

POSTAL

MAI/GEN/1#18

C.S.

(West Falkland)

1922

No. 81/22

C. S. O.

SUBJECT.

192 2

Complaint regarding mail service to the West Falklands.

11th January

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

- Letter from Managers of Stations, West Falkland, d/11/1/22.....Encl (1)
- Letter from Messrs. J. I. Wilson and M. Robson d/12/1/22.....Encl (2)

*Col. Postmaster*

*In report please*

*22/1/22*

Hon. Secy.

On the occasion of the last voyage of the H.M.C.S. "Afterglow" that vessel did not call at Fox Bay and in consequence mails for that place were not sent. Complainants did not send any instructions that they desired their mails sent to some other place other than Fox Bay. Port Howard mail was sent to Hill Cove as I was informed by the F.I.S.Co., Ltd, that the Manager of port Howard would be at Hill Cove to receive it.

2. With regard to mails sent out by the s.s. "Falkland" mails were only sent for the places to which the vessel was calling. It has not been the practice for mails for other Stations to be sent to a Station such as the Chartres to be forwarded on unless instructions to do so have been received.

3. I am unable to agree with the remark made by complainants that it has always been the custom for letters for places other than those to which a vessel calls to be sent out - this has been done when instructions to do so have been received, not otherwise. If complainants and others desire their letter mails sent to any place on the W.F. at which a vessel will call this can easily be done.

Subsequent Paper.

*H. Craigie Halkett*  
*Col. Postmaster*

23/1/22

Memorandum from Postmaster 23 July 1922 Encl (3)

Y.R.  
submitted

2. To reply in sense of P's minute and memorandum regretting the inconvenience ~~caused~~ caused but suggesting that the writer give definite instructions to the Postmaster in respect of the delivery of mails at places in the West Falklands other than those at which a vessel is calling.

TTTTT 24/1/22  
M.  
24 January 1922

Letter to Mr. J. J. Wilson 28 July 1922 Encl (4)

B1121

Gov Bk.

West Falkland,

11<sup>th</sup> Jan., 1922.

The Hon.,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
O'Connell.



Sir, We have the honor to request your attention to a present grievance in connection with the West Falkland mail service.

In spite of the fact that the Government steamer on her first trip called at Port Stephens, Weddell Island, West Point Island, Saunders Island and Sir Cove, only the mails for the places mentioned were conveyed. In view of the fact that the vessel had to pass Gov Bk. (which she did, very close in) we are of opinion that it was a regrettable oversight that at least the <sup>remainder of the</sup> letter mail for West Falkland was not delivered at Gov Bk. Post Office. At the moment of writing, several of us are not yet in receipt of the "Dreams" mail, which was received in O'Connell only in December, - a fact which is leading to business difficulties, which appear not to be fully realized.

Yours

We therefore venture to express the hope  
that in future all the available facilities  
for conveying mails to New Zealand  
will be utilized.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants

J. James Wilson J.P.  
Cassell Bros. & Co.

Michael Johnson J.P.  
Baillou & Stickney.

Robt Pol Evans on behalf of J. & M. Adams  
Ltd & employees

William H. Curzon J.P.  
Messrs & Co.

81/22

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Fox Bay, West Falkland,

12th. January, 1922.



Sir,

With reference to the arrival of the S.S. "Falkland" at Hill Cove on the 10th. instant, we have the honour to inform you that it has been reported that no mail has been brought out for Fox Bay, and beg to draw your attention to the fact that, including the recent calls of the Government trawler "Afterglow" to ports on the West Falkland, this is the second opportunity which has been missed in the despatching of our mail letters to this Island.

It has always been the custom, to our recollection, that vessels leaving Stanley for the West Falkland bring, at the very least, letters for places other than those on which they call, and it seems most extraordinary that Fox Bay has been entirely left out on this occasion when practically all other farms on the West Falklands have received this mail - i.e. as despatched by the S.S. "Afterglow" and S.S. "Falkland" aforesaid. This is all the more unaccountable when it is considered that the S.S. "Falkland" will call at Chartres on this trip, which is only three hours ride from Fox Bay and connected by telephone. If Chartres, or any farm, can be expected

expected to send through to Fox Bay for their mail when occasion requires, surely it can be understood that we of Fox Bay can pick up our mails (letters) wherever they may be landed on the main-land of the West Falklands, and be often too glad of having the opportunity of doing so, particularly in these days of bad communication. What we cannot understand is this, that if Port Howard mail can be landed on Pebble Island, why on earth cannot Fox Bay mail be sent to Chartres, or even Hill Cove or Spring Point where we understand the "Falkland" is to call.

When one considers that the mail in question has been lying in Stanley for the past six weeks, it is only reasonable to expect that some special attempt, even at the cost of a little inconvenience (if it can be so considered), could have been made for us to get our home letters. Had there been no conveyances to the West Falkland during the above period, the matter might have assumed a different aspect, but this has not been the case, and we strongly feel that we have been badly treated in the matter, and hold it to be a just grievance to lay before you for explanation.

The Hon.,

The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley.

We have the honour to be,

Sirs,

Your obedient servants,

*J. James Wilson,  
Capt. B.A. 1842.  
Michael Robson  
Baillon & Sticker*

81/22

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MEMORANDUM

With reference to letter of 11th inst., signed by The Managers of East Fox Bay, West Fox Bay, Port Howard and the Chartres, the mails for Chartres were sent out by the s.s. "Falkland" as that vessel was calling at that place. Mails for Port Howard were sent to Hill Cove as the Falkland Is. Co., Ltd, informed the Post Office that Mr. R. C. pole Evans would be at Hill Cove awaiting the mail. No instructions were received to send any other Stations mail to Hill Cove.

2. On one occasion the Post Office sent the West point Is. mail to Roy Cove to be forwarded on. This was done without instructions but it was thought that it would facilitate the mail reaching its destination. The Manager, West point Is., took exception to the mail for that place being sent via Roy Cove.

3. All mails are usually sent to the Fox Bay post Office unless of course the vessel is calling at other places, when mails for such places are always sent direct.

4. It is not known at the Post Office that mails for Port Howard have been landed on Pebble Is., with perhaps one exception when the mail was landed there at the request of the parties concerned, Under ordinary conditions the Port Howard mail would never be landed at Pebble Is.

*M. Craigie Ho Kerr*

23.1.22

81/22

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81/22

28th January, 22

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 11th and 12th of January signed in conjunction with the Managers of East Fox Bay, Port Howard and Chartres Stations, and containing complaints regarding the recent mail service for West Falkland Island.

2. I am to inform you that it has not been the custom to forward mails for places other than those at which a vessel calls, except through Fox Bay Post Office or in cases where the parties concerned give definite instructions regarding the delivery of their mails. On one occasion an exception to this practice was made and in order to expedite delivery the mail for West Point Island was landed at Roy Cove without instructions. At that time the Manager at West Point Island took objection to his letters being transmitted via another station and not direct.

3. It is not known at the Post Office that mails for Port Howard have been landed on Pebble Island with perhaps one exception, when the mail was landed there by request: under ordinary conditions the Port

J. I. Wilson, Esq., J.P.,  
Fox Bay, W.

Howard/

West Falkland.



Howard mail is never landed at Pebble Island. In the case of the last Port Howard mail information was received from the Falkland Islands Company that the Manager of Port Howard Station would receive it at Hill Cove. No instructions were given with regard to the mails for any other stations.

4. I am to express His Excellency's regret that in the present instance inconvenience has been caused through the unavoidable delay in the transmission of the West Falkland mails, and to suggest that managers of stations should give definite instructions to the Postmaster in respect of the delivery of mails at places in the West Falklands other than those at which a vessel is calling.

5. I shall be glad if you will kindly communicate this reply to Messrs. Robson, Evans and Luxton.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. R. L. Brown,

for Colonial Secretary.