

292/31

SCIENTIFIC

NAT/FAU/1 # 8

(Naturalist)

1922

C.S.

No. 717/22

Governor

SUBJECT.

1922

18th October

Previous Paper.

Respecting the reduction of the
Bluebottle fly in the Falklands

57/27.

MINUTES.

*Minute from H.C. the Governor of 18th October 1922
with enclosure 'A'— Encl ①*

Govt. Naturalist

Accordingly

18/10/22

Hon. Col. Sec.

Notes please. Report to follow.

J.H. Hamilton.

Govt. Naturalist.

Hon. Col. Surgeon.

21/10/22

Passed to you please.

*2. Please see para 3. of A.S.'s
minute.*

J.H. Hamilton.

Govt. Naturalist.

21/10/22.

Subsequent Paper.

Hon. Colonial Secretary.

Report on the Subject of
Fly Distinctions is forwarded
herewith please.

I should like to add that
many members of the order
Diptera are known to be
concerned in the causation
of diseases of man and of
animals; by biting, or by living
as parasites especially in the
larval stage, either internally
or externally, and by carrying
disease germs either as direct
agents or as intermediate hosts
for parasites.

J. H. Deane

Colonial Surgeon

27/10/22.

Re Meat pest, (? "Blue-bottle")
among mutton industries
at Falkland Islands.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON: S.W.

23. IV. 1920.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter (undated) forwarding for identification a Bluebottle from the Falkland Is, I write to say that the fly is a specimen of the Common (British) Bluebottle, which is known scientifically as Calliphora erythrocephala, Mg. This is not the first time that we have received this insect from the Falkland Is.; in 1913 Mr. R. Vallentin sent us an example of it from West Falkland. The species must have been introduced at some time or other, but quite possibly may have been established in the Falklands before 1878.

Since the fly is increasing in numbers, it is evident that sufficient attention is not being paid to its breeding places. No carrion or offal should be allowed to lie about, but should promptly be destroyed by incineration; mere burial in loose earth will not suffice to prevent the emergence of flies. Skins awaiting shipment should be kept in screened buildings; if not required, they should be destroyed by fire. The thorough screening of meat-stores with wire gauze is very important; such screening however is useless unless the only entrance and exit is a porch (preferably not less than ten feet in length), provided at each end with a self-closing fly-proof door, opening outwards. Large calibre fly-traps, such as the Balfour box-trap (see my pamphlet on "The House-Fly", issued by this Museum, p. 40), should be constructed in numbers, and used wherever the Bluebottles are abundant.

Insect enemies of the Bluebottle, such as the Ichneumon known as Alysia manducator, undoubtedly exist, and one or other of these might possibly be introduced with advantage. For information, and possible assistance in this connection, your best course would be to write to Dr. G. S. Graham-Smith, F.R.S. (c/o Prof. G. F. Nuttall, F.R.S., Quick Laboratory, New Museums, Cambridge), who has devoted special attention to the parasitic Hymenoptera, and is best qualified to

advise

(A)

But much bigger!
T.M.S.

But with some
hesitation!

advise you on the subject.

Yours faithfully,

E. E. Austen,

Major.

Lt.-Col. T. R. St.-Johnston,

c/o The Royal Colonial Institute,

Northumberland Avenue,

W.C. 2.



DATE.....

From Governor to Colonial Secretary.

①

Letter

This was sent to me some time ago by W. Dunning
of Colonial Office who had received it from Colonel St. Johnston

2. Will you please send the letter to Govt. Secretaries
& letter to Colonial Surgeon.

3. ~~When~~ I have already written a minute advising
Col. Surgeon to try traps for reduction of blue bottles.
I shall be glad if the Colonial Surgeon & Govt.
Secretaries will confer & prepare a joint report
on measures for the reduction of numbers of
Blue bottles (a) in the Valley, (b) in the Camp.

J. H.

22 Oct 1922

Report on the Subject of Fly Destruction.

I. Stanley.

II. Camp

I. STANLEY.

The places which offer the most favourable breeding grounds for Blowflies are the slaughterhouses.

Guarded traps should be placed in the ^{immediate} vicinity of these places.

Offal. Each slaughterhouse should be provided with an incinerator and those in charge of the establishments should be instructed to burn all those parts of every animal which are not required for food. This incineration should be carried out on every occasion immediately after slaughtering is finished and should include the burning of heads, trotters etc.

Cleanliness. The slaughterhouses should have an adequate supply of fresh water for flushing and cleansing, operations which should be carried out at frequent intervals. The greatest care should be taken to keep the places and their surroundings clean and sanitary.

Private Houses. The system of ashpits should be abolished, but if such a step is not practicable householders should be instructed to place animal or vegetable matter, not in the ashpits, but in separate receptacles which should be dealt with by the Sanitary Authorities in the Government Incinerator.

In addition to actual organic refuse empty tins bottles, etc. which have contained food should be burnt, they should therefore

therefore be placed in the special receptacles for animal and vegetable waste.

Meat Safes. All meat safes should be kept in sound condition and scrupulously clean. A ribbon pattern fly-paper should be kept in each.

In general, no opportunity should be lost of killing flies the practice of "swatting" them should be inaugurated and fly-papers should be used wherever possible.

II. CAMP.

Action by residents in the camp and on the same lines is recommended. We would draw attention to the point that the common practice of throwing carcasses (of birds as well as sheep), heads, etc. on the beach and of permitting bones to lie about in the settlements, is almost certain to provide suitable breeding places for flies.

All such residues should be burnt.

NOTE.

We would particularly recommend that all Arsenic Traps should be placed well out of the reach of children and domestic animals, and that they should be well guarded.

Two specimen traps are at present being prepared by the Public Works Department; when they have been tried a report will be furnished.

J. H. Deane

Colonial Surgeon.

J. H. Hamilton

Government Naturalist.

Y.S.
Submitted

This should be referred to the
Board of Health?

~~ttttt~~ 6/16/22
J.M.
- 4/11/22

Chairman Both
accordingly

~~ttttt~~ 7/16/22

P.A.