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No. 1588

Annual Report on the Social and Economic  
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC  
PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF  
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES  
FOR THE YEAR 1931.

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	Square Miles.
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 feet in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from

the Coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about twelve hundred inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about one hundred persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 inches, precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting twenty-four hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Isles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas," were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they re-named Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## CHAPTER II.

### GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colonies is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of three official and one unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and two unofficial

members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local Government in the Colony.

## CHAPTER III.

### POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European and chiefly of British descent, in which Scotch blood is marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The 1931 census shows the total population as amounting to 2,392, compared with 2,094 in 1921 and 2,043 in 1901. Of this number 1,358 are males and 1,034 females. The density of the population is thirty-seven to the square mile. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between Darwin and Lafonia to the south of the East Falkland, the northern districts of the East Falkland and the West Falkland. The number of births registered in 1931 was fifty-five, and of deaths twenty, or, respectively, 22.77 and 8.28 per 1,000. Eighteen marriages were celebrated during the year. The infantile mortality rate is recorded as 36.36 per 1,000 births of children under one year. One hundred and thirteen persons arrived in the Colony and one hundred and thirty persons left in the course of the period under review.

## CHAPTER IV.

### HEALTH.

The general health of the community is good and there were no epidemics or serious outbreaks of illness during the year. Malaria and other insect-borne diseases are unknown in the Colony. Appendicitis, tuberculosis, and bronchial complaints are the principal disorders from which the population suffers. Venereal disease is unknown and every precaution is taken against the possibility of its introduction.

There is a difficulty in regard to food which is never one of quantity, while the quality of that which is available is excellent; nevertheless the diet is ill-balanced, a circumstance which is probably the chief cause of appendicitis and the invariable condition of bad teeth found accompanying it. Gardens are cultivated but insufficient attention is paid to the production and consumption of green vegetables. The necessity of adding lime to the soil must be emphasized. Fruit is not grown in the Colony; the supply is irregular and inadequate and the loss in importation inflates the cost.

The dental condition of the population is improving and that of the children in particular probably at no time has been better.

Much work remains, however, to be done. All children of sixteen years and under receive free treatment and advice from the dental surgeon maintained by the Government who makes frequent visits of inspection to the schools in Stanley and periodical tours of the out-districts.

Vaccination is compulsory and most of the children have been vaccinated during the past three years. The requirements of the law in regard to vaccination is borne specially in mind during medical inspection of the schools and appropriate action is taken when defaulters are discovered.

Three fresh cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1931 and there were four deaths from this disease, which is not of recent origin in the Colony but is more widely distributed than has been hitherto suspected. It does not appear, however, that its incidence is increasing, or at least with such rapidity as to be noticeable or alarming. Modern hygiene and improved housing conditions, to which reference is made in the next chapter of this Report, may be expected to do much towards correcting the progress locally of tuberculosis.

Twenty-seven cases of appendicitis came under operative treatment in 1931.

As the winter of 1931 was exceptionally fine there were fewer cases of bronchitis and bronchial troubles than usual. A mild epidemic of acute nasal catarrh was experienced in the autumn.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley under the style of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. It was built in 1914 and has been recently reconditioned and brought thoroughly up to date. Among the equipment is a portable X-ray apparatus and an artificial sunlight lamp. The hospital contains twelve beds and besides an out-patient department, nurses' quarters, and a laboratory, has a fully furnished operating theatre, a model of its kind. The staff includes the Principal Medical Officer, a Medical Officer, a Nurse-Matron, and a qualified Nursing Sister in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained. The Principal Medical Officer and the Medical Officer make tours of the Camp stations from time to time. It is to be observed in this connexion that the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, maintain their own Medical Officer at Darwin, as do the West Falkland farmers, with assistance from the Government, at Fox Bay.

Ante-natal and child-welfare services are provided at the hospital and the increasing number of patients indicates that these services are appreciated.

During the year 1931, 179 persons were treated as in-patients and there were 1,061 out-patients with a total attendance of 2,096. Forty-three surgical operations were performed with good results. Three deaths occurred in the hospital.

Mention must here be made of the generous gift to the hospital of the sum of £200 by John Hamilton, Esquire, of Weddell Island. This money was expended on the purchase of five hospital beds of a modern type, two invalid chairs, an instrument cabinet, dressing trolley, anaesthetist's stool, clock, medical reference books and a diagnostic case. The gift has been greatly appreciated by the patients and by the staff.

Sewage in the town of Stanley is disposed of partly by water-carriage system and partly by earth-closet method. The water-carriage system has been constructed during the past seven years and is still being extended; it remains now for the inhabitants to take greater advantage of the facilities supplied. The night soil from the earth-closets is removed by special carts under the control of the Public Works Department.

The water-supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains are being steadily extended and already serve the major portion of the town. In like manner the recent improvements to Stanley have included a great advance in the construction of roads, both old and new, and the necessary attendant drains.

Slaughter-houses in the town are required to comply with a standard laid down by the Board of Health, of which the Principal Medical Officer is *ex officio* Chairman, in regard to construction, drainage, and water-supply. Meat for human consumption is inspected at regular intervals by the Veterinary Officer and by the Sanitary Inspector. The supply of milk is similarly supervised by the Board of Health. Samples of milk are taken from time to time and are tested. An improvement in the samples is noticed and with a view to continued improvement in this respect the regulations regarding the sale of milk have been made more stringent.

Bi-annual rat weeks are held and have achieved considerable success in clearing rubbish dumps, waste-lands, and the foreshore from rats. Owners and occupiers of private premises are obliged to take steps to exterminate rats and mice on their premises.

## CHAPTER V.

### HOUSING.

The housing problem in the town of Stanley which until recently presented a serious aspect has been tackled in so vigorous and practical a manner as, for the time being at any rate, virtually to have been solved. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory. Little over-crowding exists, if any, and the rate of building is adequate to immediate needs. The extensions to the drainage and sewerage systems and to the water-supply to which reference has been made in the previous

chapter have helped considerably to raise the standard of living and the health of the residents.

A large number of the wage-earning population own their own houses and building loans are made in suitable cases by the Government to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government has also built a number of model dwellings for work-people for sale on easy terms of purchase. The Government maintains furthermore sufficient accommodation for its officials and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

Power is vested in the Board of Health to ensure a proper standard both as regards the construction of new houses and the sanitary condition of existing houses. In case of need power obtains also to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. As has been already stated, much progress has been made in this direction of recent years and steady progress continues to be made.

## CHAPTER VI.

### PRODUCTION.

For practical purposes wool is the sole product of the Colony at the present time. It is all exported in the grease to London; when prices are profitable skins and tallow are also shipped together with a limited quantity of hides. Sheep are run on farms varying approximately in extent from one hundred thousand acres to one hundred and fifty thousand acres and carrying on the average between twenty thousand and thirty thousand sheep, or, say, five acres to one sheep.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year as distinct from the quantity exported, but it may be taken that the production of wool over the five-year period ended on 31st October, 1931, was four million pounds annually as compared with four and a quarter million pounds annually over the previous quinquennial period. While this tendency towards reduced production is due in part to the depleted condition of the pastures, by reason of earlier over-stocking, it is also in part attributable to the measures initiated by the landowners themselves to conserve the productive value of their farms by reducing the number of sheep carried to the level the land can most economically support. Closer attention is being paid generally to selective breeding and it is becoming apparent that any loss in yield is on a fair way to compensation by gain in class.

The actual return of wool exported during 1931 is just under four millions pounds, to a value of £125,000, from which figures it will be seen that the average price realized was between 7½d. and 8d. a pound as against an average price of from 9d. to 10d. a pound in 1929. The fall in price is due to the slump in world prices but it is satisfactory at least to note that Falkland Islands wool

continues to hold its market; with the advent of better times the industry should be in a position to make a ready return to prosperity.

*Seal Oil.*—The Falkland Islands Sealing Company, Limited, which is of recent incorporation and has confined its activities hitherto to the production of oil from hair seal, was unable to continue operating in 1931 on account of unfavourable market conditions, the price of whale and seal oil having dropped to £15 a ton or even below that figure, and there remaining on the hands of the Company considerable stocks unsold from the previous season. From the point of view of production the prospects of the Company are encouraging but its financial outlook gives cause for anxiety in the absence of a sharp recovery in demand and in prices.

*General.*—Apart from the commodities above described the Colony has no resources of known commercial value. Agriculture can hardly be said to exist, although it is of interest to observe that the acreage under cultivation, mainly of forage crops, is increasing. There are no forests and no fisheries, while mineral deposits suitable for working have yet to be discovered.

## CHAPTER VII.

### COMMERCE.

The aggregate value of trade for the year was £257,728 as compared with £330,386 for the previous year. Imports showed a decrease of £5,670 and exports of £66,988.

The following table shows under the principal heads the respective values for the past five years:—

<i>Imports.</i>	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco ...	70,302	45,568	43,850	44,584	40,267
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	28,056	22,289	17,944	13,057	12,093
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	75,240	74,338	95,281	53,613	56,965
Miscellaneous and unclassified	715	2,973	4,073	5,191	1,415
Bullion and specie ...	25	1,900	—	—	35
<i>Total imports ...</i>	<i>£174,338</i>	<i>147,068</i>	<i>161,148</i>	<i>116,445</i>	<i>110,775</i>
<i>Exports.</i>	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	236,028	230,770	236,992	190,943	125,818
Hides and skins ...	10,713	13,332	13,029	14,704	8,941
Tallow ...	860	1,016	1,529	722	1,860
Live stock ...	—	600	—	473	—
Seal oil ...	—	—	16,423	5,920	—
Bullion and specie ...	—	—	—	—	8,000
Other articles ...	332	593	897	1,179	2,334
<i>Total exports ...</i>	<i>£247,933</i>	<i>296,311</i>	<i>268,870</i>	<i>213,941</i>	<i>146,953</i>

The decrease in the value of the wool exported is due entirely to the fall in market prices, the actual quantity shipped exceeding the quantity shipped in 1930. No seal oil was exported by reason of the uneconomical prices obtainable.

#### Imports.

The principal articles imported during 1931 were, in value :—

	£
Provisions ... ..	25,667
Hardware, etc. ... ..	22,467
Drapery, etc. ... ..	8,769
Timber ... ..	8,168
Paints, etc. ... ..	6,057

and in quantities :—

Beer ... ..	23,087 gallons.
Spirits ... ..	2,657 gallons.
Tobacco ... ..	9,871 pounds.
Matches ... ..	1,751 gross.

There is no appreciable difference as compared with 1930 in the value or the volume of the import trade of the Colony, decreases under provisions, timber, and spirits being counter-balanced by almost equivalent increases under hardware, drapery, and beer. The decrease in the quantity of timber imported is to be attributed to the reduced programme of building undertaken by the Government after a period of extraordinary activity in this direction.

Approximately 81 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom as compared with 82.9 per cent. in 1930. The countries of origin were as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom ... ..	89,126
Other parts of British Empire ... ..	—
<b>Total from British Empire ... ..</b>	<b>£89,126</b>
Uruguay ... ..	11,493
Chile ... ..	5,295
Argentina ... ..	3,597
United States ... ..	429
Other countries ... ..	835
<b>Total from foreign countries ... ..</b>	<b>£21,649</b>

The only noticeable feature in regard to the course of the import trade is the increase in the value of commodities, principally fresh food-stuffs, obtained from Uruguay, £11,493 as against £8,603 in 1930. This increase is due no doubt to the improved facilities for communication between Stanley and Montevideo to which reference is made in another chapter of this Report.

#### Exports.

Almost the entire export trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being inconsiderable, i.e., a total value of £855. The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Wool (lb.) ... ..	3,972,509	3,929,487	4,068,057	3,690,572	3,931,593
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	96,320	144,480	274,400	158,368	275,520
Hides and sheepskins (number) ... ..	79,300	52,194	57,489	52,091	73,566
Seal oil (barrels) ... ..	—	—	2,657	2,424	—

With the exception of seal oil, these figures are well up to the five years' average and call for no special remark.

#### CHAPTER VIII.

##### WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

No change occurred during 1931 in regard to rates of wages or hours of work. Labourers in Stanley were paid from £10 to £12 a month, or 1s. 2d. an hour, and artisans from £10 to £20 a month, or 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work were eight hours a day with a total of forty-five hours a week. In Stanley employment is almost solely at the disposal of the Government and of the Falkland Islands Company and, if it had not been for the extensive works undertaken by the Government, unemployment would have been very severe. Actually, although from time to time a considerable number of men were seeking employment there was little, if any, distress.

On the farm stations wages ranged from £5 to £8 a month with quarters, fuel, meat, and milk found. Wages of domestic servants both in Stanley and in the Camp varied from £3 to £4 a month with all found.

The staple foodstuffs of the population, including general labourers, are the same essentially as in the United Kingdom, namely meat, (mostly mutton), bread, sugar, and tea. Mutton costs 3d. a pound, bread 1s. a four-pound loaf, sugar 3d. a pound, and tea 2s. 3d. a pound. Taking £2 10s. a week as an average rate, a labourer's wages are equal to fifty loaves. The cost of living for officials from the United Kingdom is moderate but high prices can only be avoided, generally speaking, by adherence to a diet strictly limited in variety; many of the more usual amenities of life are either wanting or difficult to obtain. No hotels exist in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience for residents and for occasional visitors with charges ranging from £1 10s. to £3 3s. a week. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are hard to find and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

## CHAPTER IX.

## EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

## Schools.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. A scheme instituted in 1924 further provided for children from the country districts to be boarded and lodged in a Government hostel and taught in the school at an inclusive charge of 10s. a month during residence or, alternatively, for grants from Government funds not exceeding two-thirds of the cost of board and lodging for the children in private houses. In 1929 it was decided that the hostel had not received sufficient support to justify the cost of maintaining it, and the institution was closed down. It is a matter of regret that this attempt to give children in the country districts the benefit of schooling in Stanley has had to be abandoned. The maintenance grants are, however, still being continued.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or old age; such philanthropic services as are necessary in the community are rendered direct by the Government or are included in the ministrations of the Churches.

## Sport.

Encouragement is given in all ways practicable to sport and recreation, both indoor and outdoor. Rifle shooting may be well described as the national sport of the Colony, and the Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The achievement of the Falkland Islands team in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in July, 1930, has added a new stimulus and has given rise also to moral reactions of much value. Other branches of sport, such as football and badminton, flourish under the aegis of the Defence Force and opportunities for tests of strength with visiting opponents, principally the crews of His Majesty's ships of the South American Division, are eagerly awaited. Stanley boasts a golf club with a good membership and an interesting nine-hole course, which receives constant attention with a view to its improvement. A ladies' hockey club also functions enthusiastically.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey, and gymnastics as well as the formal Swedish drill.

The newly constructed Public Baths and Gymnasium have proved themselves immediately to be a most popular institution and have become a central feature of the life of the town. The construction of a swimming bath would be an additional boon to the community and the matter is receiving such consideration as circumstances permit.

## General.

The Town Hall, Stanley, contains a large stage which is fitted with modern appliances for theatrical productions including a draw curtain and lighting effects. It can seat an audience of five hundred people in comfort and safety. Productions and concerts are given from time to time, the most recent and widest famed being the children's fantasia "Zachariah Fee," which enjoyed a run of three years. Plays such as this not only provide a welcome source of entertainment during the long winter evenings, but also afford valuable training to the large number of children and young persons who otherwise have little or no occasion to display and to develop their natural talent.

The boy scouts and girl guides movements, together with their dependent cubs and brownies, continued their useful work during 1931 as in past years. Measures have been initiated furthermore in conjunction with the latter movement to establish a home-spun industry in the Islands.

Under the auspices of the Falkland Islands Horticultural Society a Flower Show and Industrial Exhibition is held in the late summer whenever weather and general conditions are favourable. Special classes are included for the arts and crafts. The 1931 Show and Exhibition marked a revival after a lapse of some years and was supported in a sufficient measure to warrant expression of the hope that it is the precursor of a regular and successful series.

## CHAPTER X.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Montevideo, to which port a service is maintained in accordance with actual requirements by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some six hundred tons dead weight, belonging to the Falkland Islands Company and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls are made at Stanley by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company. Since the opening of the Panama Canal the passenger vessels of this Company have visited the Colony at increasingly rare intervals



and recently they have arrived once only in the year in the course of a tourist cruise round South America; the calls of the cargo vessels tend likewise to become more irregular and infrequent partly on account of the depression in trade. At the beginning and the end of the whaling season in October and April opportunities occur from time to time for the transport of mails, and, by special arrangement, of passengers, in the floating factories which pass through Stanley on their way to or from the fishing grounds at Graham's Land and the South Shetland Islands. The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage varies, according to the class of vessel, from three to five days. The usual period occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom is four weeks via Montevideo; by the direct route the passenger vessels complete the journey in twenty-six days and the cargo vessels require upwards of a month on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of calls made. Outward-bound these vessels carry general cargo but homeward they are fully laden with wool for the home market.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available monthly. In the early part of the year the homeward sailings are usually more frequent but during the winter months, from May to October, the intervals are sometimes as long as six weeks.

Communication with the Dependency of South Georgia is maintained by the s.s. *Fleurus* of the Tonsberg Whaling Company with the aid of a subsidy from the Government. The schedule of sailings for the current year provides six return voyages between Stanley and Grytviken; in other years when whaling operations have been in progress in the South Shetlands a voyage has been made additionally to Deception Island.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London, Bergen, Montevideo, and Magallanes, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency. Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 1s. 4½d. a word. There are no submarine cables in operation. The postal rate of one penny per ounce for letters to the United Kingdom and the Empire still remains in force.

There are no railways in the Colony and no roads beyond the town of Stanley and its immediate vicinity. Internal communication is carried out on horseback or by boat; caterpillar cars and lorries can be taken over considerable stretches of the Camp but their use as yet has hardly progressed further than the experimental stage.

The inter-insular service alike for passengers and for mails devolves principally on the s.s. *Lafonia*, facilities being arranged

as far as practicable so as to afford connexions with in-coming and out-going sailings for overseas. There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is run by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. Many of the farmers have their own lines which join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government also maintains a small wireless station for the purpose of inter-insular traffic. Two farm stations have constructed wireless stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways plying for the service of the public in the Falkland Islands; nor have the means of aerial travel hitherto been introduced although the possibilities in the latter direction would seem certainly to warrant investigation.

Statistics of sufficient interest in regard to communications and transport generally are not available but the following table shows the number, the nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony from overseas during 1931:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.	Tonnage.	Sailing Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	18	41,999	6	301
Foreign ... ..	1	358	—	—
	19	42,357	6	301

## CHAPTER XI.

### BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank, which, as its name implies, is solely a bank of deposit. The rate of interest paid is 2½ per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on 30th September, 1931, the total sum deposited was £159,961, and the number of depositors 1,029. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £155 or about £67 per head of the population. There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of 1 per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and a paper currency of 10s., £1, and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Note Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1930, there was £3,000 of specie in circulation. During the year the currency-note issue stood at £24,000. The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in use in the United Kingdom.

## CHAPTER XII.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal new works undertaken during the year were the continued construction of the North Camp Road, the extension of the Stanley Improvement Scheme and the development of the electric lighting system. The North Camp Road leads westwards along the south side of Stanley harbour to the wireless station, a distance of approximately three miles. It will be completed early in 1932 and is the first metalled road to be built outside the limits of the town boundary. Apart from the amenities which it affords to the inhabitants of Stanley it has been instrumental in providing employment and in opening up new peat fields for the supply of fuel for Government purposes.

The Stanley Improvement Scheme was carried on in pursuance of the programme under which, at a total cost of £20,000 to be spread over four years, extensions are in progress to the roads, water-supply, and drainage in the town, and also housing improvements. During 1931 nearly a mile of main drainage was laid and about three-quarters of a mile of roads were either formed or re-formed.

The electric lighting system was considerably extended. An up-to-date generating plant was obtained and installed in a new power house situated in the centre of the town. All Government buildings and officials' quarters are now lit by electricity as well as a number of privately owned houses. The oil street lamps have been replaced by standards fitted with electric arc-lamps. The existing plant is already working at full load and as an increasing number of applications to come on to the system continue to be received facilities for the supply of additional power will be necessary in the near future.

Among other works undertaken by the Public Works Department mention must be made of the new Public Baths and Gymnasium which were commenced in 1930 and completed and opened in 1931. The baths have won immediate popularity and are proving themselves to be of inestimable benefit to the public; use is being made also of the various gymnastic appliances. The first stages of the re-conditioning of the Town Hall and public offices for their better preservation were successfully accomplished. The exterior boarding is deteriorating and the north and west sides of the building were felted and covered with galvanized steel sheeting; it is proposed to treat the remaining two sides in a similar manner during the current year.

Improvements were carried out to the quarantine station and to the Government school. The cart tracks over the common land were repaired so as to facilitate the haulage of peat for householders in Stanley and the marking out of tracks to the Camp and the bridging of streams and the paving of gateways on these tracks

were continued during the year. Two bridges, one over the Antiojo River and one over the Swan Inlet Stream on the track from Stanley to Darwin, were erected by the Falkland Islands Company with the assistance of a grant from public funds. Radio-telegraph operations were transferred from the Government station at the east end of Stanley harbour to the station built by the Admiralty during the war at the west end of the harbour. Two only of the seven masts at the latter station are in actual use and these were thoroughly overhauled and painted and rigged with aerials; incidentally they both exceed three hundred feet in height. The machinery at the old station was removed and fitted for use in the new station which was wired out as required. Quarters were also altered and decorated for occupation by the operating staff.

The Public Works Department of the Colony is composed of a Director of Public Works with subordinate outdoor and clerical staff. The Electrical Department is run as a separate unit under the control of the electrician-in-charge who is responsible for the upkeep of the electric lighting system and of the telephone and broadcasting services.

The Public Works Department, in the absence of a municipality or other form of local government in Stanley, undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy and water-supply, for the town. In addition, the Department has to cut and transport the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government purposes. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular, bridges, fences, jetties, and harbour lights. The above services were all carried out with due care and efficiency during the year.

The total expenditure incurred under the Public Works and Electrical votes was £24,451 in 1931; at the end of the year the number of men on the pay roll, exclusive of monthly employees, was more than seventy, showing an increase of twenty over the number employed at the beginning of the year. This increase is to be accounted for by the measures put in hand by the Government with the object of relieving unemployment in Stanley, for example, as already stated, on the North Camp Road.

## CHAPTER XIII.

## JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is limited to a Supreme Court in which the Governor sits alone as Judge and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace and as such have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and a chief constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The chief constable is also

gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is of rare occurrence. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, are to be recorded from time to time. Sixteen persons were dealt with in 1931 in the Summary Court and of this number fifteen were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year, and there were no cases heard in the Juvenile Court. The problem of young offenders does not arise except in isolated cases each of which receives individual attention from the reformatory rather than from the punitive point of view. No instance is on record, at any rate in recent years, in which a child or young person has been committed to prison.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition; the health of the one prisoner incarcerated in 1931 was good during his brief sojourn in the gaol.

#### CHAPTER XIV.

##### LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1931. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1930) Ordinance No. 1, and the Appropriation (1931) Ordinance No. 9, the following measures were enacted:—

No. 2. The Pensions (Amendment) Ordinance, amending, in conformity with colonial legislation generally existing provisions in regard to the computation of pensions of re-employed pensioners and the gratuity payable to the estate of an officer who dies in the service.

No. 3. The Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, enacting a verbal amendment only to previous legislation.

No. 4. The Summary Jurisdiction (Amendment) Ordinance, prescribing certain traffic offences in the town of Stanley, principally by drivers of motor vehicles and riders of bicycles.

No. 5. The Dog Licences (Amendment) Ordinance, providing for the issue of free licences to dogs kept in Stanley for the sole purpose of the owner's business.

No. 6. The Public Health (Amendment) Ordinance, providing power to prohibit from use buildings unfit for human habitation and enabling the medical authority to enter any building for the purpose of enforcing the Public Health Ordinance and the by-laws made thereunder.

No. 7. The Tariff (Import Duties) (Amendment) Ordinance, reducing the duty on the import of spirits from £1 10s. to £1 a gallon.

No. 8. The Arbitration (Foreign Awards) Ordinance, giving effect locally, in conformity with Imperial Legislation generally, to the provisions of the Convention on the Execution of Arbitral Awards and the Protocol on Arbitration Clauses.

No. 10. The Tariff (Export Duties) (Amendment) Ordinance, fixing the special rate of duty on export of whale oil and seal oil during the 1931-32 and 1931 seasons, respectively, at 2s. for each barrel of forty gallons.

No. 11. The Prevention of Venereal Disease Ordinance, prohibiting the landing in the Colony of any person suffering from venereal disease.

The following subsidiary legislation was brought into force by Proclamation of the Governor during the year:—

No. 1. Establishing the close season under Section 3 of the Wild Animals and Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913, as the period between the first day of September (*vice* October) in any year and the last day of February in the following year.

No. 3. Adding to the list of drugs scheduled as dangerous under Part II of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1925, the esters of morphine and di-hydro-morphinone and their respective salts.

No. 4. Bringing into operation the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930, as from 19th May, 1931.

No. 5. Revoking Proclamation No. 4 of 1928 prohibiting the exportation of gold coin or bullion.

An Order in Council of the Governor made the under-mentioned additions to the Schedules of the Wild Animals and Wild Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913, (*a*) to Schedule I of totally protected fauna, the Cocoi Heron (*Ardea cocoi*) and the Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus chilensis*), and (*b*) to Schedule II of fauna protected during the close season, the Hare, the Pampa Teal (*Querquedula versicolor*), and the Cinnamon Teal (*Querquedula cyanoptera*).

Regulations were made also under the following headings:—

(1) The Penguins (Amendment) Regulations, restricting the taking of eggs of the Gentoo penguin under licence to the period 1st to 31st October in any year.

(2) The Live Stock (Amendment) Regulations, providing that for the purpose of the Live Stock Regulations (Consolidation), 1923, sheep transhipped in South America during importation shall be treated in the same manner as sheep imported from South America.

(3) The Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, amplifying and consolidating the schedules of other Governments as classified for the purpose of the Pensions Regulations, 1928.

The Stanley Milk Supply Protection (Amendment) By-laws, passed under the Public Health Ordinance, 1894, prohibit the selling of milk and cream without a licence issuable annually by the Board of Health.

Conditions of labour in the Colony render unnecessary legislation in the nature of factory Acts; neither is there any provision on the Statute book for compensation for accidents or for sickness or old age.

## CHAPTER XV.

### PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1931 from all sources was £78,397, as compared with £82,812 in 1930, and from ordinary sources £51,805, as compared with £62,094 in 1930. This decrease is to be attributed generally to the falling off in customs, telegraph, shipping, and other miscellaneous receipts affected by the depression in trade. The expenditure on recurrent services was £38,977, or less by £12,828 than the revenue from ordinary sources. A sum of £13,690 was spent, however, under Public Works Extraordinary, the net excess of £862 being necessitated by the measures undertaken to relieve unemployment and being met from the available floating balances. In addition, a further amount of £20,009 was put to the Reserve Fund during the year. As compared with 1930 the ordinary expenditure showed a decrease of £151, a testimony in itself to the manner in which all departments in the administration continued their loyal co-operation in the rigid application of the policy of "economy with efficiency."

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years:—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1927 ... ..	50,318	62,069	38,764	50,814
1928 ... ..	51,011	73,957	55,329	68,903
1929 ... ..	66,650	73,599	46,000	59,041
1930 ... ..	62,094	82,812	39,128	69,979
1931 ... ..	51,805	78,397	38,977	72,676

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1931, amounted to £274,935. The following statement shows the balances at the beginning and the end of the year:—

	1st January.		31st December.	
	£	£	£	£
Land Sales Fund ... ..	...	...	229,172	235,730
Marine Insurance Fund ... ..	...	...	2,848	2,848
Reserve Fund ... ..	...	...	13,990	34,000
General Account ... ..	...	...	23,229	2,357
			<u>£269,239</u>	<u>£274,935</u>

The main heads of taxation are three, namely, Customs duties on imports, an export duty on wool and on whale oil and seal oil, and rates levied on house property in the town of Stanley; the

yield from each source in 1931 was, respectively, £7,096, £7,929, and £725. Customs duties on imports are collected only on liquor, tobacco, and matches at the following rates:—spirits 20s. a gallon, wine 3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints, malt 6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints, cigarettes, manufactured tobacco and snuff 4s. a pound, and matches for every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches 4s. The duty on the export of wool is at the rate of 1s. for every twenty-five pounds, and on whale and seal oil at the rate of 2s. for every barrel of forty gallons or 12s. a ton. There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### CHAPTER I.

#### GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

##### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

##### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude fifty and eighty west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen.

The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the Island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast-line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past three years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a hundred miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1931 the average mean temperature was 35.22° Fahrenheit. Rain fell on one hundred and twelve days and snow or sleet on one hundred and thirty-three days. Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced, when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-29 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. On 13th December, a further shock occurred, and from that date to the end of the year slight tremors continued to be felt. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

#### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable

sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22 by no less than ninety-one vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. A new and valuable survey of the South Sandwich group was carried out in 1930 by the Royal Research ship *Discovery II* of the "Discovery" Expedition.

## CHAPTER II.

### GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

## CHAPTER III.

### POPULATION.

As has been stated in the preceding chapters, there is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is entirely resident either on the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 1,500, practically all males, and during the winter to one-third of that number. At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including

shipping, was recorded as five hundred and sixty-three and at the South Shetlands as one hundred and forty-six; among these one female only appears. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. Eight deaths, as compared with nine in 1930, no births, and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1931.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness, with occasional outbreaks of beri-beri, is caused by the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No medical officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies, and at Deception Island a very efficient hospital is kept in commission during the season by the Hektor Company.

Weather conditions during 1931 were uniformly bad but health conditions were, as usual, relatively good except that the constant bad weather and lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression bordering on melancholia in a number of cases.

#### CHAPTER V.

##### HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in South Georgia or in the other Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personnel working on their stations are fully adequate.

#### CHAPTER VI.

##### PRODUCTION.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, whaling is the only industry in the Dependencies and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, their sole produce. The whaling season in the Dependencies is restricted to the period from 16th September to 31st May annually, while sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia from 1st March to 31st October.

Owing to the slump in the market price for oil, whaling operations were very closely curtailed during the 1931-32 season. No floating factories operated under licence from the Government and the land station at Deception Island remained closed, fishing being suspended entirely at the South Shetlands and also at the South Orkneys. At South Georgia two only of the five land stations worked, namely, the *Compania Argentina de Pesca* at Grytviken and the South Georgia Company at Leith.

So far as the catch is concerned the 1931-32 season was exceptionally good. 2,205 whales were taken as compared with 2,736 whales in the 1930-31 season, when all five land stations were working. The total catch was made up of 1,735 fin, 438 blue, 6 humpback, 16 sei, and 10 sperm whales.

The quantity of oil produced amounted to 124,337 barrels with an average per "standard whale" of 83.22 barrels. 113,420 bags of guano were also produced.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales," the oil and guano production, and the average for the past five seasons:—

Season.	Actual Whales.	"Standard Whales."	Oil Produced. Barrels.	Guano. Bags.	Averages.	
					Oil.	Guano.
1927-28 ...	3,638	3,013	303,397	168,816	100.69	56.02
1928-29 ...	5,133	3,581	340,500	244,631	95.10	68.30
1929-30 ...	4,210	2,645	242,950	242,720	91.88	91.70
1930-31 ...	2,736	2,019	188,044	181,152	93.13	89.70
1931-32 ...	2,205	1,494	124,337	113,420	83.22	75.90

The total value of the production is estimated at £339,410 of which figure £248,674 represents the value of the oil and £90,736 that of the guano.

The outlook for next season is uncertain. It is estimated that accumulated stores of oil are still considerable and, while pelagic operations may be undertaken by the floating factories on a limited scale, the land stations are less likely to operate until the depression, which has been aggravated by over-production, is relieved.

#### CHAPTER VII.

##### COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1931 was £2,059,855, of which £311,388 represented imports and £1,748,467 exports. Of the imports, coal, coke, and oil fuel accounted for £170,229, whale oil (for re-export) £62,303, hardware and machinery £23,651, and provisions £17,826. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £1,577,158, and of guano and bone meal to £163,538.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies during the past five years:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1927 ... ..	537,060	3,877,565	4,414,625
1928 ... ..	436,019	3,763,149	4,199,168
1929 ... ..	626,746	5,164,709	5,791,455
1930 ... ..	499,829	2,726,173	3,226,002
1931 ... ..	311,388	1,748,467	2,059,855

The decrease in the value of the import trade is due to the fact that whaling operations during the 1931-32 season, which opened in September, 1931, were conducted on a very much reduced scale. The decrease in the value of the export trade is due to the further drop in the market price of whale and seal oil and to the smaller number of floating factories operating under licence. Of the imports and of the exports alike approximately 38 per cent. of the value is obtained from or shipped to the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire. The bulk of the coal imported is obtained from the United Kingdom and of the oil fuel from the United States of America and Venezuela. About sixty per cent. of the hardware and machinery comes from the United Kingdom and about twenty-five per cent. from Norway, while provisions show forty-eight per cent. as consigned from the United Kingdom, twenty-seven per cent. from the Argentine, and eighteen per cent. from Norway. Whale and seal oil was exported principally to Norway, thirty-four per cent., the United Kingdom, twenty-one per cent., and South Africa (in transit) twenty per cent. British interests in the whaling industry have marked a considerable advance during the past two or three seasons.

During the year 1931 the price of whale and seal oil fell to £15 a ton and under, as against £25 or £20 a ton in the seasons immediately preceding. Even at this low figure large quantities of oil remained unsold on account of the stocks accumulated through over-production.

The industry generally is in a state of semi-suspension at the present time and it is doubtful whether it will ever be resumed on the same scale as that on which it has been carried on during the past three years. Such a contingency indeed is to be deprecated from almost every point of view.

#### CHAPTER VIII.

##### WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is specially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the wages of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their station the question of the cost of living does not arise.

#### CHAPTER IX.

##### EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and the problem of education does not therefore arise.

The several whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken, so far as the serious business of the production of oil will allow, in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the deep snow of the winter months.

The fourth annual meeting of the South Georgia Sports Association—otherwise styled the Antarctic Sports—was held at Leith Harbour in February by courtesy of Captain L. Hannibal Hansen, manager for the South Georgia Whaling Company. The meeting like its predecessors was in every way successful; the arrangements made were carried through without hitch, weather conditions were exceptionally propitious, and some excellent performances were recorded. Stromness Station were champions in all events, while the football cup was won by Leith who defeated Stromness by 5 goals to none in the final.

A winter sports meeting was also held with full success.

#### CHAPTER X.

##### COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication of a regular nature, more or less, between South Georgia and Stanley, as has been stated in a previous chapter of this Report, is maintained by the s.s. *Fleurus* of the Tonsberg Whaling Company, running under contract with the Government. A voyage is made also once a year when whaling operations are in progress between Stanley and Deception Island in the South Shetlands group. During the whaling season direct sailings between Europe and South Georgia in either direction are in the normal course not infrequent and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. *Tijuca* of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the South Shetlands and of the high seas whaling fleets call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. In summer no long intervals occur, but in winter the delay may on occasion be considerable. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys. There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1931 :—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	25	107,057	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	26	84,151	3	2,202
	51	191,208	3	2,202

#### CHAPTER XI.

##### BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds avoirdupois or in kilograms.

#### CHAPTER XII.

##### PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year but a new engine and plant were installed in the wireless station at Grytviken, South Georgia, where also an extension of the quarters for the operating staff was effected.

#### CHAPTER XIII.

##### JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. During 1931 no case of serious crime was brought before the Courts. Despite the trying conditions,

the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, calling seldom for the intervention of the civil authorities : a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

#### CHAPTER XIV.

##### LEGISLATION.

No Ordinances were enacted and no subsidiary legislation was made during the year with special reference to the Dependencies other than the Tariff (Export Duties) Amendment Ordinance, by which the rate of duty on the export of whale oil and of seal oil was fixed at 2s. for each barrel of forty gallons during, respectively, 1931–32 and the 1932 seasons.

#### CHAPTER XV.

##### PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry and amounted in 1931 to £48,133. The local expenditure was £31,129, leaving a surplus of £17,004 for transfer to the Research and Development Fund in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 6 of 1924.

The following table shows the comparative figures of the revenue and of the expenditure during the past five years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1927 ... ..	206,059	111,306
1928 ... ..	194,153	122,102
1929 ... ..	122,814	39,385
1930 ... ..	84,547	21,597
1931 ... ..	48,133	31,129

The decline in the revenue figures is due to the fall in the market price of whale and seal oil, export duty on which is collected on a sliding scale, and to the smaller number of whaling factories operating under licence within the Falkland Islands sector. The reduction in the expenditure is to be attributed principally to the change effected in the system of the collection of the export duty on whale and seal oil. Formerly the duty was collected in full at a gross rate, a refund being paid on the basis of the sale value realized : under the existing system the duty is collected at a net rate assessed for the season.

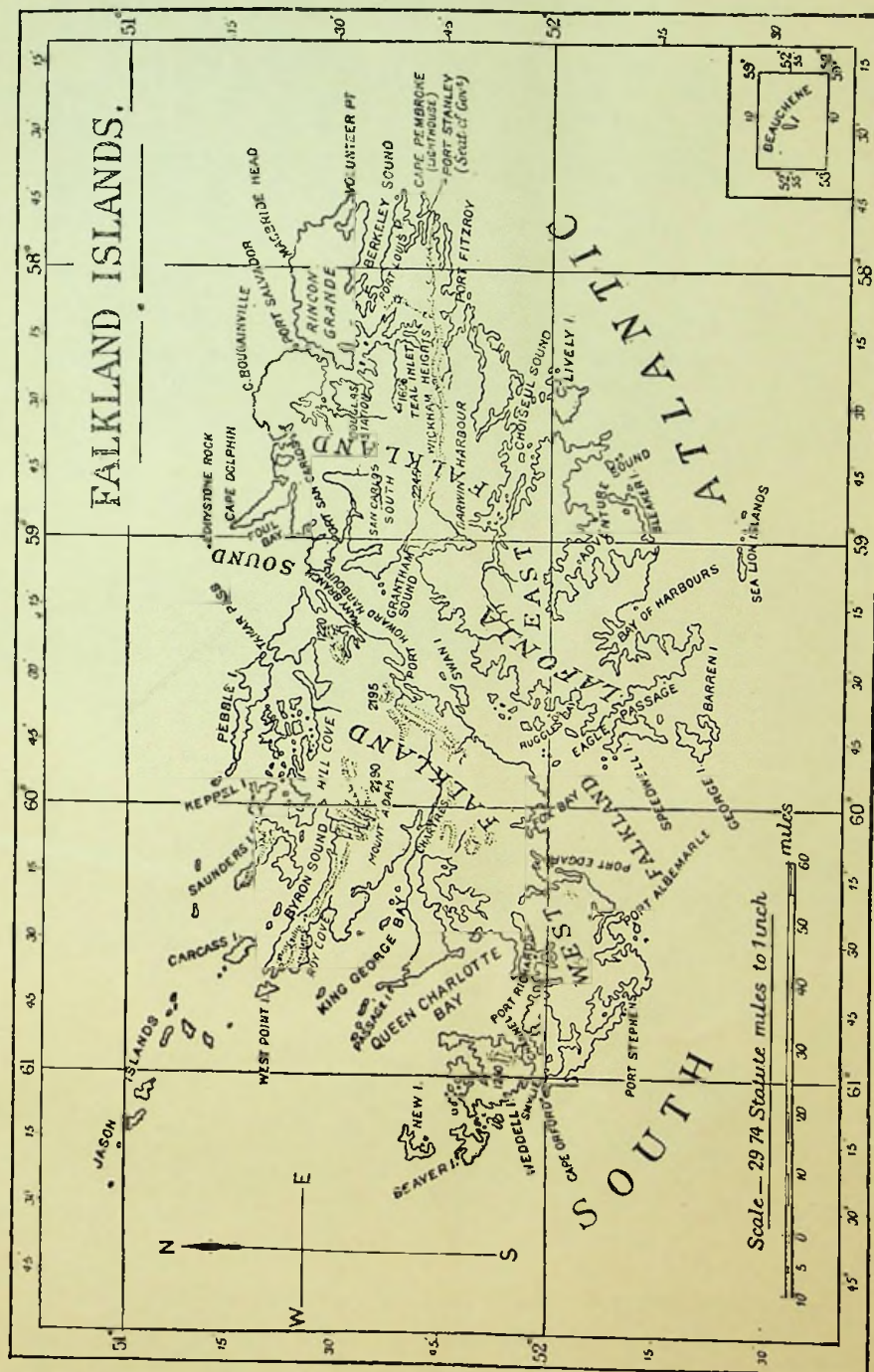


The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1931, was £426,751, earmarked as follows:—

	£
Research and Development Fund ... ..	426,751
“Discovery” Pension Fund ... ..	3,600
General Account ... ..	9,000

The main heads of taxation are customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £946 in 1931 and export duties to £43,180. The customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil during the 1930–31 and 1931–32 seasons was fixed at 2s. a barrel or 12s. a ton and on guano at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.



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THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES  
FOR THE YEAR 1932.

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	<i>Square Miles.</i>
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 feet in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from

the Coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about twelve hundred inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about one hundred persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 inches, precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting twenty-four hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Isles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas," were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of three official and one unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and two unofficial members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony

received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European and chiefly of British descent, in which Scotch blood is marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The 1931 census showed the total population as amounting to 2,392 compared with 2,094 in 1921 and 2,043 in 1901. Of this number 1,358 were males and 1,034 females. The estimated population on 31st December, 1932, was 2,428, made up of 1,366 males and 1,062 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between Darwin and Lafonia to the south of the East Falkland, the northern districts of the East Falkland and the West Falkland. The number of births registered in 1932 was fifty-one, and of deaths twelve, or respectively, 21.11 and 4.55 per 1,000. Fifteen marriages were celebrated during the year. The infantile mortality rate is recorded as 19.6 per 1,000 births of children under one year. Ninety-seven persons arrived in the Colony and one hundred and twenty-three persons left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the community continued to be good and there were again no epidemics or serious outbreaks of illness during the year. Malaria and other insect-borne diseases are unknown in the Colony. Appendicitis, constipation, rheumatism, tuberculosis, and bronchial complaints are the principal disorders from which the population suffers. Venereal disease is unknown and every precaution is taken against the possibility of its introduction.

There is a difficulty in regard to food which is never one of quantity, while the quality of that which is available is excellent; nevertheless the diet is ill-balanced, a circumstance which is probably the chief cause of appendicitis and the invariable condition of bad teeth found accompanying it. Gardens are cultivated but insufficient attention is paid to the production and consumption of green vegetables. The necessity of adding lime to the soil must be emphasized. Fruit is not grown in the Colony; the supply is irregular and inadequate and the loss in importation inflates the cost.

The dental condition of the population is improving as a result of the sustained efforts which have been and are being made. All children of sixteen years and under receive free treatment and advice from the dental surgeon maintained by the Government who makes frequent visits of inspection to the schools in Stanley and periodical tours of the out-districts.

Vaccination is compulsory and most of the children have been vaccinated during the past four years. The requirements of the law in regard to vaccination are borne specially in mind during medical inspection of the schools and appropriate action is taken when defaulters are discovered.

Four fresh cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1932 and there was one death from this disease, which is not of recent origin in the Colony but is more widely distributed than has been hitherto suspected. It does not appear, however, that its incidence is increasing, or at least with such rapidity as to be noticeable or alarming. Modern hygiene and improved housing conditions, to which reference is made in the next chapter of this Report, may be expected to do much towards correcting the progress locally of tuberculosis.

Twenty-five cases of appendicitis came under operative treatment in 1932.

Muscular rheumatism is relatively common in the Falkland Islands. The disease usually makes its appearance in those parts of the body which are exposed to strain and injury. Crippling bone and joint rheumatism is conspicuously infrequent, while rheumatic infections, such as rheumatic fever and chorea, are unknown.

The winter of 1932 was not unduly severe and possibly on this account there was no unusual incidence of bronchitis and bronchial troubles.

There were no cases of scarlatina, measles, whooping-cough, chicken-pox, or influenza. An indefinite number of cases of ring-worm was reported during the year on the East Falkland. These were contact infections with cattle ringworm. The necessary curative and preventative measures have been put in hand by the departments concerned.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley under the style of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. It was built in 1914 and has been recently reconditioned and brought thoroughly up-to-date. Among the equipment is a portable X-ray apparatus. The hospital contains twelve beds and besides an out-patient department, nurses' quarters, and a laboratory, has a fully furnished operating theatre, a model of its kind. The staff includes the Principal Medical Officer, a Medical Officer, a Nurse-Matron, and a qualified Nursing Sister in addition to junior nurses locally

recruited and trained. The Principal Medical Officer and the Medical Officer make tours of the Camp stations from time to time. It is to be observed in this connexion that the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, maintain their own Medical Officer at Darwin, as do the West Falkland farmers, with assistance from the Government, at Fox Bay.

Ante-natal and child-welfare services are provided at the hospital and the increasing number of patients indicates that these services are appreciated.

During the year 1932, 188 persons were treated as in-patients and there were 1,350 out-patients with a total attendance of 3,257. Twenty-nine surgical operations were performed with good results. Four deaths occurred in the hospital.

Sewage in the town of Stanley is disposed of partly by water-carriage system and partly by earth-closet method. The water-carriage system has been constructed during the past eight years and is still being extended; it is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of the facilities available is steadily on the increase. The night soil from the earth-closets is removed by special carts under the control of the Public Works Department.

The water-supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have been extended so as now to serve practically the whole of Stanley. The improvements to the system of roads in like manner have been almost completed and progress is at present being made with the construction of drains, gutters, and side-walks in the upper reaches of the town.

Slaughter-houses in Stanley are required to comply with a standard laid down by the Board of Health, of which the Principal Medical Officer is *ex officio* Chairman, in regard to construction, drainage, and water-supply. Meat for human consumption is inspected at regular intervals by the Veterinary Officer and by the Sanitary Inspector. The supply of milk is similarly supervised by the Board of Health. Samples of milk are taken from time to time and are tested. An improvement in the samples is noticed, and the regulations regarding the sale of milk have been made more stringent. There is room, however, for considerable improvement in this direction.

Bi-annual rat weeks are held and have achieved considerable success in clearing rubbish dumps, waste-lands, and the foreshore from rats. Owners and occupiers of private premises are obliged to take steps to exterminate rats and mice on their premises.



## V.—HOUSING.

The housing problem in the town of Stanley which until recently presented a serious aspect has been tackled in so vigorous and practical a manner as, for the time being at any rate, virtually to have been solved. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory. Little over-crowding exists, and the rate of building is adequate to immediate needs. The extensions to the drainage and sewerage systems and to the water-supply, to which reference has been made in the previous chapter, have helped considerably to raise the standard of living and the health of the residents.

A large number of the wage-earning population own their own houses and building loans are made in suitable cases by the Government to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government maintains also sufficient accommodation for its officials and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

Power is vested in the Board of Health to ensure a proper standard both as regards the construction of new houses and the sanitary condition of existing houses. In case of need power obtains also to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. As has been already stated, much progress has been made in this direction of recent years and continues to be made.

## VI.—PRODUCTION.

For practical purposes wool is the sole product of the Colony at the present time. It is all exported in the grease to London; when prices are profitable skins and tallow are also shipped together with a limited quantity of hides. Sheep are run on farms varying approximately in extent from one hundred thousand acres to one hundred and fifty thousand acres and carrying on the average between twenty thousand and thirty thousand sheep, or, say, five acres to one sheep.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year as distinct from the quantity exported, but it may be taken that the production of wool over the five-year period ended on 31st October, 1931, was four million pounds annually as compared with four and a-quarter million pounds annually over the previous quinquennial period. While this tendency towards reduced production is due in part to the depleted condition of the pastures, by reason of earlier over-stocking, it is also in part attributable to the measures initiated by the landowners themselves to conserve the productive value of their farms by reducing the number of sheep carried to the level the land can most economically support. Closer attention is being paid generally to selective breeding and it is becoming apparent that any loss in yield is on a fair way to compensation by gain in class.

The actual return of wool exported during 1932 is just under 4,000,000 lb. to a value of £110,000, from which figures it will be seen that the average price realized was rather less than 7d. a pound as against an average price of from 7½d. to 8d. a pound in 1931, and 9d. to 10d. a pound in 1929. The further fall in price is due to the continued slump in world prices but it is satisfactory at least to note that Falkland Islands wool continues to hold its market; with the advent of better times the industry should be in a position to make a ready return to prosperity.

*Seal Oil.*—The Falkland Islands Sealing Company, Limited, which is of recent incorporation and has confined its activities hitherto to the production of oil from hair seal, again did not operate in 1932 on account of unfavourable market conditions. The Company was successful, however, in disposing of the stocks remaining unsold from the previous season. Its prospects from the point of view of production are encouraging and given a recovery in demand and in price it may yet succeed, despite its initial difficulties, in establishing itself as a profitable concern.

*General.*—Apart from the commodities above described the Colony has no resources of known commercial value. Agriculture can hardly be said to exist, although it is of interest to observe that the acreage under cultivation, mainly of forage crops, is increasing. There are no forests and no fisheries, while mineral deposits suitable for working have yet to be discovered.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

The aggregate value of trade for the year was £203,997 as compared with £257,728 for the previous year. Imports showed a decrease of £28,725 and exports of £25,006.

The following table shows under the principal heads the respective values for the past five years:—

<i>Imports.</i>					
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco ...	45,568	43,850	44,584	40,267	33,117
Raw materials and articles mainly manufactured.	22,289	17,944	13,057	12,093	8,210
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	74,338	95,281	53,613	56,965	39,561
Miscellaneous and unclassified	2,973	4,073	5,191	1,415	1,162
Bullion and specie ...	1,900	—	—	35	—
<i>Total imports ...</i>	<i>£147,068</i>	<i>161,148</i>	<i>116,445</i>	<i>110,775</i>	<i>82,050</i>
<i>Exports.</i>					
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	280,770	236,992	190,943	125,818	109,475
Hides and skins ...	13,332	13,029	14,704	8,941	5,119
Tallow ...	1,016	1,529	722	1,860	1,150
Live stock ...	600	—	473	—	246
Seal oil ...	—	16,423	5,920	—	5,000
Bullion and specie ...	—	—	—	8,000	—
Other articles ...	593	897	1,179	2,334	957
<i>Total exports ...</i>	<i>£296,311</i>	<i>268,870</i>	<i>213,941</i>	<i>146,953</i>	<i>121,947</i>

The further decrease in the value of the wool exported is again due entirely to the fall in market prices, the actual quantity shipped being very nearly the same as that shipped in 1931.

### Imports.

The principal articles imported during 1932 were, in value :—

	£
Provisions ... ..	18,852
Hardware, etc. ... ..	10,611
Drapery, etc. ... ..	6,137
Coal, coke, and oil fuel ... ..	4,695
Paints, etc. ... ..	4,469

and in quantities :—

Beer ... ..	17,667 gallons.
Spirits ... ..	2,652 gallons.
Tobacco ... ..	11,542 pounds.

As compared with 1931 decreases are recorded generally and in particular under hardware, etc., of £11,856 and under provisions of £5,815. This is to be attributed to the reduced purchasing power of the population in consequence of the world slump in wool prices. As against a decrease of 5,420 gallons of beer, however, an increase of 1,671 pounds of tobacco is to be remarked.

Approximately 80 per cent of the total imports came from the United Kingdom as compared with 81 per cent in 1931. The countries of origin were as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom ... ..	65,443
Other parts of British Empire ... ..	—
<b>Total from British Empire ... ..</b>	<b>£65,443</b>
Uruguay ... ..	8,124
Chile ... ..	5,720
Argentine ... ..	2,321
Other countries ... ..	442
<b>Total from foreign countries ... ..</b>	<b>£ 6,607</b>

There is no feature to be noticed in regard to the course of the import trade as compared with 1931.

### Exports.

Almost the entire export trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being

inconsiderable, i.e., a total value of £841. The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years :—

	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Wool (lb.) ... ..	3,929,487	4,068,057	3,690,572	3,931,593	3,934,852
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	144,480	274,400	158,368	275,520	164,642
Hides and sheepskins (number).	52,194	57,489	52,091	73,566	56,565
Seal oil (barrels) ... ..	—	2,657	2,424	—	1,701

These figures compare favourably on the whole with the five years' average and call for no special remark.

### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

No change occurred during 1932 in regard to rates of wages or hours of work of labourers in Stanley who were paid from £10 to £12 a month, or 1s. 2d. an hour; artisans received from £10 to £20 a month, or 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work were eight hours a day with a total of forty or forty-five hours a week. In Stanley employment is almost solely at the disposal of the Government and of the Falkland Islands Company and, if it had not been for the extensive works again undertaken by the Government, the incidence of unemployment would have been severe. Although from time to time a considerable number of men were seeking employment there was no actual distress.

On many of the farm stations wages were reduced by 10 to 15 per cent during the year and the average rate ranged from £5 to £7 a month with quarters, fuel, meat, and milk found. Wages of domestic servants both in Stanley and in the Camp varied from £3 to £4 a month with all found.

The staple foodstuffs of the population, including general labourers, are the same essentially as in the United Kingdom, namely meat, (mostly mutton), bread, sugar, and tea. Mutton costs 3d. a pound, bread 1s. a four-pound loaf, sugar, 3d. a pound, and tea 2s. 3d. a pound. Taking £2 10s. a week as an average rate, a labourer's wages are equal to fifty loaves. The cost of living for officials from the United Kingdom is moderate but high prices can only be avoided, generally speaking, by adherence to a diet strictly limited in variety; many of the more usual amenities of life are either wanting or difficult to obtain. No hotels exist in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience for residents and for occasional visitors with charges ranging from £1 10s. to £3 3s. a week. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are hard to find and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

## IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

## Schools.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. A scheme instituted in 1924 further provided for children from the country districts to be boarded and lodged in a Government hostel and taught in the school at an inclusive charge of 10s. a month during residence or, alternatively, for grants from Government funds not exceeding two-thirds of the cost of board and lodging for the children in private houses. In 1929 it was decided that the hostel had not received sufficient support to justify the cost of maintaining it, and the institution was closed down. It is a matter of regret that this attempt to give children in the country districts the benefit of schooling in Stanley has had to be abandoned. The maintenance grants are, however, still being continued.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or old age; such philanthropic services as are necessary in the community are rendered direct by the Government or are included in the ministrations of the Churches.

## Sport.

Encouragement is given in all ways practicable to sport and recreation, both indoor and outdoor. Rifle shooting may be well described as the national sport of the Colony, and the Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The achievement of the Falkland Islands team in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in July, 1930, has added a new stimulus and has given rise also to moral reactions of much value. It is a matter of regret that it was not found possible to send a representative team to Bisley in 1932 but hopes are entertained of renewing in 1933 the Colony's participation in this competition and in the Junior Mackinnon. Indoor shooting on the modern and well-equipped miniature range in the Drill Hall is also very popular during the winter months. The team selected from the members of the local Miniature Rifle Association succeeded in winning the Colonial Rifle Associations Small-Bore Match, a postal competition inaugurated in 1932 by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs. Other branches of sport, such as football, badminton, and boat-pulling, flourish under the aegis of the Defence Force and

opportunities for tests of strength with visiting opponents, principally the crews of His Majesty's ships of the South American Division, are eagerly awaited. Stanley boasts a golf club with a good membership and an interesting nine-hole course, which receives constant attention with a view to its improvement. A ladies' hockey club also functions enthusiastically.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey, and gymnastics as well as the formal Swedish drill.

The newly constructed public baths and gymnasium have proved themselves to be a most popular institution. The construction of a swimming bath would be an additional boon to the community and the matter is receiving such consideration as circumstances permit.

## General.

The Town Hall, Stanley, contains a large stage which is fitted with modern appliances for theatrical productions including a draw curtain and lighting effects. It can seat an audience of five hundred people in comfort and safety. Productions and concerts are given from time to time.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides movements, together with their dependent Cubs and Brownies, continued their useful work as in past years. A crew of Rover Sea Scouts was formed during the year.

Under the auspices of the Falkland Islands Horticultural Society a Flower Show and Industrial Exhibition is held in the late summer whenever weather and general conditions are favourable. Special classes are included for the arts and crafts. The 1932 Show and Exhibition was highly successful both in regard to the quality and the quantity of the exhibits.

## X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Montevideo, to which port a service is maintained in accordance with actual requirements by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some six hundred tons dead weight, belonging to the Falkland Islands Company and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls are made at Stanley by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company. Since the opening of the Panama Canal the passenger vessels of this Company have visited the Colony at increasingly rare intervals and recently they have arrived once only in the year in the course of a tourist cruise round South America; the calls of the cargo vessels tend likewise to become more irregular and infrequent partly on account of the depression in trade. At the beginning

and the end of the whaling season in October and April opportunities occur from time to time for the transport of mails, and, by special arrangement, of passengers, in the floating factories which pass through Stanley on their way to or from the fishing grounds at Graham's Land and the South Shetland Islands. The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage varies, according to the class of vessel, from three to five days. The usual period occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom is four weeks via Montevideo; by the direct route the passenger vessels complete the journey in twenty-six days and the cargo vessels require upwards of a month on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of calls made. Outward-bound these vessels carry general cargo but homeward they are fully laden with wool for the home market.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available monthly. In the early part of the year the homeward sailings are usually more frequent but during the winter months, from May to October, the intervals are sometimes as long as six weeks.

Communication with the Dependency of South Georgia has been maintained for some years past by the s.s. *Fleurus*, of the Tonsberg Whaling Company, running on contract for the Government. The schedule of sailings for the year under review provided six return voyages between Stanley and Grytviken; in other years when whaling operations have been in progress in the South Shetlands a voyage has been made additionally to Deception Island.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London, Bergen, Montevideo, and Magallanes, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency. Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 1s. 4½d. a word. There are no submarine cables in operation. The postal rate of one penny per ounce for letters to the United Kingdom and the Empire still remains in force.

There are no railways in the Colony and no roads beyond the town of Stanley and its immediate vicinity. Internal communication is carried out on horseback or by boat; caterpillar cars and lorries can be taken over most parts of the Camp but their general use remains yet to be developed.

The inter-insular service alike for passengers and for mails devolves principally on the s.s. *Lafonia*, facilities being arranged as far as practicable so as to afford connexions with in-coming and out-going sailings for overseas. There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is run by the Government in Stanley both

for official and general use. Many of the farmers have their own lines which join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government also maintains a small wireless station for the purpose of inter-insular traffic. Two farm stations have constructed wireless stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways plying for the service of the public in the Falkland Islands; nor have the means of aerial travel hitherto been introduced although the possibilities in the latter direction would seem certainly to warrant investigation.

Statistics of sufficient interest in regard to communications and transport generally are not available but the following table shows the number, the nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony from overseas during 1932:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.	Tonnage.	Sailing Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	18	45,261	4	217
Foreign ... ..	—	—	—	—
	18	45,261	4	217

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank, which, as its name implies, is solely a bank of deposit. The rate of interest paid is 2½ per cent per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on 30th September, 1932, the total sum deposited was £168,631, and the number of depositors 1,026. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £165 or about £70 per head of the population. There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of 1 per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and a paper currency of 10s., £1, and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Note Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1932, there was £2,000 of specie in circulation. During the year the currency-note issue stood at £22,000. The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in use in the United Kingdom.

## XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal new works undertaken during the year were the completion of the North Camp Road to the Admiralty Wireless Station at the western end of Stanley harbour, the further continuation of the Stanley Improvement Scheme, the construction of the initial stages of a road leading eastward from Stanley to the south shore, the formation of tracks to the Camp over the suburban lands, and improvements and extensions to the electric lighting system.

The North Camp Road runs for a stretch of three miles and is the first metalled road to be built outside the limits of the town boundary. It serves at once to afford easy access to the Admiralty Wireless Station, which is operated actually by the Colonial Government, and to the beginning of the track to the North Camp, to add a much appreciated amenity to the life of the inhabitants of Stanley and to open up considerable areas of peat banks for Government use. The Stanley Improvement Scheme was carried on in pursuance of the programme under which, at a total cost of £20,000, the system of roads, drains, and water-supply, as also the housing, in the town is being developed. During 1932 nearly three-quarters of a mile of road was either formed or re-formed and half-a-mile of main drainage was laid. A 100,000 gallons water tank was erected on high ground at the back of the town in order to provide reserve storage and to facilitate the supply of water to houses in the upper reaches and for fire-fighting purposes; this tank was connected by pipe-line with the main reservoir and is fed from it by a windmill. The road over the common to the south shore is estimated to cost £7,000 to be spread over three years. It is rather more than three miles in length, and passes through deep deposits of peat which will be thus made readily available for householders in Stanley for many years to come. It has been instrumental moreover in finding useful employment and debouching, as it does, on to a sheltered sand bay will prove a boon from the aspect both of health and of pleasure.

Good progress was made with the improvement of the tracks leading out of Stanley over the suburban lands so as to make them more practicable by motor and horse traffic. The paving of gateways is an important feature of the improvement effected. Useful employment was provided also in this manner.

The principal addition to the electric lighting system was the installation of a second, 30 kilowatt, engine and generator which was necessary to meet the growing demand for fresh connexions. Half-a-mile of cable route to the west of the town was renewed.

Among other activities of the Public Works Department special mention should be made of the unwatched coastal light, which was erected on Porpoise Point at the south-eastern extremity of the East Falkland Island. This light will be of much service to vessels plying between Stanley and the West Falkland, and its erection has been made possible through the public-spirited donation of

Mr. John Hamilton of Weddell Island and Patagonia. In Stanley the reconditioning of the exterior of the Town Hall and public offices was completed in accordance with the plan described in last year's Report, and general repairs were effected to the public jetty. Further work also was carried out on the improvement and extension of the cart tracks over the common so as to facilitate the haulage of peat for householders. On the West Falkland Island the Fox Bay wireless station, including the masts, was thoroughly overhauled and repainted, and the piers of the bridge over the Chartres river were strengthened consequent on damage caused by the floods of the previous winter.

The Public Works Department of the Colony is composed of a Director of Public Works with subordinate outdoor and clerical staff. The Electrical Department is run as a separate unit under the control of a Superintendent who is responsible for the upkeep of the electric lighting system and of the telephone and broadcasting services.

The Public Works Department, in the absence of a municipality or other form of local government in Stanley, undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy and water-supply, for the town. In addition, the Department has to cut and transport the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government purposes. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular, plant, walls, bridges, fences, jetties, and harbour lights. The above services were all carried out with due care and efficiency during the year.

The total expenditure incurred under the Public Works and Electrical votes was £28,047 in 1932; an average number of one hundred and ten men, exclusive of monthly employees, were on the pay roll during the year, as compared with seventy-eight during 1931 and sixty-four during 1930. This large increase is due entirely to the extraordinary works put in hand to relieve unemployment.

## XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is limited to a Supreme Court in which the Governor sits alone as Judge and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace and as such have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and a chief constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The chief constable is also gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to

time. Five persons were dealt with in 1932 in the Summary Court and all were convicted. No criminal issue went to the Supreme Court during the year; three cases came before the Juvenile Court. The problem of young offenders does not arise except in isolated cases each of which receives individual attention from the reformatory rather than from the punitive point of view. No instance is on record, at any rate in recent years, in which a child or young person has been committed to prison.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition; the health of the one prisoner incarcerated in 1932 was good during his brief sojourn in the gaol.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Nine Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1932. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1931) Ordinance No. 1, and the Appropriation (1933) Ordinance No. 5, the following measures were enacted:—

No. 2. The Summary Jurisdiction (Amendment) Ordinance, increasing the jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Court so as to include suits where the claim, debt, damage, or balance sought to be recovered does not exceed £100, the previous limit having been £50.

No. 3. The Tariff (Export Duties) Amendment Ordinance, fixing the special rate of duty on export of whale oil and seal oil during the 1932-33 and 1933 seasons, respectively, at 1s. 6d. for each barrel of forty gallons.

No. 4. The Tariff (Import Duties) Amendment Ordinance, providing for the entry duty free of Empire matches and for a preferential rate on Empire tobacco and cigarettes.

No. 6. The Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery Ordinance, giving effect to the provisions of the International Labour Convention concerning the creation of Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery.

No. 7. The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) (Amendment) Ordinance, enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation in conformity with Imperial legislation in the matter.

No. 8. The Registration of United Kingdom Patents (Amendment) Ordinance, enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation in conformity with Imperial legislation in the matter.

No. 9. The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance, giving effect to the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 13th July, 1932.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Proclamation dated 30th January, establishing the close season under Section 3 of the Wild Animals and Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913, as the period between the first day of August (*vice* September) in any year and the last day of February in the following year.

Order in Council of 28th June, styled The Post Office (Rates of Postage and Fees) Amendment Order, fixing revised rates for books and newspapers and for registration and determining the limit of compensation payable for the loss of a registered article.

The Pensions (Amendment) Regulations and the Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, effecting minor amendments to the existing regulations so as to bring them generally into line with the regulations in force in other parts of the Empire.

Conditions of labour in the Colony render unnecessary legislation in the nature of factory Acts; neither is there any provision on the Statute book for compensation for accidents or for sickness or old age.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1932 from all sources was £98,463, as compared with £78,397 in 1931, and from ordinary sources £64,199, as compared with £51,805 in 1931. For the most part the increase is attributable to the appreciation of the market value of the Colony's investments. The expenditure on recurrent services was £38,711 or less by £25,688 than the revenue from ordinary sources. In addition extraordinary expenditure amounting to £16,089 was incurred mainly in connexion with the measures undertaken to relieve unemployment. Thus the revenue from all sources exceeded the total expenditure of £54,798 by £43,665.

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years.—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1928 ... ..	51,011	73,957	55,329	68,903
1929 ... ..	66,650	73,599	46,000	59,041
1930 ... ..	62,094	82,812	39,128	69,979
1931 ... ..	51,805	78,397	38,977	72,676
1932 ... ..	64,199	98,463	38,711	54,798

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1932, amounted to £318,470. The following statement shows the balances at the beginning and the end of the year:—

	1st January. 31st December.	
	£	£
Land Sales Fund ... ..	235,730	266,227
Marine Insurance Fund ... ..	2,848	2,848
Reserve Fund ... ..	34,000	37,637
General Account ... ..	2,357	11,768
	<u>£274,935</u>	<u>£318,470</u>

The main heads of taxation are three, namely, Customs duties on imports, an export duty on wool and on whale oil and seal oil, and rates levied on house property in the town of Stanley; the yield from each source in 1932 was, respectively, £5,738, £8,230, and £771. Customs duties on imports are collected only on liquor, tobacco, and matches at the following rates:—spirits 20s. a gallon, wine 3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints, malt 6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints, cigarettes, manufactured tobacco, and snuff 4s. a pound, and matches for every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches 4s. A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the full duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free. The duty on the export of wool is at the rate of 1s. for every twenty-five pounds, and on whale oil and seal oil at the rate of 1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons or 9s. a ton. There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude fifty and eighty west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen.

The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a hundred miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1932 the average mean temperature was  $35\cdot10^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit. Rain fell on seventy-seven days and snow or sleet on one hundred and twenty-five days. Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced, when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-29 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

#### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and

British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22 by no less than ninety-one vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. A new and valuable survey of the South Sandwich group was carried out in 1930 by the Royal Research ship *Discovery II* of the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

#### III.—POPULATION.

As has been stated in the preceding chapters, there is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is entirely resident either on the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it exceeds 1,000, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including shipping, was recorded as five hundred and sixty-three and at the South Shetlands as one hundred and forty-six; among these one female only appears. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. Two deaths, as compared with eight in 1931, no births, and two marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1932.

#### IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No medical officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies, and at Deception Island a very efficient hospital is kept in commission during the season by the Hektor Company.

Weather conditions in 1932 were not favourable but, as usual, health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression bordering in some cases on melancholia.

#### V.—HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in South Georgia or in the other Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personnel working on their stations are fully adequate.

#### VI.—PRODUCTION.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, whaling is the only industry in the Dependencies and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, their sole produce. The whaling season in the Dependencies is restricted to the period from 16th September to 31st May annually, while sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia from 1st March to 31st October.

Owing to the continued slump in the market for oil, whaling operations were again greatly curtailed during the 1932-33 season. At South Georgia only one station, that belonging to the Compania Argentina de Pesca, conducted operations and the land station at Deception Island remained closed. No floating factories worked under licence from the Government, although a good number of expeditions fished on the high seas and off the ice-pack, the catch being restricted by agreement on a quota basis.

The catch at South Georgia was good numerically but for the most part the whales taken were physically immature and small. The total catch amounted to 996 whales, made up of 727 fins, 267 blue, and 2 sei.

The quantity of oil produced was 54,583 barrels with an average per "standard whale" of 86.57 barrels. 49,572 bags, each of 100 kilogrammes, of guano were also produced.



The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales," the oil and guano production, and the average for the past five seasons :—

Season.	Actual	"Standard	Oil Produced.	Guano.	Averages.	
	Whales.	Whales."	Barrels.	Bags.	Oil.	Guano.
1928-29 ...	5,133	3,581	340,500	244,631	95·10	68·30
1929-30 ...	4,210	2,645	242,950	242,720	91·88	91·70
1930-31 ...	2,736	2,019	188,044	181,152	93·13	89·70
1931-32 ...	2,205	1,494	124,337	113,420	92·16	75·90
1932-33 ...	996	631	54,583	49,572	86·57	78·60

An interesting feature of the 1932-33 season was the employment for the first time of a limited number of Falkland Islands labourers at the Compania Argentina de Pesca's land station and on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Salvesen. The experiment—for such it was—proved to be mutually successful and arrangements are contemplated for the employment of increased numbers in future seasons.

So far as can be foreseen at present the outlook for next season is more promising. The price of oil still remains at approximately £13 a ton but the past season's production is believed to have been all sold. It is hoped that in 1933-34 two or three of the land stations in South Georgia will resume operations.

#### VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1932 was £598,494, of which £228,952 represented imports and £369,542 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £124,200, coal, coke, and oil fuel £77,578, hardware £7,597, and provisions £6,076. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £274,396, and of guano and bone meal to £83,054.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies during the past five years :—

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1928 ...	436,019	3,763,149	4,199,168
1929 ...	626,746	5,164,709	5,791,455
1930 ...	499,829	2,726,173	3,226,002
1931 ...	311,388	1,748,467	2,059,855
1932 ...	228,952	369,542	598,494

The decrease in the value of the import trade is due to the fact that whaling operations during the 1932-33 season, which opened in September, 1932, were conducted on a still further reduced scale. The decrease in the value of the export trade is due to the continued drop in the market price of whale and seal oil and to the fact that no floating factories operated under licence. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "high seas" about

25 per cent of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom and about 33 per cent of the value of the exports were shipped for the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 57 per cent of the hardware came from Norway and 31 per cent from the United Kingdom, while provisions show 45 per cent from Norway and 43 per cent from the Argentine. Whale and seal oil was exported principally to the United Kingdom, 35 per cent, and to Norway, 25 per cent; 24 per cent went to the Cape Verde Islands and 14 per cent to Brazil, in both cases for re-consignment. British interests in the whaling industry have increased considerably in recent years and Norway no longer, as in the past, holds a virtual monopoly, that is on the financial side, for on the operative side the personnel employed remains practically all Norwegian.

During the year 1932 the price of oil ranged from £10 to £15 a ton according to grade but even at these figures large quantities failed to find a market. The accumulation of stocks has led to the adoption by the companies of a restricted output on a quota basis during the 1932-33 season. Future prospects in the industry, therefore, continue to be uncertain and it is doubtful whether whaling operations will ever be resumed on the same scale as that on which they were carried on during the years immediately preceding the depression. Such a contingency indeed is to be deprecated from most points of view.

#### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is specially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their station the question of the cost of living does not arise.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and the problem of education does not therefore arise.

The several whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken, so far as the serious business of the production of oil will allow, in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the deep snow of the winter months.

The fifth annual meeting of the South Georgia Sports Association—otherwise styled the Antarctic Sports—was held at Grytviken in February, by courtesy of the manager of the Compania Argentina de Pesca's whaling station, Captain A. M. Abrahamsen. The meeting, like its predecessors, was most successful and was favoured throughout by exceptionally fine weather. The enthusiasm displayed and the standard of performance recorded were fully up to those of previous years. Grytviken won the championship with Leith close behind as runners-up. In the football cup Leith beat Grytviken after a splendidly contested game by four goals to three.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication of a regular nature, more or less, between South Georgia and Stanley, as has been stated in a previous chapter of this Report, was maintained by the s.s. *Fleurus* of the Tonsberg Whaling Company, running under contract with the Government. A voyage is made also once a year when whaling operations are in progress between Stanley and Deception Island in the South Shetlands group. During the whaling season direct sailings between Europe and South Georgia in either direction are in the normal course not infrequent and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. *Tijuca* of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. In summer no long intervals occur, but in winter the delay may on occasion be considerable. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys. There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1932 :—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	41	70,108	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	8	21,307	2	1,468
	49	91,415	2	1,468

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. During 1932 no case of serious crime was brought before the Courts. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, calling seldom for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

No Ordinances were enacted and no subsidiary legislation was made during the year with special reference to the Dependencies other than the Tariff (Export Duties) Amendment Ordinance, by which the rate of duty on the export of whale oil and of seal oil was fixed at 1s. 6d. for each barrel of forty gallons during, respectively, 1932-33 and the 1933 seasons.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry and amounted in 1932 to £17,446. The expenditure excluding that from the Research and Development Fund, was £20,143.

The following table shows the comparative figures of the revenue and of the expenditure during the past five years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1928 ... ..	194,153	122,102
1929 ... ..	122,814	39,385
1930 ... ..	84,547	21,597
1931 ... ..	48,133	31,129
1932 ... ..	17,446	20,143

The decline in the returns, both of revenue and of expenditure, is due to the drastically restricted scale on which whaling operations were conducted during the year by reason of the depressed conditions of the oil market.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1932, was £441,287, earmarked as follows :—

	£
Research and Development Fund ... ..	430,748
"Discovery" Pension Fund ... ..	4,236
General Account ... ..	6,302

The main heads of taxation are customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £563 in 1932 and export duties to £14,061. The customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 2s. a barrel or 12s. a ton during the 1930-31 and 1931-32 seasons and has been reduced to 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton for the 1932-33 season. The export duty on guano is at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## Bibliography.

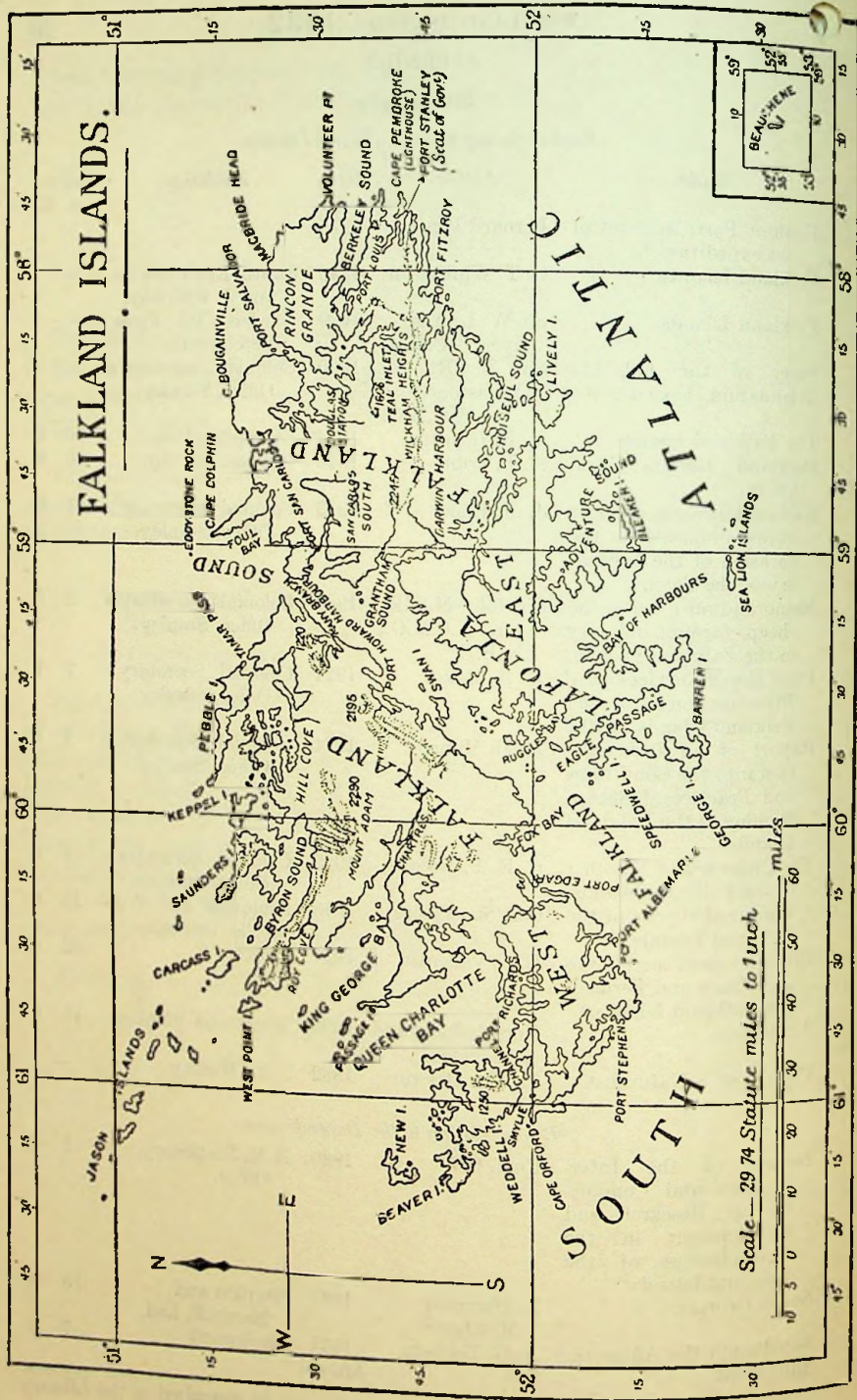
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## COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1699

Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of the

# FALKLAND ISLANDS

## 1933

(For Reports for 1931 and 1932 see Nos. 1588 and 1633 respectively (price 1s. 3d. each).)

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*[Continued on page iii of cover.]*



# ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES FOR THE YEAR 1933

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## PART I.—THE COLONY.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	<i>Square Miles.</i>
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 feet in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from the coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about twelve hundred inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about one hundred persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 inches, precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting twenty-four hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Isles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas," were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound in memory of the

well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

The Centenary of the establishment of a permanent British settlement in the Colony was held on 12th February, 1933. A very fine set of pictorial postage stamps was issued to commemorate this important event in the history of the Colony and in addition the Centenary celebrations, which were held for one week, included

a stock show, sports meeting, and a fireworks display, as well as various other entertainments. H.M.S. *Durban* visited the Colony for the special purpose of taking part in the celebrations.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of three official and one unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and two unofficial members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European and chiefly of British descent, in which Scotch blood is marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The estimated population on 31st December, 1933, was 2,427, made up of 1,362 males and 1,065 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1933 was fifty-two, and of deaths twenty-seven, or respectively 21.42 and 11.12 per 1,000. Sixteen marriages were celebrated during the year. The infantile mortality rate is recorded at 57.7 per 1,000 births of children under one year. Fifty-seven persons arrived in the Colony and eighty-three persons left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the community has been good. There was a small epidemic of chicken-pox but this was quickly suppressed.

A number of cases of ringworm occurred in Stanley and in outlying districts of the East Falkland.

The climate is healthy and the people generally are in comfortable circumstances. Animal food is abundant and cheap, and the other necessaries of life easily obtained, beef and mutton being the staple food. Fish is obtainable during the summer but becomes scarce during the winter. Fruit is not grown in the Colony, but more frequent communication with the River Plate has facilitated the supply of fresh fruit and has reduced the cost. The revival during the past four years of the Annual Flower Show and Industrial Exhibition has stimulated the cultivation of vegetables and particularly the much needed green vegetables.

The dental condition of the population continues to improve. The Dental Surgeon made extensive tours, and carried out a great deal of work in the East and West Falklands. All children of sixteen years and under receive free treatment and advice from the Dental Surgeon maintained by the Government who makes frequent visits of inspection to the schools in Stanley and periodical tours of the out-districts. A special clinic for school children is held every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory. The majority of children in Stanley are vaccinated before they are a year old. Those born in outlying districts are vaccinated by Medical Officers when on tour.

There was an increased number of cases of appendicitis, thirty-two coming under operative treatment as against twenty-five in 1932.

Seven cases of tuberculosis were notified in 1933. Three of these were pulmonary, and the remainder bone, joint and tendon affections. This is an increase over the number of cases reported in 1932 but it is hoped that improved sanitary and housing conditions will go far towards checking the progress of the disease.

Malaria and other insect-borne diseases are unknown in the Colony.

The incidence of coughs and severe colds during the last four months of 1933 was unusually high. A series of colds, associated in some cases with high fever, swept the Colony and caused a remarkable amount of debility. This high "cold" incidence is attributed to the very inclement climatic conditions, and lack of sunshine during the period in question. In several cases these colds were followed by broncho-pneumonia.

With the exception of those from ships there were no cases of venereal disease.

The ringworm epidemic in the outlying districts of the East Falkland eventually reached Stanley, where fifteen cases were reported. These have all been successfully treated, and so far as is known there are no further cases. The endemic focus of this disease is cattle. The majority of the farmers have co-operated in reducing the disease among cattle by dipping or destroying affected animals.

There were no cases of scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria or whooping-cough.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley under the style of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital comprises twelve beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. During the year an improved type of X-ray apparatus was installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes the Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister in addition to Junior Nurses locally recruited and trained.

The Senior Medical Officer made a tour of the East and West Falkland and the Medical Officer made periodical tours of outlying districts in the East Falkland. Satisfactory reports on health conditions were received. It is to be observed in this connexion that the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, maintain their own Medical Officer at Darwin.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante- and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1933, 171 persons were admitted as in-patients and there were 1,448 out-patients with a total attendance of 3,978 as against 1,350 and 3,257 respectively in 1932. Three deaths occurred in the hospital. Fifty operations were performed with uniformly good results and many minor operations were carried out in the out-patient department.

Sewage in the town of Stanley is disposed of partly by water-carriage system and partly by earth-closet method. It is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of water-carriage facilities is steadily increasing. The night soil from earth-closets is removed by means of special carts under the control of the Public Works Department. The disposal of sewage which is deposited in the harbour is efficient as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health by-laws all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered and in consequence house connexions continue to increase. The use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

Improvements to the system of roads in Stanley have been completed and they are now adequate to present needs. The drainage system of the town was further improved during the year.

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in Stanley and these were inspected with reasonable frequency and were found to comply with the Board of Health by-laws. Meat for human consumption was also inspected at regular intervals.

Dairies were inspected from time to time and samples of milk tested which showed that the standard of cleanliness has been maintained. No samples were found to contain the bacilli of tuberculosis.

Bi-annual rat weeks were continued to be held with considerable success. Rats appear to have diminished as a result but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

#### V.—HOUSING.

Several new buildings were erected in Stanley during the year 1933, and additional buildings are in course of construction. The buildings erected are of a suitable type and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health both as regards construction and sanitary arrangements.

There is now no overcrowding in Stanley the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. In the majority of cases the wage-earning population own their own houses which are well built and comfortable. Building loans are made in suitable cases by the Government to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government maintains also sufficient accommodation for its officials and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and householders are required to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. In case of need powers exist to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation.

In recent years housing conditions have been much improved by the provision of an adequate water supply and also by the disposal of sewage by water-carriage.

#### VI.—PRODUCTION.

Wool, skins, and tallow are the principal products of the Colony at the present time. All produce is exported to the United Kingdom.

Sheep farms vary approximately in extent from 24,000 acres to 150,000 acres and carry on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or, say, three to five acres to one sheep.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year as distinct from the quantity exported. The average production during the past six years was four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1933 was 4,021,444 lb., valued at £100,749. The average price realized was just over 6d. per lb. as against an average price of about 7d. per lb. in 1932, and 7½d. to 8d. per lb. in 1931.

Economic conditions were as difficult and disappointing in the year under review as in the preceding year. Prices for wool and other produce continued at levels which left little or no profit to farmers.

*Hides and skins* exported realized £8,807 as against £5,119 in the preceding year, or an increase of £3,688.

*Seal oil.*—During the year the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, operated for a short period of three months and produced approximately 300 tons of oil from hair seal of an export value of £4,660. Owing, however, to unfavourable market conditions the Company was unable to show a profit on the season's working and unless conditions show some appreciable improvement it is doubtful whether the Company will operate in a future season.

*Live stock.*—During the year a number of rams of the Romney Marsh type were imported from the United Kingdom for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

*General.*—Apart from the commodities above described the Colony has no resources of known commercial value. Forage crops are produced to a limited extent, but with this exception there is practically no agriculture in the Colony.

*Colonial Reports—Annual No. 1699.*

*Falkland Islands.*

*Report for the year 1933.*

#### CORRIGENDA.

Page 9. Table of Exports:—

Amend the value of exports of seal oil for the year 1933, to read £4,660.

The total of the last column should now read £116,972.

(28638—500)

Bullion and specie ...	...	...	8,000	...	...
Other articles ...	...	897	1,179	2,334	957 988
<i>Total exports</i> ...	...	£268,870	213,941	146,953	121,947 116,912

The actual quantity of wool exported in 1933 exceeded the quantity exported in the preceding year, but the market prices continued to fall.

**Imports.**

The principal articles imported during 1933 were, in value :—

	£
Provisions ... ..	17,537
Hardware... ..	9,369
Drapery, etc. ... ..	7,803
Coal, coke, and oil fuel ... ..	2,721
Timber ... ..	3,046
Paints, etc. ... ..	2,126
Chemicals... ..	3,047

and in quantities :—

Beer ... ..	12,600 gallons.
Spirits ... ..	2,418 „
Tobacco ... ..	8,950 pounds.
Wines ... ..	990 gallons.

The import trade of the Colony, as in the previous year, continued to decrease. There was no increase in the prices of most commodities during the year but as prices of the produce of the Colony continued to fall the purchasing power of the inhabitants was not improved. There was a marked falling off in imports of beer, spirits and tobacco.

As in the preceding year approximately 81 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom.

The countries of origin were as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom ... ..	56,301
Other parts of British Empire ... ..	—
<b>Total from British Empire</b> ... ..	<b>£56,301</b>
Uruguay ... ..	9,918
Argentine ... ..	2,143
Chile ... ..	625
Other countries ... ..	274
<b>Total from foreign countries</b> ... ..	<b>£12,960</b>

There was no alteration in the course of the import trade as compared with 1932.

**Exports.**

Practically the whole of the export trade of the Colony was with the United Kingdom, with the exception of exports to other countries of a value of £725.

The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years :—

	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.
Wool (lb.) ... ..	4,067,057	3,690,572	3,931,595	3,934,852	4,021,444
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	274,400	158,368	275,520	164,642	425,712
Hides and sheepskins (number) ... ..	37,489	52,091	73,566	56,565	77,679
Seal oil (barrels) ... ..	2,657	2,424	—	1,701	1,806

The figures for 1933 show a considerable increase in the export of tallow, hides and sheepskins.

**VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.**

The average rate of wages for unskilled labour is at the rate of 1s. 2d. an hour and for skilled labour at the rate of 1s. 4d. an hour. Artisans receive 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work are eight hours a day with a total of 40 to 45 hours a week.

In domestic service monthly wages with board and lodging, for housemaids vary from £2 to £3 10s. 0d.; for cooks from £3 to £4 10s. 0d.

Owing to the reduction of labour on farms due to the depression in the sheepfarming industry there was an increase in the number of men seeking employment in Stanley. The majority were employed on works undertaken by the Government to relieve unemployment and in consequence there was no actual distress.

The average rate of wages on farm stations was £6 to £7 a month with quarters, fuel, meat and milk free.

The cost of living has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food were as follows :—

Mutton ... ..	3d. per lb.
Beef ... ..	5d. per lb.
Pork, fresh... ..	1s. 6d. per lb.
Fowls ... ..	2s. to 3s. each.
Fish, fresh ... ..	2d. to 3d. per lb.
Eggs ... ..	2s. to 3s. per dozen.
Milk ... ..	8d. to 1s. per quart.
Potatoes ... ..	1½d. to 3d. per lb.
Bread ... ..	1s. per 4 lb. loaf.
Sugar ... ..	3d. per lb.
Tea ... ..	2s. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee ... ..	1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.
Fresh Vegetables ... ..	5d. per lb.
Butter (imported)... ..	1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

On the whole the cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and

convenience with charges ranging from £2 2s. 0d. to £3 3s. 0d. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are hard to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision also is made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

For the benefit of children who are unable to come to Stanley, the Government maintains three itinerant schoolmasters on the West Falkland Island and one on the East Falkland Island.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at their settlement at Darwin, and in addition certain itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or old age.

Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The cost in 1933 amounted to £136.

A society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

There are three social clubs, namely, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club.

There are football, badminton, golf, and hockey clubs, all of which are flourishing.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse racing and athletic events.

The Defence Force Rifle Association which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual Meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The Falkland Islands team won the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in 1930, and in 1933 the Colony was again represented at Bisley in the Junior Kolapore and Junior Mackinnon competitions. Miniature rifle shooting on the modern and well-equipped miniature range in the Drill Hall is very popular during the winter months. The local Miniature Rifle Association won in 1932 the Colonial Rifle Associations Small-Bore Match, a

competition inaugurated in that year by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs, and also won in 1933 the Dominion Clubs' Team Competition which was inaugurated in that year.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey and gymnastics, as well as the formal Swedish drill.

There are also public baths and a well-equipped gymnasium. The construction of a swimming pool is under consideration.

The Town Hall, Stanley, is well-equipped with modern appliances for theatrical productions. It can seat an audience of 500 people in comfort and safety. It has a very fine dance floor and is much used for that purpose particularly during the winter months.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Rover Sea Scouts continued their useful work. There are also troops of Cubs and Brownies.

There is one cinema in Stanley, owned and managed by the Roman Catholic Mission, which usually affords entertainment on two days of the week, one of which is for children only.

There is also a public library at which books to suit every taste may be obtained.

The Falkland Islands Horticultural Society, which is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society, England, held during the year a Flower and Vegetable Show and Industrial Exhibition. The Show and Exhibition was successful both in regard to the quality and the quantity of the exhibits. The Society presents the Clarence Elliott Challenge Cup for the best collection of vegetables in twenty-four distinct varieties. The Banksian Medal granted by the Royal Horticultural Society, England, is awarded to the winner of the largest total amount of money in prizes at the Show, but the same competitor may not win the medal oftener than once in three consecutive years.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Monte Video to which port a service is maintained by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 600 tons dead weight, belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls homeward and outward are made at Stanley at irregular and infrequent intervals by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Limited. The calls made in 1933 were three homeward and three outward.

The distance from Stanley to Monte Video is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Lafonia* averages 4½ days, and by other vessels from 3 to 5 days according to the class of vessel.

The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Monte Video, is 26 days; by the direct route passenger vessels complete the journey in the same time and the

cargo vessels require upwards of a month to five weeks on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of intermediate stops.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four to five weeks.

The contract with the Tonsberg Whaling Company for the conveyance of mails to and from South Georgia was terminated in the early part of 1933, and provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for the maintenance of communication by the s.s. *Lafonia* which makes four voyages a year usually in March, June, October and December. The time taken on the voyage between Stanley and South Georgia averages  $3\frac{1}{2}$  days.

During the whaling season, October—April, opportunities occur from time to time for the conveyance of mails between Europe and South Georgia by means of floating factories and transports engaged in the whaling industry.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London and Monte Video, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for "ordinary," 1s. 3d. a word for "deferred," and 9d. a word for "code" messages.

There are no submarine cables.

The postal rate for the United Kingdom and the Empire is one penny per ounce.

At the end of 1933 there were 38 wireless sets licensed.

The Government maintains a broadcast relay service. The licence for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of licences issued in 1933 was 103. The principal overseas programmes are relayed from the Broadcasting Studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given as well as news and sports items from England.

There are no railways in the Colony. Certain roads suitable for motor traffic are in course of construction towards the Fitzroy River and towards the North Camp. Internal communication is carried out on horseback or by boat. The inter-insular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Lafonia*.

There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. In the outlying districts privately-owned lines join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government also maintains a small radio station for the purpose of local traffic. Two farm stations

have constructed radio stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways in the Colony and no air mail and passenger service.

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank. The rate of interest paid is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th September, 1933, the total sum deposited was £181,928, and the number of depositors 1,032. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £176 12s. 7d., or about £73 per head of the population.

There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and a paper currency of 10s., £1 and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Note Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1933, there was £2,000 of specie and £22,000 of currency notes in circulation.

The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in use in the United Kingdom.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year the Stanley Improvement Scheme which was commenced in 1930, was completed at a cost of £20,000. Good progress was made with the road leading eastward from Stanley to Surf Bay on the south shore and this will be completed early in 1934. This road, which has been constructed at a cost of £7,000, will prove a great boon from the aspect of both health and pleasure, and also in providing easy means of access to the peat deposits adjacent to its route.

The road in course of construction towards the North Camp was cut out as far as the suburban boundary near the Two Sisters Hills. Good progress has been made with the work and the road is now metalled for approximately a third of its distance. When completed the road will be suitable for motor and other traffic.

During the year the ribbon track towards Sapper Hill was altered and converted into a road. This road was continued towards the foot of Mount William and it is expected that by the end of 1934 it will have reached Mount Harriet on the Darwin-Fitzroy track.

It is proposed in due course to continue this road towards Pattersons Point on the Fitzroy River, in order to connect with a bridge which the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, propose to erect in 1934. When completed the road will provide facilities for transport between Stanley and Darwin and Brenton Loch on the Falkland Sound.

Considerable improvements were effected in the town of Stanley during the year, particularly in regard to drainage facilities for the new building area to the south of the town. The roads were also improved by treatment with bitumen solution. Important and necessary work was carried out to the road at "Italy" near the Naval Battle Memorial. This road, which was dangerous, was widened by reclaiming and filling in part of the foreshore.

A much needed sports pavilion was erected during the year.

Applications from householders for water-supply connexions showed a steady increase.

There was an increasing demand for electric light and in consequence it was found necessary to further extend the system.

In addition to its other activities the Public Works Department undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy, and water supply, for the town. The Department is responsible also for the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government purposes. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular plant, sea-walls, bridges, fences, jetties and harbour lights and, in addition, maintenance of the light on Porpoise Point near North Arm.

The above services were all carried out with due care and efficiency during the year.

The total expenditure incurred under the Public Works and Electrical votes was £23,997 in 1933; an average number of one hundred and thirty men, exclusive of monthly employees, were on the pay roll during the year, as compared with one hundred and ten in 1932 and seventy-eight in 1931.

### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is limited to a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace and as such have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and a chief constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The Police Force is adequate to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. There is practically no crime in the Colony. Nine persons were dealt with in 1933 for minor offences in the Summary Court and all were convicted. No criminal issue went to the Supreme Court during that year or in the previous year. There were no juvenile cases.

The chief constable is gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley. The gaol was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a highly satisfactory condition.

### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Eight Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1933, the most important of which were as follows:—

*The Whale Fishery (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1933, providing for the grant of licences for the use of floating factories and whale catchers.

*The Customs (Amendment) Ordinance*, 1933, providing for the prohibition of the export of arms and ammunition.

*The Tariff (Import Duties) Amendment Ordinance*, 1933, providing for the exemption of import duties on matches manufactured in and consigned from any part of the British Empire; and a preferential tariff on cigars, cigarettes, cut and manufactured tobacco and snuff manufactured in any part of the British Empire from tobacco which is the produce of any part of the British Empire.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

*Rules of the 31st May*, 1933, relative to the granting of patents for inventions made by Civil Servants in the Colony of the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies.

*Rules of the 19th December*, 1933, styled *The Falkland Islands Currency Notes (Amendment) Rules*, 1933, relative to withdrawal of currency notes of the "A" and "B" series.

*Regulations of the 31st October*, 1933, styled *the Government Schools (Amendment) Regulations*, 1933, fixing school fees.

### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1933 from all sources was £66,417, as compared with £98,463 in 1932, and from ordinary sources £59,333, as compared with £64,199 in 1932. The excess in 1932 was due to the appreciation of the market value of the Colony's Investments.

The expenditure on recurrent services was £37,156, or less by £1,565 than that in 1932, and less by £22,177 than the revenue from ordinary sources. In addition extraordinary expenditure amounting to £13,786 was incurred mainly in connexion with the measures undertaken to relieve unemployment. A further sum of £1,392 was expended in connexion with the Centenary celebrations of the Colony. The revenue from all sources during the year exceeded the total expenditure of £52,335 by £14,082.



The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years :—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1929 ... ..	66,650	73,599	46,000	59,041
1930 ... ..	62,094	82,812	39,128	69,979
1931 ... ..	51,805	78,397	38,977	72,676
1932 ... ..	64,199	98,463	38,711	54,798
1933 ... ..	59,333	66,417	37,156	52,335

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1933, amounted to £290,673, made up as follows :—

	£
Land Sales Fund ... ..	271,916
Other Surplus ... ..	18,757
	<hr/>
	£290,673

The Colony's Reserve Fund on 31st December, 1933, amounted to £38,734.

The main heads of taxation are :—

1. Customs import and export duties.
2. Rates levied on house property.

The Customs import duties are on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco, and matches, at the following rates :—

Wines ...	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt ...	6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits ...	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco ...	4s. a pound.
Matches ...	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the full duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates :—

Wool ... ..	1s. for every twenty-five pounds.
Whale oil and seal oil ...	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The yield in 1933 from each source was as follows :—

	£
Import Duties ... ..	4,799
Export Duties ... ..	8,312
Rate on house property ... ..	797

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude fifty and eighty west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a hundred miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1933 the average mean temperature was  $34.97^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit. Rain fell on eighty-three days and snow or sleet on one hundred and thirty-six days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced, when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-29 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

#### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22 by no less than ninety-one vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. A new and valuable survey of the South Sandwich group was carried out in 1930 by the Royal Research ship *Discovery II* of the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

#### III.—POPULATION.

As has been stated in the preceding chapters, there is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is entirely resident either on the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it exceeds 1,000, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including shipping, was recorded as five hundred and sixty-three and at the South Shetlands as one hundred and forty-six; among these one female only appears. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. Two deaths, no births, and one marriage occurred in the Dependencies in 1933.

#### IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No Medical Officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies, and at Deception Island a very efficient hospital is kept in commission during the season by the Hektor Company.

Weather conditions in 1933 were not favourable but, as usual, health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression bordering in some cases on melancholia.

## V.—HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in South Georgia or in the other Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personnel working on their stations are fully adequate.

## VI.—PRODUCTION.

Two whaling companies operated during the season at South Georgia as against one in the 1932-33 season. The land station at Deception Island remained closed. The depression in the whale oil market continued; the quota restrictions remained in force and limited the production of oil.

No floating factories worked under licence from the Government, although a number of expeditions fished on the high seas and off the ice-pack.

Whales were numerous at South Georgia throughout most of the season and the average production per "standard whale" was considerably higher than in the previous season.

The total catch at South Georgia amounted to 2,364 whales, made up of 536 blue, 1,728 fin, 92 humpback, 7 sperm and 1 right whale.

The quantity of oil produced was 132,190 barrels with an average per "standard whale" of 92·37.

There were also produced 123,996 bags of guano, each of 100 kilogrammes.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales," the oil and guano production, and the average of oil and guano per standard whale for the past five seasons at South Georgia:—

Season.	Actual Whales.	"Standard Whales."	Oil Produced. Barrels.	Guano. Bags.	Averages.	
					Oil.	Guano.
1929-30 ...	4,210	2,255	242,950	242,720	107·74	107·63
1930-31 ...	2,736	1,846	188,044	181,152	101·86	98·13
1931-32 ...	2,205	1,310	124,337	113,420	94·91	86·58
1932-33 ...	996	631	54,583	49,572	86·50	78·56
1933-34 ...	2,364	1,431	132,190	123,996	92·37	86·65

During the season a number of Falkland Islands labourers were employed in the whaling industry by the Compania Argentina de Pesca and the South Georgia Company, Limited.

Depression in the whaling industry still continues and no improvement is in sight. It is expected that two of the land stations in South Georgia will operate during the 1934-35 season, but there appears no prospect of the land station in Deception Island reopening until conditions improve.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1933 was £537,910, of which £200,557 represented imports and £337,353 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £102,982; coal, coke and oil fuel, £56,888; hardware, £12,212; and provisions, £8,523. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £293,764, and of guano and bone meal to £41,674.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies during the past five years:—

	£	£	£
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1929 ... ..	626,746	5,164,709	5,791,453
1930 ... ..	499,829	2,726,173	3,226,002
1931 ... ..	311,388	1,748,467	2,059,855
1932 ... ..	228,952	369,542	598,494
1933 ... ..	200,557	337,353	537,910

The decrease in the value of the import and export trade is due to the continued depression in the whaling industry, coupled with the increased production of whale oil in factory ships working outside territorial waters and often remote from the Dependencies. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "high seas," about 39 per cent of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom. About 96 per cent. of the total exports were shipped to the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 60 per cent. of the hardware came from Norway and 32 per cent. from the United Kingdom, while provisions show 28 per cent. from Norway, 33 per cent. from the Argentine, and 37 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

Whale and seal oil and guano were exported principally to the United Kingdom.

There was no change during the year 1933 in the price of oil which ranged from £10 to £15 a ton according to grade. Large quantities of oil remained unsold and the companies continued to restrict the output on a quota basis during the 1933-34 season. Future prospects continue to be uncertain.

## VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is specially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a

month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their station the question of the cost of living does not arise.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and the problem of education does not therefore arise.

The whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the deep snow of the winter months.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

As has been stated in a previous chapter of this Report, the contract with the Tonsberg Whaling Company for the conveyance of mails to and from South Georgia was terminated during the year, and provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, to continue the service with the s.s. *Lafonia* which makes four voyages a year. During the whaling season direct sailings between Europe and South Georgia in either direction are in the normal course not infrequent and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. *Tijuca* of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys.

There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1933 :—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	40	88,025	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	13	20,253	1	734
	53	108,278	1	734

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. During 1933 no case of serious crime was brought before the Courts. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, calling seldom for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry and amounted in 1933 to £12,081. The expenditure excluding that from the Research and Development Fund was £18,384.

The following table shows the comparative figures of revenue and expenditure during the past five years :—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1929 ... ..	122,814	39,385				
1930 ... ..	84,547	21,597				
1931 ... ..	48,133	31,129				
1932 ... ..	17,446	20,143				
1933 ... ..	12,081	18,384				

The continued decline in the returns, both of revenue and of expenditure, is due to the drastically restricted scale on which whaling operations were conducted during the year by reason of the depressed conditions of the oil market.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1933, was £412,676, earmarked as follows :—

	£
Research and Development Fund ... ..	407,814
“Discovery” Pension Fund ... ..	4,862
	<hr/>
	£412,676
	<hr/>

The main heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £429 in 1933 and export duties to £8,557. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton. The export duty on guano is at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## Bibliography.

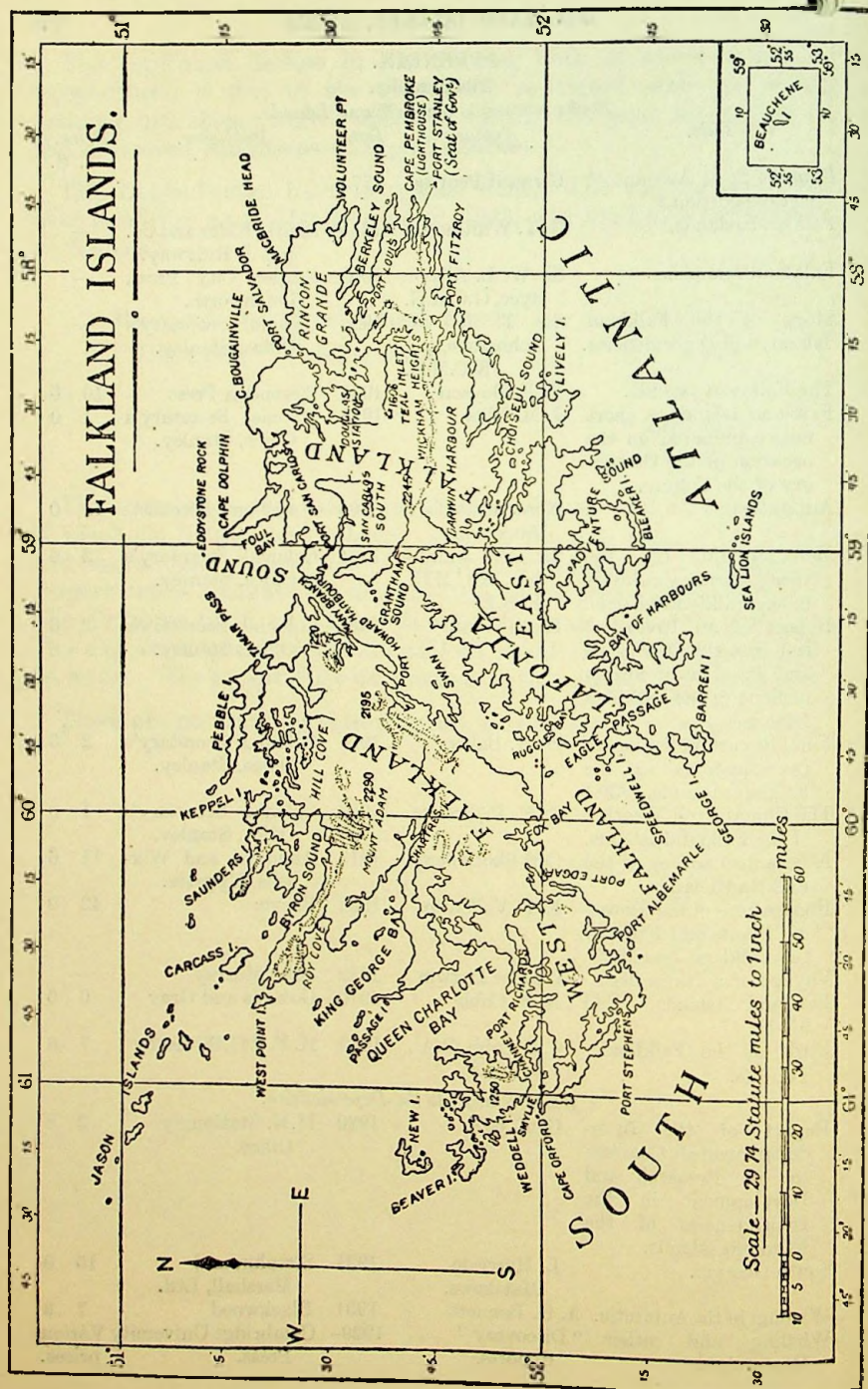
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Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.)

### MALTA.

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1934

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PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF  
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES  
FOR THE YEAR 1934

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	<i>Square Miles.</i>
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 feet in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from the coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about twelve hundred inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided ; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about one hundred persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 inches, precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting twenty-four hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Isles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas", were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of the

well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and one unofficial members. There is

also a Legislative Council composed of four official and two unofficial members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European and chiefly of British descent, in which Scotch blood is marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The estimated population on 31st December, 1934, was 2,437, made up of 1,366 males and 1,071 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1934 was fifty-four, and of deaths twenty-eight, or respectively 22·16 and 11·49 per 1,000. Twenty-seven marriages were celebrated during the year. One death occurred among infants under one year of age. One hundred and five persons arrived in the Colony and one hundred and twenty-one persons left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The general health of the community has been good. There were small outbreaks of scarlet fever, ringworm, measles, chicken-pox, influenza and impetigo, but these were quickly suppressed.

The climate is very healthy, though somewhat trying to people from the United Kingdom owing to constant high winds in summer. Weather conditions are definitely more pleasant in winter than they are in the greater part of England. The conditions of living generally are of a reasonably good standard, though limited resources and horizons render the country unsuitable for persons of a neurasthenic tendency. An adequate variety of diet is obtainable and the quality of the food is good. Good vegetables of different varieties can be grown. Fruit has to be imported from Montevideo.

The general oral hygiene of the people is improving in proportion to their greater attention to their dental condition. During the year the Government Dental Surgeon made tours of the East and West Falklands. That these visits are essential is evidenced by the number of people attending from various districts.

All children of sixteen years and under receive free treatment and advice from the Dental Surgeon, who makes frequent visits of inspection to the schools in Stanley. A special clinic for school children is held every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory under the Vaccination Ordinance, 1868. The majority of children born in Stanley are vaccinated before they are a year old. Those born in outlying districts are vaccinated by Medical Officers when on tour.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of appendicitis, twenty-eight coming under operative treatment as against thirty-two in 1933.

Seventeen cases of tuberculosis were observed during the year; of these, seven were pulmonary, four osseous, four abdominal lesions, and two, cases of cervical adenitis. This is an increase over the year 1933, when seven cases were reported. Seven deaths resulted. This disease shows definite signs of being on the increase.

The incidence of coughs and severe colds during the month of August was high. Influenza broke out during the year and spread to the West Falklands.

There were three cases of scarlet fever during the year; no deaths resulted.

There was an outbreak of measles limited to one family in Stanley; outbreak traced to Magallanes.

A few cases of ringworm from last year's outbreak appeared for treatment. No fresh cases were reported.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, under the style of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital comprises twelve beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved type of X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes the Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to Junior Nurses locally recruited and trained.

The Medical Officer made periodical tours of outlying districts in the East Falkland. Satisfactory reports on health conditions were received. It is to be observed in this connexion that the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, maintain their own Medical Officer at Darwin.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1934, 102 persons were admitted as in-patients. The out-patients showed an increase in number over the previous year. Five deaths occurred in the hospital. Ninety-three operations were performed with uniformly good results and many minor operations were carried out in the out-patient department.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint diseases.

Sewage in the town of Stanley is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth-closet method. It is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of water-carriage facilities is steadily increasing. The night soil from earth closets is removed by means of special carts under the control of the Public Works Department. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient, as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health by-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate to present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in Stanley: these were inspected with reasonable frequency and were found to comply with the Board of Health by-laws. Meat for human consumption was also inspected at regular intervals.

Dairies were inspected from time to time and found to be fairly satisfactory. Samples of milk tested showed that the standard of cleanliness has been maintained. No sample was found to contain bacilli of tuberculosis.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success; rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

#### V.—HOUSING.

Certain new houses were erected during the year. The buildings erected are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health both as regards construction and sanitary arrangements.

There is now no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. In the majority of cases, the wage-earning population own their own houses, which are well built and comfortable. Building loans are made by the Government in suitable cases, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government also maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and householders are required to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. In case of need, powers exist to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation.

In recent years housing conditions have been much improved by the provision of an adequate water supply, and also by the disposal of sewage by water-carriage.

#### VI.—PRODUCTION.

Wool, skins, and tallow are the principal products of the Colony at the present time. All produce is exported to the United Kingdom.

Sheep farms vary approximately in extent from 24,000 acres to 150,000 acres, and carry on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or, say, one sheep for every three to five acres.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year, as distinct from the quantity exported. The average production during the past six years was four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1934 was 3,992,984 lb. valued at £130,325. The average price realized was just over 7½d. per lb., as against an average price of about 6d. per lb. in 1933, and 7d. per lb. in 1932.

Economic conditions showed a slight improvement in the year under review, and, if specie exports be disregarded, the total value of exports was the highest recorded since 1930.

*Hides and skins* exported realized £9,257, as against £8,807 in the preceding year, or an increase of £450.

*Live stock*.—During the year a number of rams were imported from the United Kingdom, for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

*General*.—Apart from the commodities above described, the Colony has no resources of known commercial value. Forage crops are produced to a limited extent, but with this exception there is practically no agriculture in the Colony.

#### VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values of imports and exports during the year 1934, and as compared with previous years was as follows :—

<i>Imports.</i>	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco ...	44,584	40,267	33,117	28,858	35,113
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	13,057	12,093	8,210	5,902	9,125
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	53,613	56,965	39,561	33,729	45,644
Miscellaneous and unclassified	5,191	1,415	1,162	747	1,315
Bullion and specie ...	—	35	—	25	750
<i>Total imports</i> ...	£116,445	110,775	82,050	69,261	91,947

<i>Exports.</i>	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	190,943	125,818	109,475	100,749	130,325
Hides and skins ...	14,704	8,941	5,119	8,807	9,257
Tallow ...	722	1,860	1,150	1,768	1,867
Live stock ...	473	—	246	—	—
Seal oil ...	5,920	—	5,000	4,660	16
Bullion and specie ...	—	8,000	—	—	—
Other articles ...	1,179	2,334	957	988	1,249
<i>Total exports</i> ...	£213,941	146,953	121,947	116,972	142,714

The actual quantity of wool exported in 1934 was less than that in the preceding year, by 28,460 lb. but the price realized was approximately 2d. per lb. better.

#### Imports.

The principal articles imported during 1934 were, in value :—

	£
Provisions ...	19,985
Hardware... ..	13,268
Drapery, etc. ...	7,718
Coal, coke, and oil fuel ...	3,705
Timber ... ..	5,420
Paints, etc. ...	5,404
Chemicals... ..	4,604

and in quantities :—

Beer ... ..	17,922 gallons.
Spirits ... ..	3,607 "
Tobacco ... ..	14,121 lbs.
Wines ... ..	1,635 gallons.

Approximately 80 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom.

The countries of origin were as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom ... ..	73,234
Other parts of the British Empire ... ..	84
Total from the British Empire ... ..	
	£73,318
Uruguay ... ..	
	9,780
Argentina ... ..	3,459
Chile ... ..	3,530
Other countries ... ..	1,860
Total from foreign countries ... ..	
	£18,629

#### Exports.

Almost the whole of the export trade of the Colony was to the United Kingdom, exports to other countries only amounting to a value of £721.

The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years :—

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
Wool (lb.) ... ..	3,690,572	3,931,595	3,934,852	4,021,444	3,992,984
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	158,368	275,520	164,642	425,712	235,200
Hides and sheepskins (No.)	52,091	73,566	56,565	77,679	100,844
Seal oil (barrels) ...	2,424	—	1,701	1,806	8

#### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The average rate of wages for unskilled labour is 1s. 2d. an hour and for skilled labour, 1s. 4d. an hour. Artisans receive 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work are eight hours a day, with a total of 40 to 45 hours a week.

In domestic service, monthly wages with board and lodging, for nousemaids vary from £2 to £3 10s. 0d.; for cooks, from £3 to £4 10s. 0d.

Owing to the continued depression in the sheepfarming industry there was no reduction in the number of men seeking employment in Stanley. The majority were employed on works undertaken by the Government to relieve unemployment, and in consequence there was no actual distress.

The average rate of wages on farm stations was £6 to £7 a month with quarters, fuel, meat and milk free.

The cost of living has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food were as follows :—

Mutton ... ..	3d. per lb.
Beef ... ..	5d. per lb.
Pork, fresh... ..	1s. per lb.
Fowls ... ..	2s. to 3s. each.
Fish, fresh ... ..	2d. to 3d. per lb.
Eggs ... ..	2s. to 3s. per dozen.
Milk ... ..	8d. to 1s. per quart.
Potatoes ... ..	1½d. to 3d. per lb.
Bread ... ..	1s. per 4 lb. loaf.
Sugar ... ..	3d. per lb.
Tea ... ..	2s. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee ... ..	1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.
Fresh vegetables ... ..	5d. per lb.
Butter (imported)... ..	1s. 4d. per lb.

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

On the whole the cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience at charges ranging from £2 2s. 0d. to £3 3s. 0d. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

For the benefit of children who are unable to come to Stanley, the Government maintains three itinerant schoolmasters on the West Falkland Island and one on the East Falkland Island.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at its settlement at Darwin, and in addition certain itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or old age.

Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The cost in 1934 amounted to £199.

A society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

There are three social clubs, namely, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club.

There are football, badminton, golf, and hockey clubs, all of which are flourishing.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse racing and athletic events.

The Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual Meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The Falkland Islands team won the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in 1930, and again in 1934. In the latter year it also secured third place in the Junior Mackinnon competition. Miniature rifle shooting on the modern and well-equipped miniature range in the Drill Hall is very popular during the winter months. The local Miniature Rifle Association has been eminently successful in the competitions inaugurated by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs, having won the trophy put up in the Colonial Rifle Associations Small Bore Match on two occasions, namely in 1932 and 1934, whilst it carried away the honours in the Dominion Clubs' Team shoot in 1933.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey and gymnastics, as well as the formal Swedish drill.

There are also public baths, and a well-equipped gymnasium.

The Town Hall, Stanley, is well equipped with modern appliances for theatrical productions. It can seat an audience of 500 people in comfort and safety. It has a very fine dance floor and is much used for that purpose particularly during the winter months.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Rover Sea Scouts continued their useful work. There are also troops of Cubs and Brownies.

There is one cinema in Stanley. There is also a public library at which books to suit every taste may be obtained.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Monte Video to which port a service is maintained by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 600 tons dead weight,

belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls homeward and outward are made at Stanley at irregular and infrequent intervals by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Limited. The calls made in 1934 totalled seven homeward and outward.

The distance from Stanley to Monte Video is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Lafonia* averages four and a half days, and by other vessels from three to five days according to the class of vessel.

The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Monte Video, is 26 days; by the direct route passenger vessels complete the journey in the same time and the cargo vessels require upwards of a month to five weeks on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of intermediate stops.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four to five weeks.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for the maintenance of communication with South Georgia by the s.s. *Lafonia* which makes four voyages during the year. The time taken on the voyage between Stanley and South Georgia averages three and a half days.

During the whaling season, October—April, opportunities occur from time to time for the conveyance of mails between Europe and South Georgia by means of floating factories and transports engaged in the whaling industry.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London and Monte Video, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for "ordinary," 1s. 3d. a word for "deferred," and 1s. 6d. a word for "code" messages.

There are no submarine cables.

The postal rate for the United Kingdom and the Empire is one penny per ounce.

At the end of 1934 there were 44 wireless sets licensed.

The Government maintains a broadcast relay service. The licence for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of licences issued in 1934 was 113. The principal overseas programmes are relayed from the Broadcasting Studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given as well as news and sports items from England.

There are no railways in the Colony. Certain roads suitable for motor traffic have been constructed to a limited extent. Internal communication is carried out on horseback or by boat. The inter-insular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Lafonia*.

There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. In the outlying districts privately-owned lines join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland, and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay, where the Government also maintains a small radio station for the purpose of local traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways in the Colony and no air mail and passenger service.

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank. The rate of interest paid is 2½ per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th of September, 1934, the total sum deposited was £201,302, and the number of depositors 1,041. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £193, or about £83 per head of the population.

There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and a paper currency of 10s., £1 and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Note Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1934, there were £3,000 of coin and £22,000 of currency notes in circulation.

The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in the United Kingdom.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year, the road leading eastwards from Stanley to Surf Bay on the south shore was completed. This road, which has been constructed at a cost of about £7,000, will prove a boon from the aspect of both health and pleasure, and also in providing easy means of access to the peat deposits adjacent to its route.

Work was continued during the year on the construction of roads towards the north camp and Mount Harriet on the Darwin track. Good progress was made, but for reasons of economy the work has since been discontinued.

Considerable work was carried out on the erection of sea-walls to the east and west of Stanley.

During the year, the bridge over the Fitzroy river was completed. The bridge was constructed by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who received from the Colonial Government a subsidy of £800 towards its cost.

A necessary work was commenced in the construction of roads towards the peat deposits. These roads when completed will facilitate the transport of peat fuel.

Improvements were effected in the town of Stanley during the year, particularly in regard to drainage facilities for the new building area to the south of the town. The roads were also improved by treatment with bitumen solution.

During the year, the water mains were extended. Applications for water-supply connexions showed a steady increase, but to meet these, an additional water supply will have to be provided.

There was an increase in demand for electric light, and in consequence it was found necessary further to extend the system.

In addition to its other activities, the Public Works Department undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy, and water supply for the town. The Department is also responsible for the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government services. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular of plant, sea-walls, bridges, fences, jetties and harbour lights, and in addition, the maintenance of the lights on William Point and on Porpoise Point near North Arm.

The total expenditure incurred under the Public Works and Electrical votes was £27,411 in 1934. An average number of 137 men, exclusive of monthly employees, were on the pay roll during the year, as compared with 130 in 1933, and 78 in 1931.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and a chief constable, and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The Police Force is adequate to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. There is practically no crime in the Colony. Three persons were dealt with in 1934 for minor offences



in the Summary Court and all were convicted. No criminal issue went to the Supreme Court during the year or in the previous year. One case only came before the Juvenile Court.

The Chief Constable is Gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley. The gaol was inspected regularly by the medical authority, and was found to be in a highly satisfactory condition.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1934, the most important of which were as follows:—

*The Whale Fishery (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934*, regarding licences granted under the Principal Ordinance, and providing security for the granting of whaling licences.

*The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934*, providing for the import and export of dangerous drugs.

*The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance, 1934*, providing for quotas in respect of textiles manufactured in foreign countries, which may be imported.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Regulations made on 9th February, 1934, under the Pensions Ordinance, 1927, repealing and replacing Section 25 of the Principal Regulations.

Regulations of 29th March, 1934, under the Stanley Water Supply Ordinance, 1927, repealing and replacing The Stanley Water Supply Regulations, 1927.

Regulations of 14th June, 1934, under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1925, regarding the interpretation of the word "Colony" in the Wireless Telegraphy Regulations, 1926.

Regulations of 31st July, 1934, under the Pensions Ordinance, 1927, amending Section 2 of the Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1934.

Rules made under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930, regarding the withdrawal from circulation of Currency notes of the "A" and "B" series.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1934 from all sources was £102,700, as compared with £66,417 in 1933, and from ordinary sources £101,584, as compared with £59,333 in 1933. The excess in 1934 was due to the appreciation of the market value of the Colony's Investments.

The expenditure on recurrent services was £37,519, or more by £363 than that in 1933, and less by £64,065 than the revenue from ordinary sources. In addition, extraordinary expenditure amounting to £16,944 was incurred mainly in connexion with the measures undertaken to relieve unemployment. The revenue from

all sources during the year exceeded the total expenditure of £54,464 by £48,236.

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years:—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1930 ... ..	62,094	82,812	39,128	69,979
1931 ... ..	51,805	78,397	38,977	72,676
1932 ... ..	64,199	98,463	38,711	54,798
1933 ... ..	59,333	66,417	37,156	52,335
1934 ... ..	101,584	102,700	37,519	54,463

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1934, amounted to £307,007, made up as follows:—

	£
Land Sales Fund ... ..	241,129
Other Surplus ... ..	65,878
	£307,007

The Colony's Reserve Fund on 31st December, 1934, amounted to £39,142.

The main heads of taxation are:—

1. Customs import and export duties.
2. Rates levied on house property.

The Customs import duties are on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates:—

Wines ... ..	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt ... ..	6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits ... ..	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco ... ..	4s. a pound.
Matches ... ..	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the full duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates:—

Wool ... ..	1s. for every 25 lbs.
Whale oil and seal oil ... ..	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The yield in 1934 from each source was as follows:—

	£
Import Duties ... ..	7,264
Export Duties ... ..	8,006
Rate on house property ... ..	829

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude fifty and eighty west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a hundred miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1934 the average mean temperature was  $37.11^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit. Rain fell on 121 days and snow or sleet on 120 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced, when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-29 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

#### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22 by no less than ninety-one vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. A new and valuable survey of the South Sandwich group was carried out in 1930 by the Royal Research ship *Discovery II* of the "Discovery" Expedition.

### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

### III.—POPULATION.

As has been stated in the preceding chapters, there is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is entirely resident either on the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it exceeds 1,000, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including shipping, was recorded as five hundred and sixty-three and at the South Shetlands as one hundred and forty-six; among these one female only appears. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. One death, and one birth occurred in the Dependencies in 1934.

### IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No Medical Officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions in 1934 were worse than any experienced for some years, but, as usual, health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression bordering in some cases on melancholia.

### V.—HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in South Georgia or in the other Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personnel working on their stations are fully adequate.

### VI.—PRODUCTION.

Two whaling companies operated during the season at South Georgia, as against one in the previous season. The land station at Deception Island remained closed. The depression in the whale oil market continued; the arrangements for limiting the production of oil by quota broke down; but, in spite of this, there was a decrease in the production, due mainly to the exceptionally adverse weather conditions which prevailed throughout the season.

The total catch at South Georgia amounted to 1,575 whales, made up of 556 Blue, 836 Fin, 23 Humpback, 35 Sperm, and 125 Sei.

The quantity of oil produced was 108,261 barrels, with an average per "Standard" whale of 105·90.

There were also produced 91,073 bags of guano, each of 100 kilogrammes.

The following table shows the oil and guano production, and the average of oil and guano per "Standard" whale for the past five seasons at South Georgia:—

Season.	Actual	"Standard"	Oil Produced.	Guano.	Averages.	
	Whales.	Whales.	Barrels.	Bags.	Oil.	Guano.
1930-31 ...	2,736	1,846	188,044	181,152	101·86	98·13
1931-32 ...	2,205	1,310	124,337	113,420	94·91	86·58
1932-33 ...	996	631	54,583	49,572	86·50	78·56
1933-34 ...	2,364	1,431	132,190	123,996	92·37	86·65
1934-35 ...	1,575	1,022	108,261	91,073	105·90	89·09

During the season a number of Falkland Islands labourers were employed in the whaling industry by the *Compania Argentina de Pesca* and the South Georgia Company, Limited.

It is expected that two of the land stations in South Georgia will operate during the 1935-36 season, and there appears some prospect of the land station in Deception Island reopening in the coming season.

### VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1934 was £660,332, of which £204,854 represented imports and £455,468 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £93,842; coal, coke and oil fuel, £70,585; hardware, £13,778; and provisions, £6,593. The export of whale and seal oil amounted to £374,687, and of guano and bone meal to £67,359.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies during the past five years:—

	£	£	£
	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1930 ... ..	499,829	2,726,173	3,226,002
1931 ... ..	311,388	1,748,467	2,059,855
1932 ... ..	228,952	369,542	598,494
1933 ... ..	200,557	337,353	537,910
1934 ... ..	204,854	455,468	660,322

As noted in the preceding chapter, depression in the whaling industry continued, and this, coupled with the increased number of factories operating outside the territorial waters of the Dependencies, is responsible for the decline in the value of the import and export trade. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "High seas," about 30 per cent. of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom. About 90 per cent. of the total exports were shipped to the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom, and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 60 per cent. of the hardware came from Norway and 28 per cent. from the United Kingdom, while provisions show 23 per cent. from Norway, 25 per cent. from the Argentine, and 49 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

Whale and seal oil and guano were exported principally to the United Kingdom.

The price of oil during 1934 ranged from £10 to £15 a ton, according to grade.

### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is specially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their station the question of the cost of living does not arise.

### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and therefore the problem of education does not arise.

The whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the winter months, when there is deep snow.

### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

As has been stated in a previous chapter of this report, provisional arrangements for four voyages a year have been made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for the conveyance of mails to and from South Georgia. During the whaling season direct sailings from Europe to South Georgia and vice versa are in the normal course not infrequent, and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. *Tijuca*, of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October, and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley as opportunities offer. Postal rates are the same as those from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys.

There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1934:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Steam.</i>		<i>Sailing.</i>	
	<i>Vessels.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Vessels.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>
British ... ..	37	111,520	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	19	24,579	1	734
	56	136,099	1	734

### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year.

## XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. During 1934 no case of serious crime was brought before the Court. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, seldom calling for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

## XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

## XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry and amounted in 1934 to £14,892. The expenditure excluding that from the Research and Development Fund was £14,892.

The following table shows the comparative figures of revenue and expenditure during the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1930 ... ..	84,547	21,597
1931 ... ..	48,133	31,129
1932 ... ..	17,446	20,143
1933 ... ..	12,081	18,384
1934 ... ..	14,892	14,892

The continued decline in the returns, both of revenue and of expenditure, is due to the drastically restricted scale on which whaling operations were conducted during the year by reason of the depressed conditions of the oil market.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1934, was £386,710, earmarked as follows:—

	£
Research and Development Fund ... ..	381,199
"Discovery" Pension Fund ... ..	5,511
	<hr/>
	£386,710

The main heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £550 in 1934 and export duties to £11,904. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton. The export duty on guano is at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

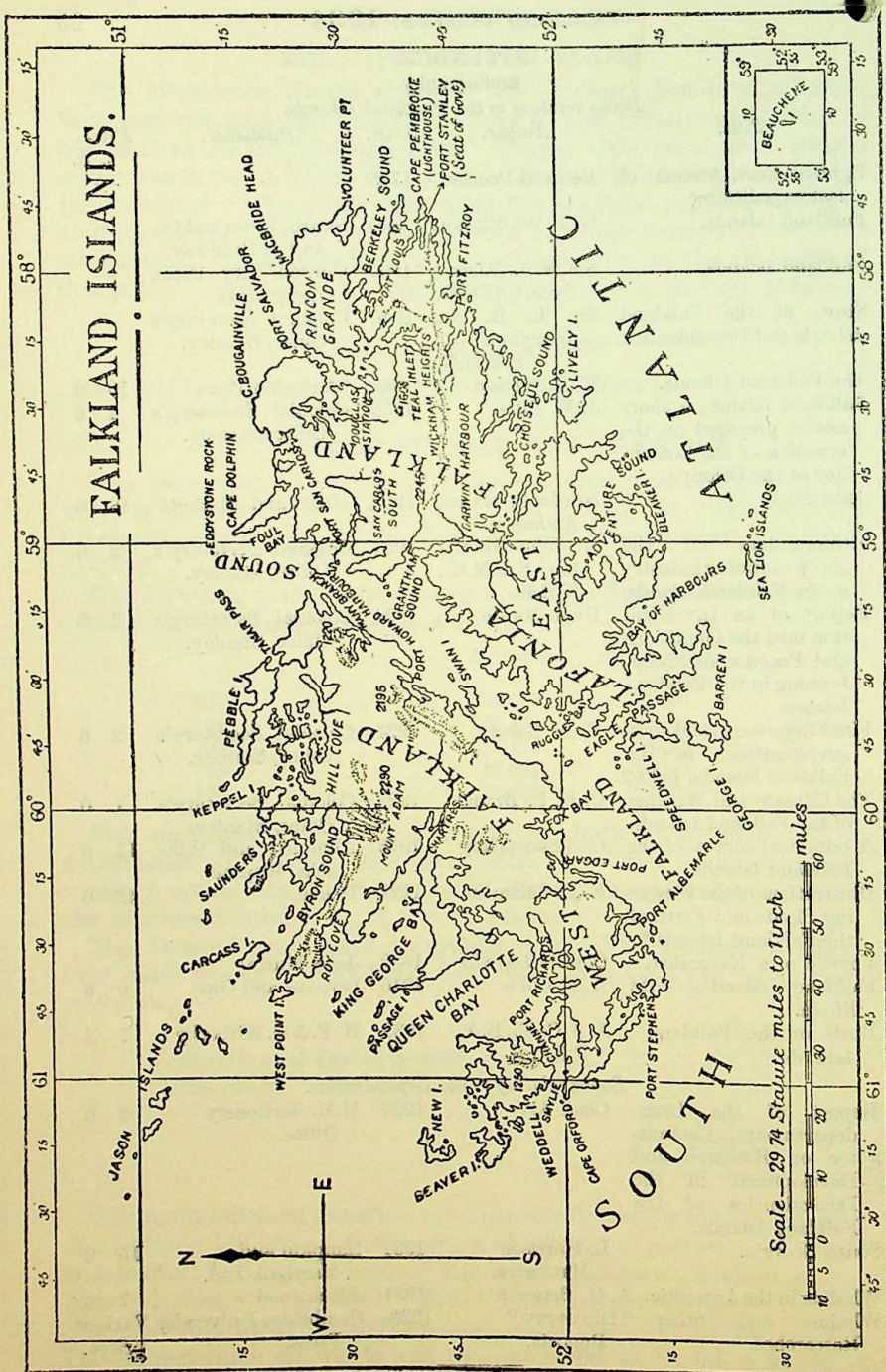
## Bibliography.

## Books relating to the Falkland Islands.

Title.	Author.	Date.	Publisher.	Price. s. d.
Egmont Port, Account of last expedition.*	Bernard Penrose	1775	—	—
Falkland Islands.	G. T. Whittington	1840	Smith, Elder and Co. and J. Ridgway.	—
Falkland Islands.	Sir W. L. Allardyce, G.C.M.G.	1909	Garden City Press, Letchworth.	—
Story of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies.	Sir T. R. St. Johnstone, K.C.M.G.	1920	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	—
The Falkland Islands.	V. F. Boyson	1924	Clarendon Press	10 0
Falkland Islands, a short notice prepared on the occasion of the Centenary of the Colony.	J. M. Ellis	1933	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	1 0
Antarctica.	Nordenskjöld and Anderson.	1905	Hurst and Blackett	18 0
Memorandum on the sheep-farming industry in the Falkland Islands.	Sir John Middleton, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.	1924	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	2 6
Report of an Investigation into the Conditions and Practice of Sheep-farming in the Falkland Islands.	Hugh Munro	1924	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	2 6
Final Report on Geological Investigations in the Falkland Islands, 1920-2.	H. A. Baker	1924	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	2 6
The Climate and Weather of the Falkland Islands.	C. E. P. Brooks	1923	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	1 0
A botanical survey of the Falkland Islands.	Carl Skottsberg	1913	Almqvist and Wiksells, Uppsala.	11 6
Illustrations of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of the Falkland Islands.*	E. F. Vallentin	1921	Reeve.	42 0
Voyage of a Naturalist.	Charles Darwin	1882	John Murray	—
Falkland Islands, Wild life in.	A. F. Cobb	1910	Gowans and Gray	0 6
Birds of the Falkland Islands.	A. F. Cobb, B.A., F.R.G.S.	1933	H. F. & G. Witherby	7 6
	<i>Books relating to the Dependencies.</i>			
Report of the Inter-departmental Committee on Research and Development in the Dependencies of the Falkland Islands.	Cmd. 657	1920	H.M. Stationery Office.	2 6
South Georgia.	L. Harrison Matthews.	1931	Simpkin and Marshall, Ltd.	15 0
Whaling in the Antarctic.	A. G. Bennett	1931	Blackwood	7 6
Whaling and other "Discovery" Researches.	Reports.	1929-	Cambridge University Press.	Various prices.

Blue Book. Annual

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Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 11d.).  
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5s. (5s. 9d.).

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Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).  
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3d. (3 1/2d.).

### COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

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### TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).

East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

### BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

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### SWAZILAND.

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### SEYCHELLES.

Financial Situation. Report of Commission, July, 1933. [Colonial No. 90.] 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.).

### MAURITIUS.

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### WEST INDIES.

Report of the Closer Union Commission. (Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.) [Cmd. 4383.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

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### BRITISH HONDURAS.

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Financial Situation. Report of Commission, June, 1931. [Cmd. 3938.] 1s. (1s. 2d.).

### THE LEEWARD ISLANDS AND ST. LUCIA.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

### PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).

Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2s. (2s. 3d.).

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FOR THE YEAR 1935

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows:

	Square Miles.
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
<hr/>	
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618
<hr/>	

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 ft. in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from the coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are almost entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about 100 persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 ins., precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Iles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas", were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the

battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe, through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and one unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial

members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European, chiefly British, descent, Scotch blood being marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The 1931 census showed the total population as amounting to 2,392 compared with 2,094 in 1921 and 2,043 in 1901. Of this number, 1,358 were males and 1,034 females. On the 31st of December, 1935, the estimated population was 2,432, made up of 1,349 males and 1,083 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1935 was 50, and of deaths 19, or respectively 20.55 and 7.81 per 1,000. Twenty-two marriages were celebrated during the year. Two deaths occurred among children under the age of two years. Eighty-two persons arrived in the Colony and one hundred and eighteen persons left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The climate is healthy, especially in the Camp districts, but damp in and about Stanley; consequently it is not very suitable for persons with any rheumatic tendencies.

During the summer months the constant high winds are rather trying. The weather conditions in winter are slightly milder and more pleasant than those of the north of England. The conditions of living are simple; the ordinary social amenities of a larger Colony are almost entirely lacking. The quality of the food is good but lacks variety especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee at least a nine months' supply. Fruit is imported from Montevideo and the supply becomes better each year with the improved transport and a greater local demand. Steps are being taken both by the Medical and Stock Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk in the town of Stanley.

Dental caries and pyorrhoea are very prevalent amongst the Falkland Islanders, the children suffering from defective teeth at a very early age. The contributory factors are lack of calcium in the water and a deficiency in green food. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a special clinic for school children every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced, every Medical Officer being appointed a Public Vaccinator for the area in which he is stationed.

Gastritis and dyspepsia are common complaints. Twenty-eight appendicectomies were performed during 1935, the majority being in the quiescent stage. It is interesting to note that since 1920, 248 appendicectomies have been performed; this is 9.5 per cent. of the population. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur but so far the origin of these outbreaks has not been definitely determined. Gastro-intestinal influenza broke out in June.

Coryza in epidemic form is very common. During the months of July and August a severe outbreak of bronchial influenza occurred affecting the whole population of Stanley and spreading to the West Falkland and many settlements on the East Falkland.

Fifteen cases of tuberculosis were under treatment during the year. The incidence of bovine tuberculosis is being investigated, the double intradermal test being used.

Sixty-three school children were under treatment for impetigo contagiosa. A small epidemic of chicken-pox occurred early in the year. Thread worm infection is very common among the children; one case of Hydatid disease was operated upon.

Of the twenty-four officials recruited from the United Kingdom six reported sick with various minor ailments.

Forty-three confinements took place in the hospital and five in the town, making a total of forty-eight as compared with thirty in the previous year. During the year an infant welfare clinic was established with most encouraging results.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital has twelve beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved type of X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes the Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained.

A Medical Officer made periodical tours of the North-East Falkland, the remainder of the East Falkland being under the Falkland Islands Company's Medical Officer stationed at Darwin.

During the year the Senior Medical Officer made an extensive tour of the East Falkland and certain settlements in the West Falkland.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1935, 239 persons were admitted to the hospital as compared with 102 in the previous year and 1,837 new cases were

seen in the out-patients' department. Five deaths occurred in hospital; 230 operations were performed as compared with 93 in the previous year.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint diseases.

In the town of Stanley sewage is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth-closet method. It is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of water-carriage facilities is steadily increasing. The night soil from earth closets is removed by means of special carts under the control of the Public Works Department. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient, as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health by-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate to present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in Stanley: these were inspected with reasonable frequency and were found to comply with the Board of Health by-laws. Meat for human consumption was also inspected at regular intervals.

Dairies were inspected from time to time and found to be satisfactory.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success; rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

## V.—HOUSING.

A number of new houses were erected during the year. The buildings are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health both as regards construction and sanitary

arrangements. There is no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. A large number of the wage-earning population own their own houses and building loans are made in suitable cases, by the Government, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

The Sanitary Inspector inspects regularly all premises in the town, and householders are required to keep them in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. Power is vested in the Board of Health to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory.

#### VI.—PRODUCTION.

For practical purposes wool is the sole product of the Colony at the present time. It is all exported in the grease to London; skins and tallow are also shipped together with a limited quantity of hides. Sheep are run on farms varying in extent from 24,000 acres to 150,000 acres, and carrying on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or say, three to five acres to every sheep.

Statistics are not kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year, as distinct from the actual quantity exported, but the production of wool over the five-year period ended on the 31st of October, 1935, may be taken as four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1935, was 4,195,052 lb. valued at £109,381, or 202,068 lb. more than the preceding year. The average price realized was between 7d. and 8d. per lb.

Hides and skins exported were valued at £6,927, as against £9,257 in the preceding year, or a decrease of £2,330.

*Live Stock.*—During the year a number of rams were imported from the United Kingdom and from New Zealand for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

*Seal oil.*—The Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, which has confined its activities hitherto to the production of oil from hair seal, operated in 1935 and was successful in producing some 300 tons of oil valued at £4,135.

*General.*—The Colony has no resources of known value apart from the commodities above described. Agriculture can hardly be said to exist, but forage crops are produced to a limited extent.

#### VII.—COMMERCE.

The aggregate value of trade for the year was £225,142 as compared with £234,661 for the previous year. Imports showed an increase of £8,894 and exports a decrease of £18,413.

The following table shows under the principal heads the respective values for the past five years:—

	IMPORTS.				
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco ...	40,267	33,117	28,858	35,113	32,741
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	12,093	8,210	5,902	9,125	10,513
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	56,965	39,561	33,729	45,644	48,599
Miscellaneous and unclassified	1,415	1,162	747	1,315	8,988
Bullion and specie ...	35	—	25	750	—
<i>Total imports</i> ...	£110,775	82,050	69,261	91,947	100,841

	EXPORTS.				
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	125,818	109,475	100,749	130,325	109,381
Hides and skins ...	8,941	5,119	8,807	9,257	6,927
Tallow ...	1,860	1,150	1,768	1,867	2,070
Live stock ...	—	246	—	—	457
Seal oil ...	—	5,000	4,660	16	4,135
Bullion and specie ...	8,000	—	—	—	—
Other articles ...	2,334	957	988	1,249	1,331
<i>Total exports</i> ...	£146,953	121,947	116,972	142,714	124,301

#### Imports.

The principal articles imported during 1935 were, in value:—

	£
Provisions ...	20,345
Hardware... ..	14,522
Drapery, etc. ...	4,384
Coal, coke, and oil fuel ...	1,891
Timber ... ..	7,467
Paints, etc. ...	4,577
Chemicals... ..	4,222

and in quantities:—

Beer ... ..	12,182 gal.
Spirits ... ..	2,731 „
Tobacco ... ..	13,125 lb.
Wines ... ..	978 gal.

Approximately 70 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom.

The countries of origin were as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom ... ..	71,561
Other parts of the British Empire ... ..	6,624
<b>Total from the British Empire ... ..</b>	<b>£78,185</b>
Uruguay ... ..	9,118
Argentine ... ..	3,904
Brazil ... ..	2,272
Chile ... ..	6,209
Other countries ... ..	1,153
<b>Total from foreign countries ... ..</b>	<b>£22,656</b>

#### Exports.

Almost the entire trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being inconsiderable, totalling only £895. The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years :—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Wool (lb.) ... ..	3,931,595	3,934,852	4,021,444	3,992,984	4,159,052
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	275,520	164,642	425,712	235,200	234,655
Hides and sheepskins (No.)	73,566	56,565	77,679	100,844	81,092
Seal oil (barrels) ... ..	—	1,701	1,806	8	2,006

#### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The average rate of wages for unskilled labour is 1s. 2d. an hour, and for skilled labour, 1s. 4d. an hour. Artisans receive 1s. 7d. an hour. The hours of work are eight a day, with a total of 40 to 45 hours a week.

In domestic service, monthly wages with board and lodging, for housemaids vary from £2 to £3 10s.; for cooks, from £3 to £4 10s.

Owing to the continued depression in the sheep-farming industry there was little or no reduction in the number of men seeking employment in Stanley, some of whom received relief work in the form of clearing ground and planting tussac grass; this work was carried out in connection with a scheme for improving the pastures of the Stanley Common. The policy of employing men on works undertaken by the Government solely to meet the unemployment situation was discontinued in 1935 and in April it became necessary to introduce the dole to relieve distress. Relief was granted to an average of 43 applicants during the 39 weeks ended on the 31st of December. The cost amounted to £2,322.

On the farm stations wages ranged from £5 to £8 a month, quarters, fuel, meat and milk found.

The cost of living has varied little during the year. The average prices of the main articles of food were as follows :—

Mutton ... ..	3d. per lb.
Beef ... ..	5d. per lb.
Pork, fresh... ..	1s. per lb.
Fowls ... ..	2s. to 3s. each.
Fish, fresh ... ..	2d. to 3d. per lb.
Eggs ... ..	2s. to 3s. per dozen.
Milk ... ..	8d. to 1s. per quart.
Potatoes ... ..	1½d. to 3d. per lb.
Bread ... ..	1s. per 4 lb. loaf.
Sugar ... ..	4d. per lb.
Tea ... ..	2s. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee ... ..	1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.
Fresh vegetables ... ..	5d. per lb.
Butter (imported)... ..	1s. 6d. per lb.

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

On the whole the cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience at charges ranging from £2 2s. 0d. to £3 3s. 0d. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 10s. 0d. per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house suitable for occupation by an official is £50 a year.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

For the benefit of children who are unable to come to Stanley, the Government maintains three itinerant schoolmasters on the West Falkland Island and one on the East Falkland Island.

The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at its settlement at Darwin, and in addition certain itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions, and there is no legislative provision for maintenance in the event of accident, sickness, or for old age.

Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The cost in 1935 amounted to £305.

A society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

There are three social clubs, namely, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club.

There are football, badminton, golf, and hockey clubs, all of which are flourishing.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse racing and athletic events.

The Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting at Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. A team from the Falkland Islands was successful in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup at Bisley in 1930, and again in 1934. It is a matter for regret that it was not found possible to send a representative team to Bisley in 1935, but hopes are entertained of renewing in 1936 the Colony's participation in this competition and in the Junior Mackinnon competition. Indoor shooting on the modern and well-equipped miniature range in the Drill Hall is also very popular during the winter months. The team selected from the members of the local Miniature Rifle Association succeeded in winning the Colonial Rifle Association's Small Bore Match in the years 1932 and 1934. The local Miniature Rifle Association was also successful in winning the Dominions Small Bore Trophy in 1933.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school and in it are included football, hockey and gymnastics, as well as the formal Swedish drill.

There are also public baths, and a well-equipped gymnasium.

The Town Hall, Stanley, is well equipped with modern appliances for theatrical productions. It can seat an audience of 500 people in comfort and safety. It has a very fine dance floor and is much used for that purpose particularly during the winter months.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Rover Sea Scouts continued their useful work. There are also troops of Cubs and Brownies.

There is one cinema in Stanley. There is also a public library at which books to suit every taste may be obtained.

## X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Montevideo to which port a service is maintained by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 600 tons dead weight,

belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from October, 1931. In addition, calls homeward and outward are made at Stanley at irregular and infrequent intervals by cargo vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Limited.

The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than a thousand miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Lafonia* averages four and a half days, and by other vessels from three to five days according to the class of vessel.

The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Montevideo, is 26 days; by the direct route passenger vessels complete the journey in the same time and the cargo vessels require upwards of a month to five weeks on the voyage home, which is performed almost invariably from Stanley to London without intermediate stop, and on the outward voyage upwards of five weeks dependent on the number of intermediate stops.

On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four to five weeks.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for the maintenance of communication with South Georgia by the s.s. *Lafonia* which makes two voyages during the year. The time taken on the voyage between Stanley and South Georgia averages three and a half days.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London and Montevideo, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for "ordinary", 1s. 3d. a word for "deferred", and 1s. 6d. a word for "code" messages.

There are no submarine cables.

The postal rate for the United Kingdom and the Empire is one penny per ounce.

At the end of 1935 there were 89 wireless sets licensed.

The Government maintains a broadcast relay service. The licence for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of licences issued in 1935 was 107. The principal overseas programmes are relayed from the Broadcasting Studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given, as well as news and sports items from England.

There are no railways in the Colony. Certain roads suitable for motor traffic have been constructed to a limited extent. Internal

communication is carried out on horseback or by boat. The interin-sular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Lafonia*.

There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. In the outlying districts privately-owned lines join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland, and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay, where the Government also maintains a small radio station for the purpose of local traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways in the Colony and no air mail and passenger service.

### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank. The rate of interest paid is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th of September, 1935, the total sum deposited was £228,896, and the number of depositors, 1,055. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £217, or about £95 per head of the population.

There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and paper currency of 10s., £1 and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on 31st December, 1935, there were £3,000 of coin and £22,000 of currency notes in circulation.

The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in the United Kingdom.

### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year work on the construction of roads towards and through the peat deposits was continued. The main road is in the direction of Eliza Cove situated on the south shore of the East Islands and passes through some 200,000 cubic yards of peat.

An annex containing improved kitchen, dining room, stores, etc., which forms part of the scheme for the proposed extension and improvement of the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital was completed and occupied.

In the year under review a 500 millimetre beacon with steel housing containing a battery of six acetylene accumulators, also accommodation for two spare sets of accumulators, was erected on the southern extreme promontory of Cape Meredith, West Falkland Island. The light is unwatched and controlled by sun-valve. It was the gift of John Hamilton, Esquire, of Weddell Island.

Paths and approaches to the Stanley Cemetery were reconditioned by laying down 2,000 yards run of concrete kerbing and re-shingling. Water was laid on and the general drainage improved.

Footpaths to Government House were replaced by concrete motor roads leading from the main road and passing through the paddock with "passa libres" or cattle stops at entrance and exit.

Alterations were carried out at the Police Station to provide for the transfer of the telephone exchange from the Town Hall thus enabling the police to attend emergency calls during silent hours.

During the year there was a steady demand for water connections, and installations of hot water systems, baths and water closets. These were all dealt with from the existing water supply which is being heavily taxed. An increased supply is under consideration for 1936.

General improvements were effected in the town of Stanley especially in regard to the drainage facilities in the upper reaches of the town. The mileage of roads treated with bitumen solution was extended.

In addition to its other activities, the Public Works Department undertakes the usual maintenance services, including conservancy, and water supply for the town. The Department is also responsible for the considerable quantity of peat fuel which is required for Government services. To its charge are committed, furthermore, the general upkeep of all Government buildings and property, in particular of plant, sea-walls, bridges, fences, jetties and harbour lights, and in addition, the maintenance of the lights on William Point, Porpoise Point on the East Falkland, and Cape Meredith on the West Falkland.

An average number of 92 men, exclusive of monthly employees, was on the pay roll during the year, as compared with 137 in 1934. The total expenditure incurred under Public Works and Electrical votes was £24,135 in 1935.

### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and



a chief Constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The chief Constable is also Gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Seventeen persons were dealt with in 1935 in the Summary Court and of this number 15 were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year; one case came before the juvenile court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Nine Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1935. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1934) Ordinance, No. 3, and the Appropriation (1935) Ordinance, No. 8, the following measures were enacted:—

No. 1.—*The Sentence of Death (Expectant Mothers) Amendment Ordinance*, amending the principal Ordinance.

No. 2.—*The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Ordinance*, enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation.

No. 4.—*The Senior Medical Officer (Designation) Ordinance*, substituting the designation "Senior Medical Officer" for the designation "Colonial Surgeon" in certain Ordinances and subsidiary legislation.

No. 5.—*The Falkland Islands Currency Notes (Amendment) Ordinance*, deleting Section 8 from the principal Ordinance.

No. 6.—*The Administration of Justice (Amendment) Ordinance*, relating to the appointment of Judge.

No. 7.—*The Immigration Ordinance*, to control immigration into the Colony.

No. 9.—*The Tariff (Export Duties) Amendment Ordinance*, fixing the special rate of duty on export of whale oil and seal oil during the 1935-6 and 1936 seasons, respectively, at 1s. 6d. for each barrel of 40 gallons.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Proclamation, dated 21st February, prohibiting the export including re-export, to Paraguay of arms and war materials.

Proclamation dated 29th July, repealing the above Proclamation.

Order in Council deleting certain wild birds from Schedules I and II and adding the Cape Horn Otter to Schedule I of the Wild Animals and Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913.

Regulations governing the award of the Colonial Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal.

Regulations enacting minor amendments to existing legislation, regarding Wireless Telegraphy.

Regulations prescribing the fees to be charged for admission to the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, Medicines, Dressings, and Medical comforts, and Maternity cases, the services of Medical Officers and for Dental treatment.

Regulations relating to the award of the Efficiency Decoration and Efficiency Medal.

Regulations providing for the employment of local stevedores in loading and unloading ships trading to ports in the Colony.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1935 from all sources was £49,813 as compared with £102,700 in 1934, and from ordinary sources £49,633 as compared with £55,275 in 1934. The decrease in revenue from all sources between 1934 and 1935 was principally due to the following extraordinary items brought to account in 1934:—Appreciation of Investments £37,906, Profit on Sale and Transfer of Stock £8,403 and Land Sales Fund £1,116. The short-fall of the 1935 ordinary Revenue as compared with the 1934 figures is attributable mainly to surplus interest from the Savings Bank, from which source it was anticipated that £3,950 would accrue to Revenue, after the amount required to meet interest on Deposits had been met. Surplus interest was however £2,693 and as the Savings Bank Deposits during the year were abnormal, this amount together with the sum of £3,966 which was found necessary to provide under Expenditure was credited to the Savings Bank Fund, to bring the securities up to 110 per cent. of the value of the deposits in the Bank. Added to this, there was a reduction of £1,916 in the amount received by way of contribution from Dependencies.

The expenditure on recurrent services was £44,829 or more by £7,310 than in 1934, and less by £4,804 than the revenue from ordinary sources.

The principal causes contributing to the excess expenditure on recurrent services in 1935 were:—the sum of £3,966 required for the Savings Bank Fund and £2,322 for Unemployment Relief. In addition to expenditure on recurrent services, sums of £13,211 and £1,766 were expended on Public Works Extraordinary and Depreciation of Investments respectively.

The revenue from all sources during the year was less than the expenditure of £59,806 by £9,993.

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years :—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1931 ... ..	51,805	78,397	38,977	72,676
1932 ... ..	64,199	98,463	38,711	54,798
1933 ... ..	59,333	66,417	37,156	52,335
1934 ... ..	101,584	102,700	37,519	54,463
1935 ... ..	49,633	49,813	41,829	59,806

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1935, amounted to £296,904, made up as follows :—

	£
Land Sales Fund ... ..	241,200
Other Surplus ... ..	55,704
	<u>£296,904</u>

The Colony's Reserve Fund on 31st December, 1935, amounted to £34,000.

The main heads of taxation are :—

1. Customs import and export duties.
2. Rates levied on house property.

The Customs import duties are on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates :—

Wines ... ..	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt ... ..	6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits ... ..	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco ... ..	4s. a pound.
Matches ... ..	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the full duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates :—

Wool ... ..	1s. for every 25 lb.
Whale oil and seal oil ... ..	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The yield in 1935 from each source was as follows :—

	£
Import Duties ... ..	5,807
Export Duties ... ..	8,553
Rate on house property ... ..	849

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude 50 and 80 west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a 100 miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1935 the average mean temperature was  $33.35^{\circ}$  F. Rain fell on 67 days and snow or sleet on 146 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-9 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-1 and 1821-2 by no less than 91 vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-4 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. Valuable contributions to the survey of the Dependencies have been made in recent years by the ships under the direction of the Discovery Committee, particularly the R.R.S. *Discovery II*. Knowledge of the South Georgia coast was much advanced in the years 1926-30, the South Sandwich group was surveyed in 1930, extensive running surveys were made in the South Orkneys in 1933, and from time to time in the South Shetlands.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

## III.—POPULATION.

There is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is resident either at the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 700, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian or Scandinavian. Two deaths, no births and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1935.

At the census taken on 26th April, 1931, the number of persons at South Georgia, including shipping, was recorded as 563 and at the South Shetlands as 146; among these one female only appears.

## IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No Medical Officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions in 1935 were not unfavourable. Health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression.

#### V.—HOUSING.

The question of housing does not really arise in the Dependencies. The officials in South Georgia are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove, and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personal working on their stations are fully adequate.

#### VI.—PRODUCTION.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, whaling is the only industry in the Dependencies and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, their sole produce. Sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia from the 1st March to 31st October. For the season 1935-6, whaling was restricted to the period from 16th September to 31st May.

At South Georgia two stations only conducted whaling operations, the catch being restricted by agreement on a quota basis. The land station at Deception Island remained closed. No floating factories worked under licence from the Government. There was a marked improvement in the whale oil market during the year.

The season was an exceptionally good one and the weather from a whaling point of view throughout the season was favourable.

The catch amounted to 1,785 whales of which 1,221 were blue, 520 fin, 41 humpback and 3 sperm. The number of barrels of oil produced was 143,192 with an average per "standard" whale of 95.90. One hundred and fourteen thousand six hundred and sixty-six bags of guano were also produced.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales", the oil and guano production, and the average for the past five seasons:—

Season.	Actual "Standard"		Oil Produced. Barrels.	Guano. Bags.	Averages.	
	Whales.	Whales.			Oil.	Guano.
1931-32 ...	2,205	1,310	124,337	113,420	94.91	86.53
1932-33 ...	996	631	54,583	49,572	86.50	78.56
1933-34 ...	2,364	1,431	132,190	123,996	92.37	86.65
1934-35 ...	1,575	1,022	108,261	91,073	105.90	89.09
1935-36 ...	1,785	1,493	143,192	114,666	95.90	76.80

The total value of the season's production is estimated at £468,998, of which £404,572 represents the value of the oil, £63,066 guano, and £1,360 baleen.

As in the three previous seasons a number of Falkland Islands labourers were engaged at the two land stations at South Georgia and on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Salvesen.

#### VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Dependencies in 1935 was £502,722, of which £177,239 represented imports and £325,483 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £60,015; coal, coke and oil fuel, £66,801; hardware, £16,199, and provisions £8,143. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £250,045, and of guano and bone meal to £64,357.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies during the past five years:—

	£	£	£
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1931 ... ..	311,388	1,748,467	2,059,855
1932 ... ..	228,952	369,542	598,494
1933 ... ..	200,557	337,353	537,910
1934 ... ..	204,854	455,468	660,322
1935 ... ..	177,239	325,483	502,722

The decrease in the value of the import and export trade is due to the continued depression in the whaling industry. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "high seas", about 40 per cent. of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom. About 90 per cent. of the total exports were shipped to the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom, and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 52 per cent. of the hardware came from the United Kingdom and 43 per cent. from Norway, while provisions show 25 per cent. from Norway, 32 per cent. from the Argentine, and 38 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

During the year 1935 the price of oil ranged from £10 to £19 10s. 0d. a ton according to grade.

#### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is especially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their stations the question of the cost of living does not arise.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are three children only in the Dependencies and therefore the problem of education does not arise.

The whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the winter months, when there is deep snow.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for two voyages by their s.s. *Lafonia* during the year for the purpose of conveying mails to and from South Georgia. During the whaling season direct sailings from Europe to South Georgia and vice versa are in the normal course not infrequent, and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.v. *Tijuca* of the Compañia Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in October and on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. In summer no long intervals occur but in winter the delay may on occasions be considerable. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys. There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. The dock at Grytviken has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will take vessels up to 160 feet in length with a draught of 15 feet.

Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1935:—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	42	99,224	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	21	24,376	2	1,468
	63	123,600	2	1,468

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works were carried out by the Government during the year.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all Dependencies. During 1935 no case of serious crime was brought before the Court. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, seldom calling for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly for the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies' revenue which is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry amounted in 1935 to £12,617. The expenditure excluding that from the Research and Development Fund was £12,617.

The following table shows the comparative figures of revenue and expenditure during the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1931 ... ..	48,133	31,129
1932 ... ..	17,446	20,143
1933 ... ..	12,081	18,384
1934 ... ..	14,892	14,892
1935 ... ..	12,617	12,617

The decrease in the returns of revenue and expenditure is due, as in the immediately preceding years, to the restricted scale on which whaling operations have been conducted.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1935, was £332,317, earmarked as follows:—

	£
Research and Development Fund ... ..	326,209
“Discovery” Pension Fund ... ..	6,108
	£332,317

The main heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £479 in 1935 and export duties to £9,675. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton. The export duty on guano is at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## Bibliography.

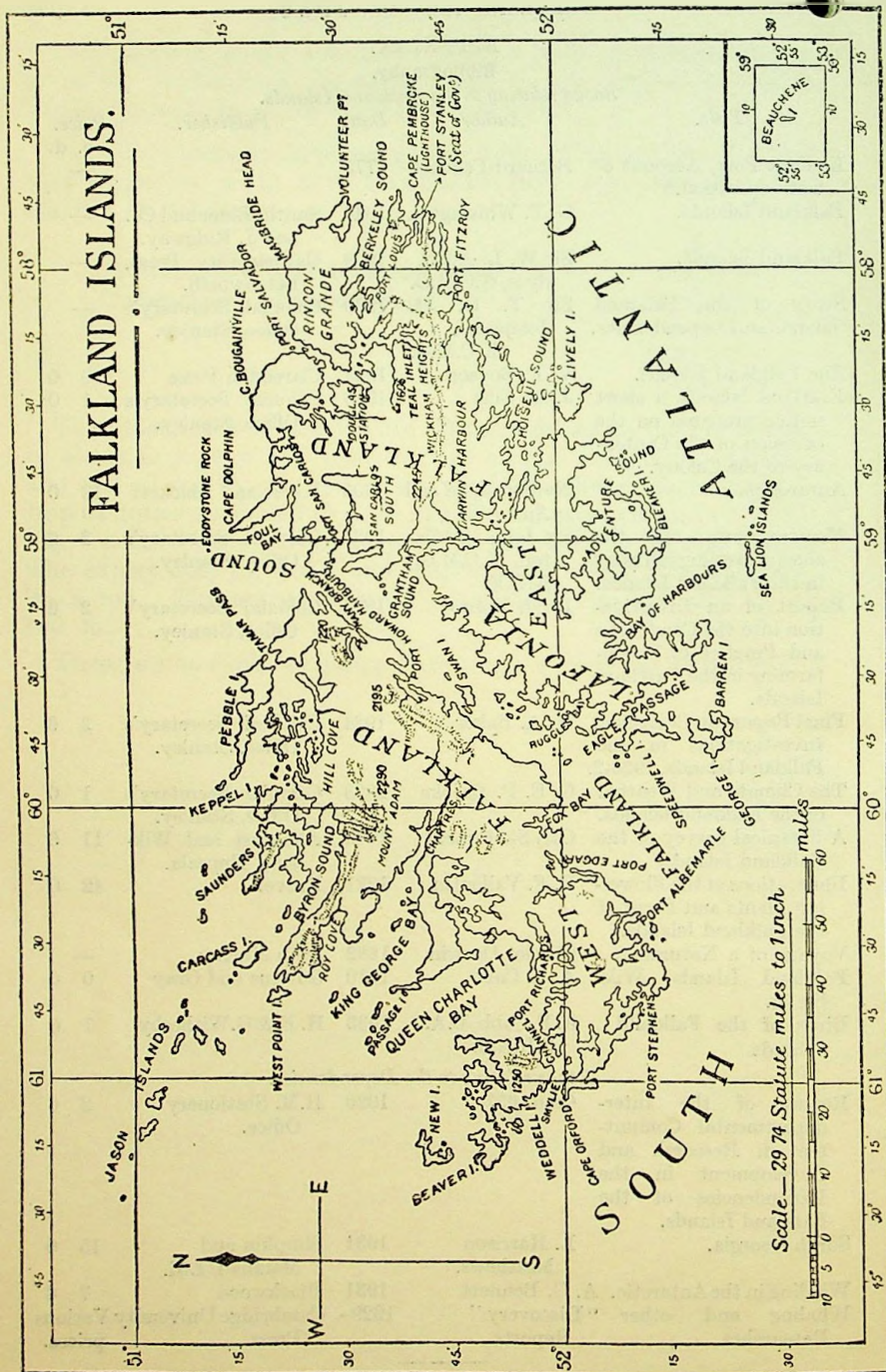
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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows:

	Square Miles.
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about 100 persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 ins., precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous; calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French " Iles Malouines " and by the Spaniards " Islas Malvinas ", were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and two unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local Government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The inhabitants of the Falkland Islands are of European descent, and are chiefly of British blood, in which Scottish ancestry is marked. There is no indigenous or native population.

The estimated population on the 31st of December, 1936, was 2,399 made up of 1,329 males and 1,070 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between the outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1936 was 45, and of deaths 21, or respectively 18.8 and 8.79 per 1,000. Twenty-six marriages were celebrated during the year. One death occurred among infants under two years of age. Ninety-six persons arrived in the Colony and 153 left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The climate is healthy, especially in the Camp districts, but damp in and about Stanley; consequently it is not very suitable for persons with any rheumatic tendencies.

During the summer months the constant high winds are rather trying. The weather conditions in winter are slightly milder and more pleasant than those of the north of England. The conditions of living are simple; the ordinary social amenities of a larger Colony are almost entirely lacking. The quality of the food is good but lacks variety especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee at least a nine months' supply. Fruit is imported from Montevideo and the supply becomes better each year with the improved transport and a greater local demand. Steps are being taken by both the Medical and Stock Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk in the town of Stanley.

Dental caries and pyorrhea are very prevalent amongst the Falkland Islanders, the children suffering from defective teeth

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe, through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

at a very early age. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a special clinic for school children every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced, every Medical Officer being appointed a Public Vaccinator for the area in which he is stationed.

Gastritis and dyspepsia are common complaints. Forty appendicectomies were performed during 1936, the majority being in the quiescent stage. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur but so far the origin of these outbreaks has not been definitely determined.

Coryza in epidemic form is very common.

Twelve cases of tuberculosis were under treatment during the year. The incidence of bovine tuberculosis is being investigated, the double intradermal test being used.

Eleven school children were under treatment for impetigo contagiosa. Thread worm infection is very common among the children also.

Twenty-six confinements took place in the hospital and three in the town, making a total of 29 as compared with 48 in the previous year.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital has 17 beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes a Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained.

A Medical Officer made periodical tours of the North-East Falkland, the remainder of the East Falkland being under the Falkland Islands Company's Medical Officer stationed at Darwin.

During the year the Senior Medical Officer made an extensive tour of the West Falkland.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1936, 151 persons were admitted to the hospital as compared with 239 in the previous year and 1,318 new cases were seen in the out-patients department. Three deaths occurred in hospital; 241 operations were performed as compared with 230 in the previous year.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint diseases.

In the town of Stanley, sewage is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth closet method. It is satisfactory to record that the number of inhabitants taking advantage of water-carriage facilities is steadily increasing. The night soil from earth closets is removed by means of special carts under the control of the Public Works Department. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health bye-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate for present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

There are three licensed slaughter-houses in Stanley: these were inspected with reasonable frequency and were found to comply with the Board of Health bye-laws. Meat for human consumption was also inspected at regular intervals.

Dairies were inspected from time to time and found to be satisfactory.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success; rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

## V.—HOUSING.

A certain number of new houses were erected during the year. The buildings erected are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health as regards both construction and sanitary arrangements. There is no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. In the majority of cases, the wage-earning population own their own houses, which are well built and comfortable.

Building loans are made by the Government in suitable cases, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government also maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and householders are required to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. In case of need, powers exist to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory.

### V.—PRODUCTION.

Wool, skins, and tallow are the principal products of the Colony at the present time. All produce is exported to the United Kingdom.

Sheep farms vary approximately in extent from 24,000 acres to 150,000 acres, and carry on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or, say one sheep for every three to five acres.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year, as distinct from the quantity exported, but the average production during the past five years was four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1936 was 3,994,537 lb. valued at £98,684, or less by 200,515 lb. than the preceding year. The average price realized was between 8d. and 9d. per lb. against an average price of about 7½d. per lb. in 1935.

*Hides and skins* exported were valued at £7,825 as against £6,927 in the preceding year, or an increase of £898.

*Live Stock*.—During the year 387 rams were imported from Chile for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

*Seal Oil*.—The Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, conducted sealing operations during the year and was successful in obtaining 541 tons of oil valued at £6,581. The price of seal oil continued to remain low realizing £16 per ton as compared with £15 in 1935.

*General*.—The Colony has no resources of known value apart from the commodities described above. Forage crops are produced to a limited extent, but with this exception there is practically no agriculture in the Colony.

During the year arrangements were made for the secondment to the Colony of an officer from the New Zealand Department of Agriculture for a period of three years to advise on all matters concerning the sheep-farming industry. It is also intended that an officer of the Welsh Plant Breeding Station at Aberystwyth should visit the Falkland Islands in 1937 to carry out investigations with a view to improving the pastures of the Colony.

### VII.—COMMERCE.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values of imports and exports during the year 1936, and as compared with previous years was as follows:

	IMPORTS.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco...	33,117	28,858	35,113	32,741	34,078
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	8,210	5,902	9,125	10,513	13,403
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	39,561	33,729	45,644	48,599	51,245
Miscellaneous and un- classified ...	1,162	747	1,315	8,988	2,401
Bullion and Specie ...	—	25	750	—	960
<i>Total imports ...</i>	<i>£82,050</i>	<i>69,261</i>	<i>91,947</i>	<i>100,841</i>	<i>102,087</i>
	EXPORTS.				
	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	109,475	100,749	130,325	109,381	98,684
Hides and skins ...	5,119	8,807	9,257	6,927	7,825
Tallow ...	1,150	1,768	1,867	2,070	2,089
Livestock ...	246	—	—	457	591
Seal oil ...	5,000	4,660	16	4,135	6,581
Bullion and specie ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other articles ...	957	988	1,249	1,331	887
<i>Total exports ...</i>	<i>£121,947</i>	<i>116,972</i>	<i>142,714</i>	<i>124,301</i>	<i>116,657</i>

Approximately 80 per cent. of the total imports came from the United Kingdom.

The countries of origin were as follows:—

United Kingdom ... ..	£
Other parts of the British Empire ... ..	116
Total from the British Empire ... ..	<u>£80,259</u>

Uruguay ... ..	£
Argentina ... ..	9,567
Brazil ... ..	5,520
Chile ... ..	1,035
Other countries ... ..	4,491
Total from foreign countries ... ..	<u>£21,828</u>

#### Exports.

Almost the whole of the export trade of the Colony was to the United Kingdom, exports to other countries amounting only to a value of £981.

The following is a comparative table showing the quantities exported during the past five years:—

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Wool (lb.)... ..	3,934,852	4,021,444	3,992,984	4,159,052	3,994,537
Tallow (lb.) ... ..	164,642	425,712	235,200	234,655	248,496
Hides and sheepskins (No.)	56,565	77,679	100,844	81,092	75,812
Seal oil (barrels) ... ..	1,701	1,806	8	2,006	2,732

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. In Stanley there are two elementary schools, one maintained by the Government and one under Roman Catholic management. Provision is also made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

will modern appliances for theatrical productions including a draw curtain and lighting effects. It can seat an audience of 500 people in comfort and safety. It has an excellent dance floor and is much used for dancing during the winter months.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Rover Sea Scouts continued their useful work. There are also troops of Cubs and Brownies.

There is one cinema in Stanley. There is also a public library at which books to suit every taste may be obtained.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

and arrangements have been made with the Falkland Islands Company for an improved mail service and for the provision of a larger vessel of some 1,800 tons. Under the terms of the new contract which will come into operation on the 1st January, 1937, 12 voyages will be made between Stanley and Montevideo, and two voyages between Stanley and South Georgia.

The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than 1,000 miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Fitzroy* averages four and a half days, and by other vessels from three to five days according to the class of vessel.

The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Montevideo, is 26 days; by the direct route, passenger vessels complete the journey in the same time. On the average, opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four to five weeks.

Communication with South Georgia was maintained by the Falkland Islands Company's s.s. *Fitzroy* which made two voyages between Stanley and the Dependency during the year. The time taken on the voyage in either direction averages three and a half days.

A wireless station for external traffic is operated by the Government at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained direct with London and Montevideo, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraph charges to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for "ordinary", 1s. 3 a word for "deferred", and 1s. 6d. a word for "code" messages.

There are no submarine cables.

The postal rate for the United Kingdom and the Empire is one penny per ounce.

At the end of 1936 there were 132 wireless sets licensed.

The Government maintains a broadcast relay service. The licence for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of licences issued in 1936 was 116. The principal overseas programmes are relayed from the Broadcasting Studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given, as well as news and sports items from England.

There are no railways in the Colony. Certain roads suitable for motor traffic have been constructed to a limited extent. Internal communication is carried out on horseback or by boat. The interinsular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Fitzroy* and s.s. *Roydur* belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

There are no inland telegraphs, but a telephone system is run by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. Many of the farmers have their own lines which join up with the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government also maintains



a small wireless station for the purpose of interinsular traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of low power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways plying for the service of the public in the Falkland Islands; nor have the means of aerial travel hitherto been introduced, although the possibilities in the latter direction would seem certainly to warrant investigation.

The following table shows the number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony from overseas during 1936:—

<i>Nationality.</i>	<i>Steam Vessels.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>
British ... ..	21	46,739
Foreign ... ..	3	689
	—	—
	24	47,428
	—	—

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The only bank in the Colony is the Government Savings Bank. The rate of interest paid is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum. At the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th September, 1936, the total sum deposited was £266,346, and the number of depositors, 1,049. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £254, or about £111 per head of the population. There is no agricultural or co-operative bank or similar institution in the Colony.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. A similar service is undertaken by the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and paper currency of 10s., £1 and £5 notes issued by the Colonial Government under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930. It is estimated that on the 31st December, 1936, there were £3,000 of coin and £24,000 of currency notes in circulation.

The system of weights and measures in use in the Colony is the same as that in the United Kingdom.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year completion of roads for the transport of peat, paving in the town, and construction of new roads in the upper reaches of the town were carried out, and improvements in drainage and gutters, and surfacing with bitumen over a considerable area was continued.

A wood and iron bridge was placed over the Murrel River for the convenience of travellers when the river is in flood, and the tracks leading to the West and South camps were redressed and a pathway for horse traffic formed in the centre of each.

Alterations forming part of the improvements to King Edward VII Memorial Hospital were carried out to the interior, increasing the number of wards and enlarging offices, etc., in use by the Medical Officers and staff.

Improvements were effected in Government Paddock by the playing field being extended, levelled and returfed.

A concrete building was erected on Ross Road for the Electrical Department embodying Telegraph Office, Broadcasting Studio, workshop and storerooms.

During the year the demand for water connections increased and the supply was enlarged by the addition of a spring to the south of the town, pumped by windmill, thus ensuring a continuous supply for the town and shipping.

A new Quarantine Station for imported stock was laid out, with sheds, pens, etc., at Navy Point on the north of Stanley Harbour, and improvements carried out on the Common by the drainage of marshlands, erection of turf animal shelters, fencing, etc.

The average number of men on the pay roll exclusive of monthly employees was 68 as compared with 92 in 1935.

The total expenditure incurred under Public Works was £15,725 for the year.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. The majority of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. The local Police Force consists of four constables and a Chief Constable and is stationed entirely in Stanley. The Police Force is adequate to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and security of life and property. There is practically no crime in the Colony. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Eight persons were dealt with in 1936 in the Summary Court and of this number five were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year; one case came before the Juvenile Court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The Chief Constable is Gaoler-in-Charge of the gaol in Stanley.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1936, the most important of which were as follows:—

*The Motor Car Ordinance, 1936*, declaring the Law relating to Motor Cars.

*The Immigration (Restriction) Ordinance, 1936*, prohibiting immigrants to land in the Colony.

*The Administration of Intestate Estates Ordinance, 1936*, providing for the succession to Real and Personal Estate on Intestacy.

*The Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936*, governing the control and management of the Savings Bank.

*The Whale Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1936*, consolidating and amending the laws relating to Whale Fishery in the Colony of the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Proclamation No. 1 of 1936, prohibiting the export, including re-export, to Spain of arms and war materials, aeroplanes, aeroplane motors separate parts thereof, and munitions.

Order in Council of 12th September, 1936, amending Schedules I and II of the Wild Animals and Birds Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 1913.

Rules of 8th February, 1936, for the grant of Travelling and Subsistence Allowances to Officers travelling on duty.

Rules of 12th May, 1936, for the grant of Travelling and Subsistence Allowances to Officers attending Conferences while on leave in the United Kingdom.

Rules of 11th July, 1936, made under section 14 (1) of the Savings Bank Ordinance, 1936, cancelling the Savings Bank Regulations, 1916.

Regulations of 8th February, 1936, repealing and replacing the Schedule to the Harbour Regulations, 1935, relating to the employment of local stevedores in loading and unloading ships trading to ports in the Colony.

Regulations of 9th April, 1936, repealing section 27 (a) of and repealing and replacing the Schedule to, the Pensions Ordinance, 1928.

Regulations of 16th April, 1936, amending the regulations relating to the award of the Colonial Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal made on the 5th of February, 1935.

Regulations of 11th July, 1936, repealing the Regulations made under the Whale Fishery Ordinance, 1908, and amending legislation.

Regulations of 12th September, 1936, made under the section 6 of the Motor Car Ordinance, 1936, relating to the registration and licensing of motor vehicles.

Regulations of 12th September, 1936, amending section 3 of the Whaling Regulations, 1936, in regard to the period during which Whales may be taken.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1936 from all sources was £64,505 as compared with £49,813 in 1935, and from ordinary sources £57,944 as compared with £49,633 in 1935. The increase in revenue is mainly due to the following surplus receipts:—Interest on Joint Colonial Fund Deposits, £450; Sale of Postage Stamps, £3,455; Wireless Messages, £686; and Arrears of Contribution from the Dependencies to the Central Administration for the years 1933, 1934 and 1935, £5,169.

The expenditure on recurrent services was £41,115 or less by £3,714 than in 1935, and less by £16,829 than the revenue from ordinary sources.

The principal causes contributing to the excess expenditure on recurrent services in 1936 were:—An over-expenditure of £222 under Harbour Department, attributable to the cost of surveying Stanley Harbour; £122 under Education, due to the appointment of a Second Assistant Master and the inauguration of a Domestic Science Centre; an excess of £199 under Stock Department, as the result of purchasing grass-seeds for the improvement of grasslands; whilst under Miscellaneous £379 was the additional amount spent on passages, and the vote for Charitable Relief was exceeded by £220. In addition to expenditure on recurrent services a sum of £10,588 was expended on Public Works Extraordinary.

The revenue from all sources during the year was more than the expenditure of £51,702 by £12,803.

The following table gives the comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years:—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1932	64,199	98,463	38,711	54,798
1933	59,333	66,417	37,156	52,335
1934	101,584	102,700	37,519	54,463
1935	49,633	49,813	44,829	59,806
1936	57,944	64,505	41,115	51,702

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1936, amounted to £308,344 made up as follows:—

Land Sales Fund	...	...	...	246,398
Other Surplus	...	...	...	61,946
				<u>£308,344</u>

The Colony's Reserve Fund on 31st December, 1936, amounted to £34,000.

The main heads of taxation are:—

1. Customs import and export duties.
2. Rates levied on house property.

The Customs import duties are on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates:—

Wines ...	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt ...	6s. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits ...	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco...	4s. a pound.
Matches...	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates:—

Wool ... ..	1s. for every 25 lb.
Whale oil and seal oil ...	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The yield in 1936 from each source was as follows:—

	£
Import Duties ... ..	4,222
Export duties ... ..	8,275
Rate on house property ... ..	853

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the

south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude 50 and 80 west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a 100 miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1936 the average mean temperature was  $35.87^{\circ}$  F. Rain fell on 88 days and snow or sleet on 91 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-9 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers were reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-1 and 1821-2 by no less than 91 vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-4 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. Valuable contributions to the survey of the Dependencies have been made in recent years by the ships under the direction of the Discovery Committee, particularly the R.R.S. *Discovery II*. Knowledge of the South Georgia coast was much advanced in the years 1926-30, the South Sandwich group was surveyed in 1930, extensive running surveys were made in the South Orkneys in 1933, and from time to time in the South Shetlands.

### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies as carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

### III.—POPULATION.

There is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is resident either at the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 700, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian. One death, no births and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1936.

### IV.—HEALTH.

There is very little sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence, though some unhealthiness arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

No Medical Officer is maintained by the Government in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies have their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the doctor stationed at Grytviken. At South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions in 1936 were generally bad but health conditions were relatively good except that the constant bad weather and lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression bordering on melancholia in a number of cases.

### V.—HOUSING.

The question of Housing does not really arise in the Dependencies. The officials in South Georgia are suitably housed in the quarters at King Edward Cove, and the arrangements made by the whaling companies to accommodate the personnel working on their stations are fully adequate.

### VI.—PRODUCTION.

The only industry in the Dependencies, apart from sealing on a small scale, is whaling, and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, are their sole products. The whaling season in the Dependencies during 1936-7 was restricted to the period from 16th October to 16th April, while sealing operations were carried on at South Georgia from 1st March to 31st October.

No floating factories operated under licence from the Government and the land station at Deception Island remained closed, fishing being suspended entirely at the South Shetlands and also

at the South Orkneys. At South Georgia only two of the five stations worked, namely, the *Compania Argentina de Pesca* at Grytviken and the South Georgia Company, Limited, at Leith Harbour. There was a slight improvement in the price of whale oil during the year.

The season was an exceptionally poor one, whales being scarce and weather conditions very unfavourable. Whales were rarely caught close to the Island and catching took place at a distance of from 80 to 150 miles from the whaling stations.

A total catch of 1,759 whales was made of which 121 were blue, 1,080 fin, 70 sperm, 471 sei and 17 humpback. The quantity of oil produced amounted to 81,089 barrels, with an average per "standard whale" of 103.56 barrels (a barrel is one-sixth of a ton or 40 gallons). The production of guano and whale-meat meal amounted to 80,378 bags of 100 kilograms.

The following table shows, for comparative purposes, the actual catch, "standard whales", the oil and guano production, and the average for the past five seasons:—

Season.	Actual Whales.	"Standard" Whales.	Oil		Averages.	
			Produced. Barrels.	Guano. Bags.	Oil. Barrels.	Guano. Bags.
1932-33 ...	996	631	54,583	49,572	86.50	78.56
1933-34 ...	2,364	1,431	132,190	123,996	92.37	86.65
1934-35 ...	1,575	1,022	108,261	91,073	105.90	89.09
1935-36 ...	1,785	1,493	143,192	114,666	95.90	76.80
1936-37 ...	1,759	783	81,089	80,378	103.56	102.65

The total value of the season's production is estimated at £327,566, of which £270,300 represents the value of the oil, £56,266 guano, and £1,000 baleen.

A number of Falkland Islanders were again employed as labourers on the two land stations at South Georgia and also on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Chr. Salvesen, of Leith.

#### VII.—COMMERCE.

The total trade of the Dependencies in 1936 was valued at £816,748 of which £260,567 represented imports and £556,181 exports. Of the imports, whale oil (for re-export) accounted for £133,658; coal, coke and fuel oil, £75,076; hardware, £18,847; and provisions, £6,910. The exports of whale and seal oil amounted to £478,377 and of guano and bone meal to £74,722.

The following table gives the comparative values of the trade of the Dependencies for the past five years:—

	Imports.		Exports.		Total.
	£	£	£	£	
1932 ...	...	228,952	369,452	598,494	
1933 ...	...	200,557	337,353	537,910	
1934 ...	...	204,854	455,468	660,322	
1935 ...	...	177,239	325,483	502,722	
1936 ...	...	260,567	556,181	816,748	

The increase in the value of the import and export trade is due to the greater amount of oil imported into South Georgia from the "high seas" for re-exportation and to the improvement in the market value of the oil. Excluding importations and exportations of whale oil from and for the "high seas", about 25 per cent. of the value of the imports came from the United Kingdom. About 11 per cent. of the total exports were shipped to the United Kingdom. The bulk of the coal imported was obtained from the United Kingdom, and of the fuel oil from the Dutch West Indies. About 22 per cent. of the hardware came from the United Kingdom and 55 per cent. from Norway, while provisions were about equally divided between the United Kingdom, Argentina and Norway.

During the year 1936 the price of oil ranged from £16 to £21 a ton according to grade.

#### VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is especially recruited on contract terms, almost exclusively from Norway. The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. As there are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and as all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their stations the question of the cost of living does not arise.

#### IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There were three children only in the Dependencies in 1936 all under school age and therefore the problem of education does not arise.

The whaling companies operating in South Georgia run private cinematograph shows for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Interest is taken in football and in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the winter months, when there is deep snow.

#### X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Provisional arrangements were made with the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, for two voyages by their s.s. *Fitzroy* during the year for the purpose of conveying mails to and from South Georgia. During the whaling season direct sailing from Europe to South Georgia and *vice versa* are in the normal course not infrequent. A number of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in November and on their return journey in March.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they offer. In summer no long intervals occur but in winter the delay may on occasions be considerable. Postal rates are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

The Government maintains a wireless station at Grytviken, which is in regular communication with Stanley, through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys. There are no railways or roads in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. The dock at Grytviken has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will take vessels up to 160 feet in length with a draught of 15 feet.

Grytviken, South Georgia, and Port Foster at Deception Island, in the South Shetlands, are the only ports of entry.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered at South Georgia during 1936:—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	64	126,468	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	21	29,780	1	497
	85	156,248	1	497

#### XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks—commercial, agricultural, or co-operative—are in existence in the Dependencies. Such facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley, for example, by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate at Grytviken.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

#### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works were carried out by the Government during the year.

#### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all Dependencies. During 1936 no case of serious

crime was brought before the Court. Despite the trying conditions, the personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, seldom calling for the intervention of the civil authorities: a fact which in itself speaks highly of the standard of discipline maintained by the managers of the several stations.

#### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

#### XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The Dependencies revenue which is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry amounted in 1936 to £24,344. The expenditure, excluding that from the Research and Development Fund, was £19,851.

The following table shows the comparative figures of revenue and expenditure during the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1932 ... ..	17,446	20,143
1933 ... ..	12,081	18,384
1934 ... ..	14,892	14,892
1935 ... ..	12,617	12,617
1936 ... ..	24,344	19,851

The decrease in the returns of revenue and expenditure is due, as in the immediately preceding years, to the restricted scale on which whaling operations have been conducted.

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities as at 31st December, 1936, was £294,305, earmarked as follows:—

Research and Development Fund ...	£ 291,907
“Discovery” Pension Fund ... ..	2,398
	<hr/>
	£294,305

The main heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and by-products of the whaling industry such as guano. Import duties amounted to £481 in 1936 and export duties to £15,590. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. The export duty on whale and seal oil stood at 1s. 6d. a barrel or 9s. a ton. The export duty on guano is at the rate of 1½d. per 100 lb.

There are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

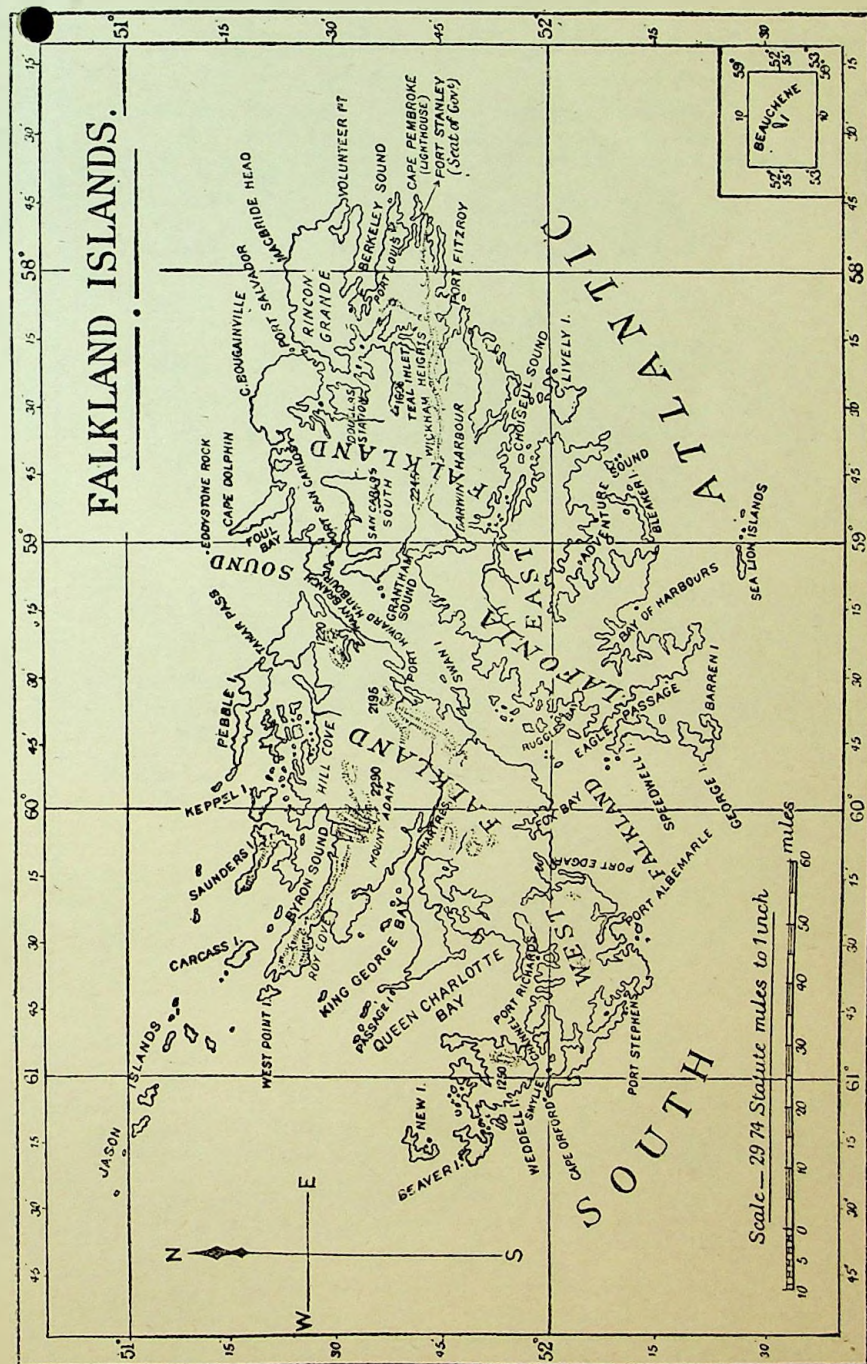
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Falkland Islands.	Sir W. L. Allardyce, G.C.M.G.	1909	Garden City Press, Letchworth.	—
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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows:

	Square Miles.
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 ft. in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from the coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are almost entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about 100 persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 ins., precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous; calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Iles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas", were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands

in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe, through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and two unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The population is almost entirely white and has been derived to a large extent from the United Kingdom. There is a considerable element of Scandinavian blood.

The estimated population on the 31st of December, 1937, was 2,391 made up of 1,319 males and 1,072 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants lives in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between the outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1937 was 37, and of deaths 20, or respectively 15.48 and 8.36 per 1,000. Eighteen marriages were celebrated during the year. Two deaths occurred among infants under two years of age. One hundred and twenty-nine persons arrived in the Colony and 154 left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The climate is healthy, especially in the Camp districts, but damp in and about Stanley; consequently it is not very suitable for persons with any rheumatic tendencies.

During the summer months the constant high winds are rather trying. The weather conditions in winter are slightly milder and more pleasant than those of the north of England. The conditions of living are simple; the ordinary social amenities of a larger Colony are almost entirely lacking. The quality of the food is good although it lacks variety especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee at least a nine months supply. Fruit is imported from Monte Video and the supply becomes better each year with the improved transport and a greater local demand. Steps are being taken by both the Medical and Agricultural Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk in the town of Stanley.

Dental caries and pyorrhea are very prevalent amongst the Falkland Islanders, the children suffering from defective teeth

at a very early age. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a special clinic for school children every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced, every Medical Officer being appointed a Public Vaccinator for the area in which he is stationed.

Gastritis and dyspepsia are common complaints. Eleven appendectomies were performed during 1937, the majority being in the quiescent stage. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur but so far the origin of these outbreaks has not been definitely determined.

Coryza in epidemic form is very common.

Two cases of tuberculosis were under treatment during the year. The incidence of bovine tuberculosis is being investigated, the double intradermal test being used.

Several school children were under treatment for impetigo contagiosa. Thread worm infection is very common among the children also.

Thirty confinements took place in the hospital and seven in the town, making a total of 37 as compared with 45 in the previous year.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital has 17 beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes a Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained.

A Medical Officer made periodical tours of the North-East Falkland, the remainder of the East Falkland being under the Falkland Islands Company's Medical Officer stationed at Darwin.

During the year the Senior Medical Officer made an extensive tour of the West Falkland.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1937, 219 persons were admitted to the hospital as compared with 149 in the previous year and 1,010 new cases were seen in the out-patients' department. Six deaths occurred in hospital; 184 operations were performed as compared with 241 in the previous year.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint diseases.

In the town of Stanley, sewage is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth closet method. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health bye-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are required to be emptied once a month at least. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate for present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success; rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

## V.—HOUSING.

The houses erected are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health as regards both construction and sanitary arrangements. There is no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. In the majority of cases, the wage-earning population own their own houses, which are well built and comfortable. Building loans are made by the Government in suitable cases, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government also maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and householders are required to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. Power is vested in the Board of Health to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory.

## VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

The whole acreage of the Colony is divided into sheep farms varying approximately in extent from 24,000 to 150,000 acres and carrying on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or say one sheep for every three to five acres.

The Colony has no resources of known value apart from the production of wool, skins and tallow. Forage crops are produced to a limited extent but with this exception there is practically no agriculture in the Colony. The country may be said to be still in its virgin state and is capable of development. With the exception of some 40,000 acres of Government Reserve the entire land is under alienation.

During the year an Agricultural Department was established and certain investigations were made in connexion with the sheep-farming industry generally.

An officer of the Welsh Plant Breeding Station at Aberystwyth visited the Colony in November and carried out an analysis of the pastures with a view to their subsequent improvement.

No statistics are kept of the actual quantity of wool produced in any one year, as distinct from the quantity exported, but the average production during the past five years was four million pounds annually. The actual return of wool exported during 1937 was 4,602,959 lb. valued at £162,511, or more by 608,422 lb. than the preceding year. The average price realized was 1s. 2d. per lb. against an average price of 8½d. per lb. in 1936.

Some 30,000 sheep were exported during the year to Chile for freezing with a view to re-export and sale on the market in the United Kingdom. The estimated value of the sheep exported was £13,773. The experiment proved successful and the mutton met with ready sale on the London market.

*Hides and skins* exported were valued at £17,923 as against £7,825 in the previous year, or an increase of £10,098.

*Livestock*.—A number of rams were imported from New Zealand and Patagonia for the purpose of improving flocks in the Colony.

*Seal oil*.—Sealing operations were conducted by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, during the months of June to October. The total production of oil amounted to 278 tons valued at £4,200. The price of seal oil remained at £16 per ton.

The whole of the produce of the Colony is exported to the United Kingdom.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

With the exception of meat and a limited quantity of garden produce practically the whole of the Colony's requirements in foodstuffs is imported.

The total value of imports and exports for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is shown in the following tables:

	IMPORTS.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco...	28,858	35,113	32,741	34,078	40,100
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	5,902	9,125	10,513	13,403	12,601
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ... ..	33,729	45,644	48,599	51,245	57,476
Miscellaneous and un- classified ... ..	747	1,315	8,988	2,401	5,450
Bullion and specie ... ..	25	750	—	960	1,125
<i>Total imports ... ..</i>	<i>£69,261</i>	<i>91,947</i>	<i>100,841</i>	<i>102,087</i>	<i>116,752</i>

	EXPORTS.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ... ..	100,749	130,325	109,381	98,684	162,511
Hides and skins ... ..	8,807	9,257	6,927	7,825	17,923
Tallow ... ..	1,768	1,867	2,070	2,089	2,618
Livestock ... ..	—	—	457	591	13,773
Seal oil ... ..	4,660	16	4,135	6,581	4,200
Other articles ... ..	988	1,249	1,331	887	2,995
<i>Total exports ... ..</i>	<i>£116,972</i>	<i>142,714</i>	<i>124,301</i>	<i>116,657</i>	<i>204,020</i>

There were no re-exports during the year.

## Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	Per	Per	Per	Per	Per
	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.	cent.
British Empire ... ..	81·29	79·73	77·53	78·62	76·23
Foreign Countries ... ..	18·71	20·27	22·47	21·38	23·77

The principal supplying countries were:

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	56,301	73,234	71,560	80,143	85,107
Other parts of British Empire.	—	84	6,624	116	3,756
Argentina ... ..	2,143	3,459	3,904	5,520	4,263
Brazil ... ..	94	1,054	2,272	1,035	1,848
Chile ... ..	625	3,530	6,209	4,491	9,839
Uruguay ... ..	9,918	9,780	9,118	9,567	9,701

The principal articles imported during 1937 and the previous year were as follow:

	1936.		1937.		Principal sources of supply with values in £.
	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	
Provisions...	22,471	—	23,039	—	United Kingdom (18,367), Uruguay (2,106), Argentine (1,254).
Hardware ...	15,865	—	21,133	—	United Kingdom (19,857).
Drapery ...	5,123	—	5,012	—	United Kingdom (4,987).
Coal, coke and oil fuel.	7,510	—	4,769	—	Chile (2,415), Uruguay (2,330).
Timber ...	4,526	—	6,452	—	Chile (3,144), United Kingdom (1,812).
Paints, etc.	4,110	—	5,064	—	United Kingdom (2,231), Uruguay (1,828).
Chemicals ...	5,279	—	4,760	—	United Kingdom (4,479).
Beer ...	1,690	10,384 gal.	2,789	17,032 gal.	.. .. (2,750).
Spirits ...	1,830	2,079 "	3,613	4,657 "	.. .. (3,612).
Tobacco ...	2,652	8,293 lb.	4,321	13,215 lb.	.. .. (4,250).
Wines ...	700	1,050 gal.	1,130	1,503 gal.	.. .. (1,030).

### Exports.

Almost the entire trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being inconsiderable.

The values and quantities of the principal domestic exports for the years 1936 and 1937 are given in the table below:

	1936.		1937.		Principal countries of destination with values in £.
	Value. £	Quantity.	Value. £	Quantity.	
Wool ...	98,684	3,994,537 lb.	162,511	4,560,063 lb.	United Kingdom (all).
Tallow ...	2,089	248,496 "	2,618	205,896 "	.. .. (2,570).
Hides and Sheepskins.	7,825	75,812	17,923	110,153	.. .. (17,904).
Seal Oil ...	6,581	2,732 bls.	4,200	1,654 bls.	.. .. (all).

*Coin and Notes.*—Statistics of the imports of coin for the year 1937 and the previous four years are as follows:—

1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
£	£	£	£	£
25	750	—	960	1,125

There were no imports of notes and no exports of coin or notes during the five years 1933 to 1937.

### VIII.—LABOUR.

The principal industry, which is sheep-farming, absorbs labour to the extent of some 500 persons. In Stanley employment is almost solely at the disposal of the Government and of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited. There was a slight

increase in the number of men seeking employment in 1937, some of whom were granted relief work by the Agricultural Department during the winter months.

### IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Rates of wages and hours of work remained the same throughout the year. Unskilled labourers were paid at the rate of rs. 2d. an hour while skilled labourers and artisans received rs. 4d. and rs. 7d. an hour respectively. The number of hours worked per day was eight with a total of 40 to 45 a week. Wages for housemaids in domestic service with free board and lodging vary from £2 to £3 10s. per month; cooks receive from £3 to £4 10s. per month.

The average rate of wages on farm stations remained at £5 to £8 a month, with free quarters, fuel, meat and milk.

The cost of living varied little during the year, the average prices of the main articles of food being:—

Mutton ...	3d. per lb.
Beef ...	4d. per lb.
Pork, fresh ...	1s. per lb.
Fowls ...	2s. to 3s. each.
Fish, fresh ...	2d. to 3d. per lb.
Eggs ...	2s. to 3s. per doz.
Milk ...	8d. to 1s. per quart.
Potatoes ...	1½d. to 3d. per lb.
Bread ...	1s. per 4 lb. loaf.
Sugar ...	2d. per lb.
Tea ...	2s. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee ...	1s. 10d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.
Fresh vegetables ...	5d. per lb.
Butter (imported) ...	1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb.

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

The cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience for residents and occasional visitors, with charges ranging from £2 2s. to £3 3s. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 10s. per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house is £50 a year.

### X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years residing in Stanley is compulsory. There are two schools in Stanley, both elementary, the one maintained by the Government and the other by the Roman Catholic Mission. Provision is made at the Government school for attendance at a



continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made by the Government in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

Children who are unable to come to Stanley are taught by travelling teachers of whom the Government maintains three on the West Falkland and one on the East Falkland. The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at its settlement at Darwin, and in addition two itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions. Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The total amount expended in this connexion in 1937 amounted to £515. Legislative provision exists for the payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment and a society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

In Stanley there are three social clubs, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club. Football is played throughout the year and the Stanley golf course provides a pleasant alternative to badminton under cover. Tennis and cricket are scarcely attempted. The most popular pastime is rifle shooting and the Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting in Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The Colony has been represented at Bisley by teams in the Junior Kolapore and Junior Mackinnon Competitions for a number of years. The Falkland Islands were successful in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup in 1930 and 1934 and the Junior Mackinnon trophy in 1937. Miniature rifle shooting in the Drill Hall and in several of the camp districts is also very popular during the winter months. The local Miniature Rifle Club has been successful from time to time in the competitions inaugurated by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs. In 1933 it carried away the honours in the Dominion Clubs' Team Shoot.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse-racing and athletic events.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school as well as football, hockey and gymnastics.

There are also public baths and a well-equipped gymnasium.

The Town Hall, Stanley, in addition to housing the offices of several Government departments and the museum, contains a

fine main hall which is used for functions of varying description and for dances; the floor is well-sprung and can hold up to 250 couples at a time.

There is one sound-cinema in Stanley and also a public library with books to suit every taste.

## XI.—COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT.

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected principally through Monte Video, to which port a service is maintained in accordance with actual requirements by the s.s. *Lafonia* a vessel of some 1,800 tons dead weight, belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from January, 1937. The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains the s.s. *Fitzroy* of some 600 tons dead weight. This vessel normally makes 12 to 15 voyages a year to Patagonia.

The distance from Stanley to Monte Video is rather more than 1,000 miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Lafonia* averages four days. The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Monte Video, is 26 days. Opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four weeks.

Communication with South Georgia is maintained by the Falkland Islands Company's s.s. *Lafonia* which makes two voyages between Stanley and the Dependency during the year. The time occupied on the voyage in either direction averages three days.

The Government operates a wireless station for external traffic at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained with London and Monte Video, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

The telegraph charges for messages to the United Kingdom are 2s. 6d. a word for ordinary, 1s. 3d. a word for deferred, and 1s. 6d. a word for code.

No submarine cables exist.

Postage to the United Kingdom and the Empire is 1d. per ounce.

During the year 1937 there were 160 wireless sets licensed.

A broadcast relay service is maintained by the Government. The fee for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of subscribers in 1937 was 112. Overseas programmes are relayed from the studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given, as well as news and sports items from London.

Communication between Stanley and the farms is carried out on horseback or by boat. There are no railways and no roads beyond the immediate vicinity of Stanley. The inter-insular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Fitzroy* and s.s. *Roydur* belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

No inland telegraphs exist, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. Several of the farm stations have their own lines which are connected to the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government maintains a small wireless station for inter-insular traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of lower power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways plying for the service of the public in the Falkland Islands; nor has the aeroplane as yet been introduced, although the possibility of development in this direction would seem certainly to warrant investigation.

The number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony from overseas during 1937 are shown in the table below:—

Nationality.	Steam vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	36	52,526
Foreign ... ..	3	960
	39	53,486

## XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year new roads were constructed and improvements in drainage carried out in the outskirts of the town. The work of re-surfacing and tarring was continued over a considerable area of the town.

An extension of the Surf Bay roadway in an easterly direction was commenced and roads to the peat banks were further extended.

Several light wooden bridges were placed over streams on the tracks leading to the north camp for the convenience of travellers and the tracks leading to the west camp were dressed and drained.

Alterations were effected in several Government buildings, including the re-roofing of parts of Government House, improvements to the Government school, and the erection of a solarium at the King Edward Memorial Hospital, the latter being a presentation by public subscription. Alterations were also made to the public gymnasium to permit of the installation of a sound-cinema apparatus.

Heating systems were installed at the Defence Force drill hall and the wireless telegraph station.

The Medical Officer's quarters at Fox Bay were dismantled, removed from an isolated spot and re-erected with modern conveniences at a more central site at the port.

An average number of 61 men, exclusive of monthly employees, were on the pay roll during the year, as compared with 68 in 1936.

The total expenditure incurred under Public Works was £18,905.

## XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISON.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court, in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. A number of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. There is a local Police Force consisting of four constables and a Chief Constable. The Chief Constable is also gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Twenty-two persons were dealt with in 1937 in the Summary Court and of this number 15 were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year and no cases came before the juvenile court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

## XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Ten Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1937. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1936) Ordinance, No. 2, and the Appropriation (1938) Ordinance, No. 3, the following measures were enacted:—

*The Discovery Ordinance*, providing for the disposal of the Royal Research Ship *Discovery*.

*The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance*, making provision for the payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment.

*The Pensions Ordinance*, providing for the grant of pensions, gratuities and other allowances to persons who have been in the public service of the Colony.

*The Government Employees Provident Fund Ordinance*, establishing a Provident Fund for certain non-pensionable employees of the Government.

*The Forgery Ordinance*, extending to the Colony and Dependencies thereof The Forgery Act, 1913, of the Imperial Parliament.

*The Shipworkers Protection Ordinance*, to give effect to the International Labour Convention concerning the protection against accidents of workers employed in loading or unloading ships.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:

Proclamation dated the 1st of December, declaring certain preparations to which Part II of the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1925, shall cease to apply.

Order in Council dated the 13th of November, revoking Sections 2 and 3 of the Harbour Regulations of the 24th of April, 1929.

Order in Council dated the 6th of December, declaring the discontinuance of the use of all stamps for denoting duties of postage, bearing the effigies of Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria and His Late Majesty King Edward the Seventh.

Regulations providing for leave and passages of officers serving in the Colony and the Dependencies.

Regulations enacting minor amendments to existing legislation with regard to medical fees.

Regulations enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation regarding the quarantining of sheep imported from South America.

Regulations making provision for the granting of pensions, gratuities and other allowances to officers.

## XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no banks in the Colony other than the Government Savings Bank. Interest is paid at the rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The total sum deposited at the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th of September, was £185,418, and the number of depositors 1,069. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £173, or about £77 per head of the population.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of 1 per cent. The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations, also undertake a similar service.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and local £5, £1 and 10s. notes issued under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930. The estimated value of coin and notes in circulation on the 31st of December was £3,000 and £22,000, respectively.

Imperial weights and measures only are used in the Colony.

## XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1937 from all sources was £85,599 as compared with £64,505 in 1936, and from ordinary sources £69,656 as compared with £57,944 in 1936. The increase in revenue is due mainly to the following surplus receipts:—Customs duties £3,485, estate duty £583, hospital and medical fees £540, sale of stamps £8,338, and wireless messages £301.

The actual ordinary expenditure was £48,865. To this, however, should be added the sum of £19,383 consequent on depreciation of investments, making a total of £68,248 or more by £27,134 than in 1936, and less by £1,408 than the revenue from ordinary sources.

The principal causes contributing to the excess expenditure on recurrent services in 1937 were:—An over-expenditure of £1,403 under the Post Office Department, due chiefly to the extraordinary large sales of Coronation stamps which necessitated additional printing, and the cost of the new 1938 issue of stamps; £201 under Military, attributable mainly to a special gratuity paid to the late Gymnastic and Drill Instructor; an excess of £20,221 under Miscellaneous, the chief contributory cause being the amount of £19,383 charged to this head consequent on the depreciation of investments; whilst under Public Works Recurrent an additional amount of £309 was spent on furniture for Government buildings, and the vote for minor works was exceeded by £130. In addition to expenditure on recurrent services a sum of £13,041 was expended on Public Works Extraordinary.

The revenue from all sources during the year was more than the expenditure of £81,289 by £4,310.

Comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years are given in the following table:—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1933	59,333	66,417	37,156	52,335
1934	101,584	102,700	37,519	54,463
1935	49,633	49,813	44,829	59,806
1936	57,944	64,505	41,115	51,702
1937	69,656	85,599	68,248	81,289

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1937, amounted to £308,595 made up as follows:—

Land Sales Fund	...	...	...	£	258,282
Other Surplus	...	...	...		50,313
					<u>£308,595</u>

The Falkland Islands Reserve Fund which stood at £34,000 on the 31st of December, 1936, remained unchanged.

The principal heads of taxation are:—

- (1) Customs import and export duties.
- (2) Rates levied on house property.

Customs import duties are payable on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates:—

Wines	...	...	...	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s. 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt	...	...	...	6d. a gallon in casks or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits	...	...	...	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco	...	...	...	4s. a pound.
Matches	...	...	...	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture, and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates:—

Wool	...	...	...	1s. for every 25 lb.
Whale oil and seal oil	...	...	...	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The receipts from each source in 1937 were as follows:—

Import duties	...	...	...	...	£	8,016
Export duties	...	...	...	...		9,468
Rate on house property	...	...	...	...		872

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in  $54\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude 50 and 80 west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the *Discovery* Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a 100 miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on the grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1937 the average mean temperature was  $35.38^{\circ}$  F. Rain fell on 87 days and snow or sleet on 101 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-9 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced

being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers were reported there in 1819. The fur-seal industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-1 and 1821-2 by no less than 91 vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-4 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. Valuable contributions to the survey of the Dependencies have been made in recent years by the ships under the direction of the Discovery Committee, particularly the R.R.S. *Discovery II*. Knowledge of the South Georgia coast was much advanced in the years 1926-30, the South Sandwich group was surveyed in 1930, extensive running surveys were made in the South Orkneys in 1933, and from time to time in the South Shetlands.

### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilized mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident magistrate and official staff are

maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

### III.—POPULATION.

There is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is resident either at the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 700, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian. One birth, no deaths and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1937.

### IV.—HEALTH.

There is little or no sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence. Some unhealthiness, however, arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

The Government does not maintain a Medical Officer in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies provide their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the medical officer resident at Grytviken. In the Dependency of South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions were very bad during the year but health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression.

### V.—HOUSING.

The housing question does not really arise in the Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in quarters at King Edward Cove and the accommodation provided by the whaling companies for the personnel working on their stations may be said to be fully adequate.

### VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, the only industry in the Dependencies is whaling, and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, are their sole products. The whaling season is restricted to the period from 16th October to 16th April, and sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia during the period 1st March to 31st October.

At South Georgia two stations only conducted operations while the land station at Deception Island remained closed. No floating factories operated under licence from the Government. There was little or no improvement in the price of whale oil during the year. The price ranged from £14 to £21 a ton according to grade.

The season was a very poor one, blue whales in particular being scarce and weather conditions boisterous.

The catch amounted to 1,887 whales of which 97 only were blue, 1,552 fin, 40 humpback, 43 sperm and 155 sei. The number of barrels of oil produced was 90,266 with an average per "standard" whale of 96.85 barrels. 95,576 bags of guano and 47 tons of baleen were also produced.

For comparative purposes, the following table shows the actual catch, "standard whales", the oil and guano production, and the average for the season under review and the four preceding seasons:—

Season.	Actual Catch of Whales.	"Standard" Whales.	Averages.			
			Oil Produced (Barrels).	Guano (Bags).	Oil (Barrels).	Guano (Bags).
1933-34 ...	2,364	1,431	132,190	123,996	92.37	86.65
1934-35 ...	1,575	1,022	108,261	91,073	105.90	89.09
1935-36 ...	1,785	1,493	143,192	114,666	95.90	76.80
1936-37 ...	1,759	783	81,089	80,378	103.56	102.65
1937-38 ...	1,887	932	90,266	95,576	96.85	102.54

The total value of the season's production is estimated at £253,790 of which £180,502 represents the value of oil, £72,361 guano and £927 baleen.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

The whole of the Dependencies requirements in foodstuffs is of necessity imported.

The total value of imports and exports for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is shown in the following tables:—

	Imports.				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco...	9,884	7,898	9,804	8,340	11,430
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	57,368	72,745	70,547	77,554	141,469
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	133,305	124,211	96,888	174,673	218,142
Miscellaneous and unclassified.	—	—	—	—	182
Bullion and specie ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total imports including importations from the High Seas for re-exportation.	£200,557	204,854	177,239	260,567	371,223

### Exports.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Whale bone ...	160	2,200	1,221	1,362	728
Bone meal ...	—	1,521	1,589	4,454	4,401
Guano ...	41,674	65,838	62,768	70,268	34,328
Hardware, etc. ...	2,740	440	3,460	1,720	3,600
Seal oil ...	37,258	14,806	4,230	33,738	32,496
Whale oil ...	256,506	359,881	245,815	444,639	305,049
Whale meat meal ...	—	—	—	—	26,044
Other articles ...	15	10,800	6,400	—	—
Total exports including re-exports.	£337,353	455,486	325,483	556,181	406,646

### Re-exports.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
Whale oil ...	102,982	93,842	60,015	133,658	178,190
Whale meat meal ...	—	—	—	—	4,574
Guano ...	—	—	—	4,667	—
Total re-exports	£102,982	93,842	60,015	138,325	182,764

### Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries, excluding importations from the "high seas" for re-exportation, for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:—

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
British Empire ...	39.36	29.70	48.50	24.74	19.94
Foreign Countries ...	60.64	70.30	51.50	75.26	80.06

The principal supplying countries were:—

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	38,410	32,968	50,029	29,751	37,583
British West Indies ...	—	—	6,048	—	—
Argentina ...	4,772	5,524	7,505	3,952	3,710
Canary Islands ...	2,700	6,315	8,842	8,975	7,950
Cape Verde Islands ...	—	—	—	—	10,292
Denmark ...	—	—	2,583	4,317	—
Dutch West Indies ...	26,631	41,610	24,184	36,005	103,473
Holland ...	1,016	670	—	5,551	6,206
Norway ...	24,046	14,180	16,564	31,693	19,245

The principal articles imported during 1937 and the previous year were as follows:—

	1936. Value.	1937. Value.	Principal sources of supply with values in £.
Provisions ...	£ 6,910	£ 9,028	United Kingdom (3,609), Argentine (2,606), Norway (1,799).
Coal, coke and oil fuel.	75,076	140,124	Dutch West Indies (103,469), United Kingdom (18,114), Cape Verde (10,290), and Canary Islands (7,950).
Bags and bagging...	4,773	4,456	United Kingdom (3,004), Holland (1,452).
Canvas, rope, etc....	3,618	4,379	Norway (2,837), United Kingdom (1,013).
Hardware ...	18,847	17,229	Norway (9,061), United Kingdom (5,750), Holland (2,380).
Paints and oils ...	2,289	2,847	United Kingdom (1,679), Norway (1,016).

### Exports.

The percentage of domestic exports sent to the British Empire and foreign countries for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:—

	1933. Per cent.	1934. Per cent.	1935. Per cent.	1936. Per cent.	1937. Per cent.
British Empire ...	96.34	98.65	92.14	41.93	39.31
Foreign Countries ...	3.66	1.35	7.86	58.07	60.69

The principal countries of destination were:—

	1933. £	1934. £	1935. £	1936. £	1937. £
United Kingdom...	325,009	438,681	293,999	191,902	159,846
Argentine ...	12,344	5,606	12,084	70	9,065
French West Africa ...	—	—	13,000	—	—
Canary Islands ...	—	—	—	30,000	160,255
Denmark ...	—	—	—	—	77,480
Cape Verde Islands ...	—	—	—	177,040	—
Holland ...	—	—	—	15,385	—
Norway ...	—	—	—	42,380	—

The values and quantities of the principal domestic exports for the years 1936 and 1937 are given in the table below:—

	1936.		1937.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Whale bone ...	£ 1,362	23 tons	£ 728	49 tons.
Bone meal ...	4,454	8,335 bags	4,401	10,867 bags.
Guano ...	65,601	113,105 "	34,328	61,632 "
Hardware ...	1,720	—	3,600	—
Seal oil ...	33,738	11,246 brls.	32,496	11,953 brls.
Whale oil ...	310,981	116,616 "	126,859	36,246 "
Whale meat meal ...	—	—	21,470	42,490 bags.

### Re-exports.

The re-exports from the Dependencies consist of whaling products from the "high seas" produced by pelagic whaling companies operating in the ice.

The values and quantities of the re-exports from South Georgia for the year 1936 and the year under review were as follows:—

	1936.		1937.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Whale oil ...	£ 133,658	50,050 brls.	£ 178,190	47,058 brls.
Whale meat meal ...	—	—	4,574	8,695 bags.
Guano ...	4,667	8,486 bags	—	—

There have been no imports or exports of coin or notes during the past five years.

### VIII.—LABOUR.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is especially recruited on contract terms. The average number of men employed during the whaling season from October to April is 700 and the average number of hours worked per week is 54. During the remainder of the year the number decreases to about 200 and the average number of hours per week worked without overtime to 40.

A number of Falkland Islands labourers were again employed on the two land stations at South Georgia and also on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Chr. Salvesen of Leith.

### IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. There are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and all foodstuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their stations. The question of the cost of living does not, therefore, arise.

### X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and the problem of education does not therefore arise.

In South Georgia private cinematograph shows are run by the whaling companies for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Football is played during the summer months and interest is taken in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the deep snow of the winter months.

### XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

As has been stated in Chapter XI, Part I, of this Report, communication with South Georgia and Stanley is maintained by the Falkland Islands Company's s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 1,800 tons which makes two voyages during the year for the conveyance of mails to and from South Georgia. Opportunities occur not infrequently during the whaling season for the despatch of mails between Europe and South Georgia direct and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken which is furnished by the motor auxiliary s.s. *Tijuca* of the *Compania Argentina de Pesca*. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in November and also on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they occur. Postal rates in the Dependencies are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

There is a wireless station at Grytviken maintained by the Government which is in regular communication with Stanley through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys.

No railways or roads exist in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia, by the whaling companies, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. At Grytviken the dock has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will accommodate vessels up to 160 feet in length and 15 feet in draught.

There are only two ports of entry in the Dependencies, one at Grytviken, South Georgia, and the other at Port Foster, Deception Island, in the South Shetlands.

The number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered at South Georgia in 1937 are given in the table below:—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	73	127,449	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	48	63,403	1	497
	121	190,852	1	497

### XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year.

### XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. One constable is stationed at South Georgia. No cases of serious crime came before the Courts during the year. The personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, rarely calling for the intervention of the civil authorities. A very high standard of discipline is maintained by the managers of the several whaling stations.

### XIV.—LEGISLATION.

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

### XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No banks of any description are in existence in the Dependencies. The same facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittances, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands £5, £1 and 10s. notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

### XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Dependencies is derived almost entirely from the whaling industry and amounted in 1937 to £12,942. As a result of the poor season export duty on whale oil and guano fell short of anticipated receipts by £3,364. The expenditure for the year amounted to £12,942 which is equal to the amount of revenue collected.

Comparative figures of the revenue and the expenditure for the past five years are given in the following table:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1933 ... ..	12,081	18,384
1934 ... ..	14,892	14,892
1935 ... ..	12,617	12,617
1936 ... ..	24,344	19,851
1937 ... ..	12,942	12,942



The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1937, amounted to £239,462 all of which is earmarked for the Research and Development Fund.

The principal heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and other products of the whaling industry such as guano. The amount collected by way of import duties in 1937 was £712 while export duties amounted to £8,436. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. Export duty on whale and seal oil was fixed at 1s. 6d. per barrel of 40 gallons or 9s. a ton. No change was made in the rate of export duty on guano which remained at 1½d. per 100 lb.

As in the Colony proper there are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

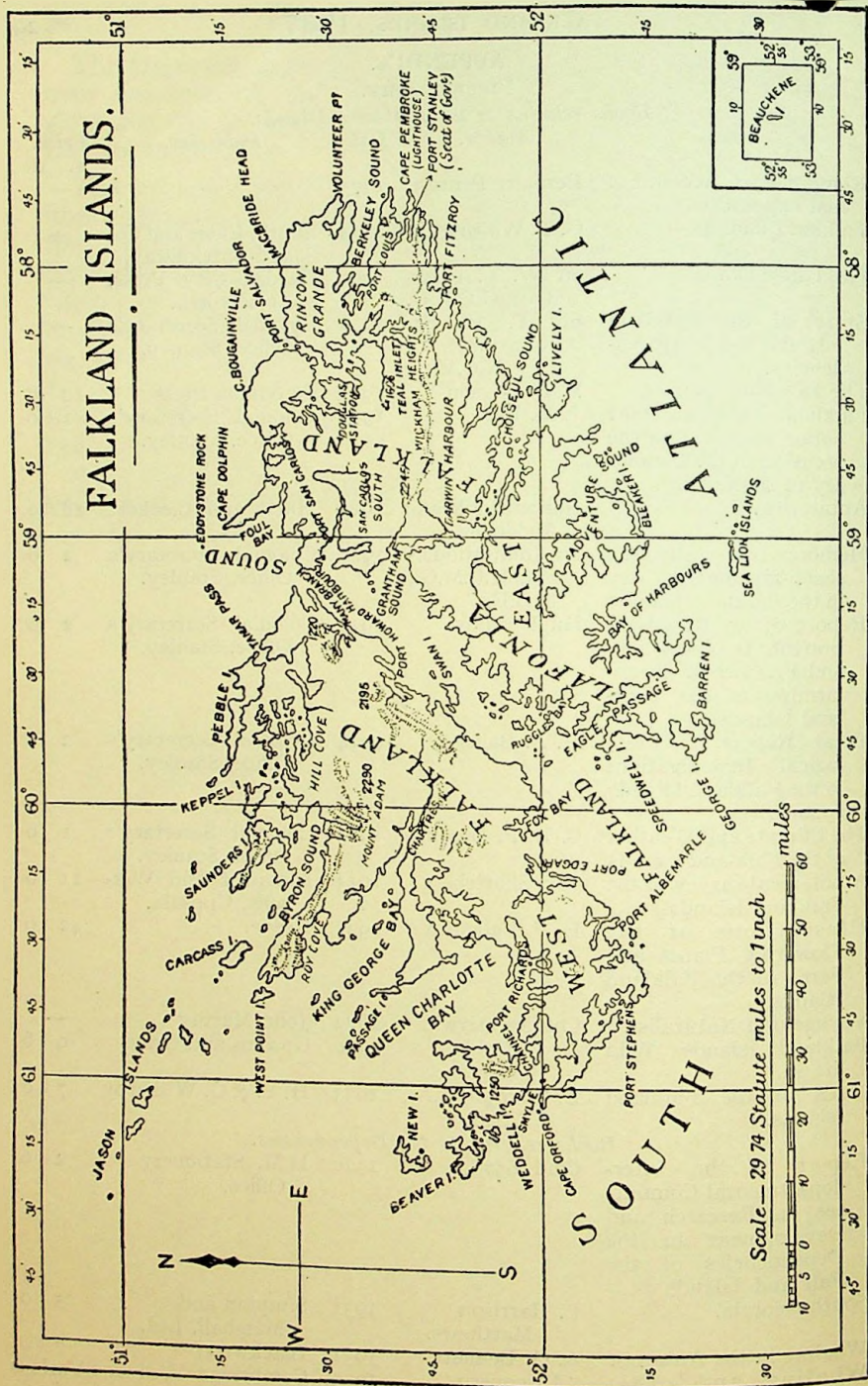
*Books relating to the Falkland Islands.*

<i>Title.</i>	<i>Author.</i>	<i>Date.</i>	<i>Publisher.</i>	<i>Price.</i> s. d.
Egmont Port, Account of last expedition.* Falkland Islands.	Bernard Penrose	1775	—	—
Falkland Islands.	G. T. Whittington	1840	Smith, Elder and Co. and J. Ridgway.	—
Falkland Islands.	Sir W. L. Allardyce, G.C.M.G.	1909	Garden City Press, Letchworth.	—
Story of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies.	Sir T. R. St. Johnstone, K.C.M.G.	1920	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	—
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Blue Book.

Annual

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Report of Committee [Cmd. 3554 (1930)] 1s. (1s. 1d.)

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1938

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PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE COLONY OF  
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ITS DEPENDENCIES  
FOR THE YEAR 1938

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PART I.—THE COLONY.

I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY

The Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean some 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude. In addition to the two main islands, known as the East and West Falklands, which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, the group comprises about 200 smaller islands clustered around them within a space of 120 by 60 miles. The area of the group, as computed by measurement from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	Square Miles.
East Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands ... ..	2,038
Total area of the group ... ..	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coast-line and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 ft. in Mount Adam on the West Falkland. There are no rivers navigable at any distance from the coast. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collection of angular boulders called "stone runs" the origin of which is scientifically disputed. There is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but considerable areas of sand also occur. In comprehensive appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are almost entirely absent and the scenery is said to resemble parts of Scotland and the northern islands. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a natural harbour entered from Port William, at the north-east corner of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established throughout the Colony as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which it is divided; of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company, with a population of about 100 persons.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterized by the same seasonal variations as in the United Kingdom. These are, however, less noticeable in the Colony on account of its scant vegetation. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much cooler than in London, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is even lower than the annual mean at London. While the relatively low temperatures are mainly due to the oceanic circulation, the daily weather is largely dependent on the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconstant as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. Though the annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging only 26 in., precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year, and, in consequence, the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours.

The Falkland Islands, called by the French "Iles Malouines" and by the Spaniards "Islas Malvinas," were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of the squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald Van Weert, a Dutchman, and styled by him the Sebald Islands, a name which they still bear on some of the Dutch maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed through between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of

the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its English name of "Falkland Islands" although this name does not appear to have been given to it before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was established in 1764 by de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland Island on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron took possession of the West Falkland Island and left a small garrison at Port Egmont on Saunders Island, which lies off and close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of interference by other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad in 1766, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was restored, however, to Great Britain in 1771, but was again in 1774 voluntarily abandoned. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States' fishing fleet and in 1831 his settlement suffered from an American punitive expedition. Finally, in 1833, Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled the few Argentine soldiers and colonists yet remaining at Port Louis and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, in which year a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe, through the Straits of Magellan to the west coast of South America, and in the days of sail frequently harboured vessels which had been worsted in the struggle to round Cape Horn. On 8th December, 1914, they were the scene of the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf von Spee, and a memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled at Stanley on 26th February, 1927.

## II.—GOVERNMENT.

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of five official and two unofficial members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial

members, the latter being nominated by the Crown. The Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury until 1880, and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since which date it has been wholly self-supporting. There is no local Government in the Colony.

## III.—POPULATION.

The population is almost entirely white and has been derived to a large extent from the United Kingdom. There is a considerable element of Scandinavian blood.

The estimated population on the 31st of December, 1938, was 2,378 made up of 1,308 males and 1,070 females. The density of the population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately one-half of the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between the outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1938 was 41, and of deaths 20, or respectively 17.24 and 8.41 per 1,000. Fourteen marriages were celebrated during the year. Three deaths occurred among infants under two years of age. 133 persons arrived in the Colony and 167 left in the course of the period under review.

## IV.—HEALTH.

The climate is healthy, especially in the Camp districts but damp in and about Stanley; consequently it is not very suitable for persons with any rheumatic tendencies.

During the summer months the constant high winds are rather trying. The weather conditions in winter are slightly milder and more pleasant than those of the north of England. The conditions of living are simple; the ordinary social amenities of a larger Colony are almost entirely lacking. The quality of the food is good but lacks variety, especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee at least a nine months' supply. Fruit is imported from Montevideo and the supply becomes better each year with the improved transport and a greater local demand. Steps are being taken by both the Medical and Agricultural Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk in the town of Stanley. Two licensed dairies are now in operation.

Dental caries is very prevalent amongst the Falkland Islanders, the children suffering from defective teeth at a very early age. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a special clinic for school children every Saturday morning.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced, every Medical Officer being appointed a Public Vaccinator for the area in which he is stationed.



Gastritis and dyspepsia are common complaints. Eight appendicectomies were performed during 1938. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur but so far the origin of these outbreaks has not been definitely determined.

Coryza in epidemic form is very common.

Six cases of tuberculosis were under treatment during the year. The incidence of bovine tuberculosis is being investigated, the double intradermal test being used.

Several school children were under treatment for impetigo contagiosa. Thread worm infection is very common among the children also.

Twenty-nine confinements took place in the hospital and two in the town, making a total of 31 as compared with 37 in the previous year.

The Government maintains out of public funds a hospital in Stanley, the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The hospital has 17 beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, stores, and an out-patient department. Outside buildings provide an office and workshop for the Dental Surgeon, and also a drug store and laboratory. An improved X-ray apparatus has been installed.

The staff of the Medical Department includes a Senior Medical Officer, two Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed on the West Falkland Island, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, in addition to junior nurses locally recruited and trained.

A Medical Officer made periodical tours of the North-East Falkland, the remainder of the East Falkland being under the Falkland Islands Company's Medical Officer stationed at Darwin.

During the year the Senior Medical Officer made an extensive tour of the East and West Falklands.

The out-patient department of the hospital provides ante-natal and post-natal services. Maternity nursing services are provided for Stanley and outlying districts.

During the year 1938, 224 persons were admitted to the hospital as compared with 219 in the previous year and 730 first attendances and 1,094 subsequent visits were seen in the out-patients department. Eight deaths occurred in hospital; 164 operations were performed as compared with 184 in the previous year.

The medico-electrical section of the out-patient department has carried out successful work during the year with radiant heat, vapour and Turkish baths, especially valuable in skin disease and muscular rheumatism.

Artificial sunlight treatment has been carried out in cases of adenitis and anaemia in children, and also in cases of tubercular bone and joint disease. General irradiation has also been given.

In the town of Stanley, sewage is disposed of partly by the water-carriage system and partly by the earth closet method. The disposal of sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is efficient as it is carried out to sea by the strong tidal currents.

In accordance with the Public Health By-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored in properly constructed bins which are emptied fortnightly by a Contractor. This system is found to work satisfactorily.

The water supply is wholesome and satisfactory. Water is brought by pipe-line from a distance of three miles and stored in a reservoir and a tank with an aggregate capacity approximating to 500,000 gallons. Distributing mains have now been extended so as to serve the whole of Stanley. The inhabitants have taken advantage of the facilities offered, and the use of rain water from tanks and barrels is gradually disappearing.

The system of roads in Stanley is now adequate for present needs. The drainage system of the town continues to be improved.

Bi-annual rat weeks continued, with considerable success, and rats appear to have diminished as a result, but they are still numerous enough to warrant periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, waste lands and the foreshore.

#### V.—HOUSING.

The houses erected are of a suitable type, and conform to the requirements of the Board of Health as regards both construction and sanitary arrangements. There is no overcrowding in Stanley, the rate of building being adequate to the needs of the population. In the majority of cases, the wage-earning population own their own houses, which are well built and comfortable. Building loans are made by the Government in suitable cases, to facilitate the construction of new houses. The Government also maintains sufficient accommodation for its officials, and two blocks of tenement dwellings which are rented to the more necessitous families in the community.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and householders are requested to keep their premises in as sanitary a condition as circumstances permit. Power is vested in the Board of Health to condemn premises as unfit for human occupation. In general terms the housing of the people may be said to be fully satisfactory.

#### VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

The whole acreage of the Colony is divided into sheep farms varying approximately in extent from 24,000 to 150,000 acres and carrying on the average between 8,000 and 35,000 sheep, or say one sheep for every three to five acres.

The Colony has no resources of known value apart from the production of wool, skins and tallow. Forage crops are produced to a limited extent but with this exception there is practically no agriculture in the Colony. The country may be said to be still in its virgin state and is capable of development. With the exception of some 40,000 acres of Government Reserve the entire land is under alienation.

The Agricultural Department established in 1937 continued its work during the year in connection with the investigation of the sheep farming industry. Work on the improvement of the pastures on Stanley Common was also carried out and included surface draining. Sowing of large areas of land with English grasses, planting of Tussac and Sand grasses and the erection of sub-divisional fences.

The average production of wool during the past five years was four million pounds annually. The actual weight of wool exported in 1938 was 3,618,327 lb. valued at £163,109, or less by 984,632 lb. than the previous year. The average price realized was 10·81 pence per lb.

Some 29,000 sheep were exported during the year to Chile for freezing and re-export for sale on the market in the United Kingdom. The estimated value of the sheep exported was £14,508.

*Hides and Skins* exported during the year were valued at £19,436 as against £17,923 in 1937, an increase of £1,513.

*Livestock*.—A number of rams and ewes were imported from New Zealand and Patagonia in 1938 for the purpose of improving the flocks in the Colony, and two Freisian bulls were imported from New Zealand by the Government with a view to the improvement of the cattle herds in the islands.

*Seal Oil*.—The Falkland Islands and Dependencies Sealing Company, Limited, which has confined its activities hitherto to the production of oil from hair seal, was unable to continue operating in 1938 on account of the unfavourable market conditions.

The whole of the produce of the Colony is exported to the United Kingdom.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

With the exception of meat and a limited quantity of garden produce practically the whole of the Colony's requirements in foodstuffs is imported.

The total value of imports and exports for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is shown in the following tables:—

## FALKLAND ISLANDS, 1938

	IMPORTS.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco	35,113	32,741	34,078	40,100	38,457
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	9,125	10,513	13,403	12,601	16,828
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ...	45,644	48,599	51,245	57,476	53,967
Miscellaneous and un- classified ...	1,315	8,988	2,401	5,450	4,065
Bullion and specie ...	750	—	960	1,125	205
<i>Total imports</i> ...	£91,947	100,841	102,087	116,752	113,522

	EXPORTS.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Wool ...	130,325	109,381	98,684	162,511	163,109
Hides and skins ...	9,257	6,927	7,825	17,923	19,436
Tallow ...	1,867	2,070	2,089	2,618	829
Livestock ...	—	457	591	13,773	15,236
Seal oil ...	16	4,135	6,581	4,200	—
Other articles ...	1,249	1,331	887	2,995	2,096
<i>Total exports</i> ...	£142,714	124,301	116,657	204,020	200,706

There were no re-exports during the year.

### Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:—

	British Empire. Per cent.	Foreign Countries. Per cent.
1934 ...	79·73	20·27
1935 ...	77·53	22·47
1936 ...	78·62	21·38
1937 ...	76·23	23·77
1938 ...	72·95	27·05

The principal supplying countries were:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	73,234	71,561	80,143	85,107	78,750
Other parts of British Empire	84	6,624	116	3,756	4,072
Argentina ...	3,459	3,904	5,520	4,263	4,105
Brazil ...	1,054	2,272	1,035	1,848	—
Chile ...	3,530	6,209	4,491	9,839	4,725
Sweden ...	—	—	—	—	10,333
Uruguay ...	9,780	9,118	9,567	9,701	7,519
U.S.A. ...	—	—	—	—	3,129

The principal articles imported during 1938 and the previous year were as follows:—

	1937.		1938.		Principal sources of supply with values in £.
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	
Provisions ...	£ 23,039	—	£ 23,431	—	United Kingdom (19,340), Uruguay (1,519), Argentine (1,286).
Hardware ...	21,133	—	18,498	—	United Kingdom (18,498).
Drapery ...	5,012	—	4,217	—	United Kingdom (4,217).
Coal, coke and oil fuel.	4,769	—	2,481	—	United Kingdom (511), Uruguay (1,320).
Timber ...	6,452	—	14,317	—	United Kingdom (2,812), Sweden (9,917), Chile (1,471).
Paints, etc. ...	5,064	—	5,664	—	United Kingdom (2,743), Uruguay (2,343), Argentine (361).
Chemicals ...	4,760	—	5,614	—	United Kingdom (4,951), Argentine (300).
Beer ...	2,789	gal. 17,032	2,584	gal. 14,986	United Kingdom (2,567).
Spirits ...	3,613	lb. 4,657	4,007	lb. 4,727	United Kingdom (3,923).
Tobacco ...	4,321	gal. 13,215	3,232	gal. 9,415	United Kingdom (3,198).
Wines ...	1,130	gal. 1,503	883	gal. 1,128	United Kingdom (670), France (111).

### Exports.

Almost the entire trade continued, as in previous years, to be with the United Kingdom, shipments to other countries being inconsiderable.

The values and quantities of the principal domestic exports for the years 1937 and 1938 are given in the table below:—

	1937.		1938.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Wool ...	£ 162,511	lb. 4,560,063	£ 163,109	lb. 3,618,327
Tallow ...	2,618	No. 205,896	829	cks. 167
Hides and sheepskins	17,923	bls. 110,153	19,436	No. 88,251
Seal oil ...	4,200	1,654	—	—

The decrease in the quantity of wool exported as compared with 1937 is due to the fact that shipments in respect of the 1937-8 clip were made in December, 1937, instead of being held over until the following month of January which is the usual procedure.

*Coin and Notes.*—Statistics of the imports of coin for the year 1938 and the previous four years are as follows:—

	£
1934 ...	750
1935 ...	—
1936 ...	960
1937 ...	1,125
1938 ...	205

There were no imports of notes and exports of coin or notes during the five years 1934 to 1938.

### VIII.—LABOUR.

The labour conditions of the Colony are such that it has not been found necessary to establish a Labour Department.

The principal industry, which is sheep-farming, absorbs labour to the extent of some 500 persons. In Stanley employment is almost solely at the disposal of the Government and of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited. During the year an average number of 60 men, exclusive of monthly employees, were on the pay roll of the Public Works Department. Surplus labour in 1938 was absorbed by the Agricultural Department on works in connection with the improvement of pastures, an average of 40 being employed throughout the year.

Legislative provision exists for the payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment. Legislation was enacted in the year 1932 empowering the Governor in Council to fix minimum wages for any occupation in any district in which these are considered unreasonably low. Up to the present it has not been found necessary to exercise that power.

### IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING

Rates of wages and hours of work remained the same throughout the year. Unskilled labourers were paid at the rate of 1s. 2d. an hour while skilled labourers and artisans received 1s. 4d. and 1s. 7d. an hour respectively. The number of hours worked per day was eight with a total of 40 to 45 a week. Wages for housemaids in domestic service with free board and lodging vary from £2 to £3 10s. per month; cooks receive from £3 to £4 10s. per month.

The average rate of wages on farm stations remained at £5 to £8 a month, with free quarters, fuel, meat and milk.

The cost of living varied little during the year, the average prices of the main articles of food being :—

Mutton ... ..	3d. per lb.
Beef... ..	4d. per lb.
Pork, fresh... ..	1s. per lb.
Fowls ... ..	2s. to 3s. each.
Fish, fresh ... ..	2d. to 3d. per lb.
Eggs ... ..	2s. to 3s. per doz.
Milk... ..	8d. to 1s. per quart.
Potatoes ... ..	1½d. to 3d. per lb.
Bread ... ..	1s. per 4-lb. loaf.
Sugar ... ..	2d. per lb.
Tea ... ..	2s. to 3s. per lb.
Coffee ... ..	1s. 10d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.
Fresh vegetables ... ..	5d. per lb.
Butter (imported)... ..	1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb.

The supply of fresh fish, fowls, and fresh pork is uncertain and irregular and in consequence diet is somewhat limited in variety.

The cost of living is moderate. There are no hotels in Stanley in the accepted sense of the term, but there are several boarding-houses which offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience for residents and occasional visitors, with charges ranging from £2 2s. to £3 3s. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 10s. per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not provided by the Government, are difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house is £50 a year.

#### X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education of children between the ages of five and fourteen years residing in Stanley is compulsory. There are two schools in Stanley, both elementary, the one maintained by the Government and the other by the Roman Catholic Mission. Provision is made at the Government school for attendance at a continuation class for a two-year course of more advanced study. Grants are made by the Government in approved cases to enable children from country districts to be taught in Stanley.

Children who are unable to come to Stanley are taught by travelling teachers of whom the Government maintains three on the West Falkland and one on the East Falkland. The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, also maintains a schoolmaster at its settlement at Darwin, and in addition two itinerant schoolmasters for service in the outlying districts of Lafonia.

There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

There are no Government institutions, orphanages, or Poor Law institutions. Poor relief is granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The total amount expended in this connection in 1938 amounted to £725. A society known as the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

In Stanley there are three social clubs, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club. Football is played throughout the year and the Stanley golf course provides a pleasant alternative to badminton under cover. Tennis and cricket are scarcely attempted. The most popular pastime is rifle shooting and the Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting in Stanley on the lines of those held at Bisley. The Colony has been represented at Bisley by teams in the Junior Kolapore and Junior MacKinnon competitions for a number of years. The Falkland Islands were successful in winning the Junior Kolapore Cup in 1930 and 1934 and the Junior MacKinnon trophy in 1937. Miniature rifle shooting in the Drill Hall and in several of the Camp districts is also very popular during the winter months. The local Miniature Rifle Club has been successful from time to time in the competitions inaugurated by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs. In 1933 it carried away the honours in the Dominion Clubs' Team Shoot.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual sports meeting in December of each year for horse racing and athletic events.

Physical training forms an important part of the regular curriculum of the Government school as well as football, hockey and gymnastics.

There are also public baths and a well-equipped gymnasium.

The Town Hall, Stanley, in addition to housing the offices of several Government departments and the Museum, contains a fine main hall which is used for functions of varying description and for dances; the floor is well-sprung and can hold up to two hundred and fifty couples at a time.

There is one sound cinema in Stanley and also a public library with books to suit every taste.

#### XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Communications between Stanley and the outside world is affected principally through Montevideo, to which port a service is maintained in accordance with actual requirements by the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 1,800 tons dead weight belonging to the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, and running on a mail contract for a period of five years from January, 1937. The vessel also makes occasional voyages to Patagonia. The s.s. *Fitzroy*, of some 600 tons dead weight, hitherto maintained by the Falklands Islands Company, Limited, was taken off service and offered for sale in 1938.

The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than 1,000 miles and the time taken on the voyage by the s.s. *Lafonia* averages 4 days. The average time occupied in the transit of mails to and from the United Kingdom, via Montevideo, is 26 days. Opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails are available every four weeks.

Communication with South Georgia is maintained by the Falkland Islands Company's s.s. *Lafonia* which makes two voyages between Stanley and the Dependency during the year. The time occupied on the voyage in either direction averages three days.

The Government operates a wireless station for external traffic at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio. Regular communication is maintained with London and Montevideo, while the South Georgia Radio at Grytviken provides a link between Stanley and that Dependency.

Telegraphic charges to the United Kingdom are 1s. 3d. a word for ordinary, 10d. a word for code, and 7½d. a word for deferred messages.

No submarine cables exist.

Postage to the United Kingdom and the Empire is 1d. per ounce.

During the year 1938 there were 239 wireless sets licensed.

A broadcast relay service is maintained by the Government. The fee for subscribers to this service is £1 per annum and the number of subscribers in 1938 was 112. Overseas programmes are relayed from the studio to subscribers. Local programmes of gramophone records are also given, as well as news and sports items from London.

Communication between Stanley and the farms is carried out on horseback or by boat. There are no railways and no roads beyond the immediate vicinity of Stanley. The inter-insular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the s.s. *Lafonia*.

No inland telegraphs exist, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley both for official and general use. Several of the farm stations have their own lines which are connected to the Stanley system on the East Falkland and on the West Falkland converge at Fox Bay where the Government maintains a small wireless station for inter-insular traffic. Two farm stations have constructed radio stations of lower power for local communication.

There are no omnibuses or tramways plying for the service of the public in the Falkland Islands; nor has the aeroplane as yet been introduced although the possibility of development in this direction would seem certainly to warrant investigation.

The number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony from overseas during 1938 are shown in the table below:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	29	35,938
Foreign ... ..	3	708
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	32	36,646
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## XII.—PUBLIC WORKS

During the year roads in Stanley were reconditioned with bitumen and shingle and are all in good condition, roads to the camps were reconditioned over considerable areas and roads to peat banks are still extending.

Further drainage was laid at the east end of the town connecting all new roads to sewers.

A new concrete block building was erected for Secretariat and Treasury Offices, and quarters erected for the orderly and caretaker at Government House.

Alterations in Government buildings included an addition to the laundry of a steam-heated drying-room at the King Edward Memorial Hospital, a workshop with modern equipment at the Public Works garage, a workshop at the Agriculture Station, and improved facilities at the Quarantine Station.

The total expenditure incurred under Public Works was £26,174.

## XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISON.

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court in which the Governor sits alone as Judge, and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley. A number of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. There is a local Police Force consisting of four constables and a Chief Constable. The Chief Constable is also gaoler-in-charge of the gaol in Stanley, which accommodates only short-sentence prisoners.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, while serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Fifteen persons were dealt with in 1938 in the Summary Court and of this number, fourteen were convicted. No criminal issue came before the Supreme Court during the year and no cases came before the juvenile court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

## XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Eighteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1938. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1937) Ordinance, No. 1, and the Appropriation (1939) Ordinance, No. 14, the following measures were enacted:—

*The Dairy-Produced Ordinance*, relating to the Inspection of Dairies and the Manufacture and Sale of Dairy-Produced.

*The Civil Procedure Ordinance*, making provision for Procedure in Civil Courts.

*The Lighting Control Ordinance*, providing for the total or partial cessation of lighting in the Colony by regulation of the Governor in Council on occasions of emergency or public danger or by way of experiment or practice for such occasions.

*The Registration (Amendment) Ordinance*, amending the Registration of Still-births.

*The Government Employees Provident Fund Ordinance* establishing a Provident Fund for certain non-pensionable employees of the Government.

*The Medical Practitioners, Midwives and Dentists (Amendment) Ordinance*, enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation.

*The Petroleum-Spirit Ordinance*, providing for the safe storage of petroleum spirit.

*The Publications Importation (Prohibition) Ordinance*, providing for the prohibition by Order of the Governor in Council of the importation into the Colony of any publication.

*The Seditious Offences (Penalties) Ordinance*, making provision for penalties for seditious offences in the Colony.

*The Merchant Shipping (International Labour Convention) Ordinance*, giving effect to a certain draft Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference relating to an unemployment indemnity for seamen in the case of loss or foundering of their ship.

*The Registration of United Kingdom Trade Marks Ordinance*, providing for the registration in the Colony of trade marks registered in the United Kingdom.

*The Administration of Justice (Amendment) Ordinance*, enacting a minor amendment to existing legislation.

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year:—

Proclamation dated the 16th of March, bringing into force Ordinance No. 4 of 1937.

Order in Council dated the 10th of March, prohibiting the importation of tear-gas into the Colony.

Regulations amending existing legislation relating to whaling.

Regulations making it compulsory for all vessels to carry lights while under way in Stanley Harbour.

Regulations making provision for the appointment of nurse probationers at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

By-laws repealing and replacing existing Board of Health By-laws.

Regulations repealing and replacing existing legislation with regard to medical fees.

Regulations making provision for the control of dairies and dairy-produce.

Regulations enacting minor amendments to existing legislation regarding leave and passages.

## XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are no banks in the Colony other than the Government Savings Bank. Interest is paid at the rate of 2½ per cent. The total sum deposited at the close of the Bank's financial year on the 30th of September, was £200,460, and the number of depositors 1,085. The average amount standing to the credit of each depositor was £184, or about £84 per head of the population.

Remittances for the credit of any person or firm in the Colony can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies, a charge being payable at the rate of one per cent. The Falkland Islands Company, Limited, who act generally as bankers or financial agents for the farm stations, also undertake a similar service.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and local £5, £1 and 10s. notes issued under the Falkland Islands Currency Notes Ordinance, 1930. The estimated value of coin and notes in circulation on the 31st of December was £3,000 and £24,500 respectively.

Imperial weights and measures only are used in the Colony.

## XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The revenue of the Colony for the year 1938 from all sources was £70,553 as compared with £85,599 in 1937 and from ordinary sources £61,619 as against £69,656 in the preceding year. The decrease in revenue is due mainly to short falls under the following heads of revenue:—IV Fees, Fines (£709), V Interest (£697), VIII Rents (£212), IX Miscellaneous (£3,155), and X Contribution from the Dependencies (£2,010).

The actual ordinary expenditure was £58,162 or more by £9,297 than the previous year and less by £3,457 than the revenue from ordinary sources.

The principal contributory causes to the excess expenditure on recurrent services in 1938 were an over-expenditure of £3,241 under head XVII Miscellaneous and £5,314 under head XIX Public Works recurrent due to the bringing to account against the various votes of the value of the balance of the Unallocated Stores Account on the 1st of January, 1938. In addition a sum of £10,560 was expended on Public Works Extraordinary which amount exceeded the original estimate by £2,165. The excess is due to the extra provision of £3,000 required to expedite the completion of the Secretariat building.

The revenue from all sources during the year was less than the expenditure of £70,673, exclusive of depreciation of investments and transfer to the Research Fund, by £120.

Comparative figures of the expenditure and the revenue for the past five years are given in the following table:—

	Revenue.		Expenditure.	
	Ordinary.	Total.	Ordinary.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1934	101,584	102,700	37,519	54,463
1935	49,633	49,813	44,829	59,806
1936	57,944	64,505	41,115	51,702
1937	69,656	85,599	68,248	81,289
1938	61,619	70,553	58,612	70,673

The Colony has no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1938, amounted to £280,809.

*Investments.*—During the year a sum of £16,000 was transferred to the Reserve Fund of the Colony from General Revenue Balance.

In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 8 of 1938 a Government Employees Provident Fund was inaugurated in 1938. The balance of the fund at the close of the year stood at £2,864 19s. 10d.

*Colonial Development Fund.*—In December, 1938, a sum of £3,200 was received from the Colonial Development Fund as the major portion of a free grant made to the Colony towards the cost of improvement of pastures and to cover the expenses of a technical expert who visited the Colony in 1937 to carry out an analysis of the pastures with a view to their subsequent improvement.

The Falkland Islands Reserve Fund which stood at £34,000 on the 31st of December, 1937, was increased to £50,000 during the year 1938.

The principal heads of taxation are:—

- (1) Customs import and export duties.
- (2) Rates levied on house property.

Customs import duties are payable on wines, malt, spirits, tobacco and matches, at the following rates:—

Wines ...	3s. a gallon in bulk or 3s 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Malt ...	6d. a gallon in bulk or 6d. a dozen bottles of reputed pints.
Spirits ...	20s. a gallon.
Tobacco ...	4s. a pound.
Matches ...	For every gross of boxes not exceeding 10,000 matches, 4s.

A preferential rate of nine-tenths of the duty is allowed on tobacco and cigarettes of Empire production and manufacture and matches of Empire manufacture and provenance are admitted duty free.

Export duties are collected on wool, whale oil and seal oil at the following rates:—

Wool ... ..	1s. for every 25 lb.
Whale oil and seal oil	1s. 6d. for every barrel of forty gallons, or 9s. a ton.

The receipts from each source in 1938 were as follows:—

Import Duties ... ..	£ 7,203
Export Duties ... ..	7,244
Rate on house property ... ..	869

There are no excise or stamp duties and no hut tax or poll tax.

## PART II.—THE DEPENDENCIES.

### I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

#### General.

The Dependencies are divided into two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham's Land. Large areas of land in the Antarctic Continent are also comprised in the Dependencies.

#### Geography.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in 54½° south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east, respectively, of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands. South Georgia with the South Orkneys and South Sandwich group of Dependencies is bounded by the fiftieth parallel of south latitude and by the twentieth and fiftieth meridians of west longitude, and the South Shetlands and Graham's Land by the fifty-eighth parallel of south latitude and by the meridians of longitude fifty and eighty west. South Georgia is the principal island in the Dependencies and is the only portion of them inhabited throughout the year except for the meteorological station which is maintained by the Argentine Government on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys. It has an area of about 1,450 square miles (statute), is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains from which glaciers descend. There is but little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the south-west side being permanently

frozen. The main vegetation is some coarse grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous quadrupeds other than seals but reindeer have been introduced and are thriving well. There are many sea-birds including penguins and albatrosses. The sea-elephant, the sea-leopard and the Weddell's seal frequent its shores. The coast line has been indifferently charted but much useful work has been done in this direction during the past five years by the "Discovery" Expedition and the British Graham Land Expedition.

#### Climate.

Although Grytviken in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia, is little over a hundred miles further south than Stanley the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are ice-bound and snow-capped throughout the year and glaciers descend on a grand scale right to the sea. During the year 1938 the average mean temperature was 35.08° Fahrenheit. Rain fell on 76 days and snow or sleet on 73 days.

Within recent years instances of volcanic activity at Deception Island, South Shetlands, have been frequent. The first earthquake of which there is any definite record occurred in 1923, though it is stated by some of the whaling community that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced when a large rock forming the crest of a natural arch, and known locally as the "Sewing Machine," at the approach to Port Foster was disturbed, and, in 1925, during the absence of the whaling factory *Ronald*, one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-9 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, completely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently becomes agitated by the subterranean heat, the shores in places being completely obscured by the dense vapour emitted.

#### History.

South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands were sighted and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook in 1775, and the South Orkneys were discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove* who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by Mr. W. Smith in the brig *Williams* in 1819 and were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1820. Captain Bransfield also discovered the first part of Graham's Land and Mr. John Biscoe discovered the west coast in 1832. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers are reported there in 1819. The fur-seal

industry in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that expeditions were made to them in the two seasons 1820-1 and 1821-2 by no less than 91 vessels. So recklessly did they slaughter, however, that they are said practically to have exterminated the fur-seal, James Weddell stating that in 1822-4 these animals were almost extinct.

The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys to which reference has been already made was established in 1903 by the Scottish Antarctic Expedition under Mr. W. Bruce and was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government. Valuable contributions to the survey of the Dependencies have been made in recent years by the ships under the direction of the Discovery Committee, particularly the R.R.S. *Discovery II*. Knowledge of the South Georgia coast was much advanced in the years 1926-30, the South Sandwich group was surveyed in 1930, extensive running surveys were made in the South Orkneys in 1933, and from time to time in the South Shetlands.

#### II.—GOVERNMENT.

Constitutionally the Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say to the Governor and to the Executive and Legislative Councils. Ordinances enacted by the latter body, however, in respect of the Colony do not have application to the Dependencies unless they are specially applied.

The Dependencies, in contradistinction to the Colony, are peopled almost exclusively and utilised mainly by foreigners and are governed from the Falkland Islands with a central administration in common. A resident Magistrate and official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government who accompany the expeditions.

There is no local government in South Georgia; in fact there are no communities other than the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

#### III.—POPULATION.

There is no permanent population in the Dependencies except in South Georgia where the figures fluctuate with the seasons of the whaling industry. The population in South Georgia is resident either at the privately-owned whaling stations or at the Government Headquarters at King Edward Cove in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 750, practically all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third of that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are limited practically to the Government staff and to the crews of British vessels. The remainder are almost exclusively Norwegian. No deaths, births or marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1938.



## IV.—HEALTH.

There is little or no sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being of rare occurrence. Some unhealthiness, however, arises from the lack of fresh food-stuffs.

The Government does not maintain a Medical Officer in the Dependencies, but the whaling companies provide their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the Medical Officer resident at Grytviken. In the Dependency of South Georgia there are well-equipped hospitals maintained by the whaling companies.

Weather conditions were very bad during the year but health conditions were relatively good except that the monotony of the climate and the lack of sunshine tended to produce a state of mental depression.

## V.—HOUSING.

The housing question does not really arise in the Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed in quarters at King Edward Cove and the accommodation provided by the whaling companies for the personnel working on their stations may be said to be fully adequate.

## VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Apart from sealing on a small scale, the only industry in the Dependencies is whaling, and whale and seal oil and by-products of the whale, such as guano, are their sole products. The whaling season is restricted to the period from 16th October to 16th April, and sealing operations are carried on at South Georgia during the period 1st March to 31st October.

At South Georgia two stations only conducted operations while the land station at Deception Island remained closed. No floating factories operated under licence from the Government. The price of whale oil in 1938 ranged from £11 to £17 a ton according to grade.

In spite of adverse weather conditions the season was a successful one. 1,675 whales were taken as compared with 1,887 whales in the 1937-38 season. The total catch was made up of 1,307 fin, 232 blue, 117 sperm and 19 sei whales.

The quantity of oil produced amounts to 111,291 barrels with an average per "standard" whale of 109.1 barrels. 101,436 bags of guano were also produced.

For comparative purposes, the following table shows the actual catch, "standard whales," the oil and guano production, and the average for the season under review and the four preceding seasons:—

	1934-5.	1935-6.	1936-7.	1937-8.	1938-9.
Actual catch of whales	1,575	1,785	1,759	1,887	1,675
"Standard" whales	1,022	1,493	783	932	928
Oil produced (lbs.) ...	108,261	143,192	81,089	90,266	111,291
Guano (bags) ...	91,073	114,666	80,378	95,576	101,436
Averages—					
Oil (lbs.) ...	105.90	95.90	103.56	96.85	109.1
Guano (bags) ...	89.09	76.80	102.65	102.54	98.3

The total value of the season's production is estimated at £294,771 of which £205,978 represents the value of oil, and £88,793 guano.

## VII.—COMMERCE.

The whole of the Dependencies requirements in foodstuffs is of necessity imported.

The total value of imports and exports for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is shown in the following table:—

	IMPORTS.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Food, drink and tobacco ...	7,898	9,804	8,340	11,430	9,959
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	72,745	70,547	77,554	141,469	79,186
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	124,211	96,888	174,673	218,142	183,604
Miscellaneous and unclassified	—	—	—	182	159
Bullion and specie ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total imports, including impor- tations from the "high seas" for re-exportation.	£204,854	£177,239	£260,567	£371,223	£272,908

The decrease in the value of the total imports in 1938 is due to smaller importations of whale products from the "high seas" and to the fact that importations of oil fuel in 1937 were much in excess of actual requirements.

	EXPORTS.				
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Whale bone ...	2,200	1,221	1,362	728	810
Bone meal ...	1,521	1,589	4,454	4,401	—
Guano ...	65,838	62,768	70,268	34,328	39,532
Hardware, etc. ...	440	3,460	1,720	3,600	2,320
Seal oil ...	14,806	4,230	33,738	32,496	23,714
Whale oil ...	359,881	245,815	444,639	305,049	372,527
Whale meat meal ...	—	—	—	26,044	23,875
Other articles ...	10,800	6,400	—	—	134
Total exports including re- exports.	£455,486	£325,483	£556,181	£406,646	£462,912

## RE-EXPORTS.

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
Whale oil ... ..	93,842	60,015	133,658	178,190	211,361
Whale meat meal ... ..	—	—	—	4,574	—
Guano ... ..	—	—	4,667	—	—
Total re-exports ... ..	£93,842	60,015	138,325	182,764	211,361

## Imports.

The percentage of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries, excluding importations from the "high seas" for re-exportation, for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
British Empire ... ..	29.70	48.50	24.74	19.94	32.37
Foreign Countries ... ..	70.30	51.50	75.26	80.06	67.63

The principal supplying countries were:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	32,968	50,029	29,751	37,583	39,211
British West Indies ... ..	—	6,048	—	—	—
Argentina ... ..	5,524	7,505	3,952	3,710	3,801
Canary Islands ... ..	6,345	8,842	8,975	7,950	—
Cape Verde Islands ... ..	—	—	—	10,292	—
Denmark ... ..	—	2,583	4,317	—	3,150
Dutch West Indies ... ..	41,610	24,184	36,005	103,473	57,127
Holland ... ..	670	—	5,551	6,206	—
Norway ... ..	14,180	16,564	31,693	19,245	17,840

The decrease in the values of imports in 1938 from Canary Islands, Cape Verde Islands and Dutch West Indies is due to the fact that importations of oil fuel from these countries were much in excess of actual requirements in 1937.

The principal articles imported during 1938 and the previous year were as follows:—

	1937.	1938.	Principal sources of supply with value in £.
	Value.	Value.	
Provisions ... ..	9,028	7,917	United Kingdom (2,383), Norway (3,087), and Argentina (2,094).
Coal, coke and oil fuel ... ..	140,124	76,966	Dutch West Indies (57,045), United Kingdom (19,501), and Norway (420).
Bags and bagging ... ..	4,456	4,594	United Kingdom (4,594).
Canvas, rope, etc. ... ..	4,379	680	United Kingdom (529), and Denmark (148).
Hardware ... ..	17,229	16,510	Norway (8,521), United Kingdom (5,094), Denmark (2,262), and Argentina (601).
Paints and oils ... ..	2,847	3,229	United Kingdom (21,271), and Norway (966).

## Exports.

The percentage of domestic exports sent to the British Empire and foreign countries for the year under review and each of the preceding four years is given below:—

	British Empire.	Foreign Countries.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
1934 ... ..	98.65	1.35
1935 ... ..	92.14	7.86
1936 ... ..	41.93	58.07
1937 ... ..	39.31	60.69
1938 ... ..	71.37	28.63

The principal countries of destination were:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom... ..	438,681	293,999	191,902	159,846	205,726
Argentina... ..	5,606	12,084	70	9,065	180
French West Africa ... ..	—	13,000	—	—	—
Canary Islands ... ..	—	—	30,000	160,255	16,700
Denmark ... ..	—	—	—	77,480	—
Cape Verde Islands ... ..	—	—	177,040	—	29,360
Holland ... ..	—	—	15,385	—	—
Norway ... ..	—	—	42,380	—	36,220

The values and quantities of the principal domestic exports for the years 1937 and 1938 are given in the table below:—

	1937.		1938.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Whale bone ... ..	£ 728	tons 49	£ 810	tons 47
Bone meal ... ..	4,401	bags 10,867	—	bags —
Guano ... ..	34,328	61,632	39,532	64,973
Hardware ... ..	3,600	—	2,320	—
Seal oil ... ..	32,496	brls. 11,953	23,714	11,857
Whale oil ... ..	126,859	bags 36,246	372,527	182,861
Whale meat meal... ..	21,470	bags 42,490	23,875	bags 76,998

## Re-exports.

The re-exports from the Dependencies consist of whaling products from the "high seas" produced by pelagic whaling companies operating in the ice.

The values and quantities of the re-exports from South Georgia for the year 1937 and the year under review were as follows:—

	1937.		1938.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Whale oil ... ..	£ 178,190	brls. 47,058	£ 211,361	brls. 102,328
Whale meat meal...	4,574	bags 8,695	—	—
Guano ... ..	—	—	—	—

There have been no imports or exports of coin or notes during the past five years.

### VIII.—LABOUR.

Labour in South Georgia and on board the floating factories is especially recruited on contract terms. The average number of men employed during the whaling season from October to April is some 700 and the average number of hours worked per week is 54. During the remainder of the year the number decreases to about 200 and the average number of hours per week worked without overtime to 40.

Some 30 Falkland Islands labourers were employed on the two land stations at South Georgia and also on board the floating factories belonging to Messrs. Chr. Salvesen and Company, of Leith, Scotland. It is a condition of the leases of the land stations at South Georgia that up to 5 per cent. of the workers, exclusive of the maintenance staff, must be recruited in the Falkland Islands and supplied by the Government if suitable men are available.

### IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

The bonus system on production is generally in vogue, the total earnings of an ordinary labourer ranging from £10 to £15 a month with all found. There are no shops and no private trade in the Dependencies and all food-stuffs are provided by the whaling companies for the personnel engaged on their stations. The question of the cost of living does not, therefore, arise.

### X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

There are no children in the Dependencies and the problem of education does not therefore arise.

In South Georgia private cinematograph shows are run by the whaling companies for the benefit of the men employed on their stations. Football is played during the summer months and interest is taken in other forms of sport such as ski-ing during the deep snow of the winter months.

### XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

As has been stated in Chapter XI, Part I, of this Report, communication with South Georgia and Stanley is maintained by the Falkland Islands Company's s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of some 1,800 tons which makes two voyages during the year for the conveyance of mails to and from South Georgia. Opportunities occur not infrequently during the whaling season for the despatch of mails between Europe and South Georgia direct and there is a fairly reliable service three times in the year between Buenos Aires and Grytviken furnished by the motor auxiliary s.s. *Tijuca* of the Compania Argentina de Pesca. The majority of the vessels of the high seas whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the fishing grounds in November and also on their return journey in April.

Mails are received and despatched either direct or via Stanley by opportunities as they occur. Postal rates in the Dependencies are the same as from and to the Colony proper.

There is a wireless station at Grytviken maintained by the Government which is in regular communication with Stanley through which traffic is passed beyond the limits of the Colony. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island, in the South Orkneys.

Telegraphic charges from South Georgia to the United Kingdom via Falkland Islands Radio are 1s. 4½d. a word for ordinary, 11d. a word for code, and 8½d. a word for deferred messages.

No railways or roads exist in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia, by the whaling companies, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. At Grytviken the dock has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will accommodate vessels up to 160 feet in length and 15 feet in draught.

There are two ports of entry only in the Dependencies, one at Grytviken, South Georgia, and the other at Port Foster, Deception Island, in the South Shetlands.

The number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered at South Georgia in 1938 are given in the table below:—

Nationality.	Steam.		Sailing.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British ... ..	52	101,300	—	—
Foreign (mostly Norwegian) ...	34	54,921	1	497
	86	156,221	1	497

**XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.**

No public works of importance or interest were carried out by the Government during the year.

**XIII.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.**

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all the Dependencies. One constable is stationed at South Georgia. No cases of serious crime came before the Courts during the year. The personnel of the whaling industry forms a most peaceful and law-abiding community, rarely calling for inter-vention of the civil authorities. A very high standard of discipline is maintained by the managers of the several whaling stations.

**XIV.—LEGISLATION.**

See under Chapter XIV of Part I of this Report.

**XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.**

No banks of any description are in existence in the Dependencies. The same facilities as are afforded in the Colony through the Treasury at Stanley by the Government Savings Bank for deposit or by the Commissioner of Currency for remittance, are available in South Georgia through the agency of the Magistrate.

The legal tender currency is British sterling and Falkland Islands £5, £1 and 10s. notes.

Weights and measures are generally British or Norwegian standard. Whale and seal oil is calculated by the barrel at six barrels of forty gallons to the ton, and guano and other by-products of the whale in hundreds of pounds or in kilograms.

**XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.**

The revenue of the Dependencies is derived almost entirely from whaling industry and amounted in 1938 to £11,547. Export duty on whale oil and guano fell short of anticipated receipts by £3,474, while short falls were recorded under Internal Revenue—Licences—£650 and Rents—"Crown" Lands—£998. The expenditure for the year amounted to £11,547 which is equal to the revenue collected.

Comparative figures of the revenue and the expenditure for the past five years are given in the following table :—

	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1934 ... ..	14,892	14,892
1935 ... ..	12,617	12,617
1936 ... ..	24,344	19,851
1937 ... ..	12,942	12,942
1938 ... ..	11,547	11,547

The Dependencies have no public debt. The surplus of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1938, amounted to £200,667, all of which is earmarked for the Research and Development Fund.

The principal heads of taxation are Customs duties on the importation of alcoholic liquors and tobacco, and on the exportation of whale and seal oil and other products of the whaling industry such as guano. The amount collected by way of import duties in 1938 was £549, while export duties amounted to £8,326. The Customs tariff on importation is the same as in the Colony. Export duty on whale and seal oil was fixed at 1s. 6d. per barrel of 40 gallons or 9s. a ton. No change was made in the rate of export duty on guano which remained at 1½d. per 100 lb.

As in the Colony proper there are no excise or stamp duties, and no hut tax or poll tax.

## APPENDIX.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

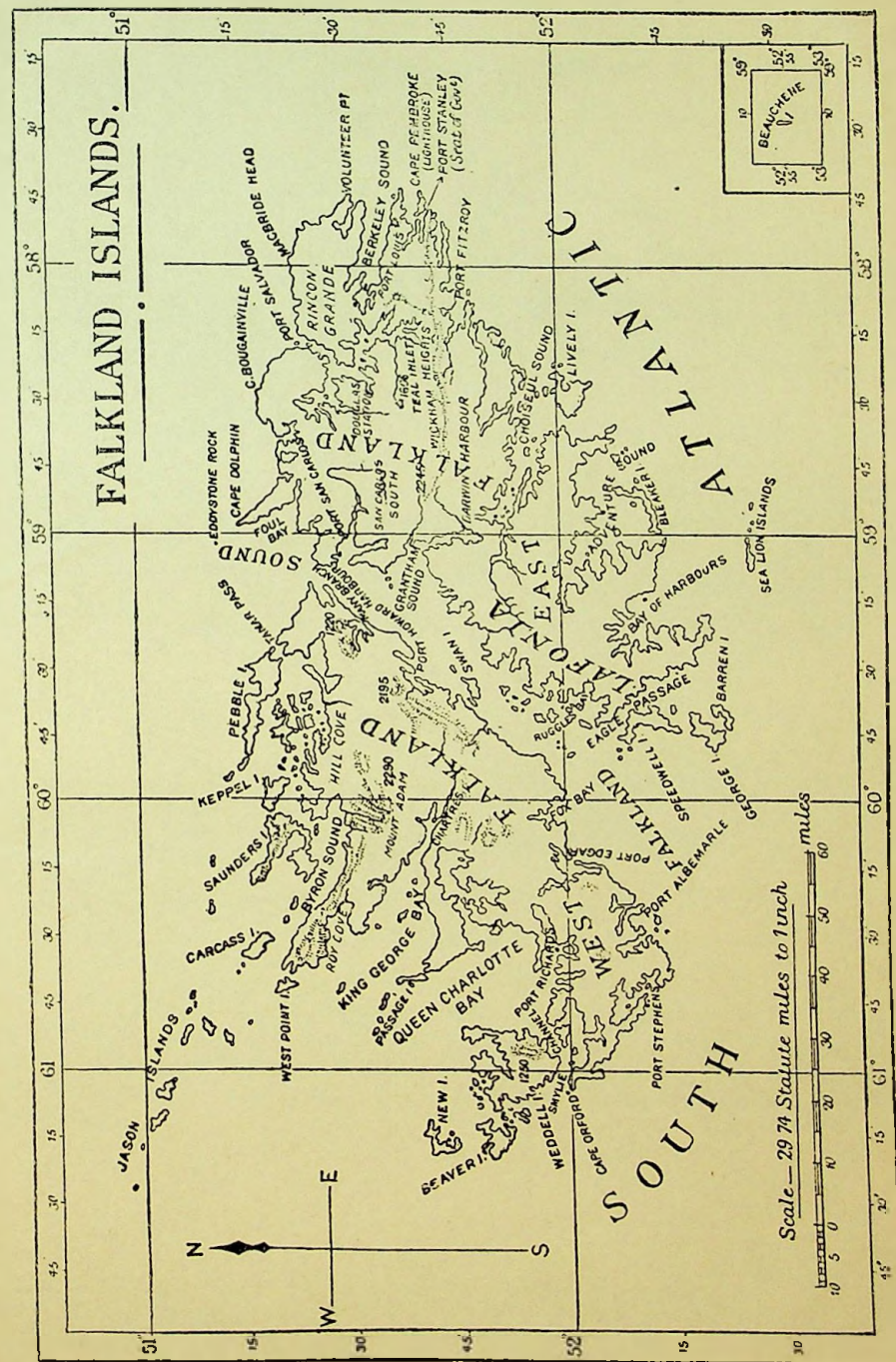
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Title.	Author.	Date.	Publisher.	Price. s. d.
Egmont Port, Account of last expedition.*	Bernard Penrose	1775	—	—
Falkland Islands.	G. T. Whittington	1840	Smith Elder and Co. and J. Ridgway.	—
Falkland Islands.	Sir W. L. Allardyce, G.C.M.G.	1909	Garden City Press, Letchworth.	—
Story of the Falkland Islands and Dependencies.	Sir T. R. St. Johnstone, K.C.M.G.	1920	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	—
The Falkland Islands.	V. F. Boyson	1924	Clarendon Press	10 0
Falkland Islands, a short notice prepared on the occasion of the Centenary of the Colony.	J. M. Ellis	1933	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	1 0
Antarctica.	Nordenskjold and Anderson.	1905	Hurst and Blackett	18 0
Memorandum on the sheep-farming industry in the Falkland Islands.	Sir John Middleton, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.	1924	Colonial Secretary's Office, Stanley.	2 6
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A botanical survey of the Falkland Islands.	Carl Skottsberg	1913	Almquist and Wiksells, Uppsala.	11 6
Illustrations of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of the Falkland Islands.*	E. F. Vallentin	1921	Reeve.	42 0
Voyage of a Naturalist.	Charles Darwin	1882	John Murray	—
Falkland Islands, wild life in.	A. F. Cobb.	1910	Gowans and Gray	0 6
Birds of the Falkland Islands.	A. F. Cobb, B.A., F.R.G.S.	1933	H. F. & G. Witherby	7 6
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South Georgia.	L. Harrison Matthews.	1931	Simpkin and Marshall, Ltd.	15 0
Whaling in the Antarctic	A. G. Bennett	1931	Blackwood	7 6
Whaling and other Researches.	"Discovery" Reports.	1929	Cambridge University Press.	Various prices.

Blue Book.

Annual.

The above publications, except those marked \*, may be consulted in the Library of the Colonial Office.



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