

C.S.

SCIENTIFIC.
No. 343/26

1926.

Mr. E. Gebbardt.

SUBJECT.

1926.
22nd April.

REQUESTS INFORMATION REGARDING THE
INTRODUCTION INTO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS OF
THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

PA. reference

1. Letter from Mr. E. Gebbardt of 22 April 1926.
Ag. Government Naturalist.

Perhaps you would care to reply to
this letter personally. If so, it would be
convenient for purposes of record that a copy
of your letter should be filed in this paper.

*C.M.L.B.
Difesent
27 July 1926*

Hon Col Secy

2. Letter answered as copy attached

*ASB
14/8/26
cc Nat*

Subsequent Paper.

2

Government Naturalists'
Department.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

14th August 1926.

343/26

Sir.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22/4/26 addressed to the Department of Agriculture on the subject of *Passer domesticus* L.

I am instructed to inform you that this English sparrow first arrived in this Colony in November 1920 as free passengers in the rigging of four steamers arriving at this port from Monte Video, all within two weeks. One steamer was British, and three Norwegian.

These birds boarded the ships at Monte Video and left them on arrival at Stanley. There were from six to twenty on each ship.

The houses here are mostly built of wood with corrugated iron roof. This being ideal for nesting sites for these birds, they at once settled down to the duties of reproduction with remarkable success.

They have spread over almost the whole islands, in fact they spread greatly in the first two years. They are now numerous, but several cases of degeneration have come to my notice - horn minus eyes.

You should find something on this subject in "Ibis" June 1926 written by me

I am,

Sir.

Your obedient servant

A. G. Bennett
Acting Government Naturalist.

To Herr F. Gebhardt,
Sulzbacherstr 54
Nuremberg
Germany

Nuremberg, the 22 April 1926. (1)

To the



Government of the Falkland-Islands
Department for Agriculture

I heard, that the English sparrow (Passer domesticus L.) has been established on the Falkland-Islands.

I am scientifically very interested to know at what time (what year if possible), ~~and~~ from whom he has been established and from what country (probably from England?) it has been brought there. At the same time I should be very glad to get any details, whether he has spread out farther in your country, if he thrives well, and if he covers also the western island.

With best thanks ⁱⁿ advance for your kind information

Yours truly

Erwin Gebhardt

Sulzbacherstr. 54

Nuremberg (Germany)

(Member of the German Ornithological Society etc)