

C.S.

LIVE STOCK.

FOXES.

NAT/FAU/2 # 21

1933

No. 229/33.

Mr. J. Hansen.

SUBJECT.

1933.

24th August.

GENERAL APPLICATIONS TO IMPORT FOXES

(Barcans - New Islands)

Previous Paper.

27 8/26 (Weddell Island)

MINUTES.

Letter from Mr. J. Hansen. 24/8/33.

*Inspector of Stock.*

*For your recommendation please.*

*A.S.P. 27/9/33*

*Hon. Col. Secy.*

*I can see no reason for objection, always provided that, proper precautions are taken with regard to taking sheep dogs to the main land, should disease break out amongst the foxes, which might be communicated to the dogs.*

*W. H. Bennett.*

*27 9/33.*

*Y/E*

*Submitted*

*A.S.P. 27/9/33*

Subsequent Paper.

Hon. Col. Sec.

So far no permission has been given for foxes to be placed where sheepfarming is carried on and I consider it would be somewhat risky to give such authority as we should have other making similar applications.

Pass to Hon. Members of Council for their views, please.

MCH  
27. 9. 33

Hon. J. W. D.

Hon. G. Roberts

To record your views please.

C. S. D. W. S.  
for 28/9/33.

Hon. Col. Secy.

I agree with para. I of H. E.'s minute.

I am not in favour of the introduction of foxes unless the matter is taken up along the lines of definite fox farming, & is under strict control, & supervision.

J. James Mott.  
30/9/33.

Hon. Col. Sec.

I am not in favour of foxes being kept where sheepfarming is being carried on.

G. Roberts 2-10-33.

YK.

Submitted.

A.D. 1902  
2/10/33

Hon. Col. Sec.

I notice in C.S. 278/26, Mr. John Hamilton was given permission to put fences on Wedded Is. I fear Penguin rookeries would suffer. Personally I am strongly against any measures which would tend to exterminate bird life and particularly wild geese. Most of our land birds nest on the ground and I suppose these would be destroyed by fences.

2. Please pass to Mr. Govt. Naturalist on his return for his observations.

MCH

2. X. 33

v.f. 31/10/33.

A.D. 2/10/33.

Ag. Govt. Naturalist

For your observations please.

C. J. J. Sec.  
for  
31/10/33

Hon. Col. Secy:

The fox in question is the small Patagonian dog  
& is, in my opinion, not likely to be of the slightest harm  
either to healthy sheep or adult geese. The smaller  
birds would suffer to the point of extinction, and  
domestic fowls. At present, there is nothing in furs

A. J. Bennett

11/11/33

YH

Submitted.

C. J. J. Sec.  
for  
1/11/33

Hon. Col. Sec.

Secy. Please acknowledge  
Mr. Hansen's letter and inform  
him that his application is  
under consideration.

MCH

2. XI. 33

Letter to Mr. Jason Hansen, of 4/11/33.

(2)

C.S.O. No. 229/33...

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 2...

Mon. P. M. O. J. I. M. 24/11/33.  
~~Mon. P. M. O.~~

For consideration at next meeting  
of Executive Council.

G. J. Stewart  
23/11/33.

Mon. P. M. O. Sec.

Noted.

C. I. Roberts.  
25-11-33.

Extract from minutes of meeting of Executive Council held  
on the 19th of December, 1933.

The Council agreed that the matter should be brought  
forward for consideration on the arrival in the Colony of  
the Government Naturalist, Mr. J. E. Hamilton, in January  
1934.

G. J. Stewart

Clerk of the Executive Council.

thru 20/1/34.  
22/2/33.  
20/1/34  
24/1/34  
C. I. Roberts

~~W. J. Hamilton~~  
~~McKinnon~~

of 7/4/34.

C. J. G. 31/3/34

Mr. J. C. Hamilton

For your observations please  
on Red D

C. J. G.  
for C.  
6/4/34.

Hon. Col. Sel.

The full effect of the introduction of foxes on  
the native fauna is not yet known.

So far as I have heard geese - upland and  
heep are exterminated or reduced. It  
seems probable that a similar effect would be  
produced with regard to all ground-birding  
birds, although Mr. P. St. Evans informs me  
that "small birds" have noticeably increased  
on River Island of late years.

2/ The extermination of geese resident on  
Carcass Island can be accomplished by other  
means but Mr. St. Evans's complaint is pro-  
bably directed against geese coming over from  
the mainland at certain seasons.

3/ In the present state of our knowledge I do  
not consider that anyone is in ~~the~~ a  
position to make an authoritative statement  
as to the desirability or otherwise of geese on  
a sheep farm.

I consider that, for the present, no more  
permits to liberate foxes should be granted, pending  
the acquisition of further information.

4/ The farming of foxes in proper enclosures is a  
business which has never been tried in the  
 Falklands and should be considered as an  
entirely different matter.

J. C. Hamilton  
10-11-34

Yh. Submitted in reference to  
 red 1. Mr. J. Hamilton  
 does not recommend that further  
 permits should be granted as  
 present for the liberation of  
 foxes. I fear that the  
 relatively few land birds will  
 be very much reduced if  
 further foxes are introduced.

MCA  
 as c.s.  
 10.4.34.

Hon. C.S.

I understand from the  
 Stock Inspector that Mr. Hauser  
 himself now has doubts in regard  
 to the suggested letting loose of  
 foxes on Carcan Island. I  
 think, therefore, that in the absence  
 of a further communication from  
 him the matter may rest.

Yh  
 10.4.34.

P. H.

MCH

11. 4. 34.

Letter from Mr. George Scott, of 12/8/34.

(3)

JH.

Red 3 submitted.

In his minute of 10/4/34 on page 2. Mr Hamilton suggests that no further permit should be granted to liberate foxes.

C. J. J. for C.S.  
11/10/34

Hon. Col. Sec.

Does Govt. Naturalist concur with the views expressed by Mr: Hamilton in his minute of 10<sup>th</sup> April 1934. Mr: Hamilton considers no further permits should be granted.

MCH

by Gov.

1. X. 34

Ag. Govt. Naturalist,

For your observations please.

C. J. J. for C.S.  
11/10/34.

Hon: Col. Secy

Yes, I do agree with Mr J.E. Hamilton in regard to foxes being let loose on any large sized piece of land.

Mr. G. Scott. has a very difficult problem to face - rats, - they are on New Island in enormous quantities, & were 20 years ago,



still, I think that forces might become a much worse pest in time.  
 would it be possible to get some, = genuinely disinterested, facts regarding those forces already let loose; what effect they have had on the local fauna? The introduction of any form of new life is a danger to any country, & too often proves the cure to be worse than the disease.

RGS  
 28.11.34  
 2/10/34

Y/E.

Submitted.

A. D. J. for C.S.  
 3/10/34.

Hon. Secy.

Please inform Mr. Scott that it is not proposed at present to issue any further permits to liberate forces.

It may be found possible later on to arrange for the Rev. Naturalist to visit Weddell Is., with a view to obtaining facts regarding what effect forces have had on the local fauna.

MCH  
 21 Nov.  
 3. 8. 34.

4.

Letter to Mr. George Scott of 4. 8. 34.

ag. Govt. Naturalist.

to see.

C.D. Jones  
4/10/34.

Hon. Col. Secy:

Dear thank you,

agB  
5/12/34. ag Nat.

~~31/2/34.~~  
~~22/4/34~~

~~31/2/35.~~  
~~1/1/35~~

30. 4. 35  
1. 4. 35

Yr.

On some suitable occasion  
the Ag. Naturalist might visit  
Weddell Is. and Beases and  
furnish a report as to whether  
Foxes are increasing and  
whether they do any harm. So far  
Weddell Is. is the only sheep farm  
on which Foxes have been  
liberated

McH  
CS.

30. 4. 35

 1/5/35

Ay. Naturalist

To note.

MCH  
C.S.  
1. V. 35

Hon. Col. Secy:

Noted, thank you. I beg to ask when, & by what means the visit is intended to be undertaken. I believe that some of the smaller islands between Weddell & Beaver have been stocked with the Patagonian Fox. The question of New Zealand Rats & Rabbits might be gone into at the same time.

Al Bennett  
ag: NAT  
3. V. 35.

Ay. Naturalist

It would be better to wait until the Spring when days are longer. Arrangements could then be made for your transport.

MCH  
C.S.  
7. V. 35

Hon. Col. Secy:

Thank you, the spring would be much the best time for them the birds would be nesting

ag: NAT  
8. V. 35.

B. f 15. 9. 55  
MCH 9. V. 55


Letter from Mr. Scott. 17/4/35 (5)

Yr.  
Submitted. It would be  
preferable to wait until the  
Naturalist can visit Weddell  
and report whether Foxes  
are doing any harm!  
Land birds are already diminishing  
here and particularly geese.

MCH  
Ed.  
20. 5. 55

See Mr. J. Harriott's minute on  
Sheet 2 in, which he considers  
that no further permits should  
be granted. MCH

Since the above minute was written  
we have seen a gentleman who wishes  
to start the business here of raising geese  
for their paws. The objections to importing and  
breeding do not apply to this proposal.

I enclose yr minute  
 27/V/35

Letter to Mr. Geo. Scott of 28/5/35. (6)

Stock Inspector.

To note.

MCH  
C.  
29. 4. 55

Hon. Col. Sec

Noted, thank you

A. M. Bonner  
Stock Inspector.  
31/5/55.

15/9/55.  
4/6/55.  
A. J. G.

By Naturalist &

As you have been laid up it has not been possible for you to visit Weddell Is., even if a chance offered.

Perhaps you will make enquiries as to the possibility of visiting that place. I fear it is difficult unless landed at Pt. Stephens and taken by cutter from Jern Inlet.

MCH  
C.  
25. 9. 55

Telegram to Operator, Base Bay, 28/9/35.

(7-8)

Govt. Naturalists

To note.

met

et.

28.9.35

Telegram from Mr. Robertson, Pat Stephens, 29/9/35.

(9)

Govt. Naturalists

To see red 9.

met

et.

30.9.35

Hon: Col: Secy:

Thank you very much.

Al Bennett  
as Nat.

2/10/35

Hon: Col: Secy:

Have just spoken (over phone) with Mr Hodgson & am informed that by Laforia 29/10 Capt Roberts will land me there; No means of returning by Laforia until Mid December.

Al Bennett  
as Nat.  
2/10/35

B. f 16. X. 35

met. 2. X. 35

⑩ Telegram from Robertson, Port Stephens, 9<sup>th</sup>/10/35.

Ay. Naturalist

To see.

MCH  
C.F.

10. 10. 35

Hon. Col. Secy:

Seen, thank you.

ag's Nat

10. 7. 35

✓  
P. a.  
MCH

Pearce Island  
Aug 24<sup>d</sup> 1933

The Hon  
The Colonial Secretary  
Sir

I have the honour to  
request permission to import two pairs of  
foxes from Patagonia. Should I  
receive a favourable answer I will endeavour  
to import through J. Hamilton, ~~the~~ owner of  
Weddell Island.

The foxes would be ~~at~~ loose on this island  
1<sup>st</sup> To reduce the upland geese  
2<sup>nd</sup> To supply furs.

I am Sir  
Your obedient servant  
Jarentansen



229/33.

4th November, 55.

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th of August, 1953, and to inform you that your application to import two pairs of foxes from Patagonia is receiving consideration.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*C. J. P.*

for Colonial Secretary.

Jason Hansen, Esq.,  
Carcass Island,  
WEST FALKLAND.

3  
August 12<sup>th</sup> 1934

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary

Dear Sir

I am writing this to you as  
I thought of getting one or two  
pairs of Foxes on New Island  
to kill off the Rats and Rabbits  
would you please give me the  
Necessary permission to have them  
if I can arrange to get them

Yours obediently,

George Scott

229/33.

4th October, 34.

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th August, 1934, and to inform you that it is not proposed, at present, to issue any further permits to liberate Foxes in the Colony.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*C. J. J.*  
for Colonial Secretary.

Mr. G. Scott,  
New Island,  
West Falkland.

77.9/33

(5)

New Island

April 12th 1935-

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary  
Stanley

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter of Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 1934 No 224/33  
I wish you to understand that I do not propose to import  
or liberate any more Foxes My idea is to get some  
from Mr Hamilton if he will let me have them those  
which are already liberated, why can I not do that  
as they would not breed up any faster here than  
on Weddell Island and also several other Islands  
on the West, what I need them for is to do away  
with Rabbits Rats and Geese etc, Mr Bonner says they  
would do alright here

We have had Mr Bonner here to inspect the sheep etc  
the first time for over 20 years, I think he is the  
right sort of man for the Inspectors job as he  
is a thorough good stockman and I hope he will  
continue in that position

yours obedintly,

G Scott

229/33.

23th May, 35.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 12th April, 1935, I am directed to inform you that the question of the issue of further permits to liberate foxes must remain in abeyance until the Government Naturalist has had an opportunity of visiting Weddell Island and furnishing a report regarding the foxes liberated on that Island.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. G. Scott,  
New Island,  
WEST FALKLAND.

McP 229/33

Hon C.S.

Have seen the S.G.C re trip to  
Weddell Id. It may be possible for  
me to get there + back via Pt Stephens  
on the one trip Oct 29<sup>th</sup>. The question  
that determines the whole thing is, how can  
communication be got with Weddell Id. for  
their cutter to come over at a given date.

Aggs

Operations. Top

Following for Robertson Port Stephens

It is desired to send Gore.  
Naturalist to Weddell Is via Port  
Stephens 29<sup>th</sup> October x Can you  
state what arrangements could be  
made to get the Weddell Is  
Cutter to take him to and from  
that place. Can cutter be got  
by signal Col. Sec.

DECODE.

at P. No. 229/23 (8)

TELEGRAM.

From COLONIAL SECRETARY,.....

To OPERATOR, FOX BAY. ....

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Despatched: 28th September, 19 35. Time: ...

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

Following for Robertson, Port Stephens. It is desired to send Government Naturalist to Weddell Island via Port Stephens 29th October. Can you state what arrangements could be made to get the Weddell Island Cutter to take him to and from that place. Can Cutter be got by signal.

Colonial Secretary.

DECODE.

9

TELEGRAM.

*From* MR. ROBERTSON, PORT STEPHENS, .....

*To* COLONIAL SECRETARY. ....

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*Despatched:* 29th September, 19 35. *Time:* 2000.

*Received:* 30th September, 19 35. *Time:* 1150.

Will try and arrange transport of Government Naturalist.  
Particulars later.

Robertson.



DECODE.

10

TELEGRAM.

*From* MR. ROBERTSON, PORT STEPHENS.....

*To* COLONIAL SECRETARY.....

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*Despatched:* 10th October, 19 55. *Time:* 8.30.

*Received:* " " 19 " *Time:* 1130.

Have made necessary arrangements for transport of Government Naturalist to and from Weddell Island signal can be used by pre arrangement if necessary.

Robertson.