

C.S.

MEDICAL
(Board of Health).

1927.

No.

91/27.

Colonial Secretary.

SUBJECT.

1927.

22nd February.

Previous Paper.

MEASURES TO COMBAT PEST OF THE BLOW-FLY.

General Measures other than those of Trapping
and introduction of antagonistic parasites.

Respiral flavicans (M.P.'s 57/27 & 89/27).
*The law made by the Board of Health
(East Falkland Island) on the 2nd of May, 1927.*

MINUTES.

Copy of despatch from Secretary of State, No. 141 of the
30th December, 1926.

COPIED FROM M.P. 57/27.

Y.E.,

Submitted. The fly-traps etc., have been received
and I understand that Y.E., has the parasitised puparia at
Govt. House.

2. There are three main headings under which consider-
ation is called for in the first place

- (i) the use of the fly-traps, e.g., at Govt. House
and at Sullivan House;
- (ii) the care and breeding of the parasites; and
- (iii) the introduction of measures to combat the blow-fly
in and around Stanley, e.g., the destruction of carcasses on
the Common.

3. The last question is rather one for the detailed
investigation of the Board of ^{Health} ~~Trade~~ but Y.E., may wish to
have the observations of the Col. Surgeon thereon in the
first place, as also on the two former questions.

(Itld.) J.M.E.
7.2.27.

Subsequent Paper.

PA 27/7/27
- 44

M.P. 89/27
M.P. 57/27

H.C.S.,

Please refer to Hon. Colonial Surgeon for careful scrutiny and request him to see me with these papers at 11.30 a.m., on Thursday 10th inst.

(Itld.) A.E.B.
8 Feby. 1927.

Hon. Col. Surgeon,

Accordingly, please.

8.2.27.

(Sgd.) J.M.Ellis,
Ag. Col. Sec.

Hon. Col. Secretary,

I have spoken to His Excellency and explained that I have no information as to the modus operandi in dealing with the parasite *Alysia manducator* but will be glad to be furnished with any information on the subject, and will do all that is in my power. The report furnished by the Government Naturalist and myself on 27/10/22 if put into operation would deal effectually with this pest, which I am pleased to say have not been as bad this summer. The ashpits that are the principal breeding ground for these pests are if anything worse at the Government Quarters than in the private houses.

(Sgd.) F.G.W.Deane,
Colonial Surgeon.
16/2/27.

Y.E.,

Submitted.

2. The report of 27.10.22 to which Hon. Col. Surgeon refers is filed in M.P. 717/22 attached. It was referred to Hon. Col.Surgeon as President of the Board of Health on 7.11.22 but there is no record to show the action thereon taken by the Board. Hon. Col. Surgeon should be asked to say what action was taken or, if possible, to refer me to the subsequent correspondence which may be filed otherwise in this office ?

3. If Hon. Col. Surgeon wishes to imply that among others the ashpit at Sullivan House, my official residence, requires attention, he is certainly correct as since he kindly called my attention a short while ago to its condition I have been intending to take the matter up with the Colonial Engineer.

I will do so forthwith; and at the same time it might be well if Hon. Col. Surgeon in his capacity as President of the Board of Health would submit a report on the condition of the ashpits at other Government buildings and residences.

(Itld.) J.M.E.
16.2.27.

H.C.S.,

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3. Hon. Colonial Surgeon should report as proposed in your para. 2 and proceed as suggested in your para. 3.
.

(Itld.) A.E.B.
17 Feby. 1927.

Hon. Col. Surgeon

M.P. referred to you

to action accordingly, please.

J. M. E.

25. 2. 27.

G. W. Lee

Draft Bye-laws for consideration of Board of
Health (East Falkland Is).

5.

G.H.

Hon. G. Sayer

M.P. returned together with a copy
draft bye-laws that you may think fit to
bring before the Board of Health at the next
meeting.

J. Miller
G. H. S.

24.3.27.

Hon. Colonial Surgeon.

Your paper was returned from
your department to-day unminuted.

G.H.S.
18 May 1927

Hon. Col. Secretary

The matter was
dealt with in the minutes of
the Board of Health please.

J. Whelan
Colonial Surgeon

20.5.27

Hon Colonial Surgeon,

It is necessary, however that the relevant extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Bd of Health held on the 2nd of May 1927 should be copied to this paper, and that two copies of the By-laws signed by the Clerk to the Board should be furnished. If Mr Aldridge will see me with this paper I shall explain to him what is required.

W. L. J.
D/C S
20 May 1927

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING HELD ON THE 2nd OF MAY, 1927.

" 2. The new Bye-Law as drafted by the Hon. Col. Secretary regarding the burial of animals that die in Stanley or on Stanley Common was approved by the Board."

L. H. Aldridge

Clerk to the B. O. H.

Hon Col. Secretary

Extract from Minutes
and copies of new Bye-Laws forwarded,
please.

J. W. Deane

Colonial Surgeon

27.5.27.

Hon Treasurer.

For info.

2. These Byelaws will be laid before Executive Council for approval at next meeting of the Council.

G.W. Brown
Clerk Ex. Co.
7 June 1927

Hon. Sol. Sec.

Noted.

M. Craigie Hartley
Treas
8. 6. 27

Hon W.H.R. Graham.

To see

G.W. Brown
clk Ex Council.
4/7/27.

Seen please.

W.H.R. Graham
4/7/27.

Extract from minutes of meeting held on 7th July 1927. of Executive Council.

The Bye-laws were approved

G.W. Brown
Clerk Executive Council

6-7

Ag. Registrar,

For withdrawal of auth enclosed copy of Bye-laws for your file.

G.W. Brown
for C.S.
11 July 1927

Hon. Col. Sec.

Withdrawn accordingly.

M. Brajendra Nath

11. VII. 27

8. Despatch to S. of S. No. 130 of 20th July, 1927

y. 2. Despatch submitted + signature if

approved.

jud

25. 7. 27.

M.
25. 27.
7

Hon Colonial Surgeon.

30 copies of By-Laws herewith.

M. B.

for C.S.

26 July 1927

Hon Col. Secretary

Copies withdrawn

Please.

J. M. Deane

Colonial Surgeon

27. 7. 27.

P. A.
30/1/29

WINDHAM CLUB,

St. James's Square,

S. W. 1.

15th December, 1926.

Sir,

In a memorandum on the Sheep Farming Industry in the FALKLAND ISLANDS, which was forwarded to you in the early part of 1923, attention was drawn to the necessity for special measures being taken for the reduction of the Bluebottle, which has become a serious pest in the Colony and which has been identified as the European blow-fly CALLIPHORA ERYTHROCEPHALA.

2. The fly is reported to have been introduced and was first observed about 40 years ago. As it is a carrion-eater, local conditions are particularly favourable to its increase. Taking the average death-rate among sheep at the conservative figure of 10% it may be estimated that the annual number of deaths is not less than 60,000, while owing to the large areas of the farms only a very small percentage of the carcasses are discovered; and these, after the removal of the skin, are left to decay. At the present time the fly is found in very large and rapidly increasing numbers throughout the whole Colony.

3. The blow-fly of the Falkland Islands does not attack living sheep as do the species of blow-flies found in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, in which countries the blow-fly menace has formed the subject of special enquiry. As a result of field investigations in New South Wales which were recently carried out in New South Wales on a very large scale, the following important conclusions

Department of
Agriculture,
New South Wales
Science Bulletin
No. 27 (May
1926)

have/

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,

COLONIAL OFFICE

have been arrived at, which cannot fail to be of value in considering measures for the reduction of the blow-fly in the Falkland Islands.

(a) The actual range of blow-flies is at least 10 miles and a single carcase is capable of infecting a tract of country 20 miles in diameter or 314 square miles in area.

(b) The prevailing wind has a direct influence on the direction in which the flies travel and the majority of the flies travel with or slightly across the wind when ranging over the country in search of breeding or feeding grounds, although they will follow the scent of carrion against a slight breeze.

(c) The length of life of the adult flies under field conditions varies from at least 8 to 28 days and is probably longer.

4. These results, it is pointed out, strongly emphasize the value of carcase destruction, as a means of reducing the number of blow-flies and other measures advocated for the same object include trapping of the adult flies and the introduction of the parasite *ALYSIA MANDUCATOR*, which would destroy the blow-fly pupae,

5. In the Falkland Islands the large area of the farms and the nature of the country make effective carcase-destruction, for the present impracticable, but much could be done by improving the sanitation of the Settlements, by using a simple form of incinerator, and by trapping the adult flies.

6. Energetic measures, however, for the reduction of the number of blow-flies in Stanley and its vicinity

are/

①

are urgently necessary. The expenditure of a relatively large sum has been approved for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the town and the establishment of a scavengering service and the provision of an incinerator have been decided upon. The town is situated on a peninsula, which is in the extreme east of the island. The prevailing winds are from the West and North-west. The common and the other lands in the immediate vicinity of the town, with the exception of a small area owned by the Falkland Islands Company, are the property of the Crown; and I suggest that the Board of Health should consider what means are practicable for ensuring the destruction of carcasses on these lands. I recommend further that steps should be taken for the reduction of the blow-fly by means of trapping the adult flies and by endeavouring to introduce the parasite *ALYSIA MAIDUCATOR*.

Vide M.P.
57/27

COPY.

FAIRLAND ISLANDS.

No.141.

DOWNING STREET,

30 December, 1926.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a letter from Sir John Middleton containing various suggestions for combating the pest of the blow-fly in the Falkland Islands.

2. In regard to the sixth paragraph of Sir John Middleton's letter, enquiries have been made from the Ministry of Health as to the means adopted with success in this country for rendering carrion or other meat unpalatable to the fly. I am informed that borax or boric acid powder sprinkled over a carcass has the effect of repelling the insect. You will no doubt consider whether an experiment as to the efficacy of such treatment might usefully be conducted in the environs of Stanley.

3. I shall be interested to learn, in due course, how far it has proved practicable to give effect to Sir John Middleton's proposals, and with what measure of success they have been attended.

I have, etc.,

(SIGNED). L. S. AMERY.

THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING
THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

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Short title.

4. These bye-laws may be cited as "The Board of Health (East Falkland Island) (Disposal of Carcasses) Bye-laws, 1927."

Made by the Board of Health at a meeting held on the 2nd day of May, 1927.

L. W. Aldridge,

Clerk of the Board of Health.

Approved by the Governor in Executive Council at a meeting held on the 7th of July, 1927.

G. R. L. Brown.

Clerk of the Executive Council.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE, 1894,

BYE-LAWS MADE BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE
EAST FALKLAND ISLAND, UNDER SECTIONS 18 AND 19
OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE, 1894.

Burial of
carcasses
compulsory.

1. The owner of any animal which dies within the limits of the Town or the Common of Stanley shall bury the carcass of such animal within forty-eight hours of death to a depth of at least three feet.

Action to be
taken by Inspector
of Nuisances in
event of failure
of owner to bury
carcass.

2. If the owner as aforesaid shall fail to bury the carcass within forty-eight hours the Inspector of Nuisances on receipt of information to such effect shall serve on him a notice in writing calling upon him to bury the carcass within a further period of forty-eight hours and if the owner as aforesaid shall still fail to bury the carcass within such period of forty-eight hours the Inspector of Nuisances shall forthwith cause the carcass to be buried.

Cost to be
borne by owner.

3. In any case under the preceding bye-law where the owner as aforesaid shall fail to bury the carcass within forty-eight hours of the receipt of a notice in writing from the Inspector of Nuisances and the Inspector of Nuisances shall cause the carcass to be buried the owner as aforesaid shall pay to the Inspector of Nuisances on demand the costs of such burial not exceeding £1 and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding £5.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
STANLEY,
20th July, 1927.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.
No. 130.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch, No. 141 of the 30th of December, 1926, relative to ^{the} blow-fly pest in the Falkland Islands, I have the honour to transmit six copies of Bye-laws made by the Board of Health (East Falkland Island) on the 2nd of May, 1927, as a result of the suggestion made by Sir John Middleton that measures should be taken for ensuring the disposal of carcasses within the town and environs of Stanley.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
L. C. M. S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.