

C.S.

MEDICAL
(Board of Health).

103

1927.

No. 57/27. (Contd.) (2)

Crown Agents.

SUBJECT.

1927.

1927.

MEASURES TO COMBAT PEST OF BLOWFLY.

Proposed introduction of parasite 'Alysia
Manducator'.

Previous Paper.

716/22. 717/22.

MINUTES.

1-5.

6-7.

*P. of P. Miscellaneous despatch of 13th September, 1930.
Despatch to S of S. no. 226 of 29.10.30.*

*Mr. Treasurer MCH
30.X.30*

*Mr. P. D. O. J.S.M. 31.X.30
To see*

*P.A.
3/11/30*

V. J. J.

29. 10. 30

8-9.

Letter from Mr. H. G. Bennett of 25/1/31.

10.

Letter to Imperial Bureau of Entomology 1/7/31.

Subsequent Paper.

Ag. foot. Naturalist.

Please see .

2. Thank you for this further report.

3. A determination in our criticisms

of yesterday's data future steps

can be considered, say, in September
next.

Julius

1. 7. 31.

Hon. Col. Seay

Seen. + notes for Sept.

R. G. Bennett

2-7-31

cf. 15/9/31.
9.8. 2/7/31.
C.

Letter from Imp. Ins. of Entomology, 13/8/31.

"

Ag. foot Nat.

Please see.

Inside Minute Paper.

2. What further steps, if any, do you recommend shall now be undertaken?

Indira

9.9.31

Hon. Col. Seng

Owing to the violent climatic conditions that now prevail, I confess that I am at a complete loss to make any suggestion whatever, or until there is good evidence of survivors

U. Bennett
15/9/31

~~6.10.31~~ ~~6.11.31~~

~~15.9.31~~ ~~6.10.31~~

4 26. 11. 31

7
8 6. 11. 31

Ag. post let.

What progress, if any,
has to report, please?

J. M. S.

27. 11. 31.

Hon. Col. Secy:

On Nov 29th one insect appeared,
and two on the 30th. This is due to
the arrival of milder weather, & more may
be looked for during the next four weeks.

A. J. Bennett
as Nat
30/11/31

4. 5. 1. 32.

12. 2. 12. 31.

Ag. post-let.

For report on the
present position, please.

J. M. S.

5. 1. 32.

Hon. Col. Secy:

The results to date are highly disappointing.

Following my minute of 30.11, twenty insects appeared up to 16/12. Some 300 maggots were put to these, & upon which the insects exhausted themselves. From Jan 2nd onward six insects have emerged, and probably the next week will see the completion of this brood. Fully 10,000 maggots were introduced into Alysia in March-April 1931, so that the results are each season becoming worse, especially the first, or spring brood.

The statements current in Stanley to the effect that Alysia is common in houses, so far has no foundation. I have seen numbers of a small fly that is very common on windows; although the size is similar it is a very different insect

A. J. Bennett
ag Nat
6/1/32

G. E. Schuttel. After all

our pains it does not seem

likely that much result will

come from this experiment. ✓

6.1.32.

Hon C. S.
I regret having
to agree
J. G.
8-1-32

b.f. 9. 4. 32

po 9. 1. 32.

Hy. bot lab.

You are preparing

✓ further report ✓ this

comes due, please.

J. M. S.

11.4.32.

Hon: Col: Esq:

Report on progress? 1931-2
season. herewith.

(12.)

ag Bennett.
of Nat
28/4/32.

Letter to Director, Imp. Bureau of Entomology, of 29/4/32.

13.

y. 2. Schittell to information,

J. M. S.

29. 4. 32.

Hon C. S.

Noted. *J. M. S.*

29-4-32

P. A. *J. M. S.*

30.4.32

2

14. Letter from the Imperial Institute of Entomology.

y. 2.

Subthal. The
 experiment may be definitely
 dated as a failure and
 may be discontinued.

2. It is disappointing to
 Mr Bennett who has given
 much time and trouble to
 the propagation of the parasite.
 So much so that he may
 not answer that the failure

to in no degree to be
laid at his door.

Jul
2

16. 4. 32.

Hon C. S.

yes: I agree.
J. G.
18. 7. 32

Ag. for let.

Please see.

W. H. S.

18. 4. 32.

Hon: Col: Secy:

Thank you. I would propose that should some
insects emerge between now & December that they
are released after pairings. I have long suspected @. 2
that alysia was not equal to the extermination of the
"Blue-bottle"; obviously, if alysia could extinguish the
latter, it would itself go out too, or the best fitted bluebottles
would survive - those immune to alysia

Alf Bennett
of Nat
18. 7. 32

By. fact let.

Approved: Thank you.

[Signature]

18.7.32

Hon: Col Seay

Seen. Thank you.

[Signature]
as N.M.

15.7.32

[Signature]
19/7/32

(15) Letter from Goot Naturalist 16/1/33

J.S. Mitchell. I will thank

M^r Bennett for his memo.

Hon C. P.

Yes please do. 16.1.33

[Signature]

16.1.33

By. for. sub.

Membership plan.

Index

12. 1. 22.

Hon. Col. Searcy

Thank you.

H. B. Smith
18. 1. 53

P. H. Searcy

19. 1. 33

S of S line dispatch of report

off
Submitted with draft
dispatch.

C. J. Ford
7/12/53

Hon. Col. Searcy

Approved.

H. C. H.
8. 12. 54.

Dispatch to S. of S. no 1 of 2/p. 5. (17)

Y/E.
Despatch submitted for favour
of Your Excellency's signature.

C.S.O.
P.O.C.
31/35

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you, Sir.

MCH

3. 1. 55

P.A.
31/35

18. Minute from Stock Inspector of 15/3/41.

Y/E

Red ID submitted.

Your Excellency may like to see
this correspondence before this
project is embarked upon.

C.S.O.
P.O.C.
17/3/41

B.U. m D. of A's return

18/3/41

~~27/4/41~~
~~27/3/41~~

~~27/3/41~~
~~28/3/41~~

28/4/41
4/4/41

Y/E.

Brought forward as directed by
Your Excellency.

O.S. J.P.S.
29/4/41.

D. of A.

Let us discuss this same line at your
convenience, arising line to through O/S Sec.

O.S. J.P.S. 30/4/41

Copy of Correspondence to & from Sir F. Stockdale. 19-20.

~~Y/E~~
O/S Sec.

Please arrange time for me to see H.B. in accordance
with his request above.

J.H.
1/5/41

Y/E.

Interview arranged for 10.30 am.
on Saturday 3rd May.

O.S. J.P.S.
2/5/41.

D. of A with see you &
the whole matter with to
postpone.

O.S. J.P.S. 3/5/41

O/S It was decided this morning that the
Chaplin were not sufficient disturbing to warrant
the expenditure of Canadian Dollars under
present wartime conditions

J.H.
3/5/41

P.S. Will you please send following teleg to Thomson.
"Greatly regret delayed reply to your telegram cable of 11th March & unable to
finance breeding of parasites during war. Many thanks & writing.
Libbo

Telegram to Thomson, Canada, of 5/5/41.

~~Message from Hon. S. G. O. of 27/7/43.~~

21.

22

PA

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

MISCELLANEOUS.



DOWNING STREET.

13 September, 1930.

Sir,

*Recd 86.
M.P. 57/27. (1)*

Report.

With reference to my predecessor's Miscellaneous despatch of the 22nd March, 1929, and subsequent correspondence relating to the Third Imperial Entomological Conference, I have the honour to transmit to you, for your information, copies of the Report of the Conference, which was held in London from the 17th to the 27th June, 1930.

2. As will be seen from the Foreword to the Report by Earl Buxton, the Managing Committee of the Imperial Institute of Entomology are much gratified at the success of the Conference, which has again proved its value as a means of promoting personal communication and co-operation amongst Government entomologists in the Empire. The fact that 35 officially appointed delegates attended, as against 21 in 1925, indicates the growing recognition of these meetings as an important feature of the entomological work being carried out overseas and in this country: while the large attendance of visitors at the public sessions testified not only to the scientific value of the discussions arranged but also to the increasing interest in the relation of economic

GOVERNOR,

ARNOLD HODSON, ESQ., C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

economic entomology to development. There can be no doubt that the Resolution (No.9) of the Conference, that a similar gathering should be held in 1935, was justified by the success of the meeting held this year; and I hope that when the time comes the Government of the Falkland Islands will be in a position to appoint a delegate or delegates to the Conference.

3. As you are aware, one of the objects of these periodical Conferences is to review the work done by the Imperial Institute of Entomology during the preceding five years, and to lay down, with the help of the entomologists engaged in oversea countries, the general lines of its future work. With this object in view, the Director submitted a memorandum (which is printed as an Appendix to the Report) describing the work of the Institute, and this memorandum was supplemented by a Report on the Parasite Laboratory ("The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests") prepared by Dr. W.R.Thompson, the Superintendent of the Laboratory. Copies of the latter report were forwarded separately in a circular note dated the 17th July, 1930. In addition, Dr. S.A.Neave, Assistant Director of the Institute, had prepared for the information of delegates a Summary of Data relating to Economic Entomology, and a List of Entomologists employed in this country, the Dominions, India, Colonies, etc. Copies of these two papers are enclosed herewith.

Summary.
List.

4. It will be seen from these various compilations that a steady and continuous expansion has been taking place both in the scope and the volume of the work performed by the Institute. The most notable instance of this expansion is the opening of the Parasite Laboratory; but in

in other directions, such as the issue of the regular publications of the Institute and the identification of insects for oversea entomologists, the increase has already been such as to overtax the resources at the disposal of the Managing Committee, which is, during the present year, under the necessity of drawing for current needs on the surplus accumulated in past years. The question of finance was carefully considered by a special Committee appointed by the Conference, and it will be seen that in Resolution (4), while approving the lines on which the Institute is conducted, the Conference recommended that an annual income of £18,070 should be assured to it for the five years beginning 1931/32.

5. Appendix II to the Report of the Conference indicates that of this sum £16,070 is required merely to maintain the services of the Institute on the present basis; while the remaining £2,000 is required partly to enable an additional entomologist to be engaged for work on parasitic hymenoptera, and partly to permit of arrangements being made for the Director and senior members of his staff to visit oversea countries - a proposal, which would obviously increase the utility of the Institute and which will no doubt commend itself to all the oversea Governments.

6. The annual sum now asked for (which is in addition to the funds provided by the Empire Marketing Board for the Parasite Laboratory) represents an increase of some £4,500 over the total income recommended by the previous Conference, and some £6,000 over the
actual

actual annual receipts during the five years 1926/7 - 1930/1. The Managing Committee of the Institute will, therefore, in endeavouring to carry out the recommendation of the Conference, be under the necessity of seeking additional contributions. The alternative of curtailing the present activities of the Institute is one which the Committee cannot believe that the contributing Governments would wish to contemplate, and in these circumstances they feel that they may with confidence appeal for the support advocated by the Conference. It is proposed to invite the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to sanction a substantial increase of the contribution paid by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, and the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs is inviting the Governments of the Dominions, in certain appropriate cases, to increase their grants. Similar requests will be made to the Governments of India and the Sudan.

7. I do not wish to ask for an increase in the annual contribution at present paid by your Government to the Institute, but in view of what has been said above I trust that I may assure the Managing Committee that the contribution will be continued at the existing rate during the five years beginning in 1931 (1931/32).

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant,

(Signed) PASSFIELD.

29th October, 1930.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.NO. 236.

My Lord,

With reference to Your Lordship's miscellaneous despatch of the 13th of September, 1930, on the subject of the upkeep of the Imperial Institute of Entomology, I have the honour to state that having regard to the fact that no services are rendered or are likely to be rendered to this Colony by the Institute I had not proposed to continue the contribution at the rate of £50 a year hitherto made by this Government to the funds of the Institute at the end of the present quinquennial period on the 31st of March, 1931.

2. Your Lordship is aware that not only are the Falkland Islands entirely free from insect pests but they are also almost devoid of insect life. The blowfly, measures to exterminate which were undertaken with the aid of the Institute (then the Bureau), seems to have diminished to such an extent under the rigour of the past two or three seasons, winter and summer, that considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining sufficient maggots for the parasites Alysia manducator therein to deposit their eggs. In any case in its hey-day the blowfly could never have been regarded as a pest properly.

3. Again in the comparatively exiguous budget of this Colony contributions of even small amounts to Imperial or other Institutions are apt, if multiplied, to form a

disproportionately/

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
LORD PASSFIELD OF PASSFIELD CORNER, P.C.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

disproportionately large item and to become an unjustifiable burden, particularly when no benefit, as in the actual instance, is derived from them.

4. I trust therefore that Your Lordship will not desire this Colony to continue to contribute to the Institute. If, however, Your Lordship has a decided view in the matter I shall be ready of course to comply with any further instructions sent.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most
obedient humble servant,

ARNOLD HODSON.



Stanley.

25 th June 1931.

Sir.

I beg to attach a short report on the progress made with the breeding of *Alysia manducata*, to date.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant

A. G. Bennett,

Ag:Gov: Naturalist.

The Hon:the
Colonial Secretary.

4

Alysia manducata. A short report of progress to June 1931.

Stock flying in December 1929 although given a very large number of full fed "bluebottle" maggots, produced but 97 insects in February and March 1930. These were put to some thousands of maggots and placed in moss for the winter, and left with some attention during my leave. The winter proved to be very severe even for the Netherlands, and the pupae must have been frozen, or nearly so, on several occasions. The cold of the winter was expected to have killed the brood, and as October passed without showing life, this presumption seemed justified. On November 22nd some emerged, and continued to do so until December 20th, 98 insects.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in securing maggots for this brood, and, as nothing better offered, very small maggots were introduced; the maggots were then returned to continue feeding on meat. Numbers escaped, but the experiment was quite successful; the next brood came out in larger numbers than usual, - 215 insects. The brood following is now in winter resting stage.

Only a small percentage of the maggots offered to *Alysia* are successfully parasitised, and a large number of bluebottles hatch out. I suspect that many of the maggots possess skins too tough for *Alysia* to penetrate, this view seems confirmed by the unusual success obtained from being compelled, by force of circumstances, to try with quite small maggots.

Alysia that have been bred from those imported in December 1927 without further new blood are quite strong and still appear to be larger than the originals. Although the insects are sluggish at 50 F. the females will readily work on maggots at this temperature. Irrespective of the number of maggots presented to *Alysia*, I have not been successful for a long while in producing a brood exceeding a hundred, until February 1931.

A. G. Bennett

Ag: Naturalist

26, June 1931.

3

MANAGEMENT OF ALYSIA MANDUCATOR.

Treatment of parasitised puparia.

Keep the parasitised puparia in damp sand or moss with a cloth cover to prevent superparasitism by Chalcidids and other parasites liable to attack them in that stage. Both excessive damp and undue dryness are detrimental. Moss should be squeezed out; sand only just damp enough to adhere slightly to the fingers though this will vary with the size of the particles.

Treatment of adult Braconids.

Males emerge often some days before the females. They will live longer in captivity than the latter. Mating takes place readily in captivity. Both sexes may be kept in glass-top boxes with damp blotting-paper and a split raisin or sultana. Either the blotting paper - from which the Braconids eagerly drink - should be moistened every day, or the water must be kept in a tiny vial with a shred of cotton-wool or blotting paper through the cork.

Oviposition occurs with energy in even a small box when maggots are enclosed with fertilised females. Or large gauze enclosure may be used, taking care that there are no crevices in which the maggots may secrete themselves from the Braconids. One female of the latter will oviposit in dozens of maggots. If Graham-Smith's observations are correct, superparasitism need not be feared, since from a maggot several times oviposited in, only one Alysia larva, as in normal cases will be produced. The maggots should be preferably full-fed larvae of Lucilia size or examples of blowfly maggots (Calliphora etc.) which have attained roughly similar dimensions. The former are more convenient firstly because Alysia seems to prefer the Lucilia type - although both Graham-Smith and the writer have reared this Braconid from normal-sized Calliphora puparia - and secondly because the maggots being

57/27.

1st July,

31.

Sir,

Red 98.
57/27 (1)

With reference to your letter of the 3rd of April, 1930, I am directed to forward a report by Mr. A. G. Bennett, Acting Government Naturalist, showing the present position in regard to the experimental introduction into the Falkland Islands of Alysia Manducator.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

31

Colonial Secretary.

The Director,
Imperial Bureau of Entomology,
British Museum (Natural History),
Cromwell Road, LONDON, S.W.7.

INSTITUTE
Imperial Bureau of Entomology

Head Office at—

Director :

Sir GUY A. K. MARSHALL, C.M.G., D.Sc., F.R.S.

Assistant Director :

S. A. NEAVE, D.Sc.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 7



13th August, 1931.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st July (No. 57/27) forwarding a report by Mr. A. G. Bennett on the breeding of the blowfly parasite, Alysia manducator.

2. In view of the unfavourable conditions produced by the more severe climate and the change over of the seasons, I think that the results obtained are by no means unsatisfactory. It is quite probable that a strain of the insect will gradually be produced which is better suited to the local conditions. When this has happened, its numbers are likely to increase much more rapidly.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Guy A. K. Marshall".

Director.

The Colonial Secretary,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

Alysia varucata. Report July 1931 - April 1932.

The winter of 1931 was mild until August when severe weather set in and continued, with milder intervals, into November. The winter brood commenced to hatch out on 29th November 1931 and continued until the 16 January 1932, in all, 31 insects. Upwards of one thousand maggots were introduced, in batches; many escaped. The resulting brood emerged between the 3rd and 22nd of March, a minimum incubation of 84 days. Only 15 insects appeared, of which but two were males; these were used up on about a thousand maggots. The last batch are now in winter resting stage.

It should be noted that the stock, despite every effort, is dwindling away.

I am unable to record any progress with those that have, from time to time escaped, or ~~xxxx~~ been released, not having seen a single wild insect. Flies are much less numerous in Stanley than formerly, but the improved sanitation can probably claim the credit.

A. J. Bennett

Ag: Government Naturalist.

28 April 1932.

STANDARD

AGENTS

STANDARD

57/27.

29th April, 52.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 13th of August, 1951, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the introduction of the parasite Alysia Manducator into the Falkland Islands, I am directed to forward to you a copy of a further report in this connection, which has been prepared by Mr. A. G. Bennett, the Acting Government Naturalist.


In duplicate.

2. I am to remark with regret that despite Mr. Bennett's devoted endeavours the stock of the parasite locally reared appears to be diminishing to its doom.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Colonial Secretary.

The Director, *Imbitt*
Imperial Bureau of Entomology,
British Museum (Natural History),
Cromwell Road,
LONDON, S.W.7.

INSTITUTE
Imperial Bureau of Entomology

14

Head Office at—

Director :

Sir GUY A. K. MARSHALL, C.M.G., D.Sc., F.R.S.

Assistant Director :

S. A. NEAVE, D.Sc.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 7



26th May, 1932.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 57/27 of the 29th April enclosing a report by Mr. A. G. Bennett on the parasite Alysia manducator introduced into the Falkland Islands against blowflies.

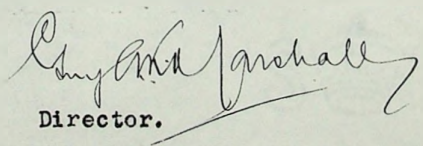
2. I much regret to hear that this parasite has not so far proved a success, and in view of the long trial that it has had I fear we can only conclude that it is incapable of maintaining itself in the Islands. In any case, recent investigations made by a worker in our Laboratory go to show that even if the parasite kills 90 per cent. of the flies, the latter breed at such a rate that they would still be able to maintain themselves in large numbers.

3. I fear, therefore, that the only effective means of keeping down the flies will be by improved methods of sanitation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,


Director.

The Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

M/P.

Subject.

Alysia manducata, parasite on the bluebottle fly.

Hon:Col:Secretary.

The following may be thought desirable for record and reference:-

This wasp was first introduced to the Colony in the summer of 1926/7. The first consignment (or two) failed to hatch out. Another brood was brought out from England in Dec:1927, and from these the entire stock has been raised; now, following advice of the senders, the experiment has been discontinued.

For some time the stock has dwindled. During late Nov: and all of December 1932 flies emerged fairly regular, these have been released, about 110 in number and the residue thrown out; thus ending an experiment that has continued unbroken for exactly five years.

The benefit is, in my mind, very doubtful and I do not anticipate any startling results in future; the best that can be hoped for is, should they thrive, they may tend to keep the bluebottle in some check.

A. Bennett

Ag Nat:

16.1.33

CIRCULAR.



(16)

Downing Street,

3rd October, 1934.

Sir,

*Recd. to m
54/24. (1)*
With reference to Mr. Amery's Miscellaneous despatch of the 22nd of March, 1929, I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with Resolution (9) of the Third Imperial Entomological Conference which was held in London in 1930, the Executive Council of the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux propose to convene the Fourth Conference in London during the summer of 1935.

2. The Council have had under consideration the recommendation contained in paragraph 215 of the Report of the Imperial Agricultural Research Conference of 1927, to which reference was made in the fourth paragraph of the despatch referred to above, and which reads as follows:—

“ 215. *Quinquennial Conferences.*

In view of the importance of obtaining adequate representation of entomologists at the quinquennial conferences of entomologists of the Empire arranged by the Imperial Bureau of Entomology, this Committee very strongly recommends that each entomological service in the Empire should be represented by an entomologist at every such conference, and that sufficient delegates should be sent from the larger entomological services to represent their various activities.”

3. The Council realize the continuing need for economy and the difficulties which Colonial Governments experience in releasing their officers for oversea visits, but there are special reasons which make it desirable to hold the Fourth Imperial Entomological Conference in 1935. In the first place the Council fully believe that these Conferences have in the past proved very useful to entomological work in the various parts of the Empire and would regret to see their sequence broken. Secondly, the Council's direct association with the Imperial Institute of Entomology is but recent, and they would welcome an opportunity of meeting entomologists from all parts of the Empire in the near future, not only to hear their views in regard to the

The Officer Administering
the Government of

activities of the Institute itself, but also in regard to the work of the Parasite Laboratory at Farnham House.

4. It is also understood that a meeting of the International Entomological Congress (which meets triennially) is due to be held in the summer of 1935, probably in Madrid, and that it would be an advantage to overseas representatives if the Fourth Imperial Entomological Conference were held immediately before that Congress. Further, the opinions of overseas entomologists on the work of the Institute and particularly on that of Farnham House should be helpful to the general Imperial Scientific Conference which the Imperial Committee on Economic Consultation and Co-operation recommended should be held, and which may possibly be convened in the autumn of 1935.

5. The exact date of the Fourth Imperial Entomological Conference cannot yet be stated, as information regarding the date of the proposed International Congress is still awaited. For reasons of economy, however, it is proposed that the duration of the Imperial Conference should be restricted to one week.

6. I shall be obliged if you will inform me whether your Government will be represented at the Conference and, if so, what officer or officers will be nominated for the purpose.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

STANLEY.

2nd January, 1935.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 1.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular despatch of the 3rd of October, 1934, and to inform you that it will not be practicable to arrange for this Government to be represented at the Fourth Imperial Entomological Conference to be held in 1935.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

M. CRAIGIE-HALKETT.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
SIR PHILIP CUNLIFFE-LISTER,
G.B.E., P.C., M.C., M.P.,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

(19)

COPY.

Colonial Office,
Downing Street, S.W.1.

27th July, 1940.

7752/1/40.

Dear Gibbs,

As Liaison Officer for the Imperial Agricultural Bureaux, I have to inform you that the Executive Council of the Bureaux have decided that circumstances now make it impossible for the Farnham House Laboratory to operate on a normal basis.

It has, therefore, been decided to reduce the tempo of the work but at the same time to take steps to maintain its continuity and methods. Dr. Thomson, the Superintendent, will be deputed to Canada to carry out such work as the Laboratory have already on hand and examine localities in North America for parasites required by countries in the British Commonwealth. Endeavours are also being made to place the four Assistant Entomologists in other work for the duration of the war, and when these arrangements are carried out Farnham House Laboratory will be placed on a care and maintenance basis, the Chief Clerk being retained to work on the Parasite Catalogue under the supervision of Sir Guy Marshall and Dr. Neave.

Colonial Governments will be informed officially as soon as final arrangements on the above lines have been made and the financial implications worked out.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Sgd. F.A. Stockdale.

20

C O P Y

Agricultural Department,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

4th November, 1940.

Sir Frank Stockdale, K.C.M.G., C.B.E.,
Agricultural Adviser to the
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Parliament Square House,
34-36 Parliament Street,
LONDON S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your 7752/1/40 of 27th July, and have noted its contents. I have not been here long enough to discover whether this move affects us, I would be pleased to have if possible a list of the parasites of the common bluebottle or blow fly which I am told darkens the summer skies in the Falkland Islands.

Yours faithfully,

Sgd. J.G.Gibbs.
Director of Agriculture



No.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute, the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

15th March, 1941.

From Stock Inspector,

To The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

*This is not so! Relevant Correspondence enclosed
3/15/41*

I enclose for His Excellency's information a copy of a telegram received from the Imperial Parasite Service, Belleville, Ontario, Canada, in reply to a letter from Dr. Gibbs inquiring whether they would undertake to investigate the possibility of introducing parasites of the common blowfly of the Falklands into the Islands.

I have been in touch with Dr Gibbs who is at present on the West Falkland, and he wishes me to forward this to you with the comment that (1) Agriculture cannot finance it this year without a Special Warrant, and (2) He advises that if it is decided to accept the offer some blowflies should be sent to Thomson by airmail for definite identification and also any ichneumon which may be parasitic since money has been wasted before owing to inaccurate identification of species.

T Beaty
Stock Inspector.

COPY OF TELEGRAM. to NLT Gibbs, Dept of Agriculture

"CAN UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION AND SUPPLY BLOWFLY PARASITES COST ABOUT FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO BEGIN MAY FIRST STOP CAN YOU FINANCE THIS THOMSON IMPERIAL SERVICE."

BELLEVILLE ONTARIO CANADA "

21.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Director of Agriculture.

To Thomson, Belleville, Ontario, Canada.

Despatched: 5th May, 19 41. Time ...

Received: 19 ... Time ...

Rec. 18

Greatly regret delayed reply to your telegram of 11th March. Unable to finance breeding of parasites during War. Many thanks writing.

GIBBS.