

C.S.

SCIENTIFIC.

(Misc.)

19 39.

No. 110/39.

Dr. R. T. Wade.

SUBJECT.

19 39.

27th April.

POSSIBILITY OF OYSTER GROWING IN THE  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1-3.

Letter from Dr. R. T. Wade of 27/4/39.

Govt. Naturalist  
In your observations  
please. WCH  
21.7.39.

A.C.S.

The suggestion to introduce oysters  
is interesting. I consider it would  
be worth while to make further  
inquiries referring to the Stewart Island  
breed. One A.A. has supplied me  
with the information that this animal  
is very highly esteemed in New Zealand  
and with the address <sup>below</sup> ~~at~~ ~~which~~, from  
which useful information might  
be obtained.

I suggest that the Ministry of  
Fisheries might be approached with

Subsequent Paper.

a view to obtaining information regarding  
oyster culture: They have doubtless a  
number of published leaflets: and also  
the Director, Department of Fisheries,  
Wellington, New Zealand with special  
reference to the possibility of transport  
to the colony. but any information he  
could give would be welcome.

I am acquainted with Professor  
Hutton of Liverpool who has done much  
work on "shellfish" and propose to  
write to him privately.

J. D. Hamilton.  
23-VII-39.

J.H.

Submitted. May a despatch  
go to the S. of S. asking for  
information?

2. A letter can also be  
addressed to the Ministry of  
Fisheries, New Zealand.

MCH  
26.7.39.

Will you please ask the Naturalist  
to write direct to the Department of  
Fisheries N.Z. He might also make  
enquiries about the cost of transport which  
could be brought in one of the vessels  
bringing sheep to the colony

~~MCH~~ 26/7

Govt. Naturalist.  
In action accordingly  
please. mch  
27.7.39

A.C.S.  
Noted please.  
W. Hamilton  
gn.  
27/7/39

A.  
Acknowledge W. Wade's letter  
and thank him for the  
information given adding  
the Govt. Naturalist is making  
enquiries from the Dept. of  
Fisheries N.Z.?  
mch  
28.7.39

Thank-you. Yrs please

W. Wade 28/7

4. Letter to R. T. Wade, Esq, of 28. 7. 39.

P.A.  
mch



TELEPHONE:  
NEWCASTLE 782.

Broughton School,

Church Street,

Newcastle.

27: 4: 1939

Your Excellency,

Report of Falkland Is..  
reached me & I have sent acknowledgment to  
the Colonial Secretary.

I was in Canberra at the time of the  
Science Congress & I took the opportunity  
to consult authorities on the question of  
growing oysters in the Falklands, whose  
numerous shallow bays, with their flats  
covered or not as the tide ebb & flows struck  
me as a most suitable spot. I learnt

- (1) That our N.S.W. oyster would not do in that  
latitude
- (2) That it is probable that the Stewart I. (N.Z.)  
oyster, accustomed to a climate not unlike that  
of the Falklands would thrive
- (3) That the spawn would need to be transported  
alive; so that arrangements would have to  
be made to keep them supplied with aerated  
or fresh sea water daily



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4. From spawn to edible oyster 3 years
5. For culture <sup>they</sup> need a knowledgeable man
6. Cultivation in tanks is practised in England, whence a skilled man might be obtainable

The oyster trade is quite a large flourishing industry here: oysters retailed at 1/- a bottle of about 20 or 1/- a dozen. Leases are worth tens of thousands of £'s. They would carry to N. sides in bags kept wet with sea water & exposed to air.

I have given several lantern lectures on the Islands, using slides which I made from photographs I took + postcards + the annual report. One lecture to the Royal Society was of course chiefly Geological & lively interest was displayed concerning the deposits near Darwin & the possibility of oil being there. It was agreed that only boring can answer the question.



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I am sorry the Bishop has not managed  
to get down here again. I often wish  
I were back doing the work which I feel  
calls out to be done there.

Yours sincerely

R. T. Wade

110/39.

28th July,

39.

Sir,

*Red 3.* I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of the 27th of April, 1939, on the subject of the possibility of growing oysters in this Colony.

2. I am to say that the matter has been referred to the Government Naturalist who is addressing the Department of Fisheries, Dominion of New Zealand, with a view to obtaining information regarding the Stewart Island (New Zealand) breed of oysters, culture of oysters and the transport of spawn.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*MCH*

Colonial Secretary.

R. T. Wade, Esq.,  
Broughton School,  
Church Street,  
Newcastle.