

Land & Survey
Known Lands
Accounts
Expenditure
Misc
No. 108/35

C.S.

1935

SE The Governor

SUBJECT.

1935

10th Mar.

Previous Paper.

Plans and Estimates for clearing & fencing points for Tussac.

10/3/35

MINUTES.

EXCERPTS FROM M.P. C/5/34. INSIDE MINUTE SHEETS 14 ONWARDS

H.C.S.

Will you please ask D.P.W. in consultation with Inspector of Stock to prepare plans and estimates for clearing and fencing in the points for tussac.

(Itld) H.H.H.
10/3/35.

Director of Public Works.

To Note H.E's minute above.
(Itld) M.C.H.
12/3/35.

Hon. Col. Sec.

With reference to His Excellency's minute of the 10th March, 1935, with regard to tussac ground, can I please be informed

- (a) Which points it is proposed to clear and fence ?
- (b) Is there any information as to when the Stock Inspector is likely to be in Stanley, as I understand that he is at present on the West Falklands ?

(Sgd) G. Roberts.
D.P.W.
12/3/35.

Y/E.

Submitted. With reference to D.P.W's minute above
(1) Points to be prepared should be the first having suitable ground for tussac, commencing from Surf Bay round the coast of the Common.
(2) The Stock Inspector is due back in April after certain sheep imported from Patagonia have been cleared from quarantine.
(Itld) M.C.H. 13/3/35.

Subsequent Paper.

H.C.S.

(1) Yes.

(2) D.P.W. can proceed without seeing the Stock Inspector if there is no doubt about the point referred to being the most suitable. I believe the S.I. has already given you his opinion on this.

(Itld) H.H.H.
13/3/35.

Minute from D of PW. 29/3/35

(1-9)

H.O. until return of "Lafonia" or
or about 1st April when Inspector
of Stock may return.

MCH
30. 3. 35

Stock Inspector

In your consideration and
observations, please. It may be
inadvisable to drain ponds.

MCH
Ct.
1. 4. 35

Minutes to & from H.C. & the Governor 4/35 (10)

Minute from Inspector of Stock 17/4/35 (11)

1. Report of Director of Pub. Works
together with estimates submitted
as also the observations of
the S.I. who has visited
the proposed areas.

2. The D. P. W. has gone
very thoroughly into the matter.

3. I recommend that the ✓
proposals Nos. 3, 5, 6 and 7
be carried out. The S.I. is
opposed to burning off the

diddle-dee and I think he is right. It would be better to enclose the diddle-dee and use the boys to strengthen the fencing though possibly such a method would increase the cost. With regard to 8 which is the largest piece of ground this could be fenced and the ground prepared in readiness for tobacco and grass.

4. The P.I. suggests that the work be done other than by contract or piecework, the reason being that it is thought that the work will not be so carefully carried out if done by contract. On the other hand the cost will be greater if done by daywork.

5. The question of the type of fencing is important - the ordinary sheep fence would not do. A seven wire fence with standards and posts closer together would be required if animals are to be kept out.

6. If the Stock Dept. is to supervise the work the S.I. will require the assistance of one or more suitable men. Pay at ordinary rate of wages payable from the vote for tussie planting.

MCH

Ed

11/4/35

As advised and with day work if it can be properly supervised.

If as I hope not less than 20 men can be employed would it be feasible to run a system of a fortnight on and off in order to spread the benefits of providing labour as widely as possible? Would you advise this?

 11/4/35

I consider that it would be preferable to run a system of a fortnight on and off and I advise that this be done.

I have seen the S.I. who agrees. The S.I. will arrange for the P.W.D. to get 20 men to commence work next week. One man competent to supervise the work as a

Working foreman will be required as the S.I. will be away from Stanley off and on. The foreman will require to be kept on while the work is in progress, and not put off each fortnight.

Even a fortnight's work will keep the men who will then have a fortnight on unemployment relief and so on.

MCH

ES

12. 4. 35

I approve of this then. It will of course be clear that there will not be considered as "relief work" i.e. no man will be entitled as of right to the employment and men who do not find satisfaction with work can be stood off at any time and not re-employed.

W.D. 12/4/35

Director Pub. Works.

To note. The Stock Inspector will supervise the work. I asked him to see you regarding the 20 men required

they might commence on a
suitable day next week.

Perhaps you will kindly arrange
this. The men are to work
for a fortnight then a different
20 men taken on. Mr Bonno
states he would see you regarding
a suitable working foreman.

MCH
C.S.

12. 4. 35

Hon Col. Sec.

As the S.I. is proceeding to the Camp,
I took the opportunity today of going
over the ground, setting out fences etc.
A hut and other materials are being
prepared, and a start will be made on
Thursday the 18th April. It may be
necessary to make the men up into three
shifts instead of two, but I will go into
that later.

Submitted herewith for favour of signature
S.W. in the sum of £500 it is estimated
that this will be sufficient for 8-9 weeks.

C. Roberts.

D.P.M.

15-4-35.

Letter from Mr R. Grant. 16/5/35 (12)

YR.
P. W. for £500 Submitted.
I think a new item
might be inserted under
Public Works Estay "Preparation
and planting of Tussac reserves".

MCA
CS.
17. 4. 35

15/4

Don. Treasurer. A/c for Col Treas.
D.P.W. 23. 4. 35

to note.

A/c for M.
20/4/35

Hon Col Sec.

noted.

CW Roberts.

23. 4. 35.

(12) Letter to Mr R. Grant 24/4/35

P.A.
24/4/35

Minutes from Dept W 9/6/35.

(1475)

Yr. Submitted.

McH.
es.
7. 6. 35

Seen. A great part of the expenditure has been in material. It is hoped that the funds provided will suffice to keep 20 men in employment through the winter.

W.H. 8/11/35

Director P. Wks.

To note. Will you kindly say if the funds provided will suffice to keep 20 men employed through the winter.

McH.
es.
10. 6. 35

Hon. Cal. Sec.

If the original sum asked for has been approved, there will be sufficient funds to keep 20 men employed until the middle

of October
A. Roberts
10-6-35.

C.S.O. No. 108/35.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 4.

The Submitted on the sum approved by the S. of S. 20 men can be kept in employment until October.

MCH
CS
11.6.35

Thanks

~~W~~ 11/6/35

p.a.
MCH

(16)

Minute from L.W. 14/6/35

The Special Warrant for £500 Submitted.

MCH
CS
18.6.35

~~W~~ 19/6/35

Special Warrant sent to Treasury, 19/6/35

J.A.
19/6/35

£500 on 17 April 1935

Y. Special Warrant for £500
Submitted. This will make
a total of £1500 to date.

MCH
e.s.

20.8.55

Special warrant 21/8/55 sent to
Treasury 21/8/55
MCH 20/8

PM Minute from DPO 28/10/55

(17)

Approved expenditure on Sussex
Reserves - £2000 para 5 of
Confidential Dec. of 24th April 1955
and S. of S. tele: 50 of 23rd May 1955

Y. Special Warrant for £300
Submitted. This makes a
total of £1800 from the
approved expenditure of £2000.

MCH
e.s.

29.8.55

Scops sent to Treasury this day.
(31/10/55) MCH 30/10/55

(18) Minute paper DPO 13/11/35

Submitted. The S.I. informed me that tussock could not be planted at this period of the year and suggested that the men should be employed on draining bad places on the Common, but such work has no connection with tussock reserves.

2. The preparation of Phillip's Point for tussock planting might be undertaken, also the draining of the pond (vide 7 in red 5. This work would form part of the extension of the Tussock reserves.

MCH
C.S.
10.11.35

Please speak

~~11/11~~ 13/11

H.E. the Governor spoken.

Director Public Works.

The work suggested by the S. I. has nothing to do with Tussock reserves and it is not possible to pay for draining bad places on the Common from the appd. expenditure for Tussock.

2. The men should be given a weeks notice of discharge and informed that as the work on the plantations has been completed there is no further work at present. Men should be told that the Sealing Coy want men for renewed sealing operations.

3. If any men employed move or less permanently by your Dept., and are wanted to go Sealing (provided you can spare them) they can be told that if they go they will be re-employed on return.

I believe however that the Sealing Coy will get enough men from other sources.

4. Men on Tussock might finish the weeks notice by weeding and cleaning up on plantations.

W.C.H.
CS

Red 19

Hon. Col. Sec.

Notices sent out today as copy attached.

Cs. Roberts.
D.P.H.
14/11/35

Stock Inspector.

To note my minute on opposia Sheer.

MCH
CS
15. XI. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.

Noted

A.M.B.
CS
29/11/35

Stock Inspector

You might please take an early opportunity of visiting the Sand pass and tussock plantations and report on their condition.

MCH
CS
28. XI. 35

Hon. Col. Sec.,

I have to-day visited the tussock plantations. The tussock plants in all four plantations are making excellent progress. Supervision is carried out daily by the Common Ranger.

J. M. Bonner
Stock Inspector.
5/12/35.

Yr.
Report of Stock Inspectors submitted
for information.

MCH.
Ct.
5th X 11. 35th

~~11/11~~ 9/11
P. A. MCH.

Letter from the Hon. Sec. S. I. R. of 11/15/11 (20)

Yr. Submitted. The tussack at
Hookers Point and other old tussack
ground was planted originally to
provide supplies during the months
of winter when cutters could not
get to the islands. Actually this
was never carried out as the
Tussack plantation was leased
to a local butcher and almost
ruined.

2. Yr. advised this state of
affair and as a result the
plantations are flourishing now.

3. Perhaps the Agric. Adviser
could consider the matter since
the common and the plantation
are under his charge. If he
considers interest could be cur
then his Dept. could undertake

this and it could be sold to the public at 6^d per bundle or such price as he may advise.

4. I would point out, however, that certain men who own Cutters make a livelihood from cutting and supplying tobacco to Stanley. I do not advise that any step should be taken which would put these men out of work but there are periods in the months of winter when they cannot go out. It would no doubt be a boon to those who have animals if they could obtain tobacco when the normal sources of supply are not available.

MLH
Ct.

21.4.57
One supposes that the tinac cutter men have initiated this complaint. The position is as in the draft put up

MLH 21/4/57

Agric. Adviser

Kindly note and for favour
of consideration of "A"

W. H.
Esq.

22.4.37

The Honourable Colonial Secretary,

I have the honour to advise that the tussock at present being used by me to feed the horses owned by the Agricultural Department has reached a stage where cutting is beneficial, or in other words a good deal of it will be wasted and dried up if left longer without cutting.

2. There appears to be ample supplies to feed the above horses as well as to meet other emergencies such as a temporary hold up of cutters bringing supplies from Islands.

3. Applications will be considered (when occasion arises) from cattle owners, who may be supplied with tussock by the Agric. Dept. at a price similar to that being charged by private vendors of tussock.

4. The supplies being used by the Agric. Dept. are charged against horse allow. vote for 1937 and works out about 6 per bundle.

5. I would like to suggest that it might be helpful if say the Chairman and Secretary of the Reform League would consult with the A.A. in matters which concern his Department, as no doubt most things could be settled amicably in this way. At present it appears that the League "shoots from behind cover" so to speak.

W. H.

H.

Submitted.

2. The suggestion in para: 5 might facilitate settlement of questions raised by the Reform League but it is doubtful whether the League would agree to the method.

WCH

2.5.37

The A.C.S. minute paras 1-4 are quite satisfactory. It should be considered whether notice should be published that applications for the purchase of uniforms should be addressed to the Agric Dept when supplies are not available from private vendors.

2. I do not suppose the Chairman or Secretary of the R.A. have any interest in the matter. The agitation should only have come from private vendors who would like to sell to the Dept.

WCH 3/5/37

Agric. Adviser

To note H's minute.

2. There may be certain instances in which it might be considered advisable to see a deputation from the League. This can be considered if and when they make representations.

WCH

3.5.37

The Hon. Col. Sec.

Seen & noted thank you

Barry
A.A. 4/5/37

P.A.
5/5/37
(22)

Minutes from Ag. Adviser of 4/5/37

Yr. Submitted: During the past few years some farms have planted old tussac bounties with excellent results. It should be possible to extend the planting on the waste land of the Common.
Barry
6.5.37.

Seen
~~that~~ of 5/27

Agri. Adviser.

Is there any old tussac ground still available on the coast of the Stoney Common.
Barry
6.5.37.

The Hon. Col. Sec.

yes, this has already been looked at with the view to using every bit of ground available and is to receive early attention.

Barry
A.A. 6/5/37

B.f. 30.6.57
 met 7.5.57

(23-24)

Letter from Hon. Sec. S.I.R. of 24/5/57

Y.E.
 Submitted

R.S. 26/5/57

Please refer to Rypie. Advice for his observations and for reply which he considers should be returned. So far as I am aware it was never contemplated that the plantations should be used against persons earning a livelihood from supplying tursock. The plantations were established for the purpose of supplying owners of cattle with tursock during the months of winter when the usual supply failed owing to weather conditions making it impossible for the cattle to go out. The League has been informed of this in vol 21.

The League has been somewhat dilatory in taking up the supposed rights of the public - they raised no protest during the period the plantations were leased and practically ruined.

met
 by Gov.
 7.5.57.

Agricultural Adviser.

For your observations accordingly,
please.

K.S. for. C.S. 27/5/37.

Hon Col, Secretary,

I have the honour to inform you that I have perused the minute of His Excellency the Acting Governor on sheet 5, and red (24) from the Reform League.

Reference to para 1, of red(24), already there is striking evidence of fresh growth of tussock where the cutting is taking place, and there is not the slightest cause to suspect that harm will be done as suggested by the League - in fact the reverse is the case.

Para 2, Government animals only are being fed from this tussock.

Para 3, the Government is at present spending a good deal of money on the general improvement of the Common, and this is providing work for unemployed.

Para 4, it is not true to say that anyone has been forced to anchor a tussock cutter because the Agricultural Adviser obtains tussock for his horses from another source.

Para 5, when cutters are unable to maintain the tussock supply owing to bad weather conditions, the owners of animals may purchase from the Agricultural Department tussock supplies at six-pence per bundle delivered.

It seems rather strange that the Reform League in para 1, say that it is too soon to cut the tussock, yet in para 5, it indicates that there should be no hesitation in cutting the same tussock for immediate use for cattle on the common.

Stanley
Agricultural Adviser.
31st May, 1937.

Minute to from Ag. Adviser of 26/5/37.

(25)

W.R. Submitted. Draft reply to F.I.R.L.

attached.

K.S. for. C.S. 1/6/37.

M. CH
2.6.37.

Red 25 The Advic: Advise to proceed as he suggests.

MCH

(26) Letter to Sec. F.I.R.L., of 2.6.37.

2.6.37.

Advic: Advise.

Accordingly

AB.
for C.S. 2/6/37

The Hon. Col. Sec

Noted thank you

DAW
A.A. 3/6/37

PA.
3/6/37

(27) Letter from Hon. Sec. F.I.R.L. of 11/6/37.

Y.E.

Submitted. Acknowledge and draw attention to Para 2 of Red 21 which might be supplemented by Para 5 of F.A.'s minute of 3/5/37?

AB.
for C.S.
18/6/37.

Yes, please. I fail to understand what good purpose is being served with all this correspondence

MCH

18.6.37.

Letter to Mr. W. J. McAtomey of 21.6.37. (28)

P.P.
22/6/37

No. _____

MINUTE.

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

29th March, 19 35

From Director of Public Works,
Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

PLANTING OF TUSSAC AND OTHER GRASSES.

I beg to report that in accordance with His Excellency's request I have inspected and carried out a rough survey of the South coast from the "Canache" (Eastern extremity of Stanley Harbour) to Mullet Creek with a view to selecting suitable places for the planting of tussac and other grasses. I fear that I am unable to give expert advice on the suitability of the ground, and tussac planting, not having had any previous experience of this type of work. I trust, however, that the information given may be found of some value in deciding the amount of work to be carried out, and I make the following observations for consideration.

2. I am of opinion that the chief reason why our tussac plantations have not flourished is that when putting in the tussac sets only a small spit of ground has been taken out and the common grasses and weeds have quickly grown up to the plant and choked it retarding its growth or killing it. In any new planting I would suggest that at least a patch 2 ft x 2 ft should be removed for each set, and that every opportunity be taken to plant on a hummock instead of in the low ground. The plants should not be less than 8 feet apart, and as many fibres as possible should be retained on the young plants or shoots when collecting for transplanting. The work should be carried out

by contract or at piecework rates with a maximum amount fixed that shall be paid per man each week; in this connection it has been the custom in the Public Works department to fix any contract or piecework earnings at \$3. 0. 0. per week.

3. I would suggest that the work might be supervised by the Stock department. The Stock inspector no doubt has a good knowledge of this class of work; also I have no outside officer available who can be put on this work. Payments could be made and every assistance given by the Public Works department office staff.

4. I attach particulars of the suggested places to be planted, together with 5 sketches.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

1. "CANACHE" PADDOCK. (Approximately 9 acres in all

This paddock was planted with tussac some 7 years ago. Quite half of it has been killed. The remainder is stunted and gradually being choked with weeds and common grasses. These grasses etc. are very thick and matted and it is very questionable whether this area is worth replanting.

The estimated cost of cleaning and replanting half of this area @ 2d. per square yard would be £181. 10. 0. I suggest that this area is not worth cultivating.

2. HOOKER'S POINT. (Approximately 2½ acres).

Tussac bogs are too close and the whole Point is overcrowded. Sets can be obtained from this Point for transplanting at the proposed new sites. This Point has recently been on fire and the large bogs are stunted in consequence. Beyond resting and thinning out no further work is recommended.

3. PADDOCK WEST OF HOOKER'S POINT ALONG COAST.

An area of approximately 19 acres of this paddock is under tussac. reckoning paddock to be 1,200 yards in length and an average of 60 yards back from the beach bearing tussac the remainder of the ground appears unsuitable. I have seen this 19 acres breast high but at the present time it is suffering from overstocking; the tussac in places is overcrowded and requires thinning. Sets can be obtained from the East end of this paddock for replanting at other sites. Some of the tussac is being choked with weeds and I think a certain amount of hoeing and cleaning would be beneficial. This area also requires resting. It would be difficult to put

this work out by contract, and I would suggest that it be carried out by daywork spending say £21. 0. 0 on the work.

The fence requires a number of new posts and minor repairs. Estimated cost for this

Materials.....	7. 10. 0.	
Labour.....	<u>6. 0. 0</u>	13. 10. 0

Total estimate.		<u>£34. 10. 0</u>
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4. LARGE PADDOCK SOUTH OF OLD WIRELESS STATION.

Approximately 12 acres planted with sand and murrum grass, which is doing well and shows promise. Paddock requires resting. No work needed.

5. SMALL PADDOCK SOUTH OF WIRELESS STATION AND NEXT TO THE BENCH.

An area of 1½ acres of this paddock at the East end could be planted with tussac to advantage.

Estimated cost @ £6 per acre	£9. 0. 0.
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6. BIG ROOKERY POINT.

Approximately 50 acres of apparently good tussac ground. This has evidently been a tussac point. It is covered with old upstanding bogs overgrown with diddle-dee bush, weed and short grass. I suggest that this land be enclosed with a cattle-proof fence, the diddle-dee be burnt out, tops of bogs cut off and tussac sets obtained from Hooker's Point and planted about 8 ft. apart.

Estimate.

		£	s.	d.
Burning.		3.	0.	0.
Planting 50 acres @ £6....	300.	0.	0.	
1,100 yds fencing @ 1/4d..	73.	6.	8.	
Carting to site.	<u>5.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>0.</u>	<u>£381. 6. 8.</u>

7. PHILLIP'S POINT. (Area approximately 6 acres).

Good tussac ground. At present it is covered with short grass. Suggest that patches of 2 ft. square be dug out for each root and sets planted 8 feet apart. Drain pond, area about one acre, at the North end of point and plant tussac or other grass seed in same. Fence at the North side of pond from beach to beach.

Estimate.

	£	s	d
Plant 6 acres @ £6. per acre....	36.	0.	0.
300 yds fencing including crates @ 1/4d.....	20.	0.	0.
Cartage for fencing.....	2.	0.	0.
Drain pond by cutting trench to sea	4.10.	0.	262. 10.0.
	<hr/> <hr/>		

8. FROM LAKE POINT POND TO MULLET CREEK.
(Area approximately 124 acres).

This consists of good tussac ground, much of which has borne tussac many years ago. At present this area is useless for grazing as it is practically covered with diddledee and small ponds. At one spot the sand has encroached to the extent of approximately 5 acres. I suggest that the land be enclosed with a cattle-proof fence, the majority of the diddle-dee be burnt out, and tussac sets planted, the area where the sand is encroaching be planted with sand grass, and the majority of the ponds, some 10 in all, be drained and planted with grass seed.

Estimate.

	£	s	d
Burning diddle-dee.	8.	0.	0.
Drain as many ponds as is possible for	50.	0.	0.
Plant 120 acres with tussac, sand grass and grass seed @ say £6.10. 0 per acre.	720.	0.	0.
1,500 yards run fencing @ 1/4d. per yard run.	100.	0.	0.
Transport of fencing.	5.	0.	0.
Transport and erection of hut for workmen.	10.	0.	0.
	<hr/> <hr/>		
			2953. 0. 0

(4)

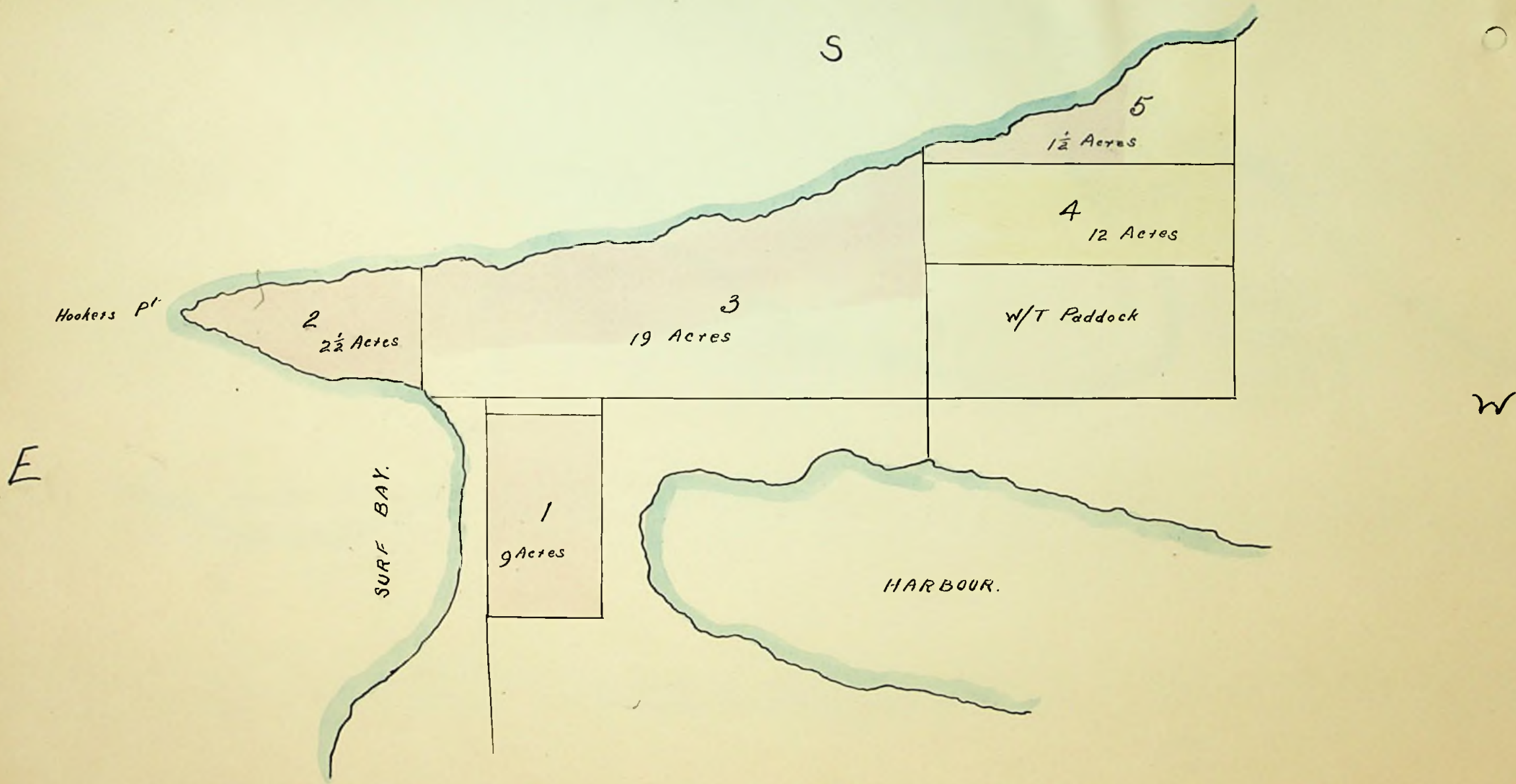
SUMMARY.

(See sketches attached).

AS num- bered on sketches	Description.	ESTIMATE.			Approx. new acreage.
		Total. s. s. d.	Materials. s. s. d.	Labour. s. s. d.	
1.	"Canache" paddock.	-	-	-	-
2.	Hooker's Point.	-	-	-	-
3.	Paddock west of Hooker's Point along the coast.	34.10.0.	7.10.0.	27.0.0.	(Improved
4.	Large paddock South of old W/T Station.	-	-	-	-
5.	Small paddock South of old W/T Station near the beach.	9.0.0.	-	9.0.0.	1½
6.	Big Rookery Point.	381.6.8.	56.0.0.	325.6.8.	50.
7.	Phillip's Point.	62.10.0.	15.10.0.	47.0.0.	6.
8.	From Lake Point pond to Mullet Creek.	955.0.0.	80.0.0.	873.0.0.	120.
		1,440.6.8.	159.0.0.	1,281.6.8.	177½
	Contingencies.	9.13.4.	1.0.0.	8.13.4.	acres.
	Total.	1,450.0.0.	160.0.0.	1,290.0.0.	

Total Estimate.....1450.

Not more than 11 to 12 men could be economically employed, and it is estimated that there is work for 38-39 weeks on the items suggested.



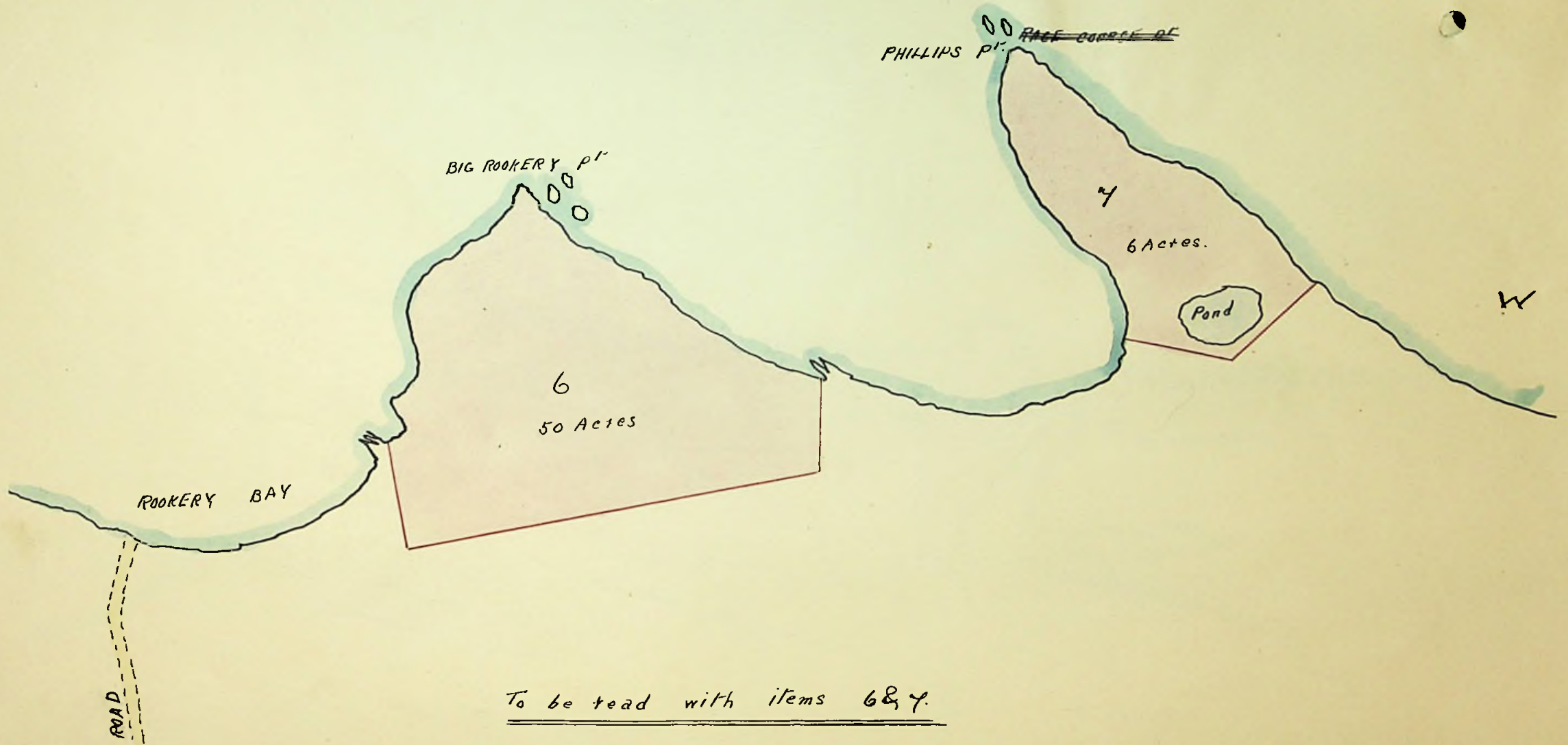
To be read with items 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5.

EWB.
293-387

E

S

W



To be read with items 6 & 7.

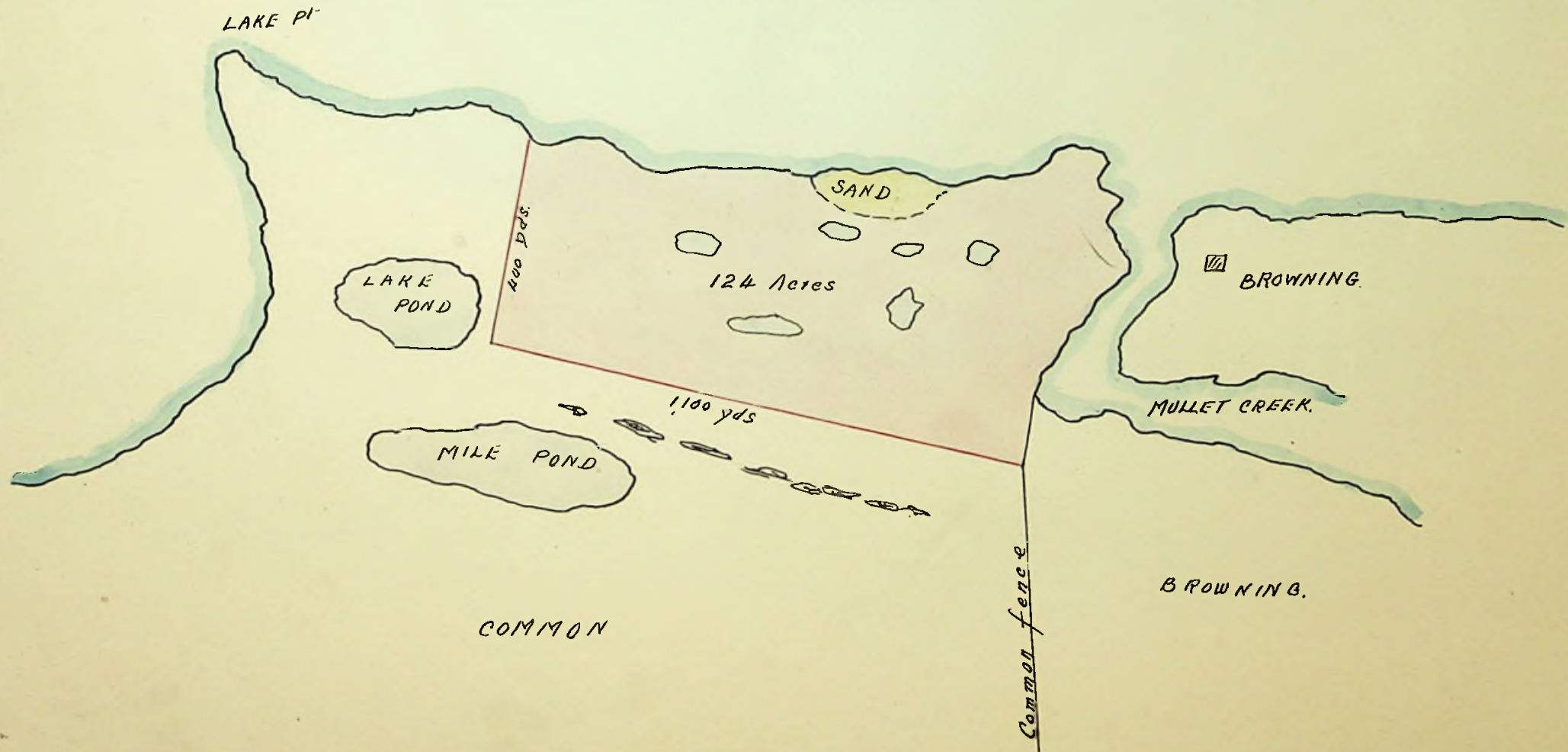
ENC.
29-8-25.

(5)

S

E

W



COMMON

BROWNING.

To be read with item 8.

EWB
29-3-26.

Yr.

This paper
contains plans of
Areas suitable for
planting tussac.

The S. I. has not yet
been able to consider
the matter.

MCH

4. 4. 55

Thanks.

I would rather employ 20
men for 5 months than 17 for 9
even if not so economical.

~~W. H. M.~~ 4/4/55

No. C.S. 108/35.

MINUTE.

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

10th April, 1935.

From Inspector of Stock,
STANLEY.

To The Honourable
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

I beg to report that on the 8th April, 1934, I inspected the areas proposed for tussac planting, and have to submit the following observations :-

Canache. I agree with the Director of Public Works that this Paddock is not worth replanting. The few bogs remaining are suitable for replanting in other areas.

Hooker's Point. Resting is essential. Thousands of plants could be removed with benefit to this Plantation.

Paddock West of Hooker's Point. I agree entirely with D.P.W's remarks.

Paddock South of Old W/T Strn. I recommend the planting of the whole of this area.

Big Rookery Point. Quite a good site for Tussac. I recommend that the point be fenced off, bogs and diddle-dee removed and used as a shelter along the fence. I do not agree with the burning of any plot.

Phillip's Point. Good tussac ground. It is my opinion, however, that beach fences could not withstand the surf. If this method were employed I think trouble would ensue as a result of the ingress of straying cattle.

Lake Point to Mullet Creek. The coast line ^{only} of this area is suitable for tussac. I do not think tussac would do well on diddle-dee land, but the area is ideal for grass. It would however, be necessary to remove all traces of diddle-dee and plough the land before planting.

I am of the opinion that better results in the performance of this work would be obtained if payment were made for daywork as against contract or piecework.

A. M. Bonner
Inspector of Stock.

X. *Insufficient for some
difficulties by using
stone on beach and
of fence - wooden crates
would now do better*

Stanley

16/5/36

To The
Col Sec

Sir

I wish to apply to you for the contract to supply the plants for the new tussack plantations. I have taken the vessel Desira along with two other men from the whaling which will also help to relieve the depression I trust you will see your way clear to assist me in getting this work

I have the honour
To Remain Sir
Your Obedient

Reginald Grant

108/35.

24th April,

35.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 16th April, 1935, offering to supply tussac plants and to inform you that you should apply to the Inspector of Stock who is supervising the work of tussac planting.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

MCH

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. R. Grant.
STANLEY.

No.

MINUTE.

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

5th June, 1935

From Director of Public Works,
Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

PLANTING OF TUSSAC RESERVES.

When visiting the tussac planting at Big Rookery Point His Excellency the Governor expressed a wish that he be informed of the financial position of the work in hand, also what revenue could be expected from the plantation later on. I have discussed the matter with Mr. A.M. Donner, and submit the following figures and observations.

Original estimate for Big Rookery Plantation.	£323. 0. 0.
Amount spent to 5th June, 1935.....		£240. 0. 0.
Excess to date.	£87. 0. 0.
Work.	Approximately two-thirds completed.	
Money available on special warrant of £200, after 5th June, 1935.		£90. 0. 0.

2. The excess on the estimate is due to the following reasons:-

- (a). 'Biddle-dee' hogs being cut off. The estimate allowed for burning only.
- (b). Building wall along line of wire fencing with hogs which have been cut off. Nothing allowed in estimate for this.
- (c). Work carried out by daywork labour. The estimate allowed for piecework labour.

The above was foreseen and are dealt with in Hon. Colonial Secretary's observations of 10th April, 1935.

3. With regard to revenue to be derived from the plantation, Mr. Donner anticipates that in 4 years time it will be possible to supply Stanley with tussac,

and that there will be no need to obtain tussock
from the islands. He cannot give a figure,
but promised to look into the matter as opportunity
arose.

G. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

No.

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

MINUTE.

14th June, 1935

From Director of Public Works,
Stanley.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Preparation and Planting
of Tussac Reserves.

I beg to submit for approval a further Special Warrant for £500 under XXI. P.W.E. (16).

Expenditure under S.W.3/35 will be completed this week end.

G. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

No.

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

MINUTE.

23th October, 1935

~~XXXX~~ To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

From

~~XX~~ Director of Public Works,

Stanley.

I beg to submit for approval a special warrant for £300 under XXI. (I6) "Preparation and planting of Tussac Reserves". This amount is considered sufficient to last until the end of the year. Expenditure under the special warrant No. 21 for £500 will be exhausted in week ending 30th October, 1935.

C. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

No.

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

MINUTE.

13th November, 1955.

~~From~~ From.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

~~From~~ TO

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

Hon; Colonial Secretary,

The work on the tussac plantations at Rookery Bay and Hookers Point will be completed to-day.

The Stock Inspector is on duty in the camp and the chargeman is enquiring as to what work is to be carried out, I believe Mr Bonner has spoken to you about draining the bad places on the common.

In the absence of the Stock Inspector are there any instructions I can give the chargeman, please, the gang consists of ten men and the chargehand.

G. Roberts.

Director of Public Works.

19

Public Works Department,

Stanley.

14th November, 1935.

To

As the work on the tussac plantations has been completed you are informed that your services there will not be required after 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday the 20th November, 1935.

I am to say that the Sealing Company require men for renewed sealing operations.

(Sgd). G. Roberts.
Director of Public Works.

Port Stanley
19th April 1937.

Sir

The members of the F. I. Reform League wish to protest against the cutting of tussock in the plantations recently made.

The plantations were laid down so that the animals on the Common would have a reserve food supply in times of winter storms, & it is most unfair that the tussock planted there at a very big expense to the Colony should be taken away in open weather to feed the Agricultural Adviser's horses.

The members trust Sir, that His Excellency the Governor will have this practice stopped at once.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

The Hon
Colonial Secretary
Stanley

Your obedient servant
W. J. McAtamney
Hon. Secretary

108/35.

21st April,

37.

Sir,

Recd 20...

I am directed to acknowledge your letter of the 19th instant, with reference to the utilization of the tussack grown in the new plantations for feeding Government horses belonging to the Agricultural Department.

2. It will be fully appreciated that the purchase of fodder from outside sources while it is procurable from the plantations in charge of the Agricultural Department would be an unjustifiable and unfair charge on public funds unless there is good reason to the contrary. Plantations of tussack have been established in order to supplement the supplies available for the owners (including the Government) of stock in Stanley. His Excellency considers that owners of dairy cattle should have preference during winter when tussack cannot be obtained from the islands, over all others and the Agricultural Adviser's attention will be drawn to this claim in order that he may make the requisite allowance to meet demands as far as resources permit when occasion occurs.

"A"

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Colonial Secretary.

Mr. J. McAtasney,
Hon. Secretary,
Falkland Islands Reform League,
STANLEY.

Stanley.

CONFIDENTIAL.

4th May, 1937.

Sir,

Touching on the recent protest made by the Reform League in regard to the use of Tussac from Rookery Point, for the Agricultural Department's horses it might be of interest to note that it is estimated that not less than 4,000 large bundles will be available from this source this winter, and next winter a yield of not less than 10,000 large bundles may be anticipated.

A crop of the above magnitude on one small point, gives some indication of the colossal quantities of this valuable fodder which could be grown in the Colony if all the land capable of growing tussac was made to do so. One doubts very much whether any other country in the world possesses such a valuable asset which is being used to such little advantage.

The question of resumption by the Government of all tussac land which is not being utilised for this purpose is one which might well be given serious consideration. The urgency of this matter lies in the fact that the erosion of valuable points of land is continually taking place, and immediately this process is completed, the rock bottom which is exposed is useless for the growing of tussac or anything else.

Stanley
Agricultural Adviser.

Stanley

24th May 1937

Sir

The members of The F. I. Reform League direct me to acknowledge your letter N^o 108/35 of 21st April 37 concerning the tussae plantations.

In the first place, it is considered by men of experience too soon to cut the tussae, as there is every chance that the plantations could be easily destroyed, or at least put back & take years to recover.

Some years ago His Excellency Sir John Middleton stated publicly that the plantations then made would be additional to the Common & were not made to suit any individual's requirements; surely Sir, the principles governing the plantations to-day are in direct contravention to the Governor's statement then.

The Common has been made smaller in the last 2 years & it is only just that the animals on it should have the food grown in the plantations.

4 From an economical standpoint the cost of purchasing tussae from the men who depend upon the sale of it for a

living, is very little more than procuring it from the plantations, therefore it is false economy if these men are forced to anchor their boats & appeal to the Government for the means of sustenance, simply because the Agricultural Adviser's horses are fed from the plantations.

From a humanitarian point of view there should be no hesitation in cutting the tussock in the plantations, & feeding all animals grazing on the Common, as there is no doubt it would be beneficial to them as the winter goes on

Trusting His Excellency will see his way clear to arrange for this pressing need.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant
W. J. W. Attorney
Gov. Secretary

The Hon.

Colonial Secretary
Stanley

No. 108755

MINUTE.

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

26TH MAY, 1937

From

To The Honourable,

Agricultural Adviser,

The Colonial Secretary,

STANLEY.

STANLEY.

I have the honour to inform you that under the heading of improvement of grasslands, I propose fencing off a part of the common which is mainly useless remains of tussac bog, with a view to replanting in tussac which may eventually be purchased by Stanley Stock owners as winter fodder for cattle, during periods when cutters are unable to operate. The area concerned, say some 12 or 15 acres, is near Surf Bay, and has little or no grazing value in its present state.

The proposed work will greatly improve the area and will provide much useful work for men now under the employ of the Agricultural Department.

Some eleven hundred yards of net fencing will require to be erected.

A meeting of the Common Committee is being held today to discuss the matter.

The road to Surf Bay runs through the middle of the proposed area, which will facilitate the cartage of tussac when it is fit to cut. Your early approval is sought in order that the work may be proceeded with at once.

Stanley
Agricultural Adviser.

108/35.

2nd June,

37.

Sir,

Red 24.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th of May, 1937, on the subject of tussac plantations and to inform you that His Excellency has been advised that the cutting of tussac referred to in paragraph 2 of your letter already shows beneficial rather than harmful results to the plantation.

Red 21.

2. With reference to the purchase of tussac for Government Stock from outside sources, I would refer you to paragraph 2 of my letter of the 21st of April, 1937. The question of Cutters being laid up and men unemployed as a result would not appear to arise as the Government is unaware of any Cutter having been laid up except through bad weather.

3. I am to add that His Excellency is at a loss to understand in what manner you reconcile paragraphs 2 and 6 of your letter each of which would appear to contradict the other.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Mr. W. J. McAtasney,
Honorary Secretary,
Falkland Islands Reform League,
STANLEY.

for Colonial Secretary

Stanley
16th June 1937

Sir

I am instructed by the Committee of the F. I. Reform League to acknowledge your letter N^o 108/35 of 2nd June.

The Committee wish to point out that we have not suggested that any Cattle has been laid up, our letter of 24th May stated it would be false economy if the Cattle men are forced to anchor their boats & appeal to the Government for a living.

As to paragraphs 2 & 6 contradicting each other, a few words have certainly been omitted, but the meaning is still the same, viz; if the practice of cutting turves in the plantations is to be adhered to in spite of all objections from the Public, then feed the animals on the Common with it.

I have the honour to be
Sir

The Hon.

Colonial Secretary
Stanley

Your obedient servant
W. J. M^r. Atkinson
Hon. Secretary

108/35.

21st June,

37.

Sir,

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, and to draw your attention to paragraph 2 of my letter of the 21st April, 1937, and to inform you that in the event of tussac not being procurable from other resources owners of animals may purchase tussac from the Agricultural Department at six pence per bundle delivered.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

for Colonial Secretary.

Red 27.

Red 21

Mr. W. J. McAtasney,
 Honorary Secretary,
 Falkland Islands Reform League,
 STANLEY.