

C. S.

WHALING & SEALING
(Sealing)
(Misc.)

1944.

No. 110/44.

Mr. E. G. Rowe.

SUBJECT.

1944.

14th July.

SEALING IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Previous Paper.

Mr. E. G. Rowe enquires whether facilities could be granted.

21/45, 139/37.

MINUTES.

Letter from E. G. Rowe, Esq., of 14. 7. 44.

- 1.
- 2 Minutes to & from H. E. the Governor of 29. 7. 44.
- 3 letter to Manager, E. L. W. of 2. 8. 44.

(4)

H.E.S.

In view of (3) in 21/45 do you think Mr. Rowe might be asked to tell us exactly what he wants and how he would act about getting it, if licensed.

J.P.D. W. 8 - iii - 45.

5. letter to Manager, E. L. W., of 9. 3. 45.
6. " from " " " 13. 3. 45.

(7)

Hes

P. attach Hutchinson's application.

H.B.

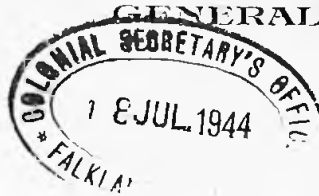
15.3.45

Subsequent Paper.

ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS

SUCCESSORS TO CHAS WILLIAMS

Estb'd 1863



GENERAL MERCHANTS

PORT STANLEY
FALKLAND ISLANDS

RADIO ADDRESS
"WILLIAMS"
CODES USED:
BENTLEYS
ABC 5TH ED.
A I

14th July 1944.

*ack'd.
27-7-44*

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley.

Dear Sir,

We should like to learn whether any facilities could be granted for the taking of:

Sea Lions

Fur Seals

as we have had an enquiry from Buenos Aires for skins.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

p.p. Estate Louis Williams.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Y/E.,

Before the war there was no market for seal skins and the Sealing Company produced only oil. The present demand from Argentine is possibly due to the fact that the world's supply is to a great extent controlled by the United States Government and the export of skins from the Pacific to Argentine may have been affected by the present political situation.

2. I have not yet enquired what, if any, are the intentions of E. L. W. but I should imagine they would merely try something simple such as hiring people to go and kill sea lions for so much a skin. The Government Naturalist, so far as he is concerned, advises total prohibition, as at present, on the taking of fur seals and limiting the sea lions to 10,000 a year, bulls only.

3. Before, however, going any further into the matter the position of the Sealing Company must be considered. Early in 1939 (see 98 on 139/37) the Company, with the approval of the Secretary of State, were promised a monopoly for 7 seasons, until 1943/44 on a licence renewable annually. The 1939 licence was issued (see 140) and the season's work was done on it but on the outbreak of war the Company's vessel, now the Afterglow, was requisitioned and there have been no subsequent operations. 1939 was undoubtedly run at a loss even with the Government subsidy. I do not know the extent of the indebtedness of the Company to the Falkland Islands Company who were financing it but I doubt very much whether it will ever operate again. If the Company had been in a sound condition and had intended sealing during the war and had been prevented merely by the requisitioning of its vessel I think it would have had a case for asking for its monopoly to be extended for 6 years after the end of the war and it might also have reasonable objections to any other interest being allowed to take seals meanwhile. In view of the apparent market for seal skins as well as oil I think before ^{considering} consulting this application by Estate Louis Williams it might be a good thing to enquire from the Sealing Company what its intentions are. This would, in any case, be useful information to have in connection with post war prospects generally.

LB
29/7/44.

Pl. reply somewhat as follows:

".... It is regretted that at present no facilities for taking seals in sea-lions are possible (?)."

LB 1/8/44

2nd August,

44.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 14th July, I am to express regret that at present it is not possible to grant any facilities for the taking of sea lions and fur seals.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.

The Manager,
Estate Louis Williams,
STANLEY.

9th March,

45.

Sir,

Recd

With reference to your letter of 14th July, 1944, and further to my reply of 2nd August, I should be glad to know whether you are still interested in obtaining facilities for the taking of seal lions and if so exactly what your proposals are in the matter. The taking of fur seal would not in any circumstances be allowed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Colonial Secretary.

THE MANAGER,
ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS,
STANLEY.

ESTATE LOUIS WILLIAMS

SUCCESSORS TO CHAS WILLIAMS
Estbl' 1863.

GENERAL MERCHANTS

PORT STANLEY
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

13th March 1945

RADIO ADDRESS
"WILLIAMS"
CODES USED
BENTLEYS
A.B.C 5TH ED.
A.I.



Sir,

Reds.

In reply to your letter of 9th inst. (ref.110/44) we have to inform you that the enquiry we had from Buenos Aires has not been followed up from that end, and in consequence we cannot define any interest in the taking of seals at the present time.

However it would appear to us that there should be considerable possibilities given the ruling prices for analogous products.

For instance on the 25th Jan. 1945 the prices quoted in London for certain products (and from which an estimate of the corresponding value of seal oil and seal-skins can be arrived at) were as follows:-

Tallow (non-edible) first mixture	£45.10.--	per Ton
do. good	45. 5.--	" "
do. ordinary	44. 5.--	" "
South American edible Tallow	£51.15.--	" "
(Subject to a rebate of £2.5.-- per Ton if packed in soft wood barrels).		
South American XXXX "Oleo" Oil	£70.--.--	per Ton
(Subject to the same rebate of £2.5.-)		
Cattle Hides (ex Argentine freezers)	9d to 9½d	p.lb.
Cow "	8½d "	0 d. "
Heifer "	9½d "	10½d "
Yearling "	11¼d "	13d. "

Yours faithfully,
p.p. Estate Louis Williams.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary
Stanley.