

C.S.

WHALING (South Georgia)
No. 291/23

SGA/WHA/2 # 14

1923.

Magistrate, S. Georgia

SUBJECT.

192 3

20th February

Previous Paper.

Reported fire at Stromness Harbour
Whaling Station, (Vestfold Co.,)

MINUTES.

Letter from Magistrate, South Georgia of 20th Feb: 1923 - Encl ①

Y.S. Submitted
 The Vestfold Coy is an amalgamation of the
 Sandefjord Coy & Ocean Coy operating at
 Stromness Bay with 5 catchers.

*C.M.B.
 J.S.C.S.
 14 April 1923*

Y.M. Napier.

*In information: this occurrence must be
 taken into consideration when examination is
 being made of figures for production of this
 factory in season 1922-1923.*

Y.M.

14 April 1923.

Hon. Col. Sec.

*Thank you. This is a most un-
 fortunate occurrence.*

*2. I presume Mr. Binnie will give
 information*

Subsequent Paper.

information as to the amount of
oil destroyed.

2. In any case the production of
Vesfold Co. up to the date of the
fire will have to be considered as
~~the~~ the cards for the whole season
so far as the proportions of blubber
and press oils and the average per
whale are concerned.

J. Hamilton

Govt. Naturalist

24/4/23.

Y.S.
Submitted
G.H.G.
23 April 1923

RM. when report for S. Georgia Whaling
Season 1922-1923 is received

JA
27 April 1923

Deal with
in 576/23



S.G.No 7/23

The Magistrate's Office,

South Georgia,

20th. February 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that, on the 1st. February at about 11 pm. a fire took place at Stromness Harbour the whaling station of the Vestfold Company, with the result that the pressure cookery was totally destroyed. The Cookery consisted of some 58 Pressure boilers for Meat and Bone, and during the season on many days an output of 750 barrels was reached, there being absolutely no waste whatever. However already 14 boilers have been collected from different parts and erected and will be in use in a few days. In the meantime I have allowed the whale carcasses to be taken over by the South Georgia company and the Tonsberg whaling co, in order to minimise waste, and so far practically everything has been used up.

From enquiries which I have made, it would appear that the fire resulted from a short circuit of the Electric cable, and in a few minutes was beyond control. Three water hoses were brought to bear on the surrounding buildings which arrested the spreading of the fire.

The Manager Mr Sorlle, has already ordered by telegraph some 40 pressure boilers of the largest type for next season, which with those already erected will give a greater capacity than before and consequently will increase the output.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

E. W. R. Bunn

*The Hon.
Colonial Secretary
Stanley*