpose for which it is intended to engage the s.s. "Fleurus" will be besides such official visits to the Dependencies and to the outlying parts of the Colony as from time to time may be necessary, the establishment of regular mail communications between the East and West Falkland with passenger accommodation, a matter in which the West Falkland farmers feel themselves neglected and I may say not without justification, and the running of supplementary mails between the Colony and Monte Video so as to ensure a constant service at not longer than monthly intervals. Such a service will be of great value to the Colony in many directions and will be welcomed as I know by my personal experience by the whaling community in South Georgia who during the winter months are to all intents and purposes cut off from the outside world. It is, perhaps, redundant for me to emphasize the advantage of the proposed arrangement by which the vessel will at all times be ready for unforeseen emergencies in connection with any of the above services and will yet not be a burden financially on the public revenues or a potential source of worry administratively during the time which she is lying idle.

8. I trust therefore that I shall receive your approval of the suggestion put forward which should

should serve at any rate for the immediate future as a satisfactory solution of the whole of this most difficult problem. On the grounds stated I consider it as more satisfactory than my original suggestion in regard to the s.s. "William Scoresby" and in fact to be a unique opportunity in the history of the administration to deal economically with one of its most pressing demands.. I should explain that the South Georgia mail contract terminates in September 1928 and that the arrangement proposed would continue until that date when its renewal or alternatively the conclusion of some other similar arrangement would come up for consideration.

9. I further consider that the necessary cost should be borne between the Colony and the Dependencies in proportion to the services rendered to either and that the following is an equitable basis of division. For all patrol and other work around the Falkland Islands or any voyage solely concerned with the business of the Falkland Islands the revenues of the Colony will be charged; in like manner for all mail services and visits to the Dependencies the revenues of the Dependencies will be liable, and for work performed in common such as the supplementary mail service to and from Monte Video the expense will fall in common in half shares on the revenues of the Colony and of the Dependencies.

10. I hope that by the time that this despatch reaches you I shall have received your authority for the first voyage of the s.s. "Fleurus" to Monte Video on the supplementary

mail /

mail service. I would explain that the cost of this voyage will, with your sanction, be worked out and apportioned in the manner above indicated and that it is not anticipated that it will by much exceed £500 while the figure of £600 quoted is safe.

11. If the service is approved by you and proves satisfactory I shall in due course seek your sanction to a second voyage in November next in order to facilitate inter alia the despatch of the annual Estimates of the Revenue and the Expenditure for 1928 in accordance with the provisions of Colonial Regulation 223 for as I have reported there is no prospect at present of a direct homeward mail from the Colony until a date in the month of January 1928, yet to be fixed, and the next direct outward sailing after the 22nd of October will, with the exception of the whaling fleet which is due to arrive very shortly after that date, not be before late in the month of December at the earliest.

12. I fear that I may have wearied you with the length of this despatch but I feel that the question of communications is of such vital consequence to the life and progress of this distant Colony and to the preservation and encouragement of the British ideals among its inhabitants that it is incumbent upon me to place clearly before you the result of my enquiries and the substance of my views in the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

25

Conf. 9/27.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

*From* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*To* The Governor.

*Despatched:* 1st September ... 192 7 *Time:* 08.20.

*Received:* 3rd September ... 192 7 *Time:* 10.50.

Confidential your telegram of 25th August I agree to proposal to send Fleurus to Monte Video. I shall defer decision on proposal to take over Fleurus contained in your second telegram 25th August pending receipt of your despatch which should enclose copy of draft contract.

Secretary of State.

DECODE.TELEGRAM.*From* His Excellency the Governor.*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.TELEPHONED*Despatched:* 3rd September. 1927. *Time:* 1.10 p.m.*Received:* ... 192 *Time:*

CHAPELRIES

LONDON.

Confidential On behalf of whole Colony respectfully submit heartfelt thanks for kind approval conveyed by your telegram of 2nd September Confidential. My despatch of 27th August Confidential posted by Laguna 29th August explains fully. Unless you instruct to the contrary do not consider further written agreement necessary.

GOVERNOR.



DECODE.

Confid. 9/27.

27

TELEGRAM.

*From* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*To* The Governor.

---

*Despatched:* 28th September .. 192 7 *Time:* 12.40.

*Received:* 29th September .. 192 7 *Time:* 10.27.

Your despatch of the 17th of June Confidential  
I approve proposal to sell Afterglow. Crown Agents  
consider present estimated value £4000 should be  
starting figure.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

DECODE.

C/9/37.

28

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To H.B.M.'s Minister, Monte Video.

TELEPHONED.

Despatched : 29th September, 1927. Time : 5.30 p.m.

Received : .... 1927 Time :

PRODRON 3

MONTVIDEO

Following for Mr. Ellis Colonial Secretary  
passenger Fleurus begins sale of Afterglow  
approved. Request you will try arrange sale  
Monte Video. Colonial Office say £4000 should  
be starting figure ends.

GOVERNOR.

DECODE.

(29)

TELEGRAM.

*From* His Excellency the Governor.

*To* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

---

*Despatched :* 3rd November, 1927. *Time :* 4 p.m.

*Received :* .... 1927 *Time :*

CHAPELRIES

LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL my despatch of 27th August Confidential paragraph 11 grateful for permission to send Fleurus to Monte Video 24th November with important mail including Estimates 1928. Deane and family could also leave this opportunity and it would be essential to evacuate them as early as possible.

GOVERNOR.

DEC-DE.

(30)

TELEGRAM.

*From* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*To* His Excellency the Governor,

*Despatched* : 14th November, 1927. *Time* : 12.00.

*Received* : 15th November, 1927. *Time* : 10.40.

GOVERNOR,

PORTSTANLEY.

Your despatch of 27th August Confidential  
paragraph 11 I agree.

Recd 19

SECRETARY OF STATE

1

S

al

DE CODE.

(31)

TELEGRAM.

From..... The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To..... The Governor.

Despatched: 7th December ... 192 7 Time: 12.45.

Received: 8th December .. 192 7 Time: 10.50.

*Red 27 M.P. 573/27* Your despatch of 17th October 202 my approval  
has been limited to two trips already made by  
Fleurus on behalf of Government. You should await  
further communication on general proposals in your  
*Red 24* despatch of 27th August Confidential.

Secretary of State.

CODE.

3/9/27.

32

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor,

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 3rd January, 1928. Time: 19.30.

Received: ..... 192.. Time: .....

CHAPELRIES,  
LONDON.

Red 31 — Your telegram 7th December Tonsberg Company is anxious for definite information in the matter of the employment by this Government of the Fleurus and as there is no mail from England due Stanley until January 31st I should be grateful if your instructions hereon may be communicated to me by telegram.

GOVERNOR.