

MISCELLANEOUS

(Fire Brigade)

C.S.

1926.

No. 630/26

Manager,
Est. L. Williams.

SUBJECT.

1926

17th December.

Representations regarding efficiency and
equipment of the Fire Brigade.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

Letter From Est. L. Williams of 17th December 1926.

PA 20/11/26
I-2

- 1. J.S. Submitted with a draft reply.
- 2. Arthur Barker to Me, as Superintendent.
- 3. In a separate N.P. / a taking up the matter of the condition of the Fire Engine, and other appliances in the possession of the S.V. Fire Brigade.

J.S.
20. 12. 26

H.E.S. Draft approved.
20 Dec. 1926

Subsequent Paper.

3-4. Letter to Mr. E.S. Rowe dated 21.12.1926.

[Handwritten signature]

Harbour Master
as Capt. Fire Brigade

To see

J. Mullis

By Col. Sec

21. 12. 26

Submit

Letters & returns

By Secy.

Sup:

23/12/26.

To Chron. Secy.

By

30. 12. 26



ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS

GENERAL MERCHANTS

PORT STANLEY
FALKLAND ISLANDS

17th December 1926



RADIO ADDRESS
"WILLIAMS"
CODES USED:
BENTLEYS
A.B.C. 5TH ED
A. I.

Sir,

re Local Fire Brigade etc.

It is public and notorious that the ^{means of} ~~the~~ protection against risks of fire which are supposed to exist in the town of Stanley in the terms of the Ordinance No.3 of 1898, and the Rules corresponding to article 6 of the said Ordinance, are to all intents and purposes non-existent.

The writer has known this - been personally convinced of this lamentable state of affairs - for some considerable time past, although he did not care to express himself so emphatically. However, after the fire which occurred on the morning of the 12th inst. (Sunday), more than full proof of this state of affairs has been made public property.

No doubt His Excellency the Governor is already in possession of the fullest details, and we have no doubt that the necessary steps are being taken to remedy this state of affairs with the least possible delay.

However, as we have for the past three years endeavoured to interest the former officers in charge of the Administration of the Colony, in the state of the Brigade, both in regard to the equipment and the relative Ordinance, with negative results, we now beg to enquire what measures are going to be taken immediately to provide the necessary protection, and what definite measures may be expected for the near future.

We may add that we fully realise:

- a) That even the most efficient of Fire Brigades with modern equipment could not have been expected to put down the fire which occurred on the 12th inst., and it is doubtful even whether they could have saved the lives of the victims.
- b) That the unsatisfactory ~~state~~ of the local Fire Brigade and its equipment is not due in any way to the honourable and gallant officer at present in charge of the Administration of the Colony.

The Honourable
The Colonial Secretary
Port Stanley.

1 (2).

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE MANAGER



ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS

GENERAL MERCHANTS

PORT STANLEY
FALKLAND ISLANDS

RADIO ADDRESS
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A.B.C. SYSTEM
A.I.

II

We would particularly bring up for notice that on the 23rd of July 1925 we wrote to the then Colonial Secretary submitting the fullest details possible regarding a "Dennis" motor fire engine which we considered would be a necessary and efficient addition to the local fire-fighting equipment. All that we have since heard in this connection consists of the letter No.517/35 of 4th August 1925 in which we were informed that:

" letter, together with the enclosures which accompanied it, are being forwarded to the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade for his consideration ",

It is a great pity that the Officers who were in charge of the Colonial Government during the time that the local Fire Brigade was allowed to drift into its present inefficient state, are no longer resident here, but we sincerely hope that the matter may be fully reported to the respective Headquarters.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

p.p. Estate Louis Williams

at present attached to 200/26 p 50

WILLIAMS - ROSARIO

639/26.

21st December, 26.

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th of December, 1926, on the subject of Fire Protection in the town of Stanley, and in reply to your enquiry made therein to inform you that active measures are in hand for the re-organisation of the Stanley Volunteer Fire Brigade on a satisfactory basis.

2. I am to add that as you no doubt appreciate the success of these measures is almost entirely dependent on the public spirit of the inhabitants of the town and I am to say that His Excellency trusts that the endeavours of the Government in this connection will meet with such willing support as it may be within your power to give.

3. I am further to add that the "Gem" Fire Engine and fire fighting plant at present in the possession of the Brigade is receiving thorough overhaul and will be subjected in due course to practical test.

4. I am also to inform you that special stand-pipes for affixing to the hydrants connected with the town water system have been ordered for supply from the United Kingdom at an early date.

5./

E. G. Rowe, Esq.,

Manager,

Estate Louis Williams,

STANLEY.

82.

5. I am to state in conclusion that the Acting Governor is unable to take into consideration your implied reflections on His Excellency's predecessors in office and trusts that you will refrain in future in correspondence with this Government from making allegations of such nature.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JWS

Acting Colonial Secretary.