

DEP/WHA/1 # 9

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. *274/13*

Date of Receipt.

Governor's Office.



From

SUBJECT.

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

WHALING LICENCES

Papers on the subject of

No.

Date

Misc.

30th June 1915.

Colonial Secretary's Record No.

MINUTES.

Issued - 17 / 16.8.15

Registered Number of last Despatch.

No. next Despatch.

JWS

$\frac{A.}{1}$



274/108

Reference to previous correspondence:—

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Secretary of State's} \\ \text{Governor's} \end{array} \right\} \text{Despatch No.}$

Falkland Islands.

Miscellaneous

Downing Street,

30th June 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you

for your information a copy of

the papers noted below on the subject of whaling licences.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

The Officer Administering

the Government of the
Falkland Islands.

~~L. HARCOURT.~~
A. BONAR LAW.

Date.	Description.
19 th June '15	Letter from H. Virik.
30 th June '15	" to " "

29146/1915.

274/15
Downing Street,

30 June, 1915.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bonar Law to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th of June and to inform you, with reference to the request in the second paragraph, that the whaling licences for 1915-16 have not yet been received from the Falkland Islands.

2. No decision has been taken as regards the renewal of the licence of the Sociedad Ballenera De Magallanes, but, if a vacancy occurred in the licences for the South Shetland Islands and Graham's Land it is probable that it would be filled by a British Company.

3. A copy of this correspondence is being forwarded to the Governor of the Falkland Islands and to the Foreign Office.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. J. READ.
for the Under Secretary of State.

HENR H. VIRIK.



89a
COPY.

Sandefjord,

Norway. 19th June, 1915.

Sir,

As member of the committee of interested whaling companies which had the honour to have an audience with the British authorities at the Foreign Office I noted under my conference with your Mr. Parker that the government demanded that we, who have licence to catch whales at the British Colonies, should exert all our influence on the other whaling firms in order to induce them not to sell their cargoes of oil to the enemies of England. On this occasion was mentioned the s.s. "O R I O N", belonging to a Chilian company represented by the Chilian citizen Mr. A. Andresen and which expedition is fishing at the South West America. With reference to this I now beg to advise that I have communicated by telegraph with the said Mr Andresen and I am glad to say that at last after having made repeatedly and earnestly remonstrations with him I succeeded to induce him to authorize me to sell his oil. It follows itself that I will dispose of the cargo to England only even if the prices obtainable there at present are very low. On the other hand I am very glad to be able to prevent that a large cargo of oil from an independent and neutral country should be sold to an enemy of England. To confirm my authority to sell the "Orion's" cargo I would mention that

The Under Secretary of State

Colonial Office,

L O N D O N.

that I am also holding the insurance policies so that there will be no possibility for Mr Andresen to dispose of the cargo. Besides I will wire the steamer instructions to proceed to an English harbour for orders and I trust in the meantime to have succeeded in selling the cargo to England.

At the same time I beg to take this opportunity to thank you for your esteemed favour of the 30th April last from which I am glad to learn that the licence for my whaling company the A/S O D D has been renewed for the ensuing season. I have not yet received the usual documents and I should therefore be very much obliged to receive same at your earliest convenience as there is not long time yet left for arranging fresh outfit of the expedition. As previously mentioned to you the floating factory, the s.s. "Guvernren" and the entire production of oil was burned at the South Shetland last season and I shall have /to make provisions for a new floating factory. The 3 whale-catchers belonging to this company are laid up at Montevideo and are made clear for the ensuing season.

In order to legitimate that all my dealing in every respect have been in conformity with the regulations of the British authorities I beg to mention that the cargo of oil of my other company the s.s. "Normanna" has just been delivered in England. The cargo was discharged at the Thames Haven Oil Company's wharves.

As known to you the A/S "N O R M A N N A" has licence for South Orkney only. This water is

very

very difficult to operate in and last season I preferred to charter the floating factory to the whaling company the Sociedad Ballenera De Magallanos. As I am informed that this company will not again be granted renewal of its licence I respectfully beg to request that in this case this licence may be transferred to my whaling company the A/S "Normanna". With exception of last season this expedition has operated at South Orkney two years in succession and each year with very bad results. I would therefore esteem it a great favour and it would be of the greatest importance for my company if the High Authorities could see their way clear to transfer to me a vacant licence at the South Shetland. I am fully aware that your office have other more important things to deal with in these times and I would therefore ask you please to excuse this application.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) HALDOR VIRIK.