

C.S.

MEDICAL (Board of Health)  
(Miscellaneous)  
PUBLIC WORKS (Labour)  
(Misc.)

UTI/SAN/1#28

19 42.

No. 105/42.

Mr. M. Biggs.

SUBJECT.

19 42.

12th August.

ASSISTANT SANITARY CARTER.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1. Letter from Mr. M. Biggs of 12. 8. 42.

2.

A.C.S.

Copy of ① D.S.M.O. pt.

RB  
14/8

S.A.

3. Letter from Mr. M. Biggs of 26. 8. 42.

*butaram went to Gov. Secy*

3. Minute from Hon. S.M.O. of 28. 8. 42.

(4).

A.C.S.

Biggs should, subject to any objection by the  
O.C. 7-10-7. be returned to civil life paid as before.  
The S.M.O. agreed with me that he ~~was~~ should be  
paid the equivalent of "dist money" chiefly because  
of the odium attached to the post. I do not know how  
much this amounts to but it is a standard rate.

1/B. 3/8.

Subsequent Paper.

(5)

H.C.S.,

I have discussed the question of the return to civil employment of Pte. M. Biggs, Assistant Sanitary Carter, with O/C. Defence Force, who is prepared to release Biggs from Active Service at once.

Prior to being brought on strength, Biggs received a weekly wage approximating £2. 12. 6, 30/- of which was paid from the pertinent Medical vote in respect of his part-time services, the remainder from Public Works votes. He now appears to be engaged full-time on sanitary services, and that being so it seems proper that his entire wages, plus any 'dirt money' allowance which may be granted, should be charged to the scavenging vote, but the additional cost will probably necessitate the issue of a special warrant under that sub-head.

I understand that the scale of 'dirt money' paid by P.W.D. varies from 1d. per hour for tarring roads to 4d. per hour for handling bulk coal; presumably the present instance is comparable with the maximum of that scale.

I submit draft Minute to Hon. S.M.O. for approval.

*W.A.*  
A/A.C.S.  
11/9/42.

Minute to Hon. S.M.O. of 14. 9. 42.

6.

(7)

*R.V.*

Record.

Biggs, with the departure of the garrison to the camp, was finishing his daily work by 11-30 a.m. - after 4 hrs, with occasional excursions to 12 or 12:30. He was therefore told that he must make up his 8 hr day by reporting for work in the P.W.D. in the afternoon. He was to continue to receive 8d per day dirt money. He refused to obey these instructions. On the matter being referred to me I am Mr J. Barnes to investigate the case. He reported to me that Biggs had no "case" deserved no sympathy. I sent Mr Biggs but he refused to alter his attitude or to accept a proposal that if night working could be arranged he should be employed by night only at an hourly wage for the period actually worked. This is a deliberate attempt to exploit Govt. vis unfair both to Govt. & to other workmen.

Biggs is dismissed from Govt. employment as from today and is not eligible for re-employment by any Govt. dept. S.M.O. informed accordingly, also R-Reg. 401A9.

*W.B.*  
8/3/43

Minute to O/C, F.I.D.F., of 8. 3. 43.

8.

(9)

Record. Release of P.W.D. took over the job this morning & d.p.d. dirt money. KB 9/3.

p.a.

- 10. Minute from Hon. S.C.O., of 4.8.43.
- 11. " " " " 6.8.43.
- 12. <sup>Copy of</sup> Letter from Secretary, F. Is. Labour Federation 12/8/43.

# Christ Church Cathedral

Port Stanley Falkland Islands

*put in file*  
①

REV GERALD K. LOWE

August 12th, 1942

The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
STANLEY

Honourable Sir:

RE ASSISTANT SANITARY CARTER.

*Red b in p/238.*  
Some time ago I had written for me a letter in which I demanded more money for my job as assistant Sanitary Carter. I wish to retract that letter as it was not written in a manner which would deserve sympathetic treatment, and I also wish to apologise for having written it. *2-14-6*

(2) I also wish to state that I am willing to return to my position at the present rate of pay, and having recommenced work, to submit a proper and more disciplined request for a little financial compensation in view of the unpleasant nature of the work

I am,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Note- This letter was written by me at the request of Mr Maxwell Biggs.

*Gerald K. Lowe*

*M Biggs*

(3.)

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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



MINUTE.

28th August, 1942.

From The Senior Medical Officer,

STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Honourable,

The Colonial Secretary,

STANLEY.

Re:- M. BIGGS.

This man I understand has been told that if he asked for more money his case would be favourably considered. This he has now done and I agree that on the face of it he should be paid "dirt money" in conformity with those who handle dirty material.

At the same time it should be realized that it has taken Biggs and his employers nine years to discover the unpleasant character of his work and in fact I do not admit that his work is unpleasant. His job has been to lead and care for the horse - the normal work of a groom.

However Biggs is at present being paid by the Falkland Islands Defence Force. Will you please instruct the Quartermaster what additional money Biggs is to receive. He will in turn charge the scavenging vote. Alternatively Biggs can be returned to civil life and paid as before.

*[Signature]*  
SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER.

MINUTE.No. 405/42.

14th September, 19 42.

From

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To

The Honourable  
The Senior Medical Officer,  
STANLEY.

*Red 3.* With reference to your Minute of the 28th of August, 1942, Pto. M. Biggs, Assistant Sanitary Carter, will be discharged to civil employment on 16th September, 1942.

2. It is understood that prior to being brought on strength, Biggs received a weekly wage approximately £2. 12s. 6d, 30/- of which was charged to your vote in respect of his part-time sanitary duties. As he is now engaged on full-time sanitary duties, all his emoluments should be paid from your vote. Biggs was not told that his application for dirt money would be "favourably considered", but that it would be "considered". You, however, agreed with me that he should be paid dirt money if only because of the odium attached to the work.

3. I suggest that he should receive dirt money at the rate of 1d. per hour. This will bring his total emoluments including cost of living bonus to £175. 10s. 0d. per annum. Skilling is at present receiving £177 per annum, including bonus, and Biggs should not receive more. It should be borne in mind that Skilling will receive an increment in 1943 and Biggs will not.

4. Should the full-time employment of Biggs cause an excess on your vote, a Special Warrant may be applied for towards the close of the year. The question of which department shall control the scavenging vote next year will be decided when the 1943 Estimates are being prepared.

K. G. BRADLEY  
Colonial Secretary.

No. 105/42

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

MINUTE.

8th March, 19 43.

From The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To The Officer Commanding,

Falkland Islands Defence Force,

STANLEY.

I have to inform you that Mr. Maxwell Biggs, Assistant Sanitary Carter, has today been discharged from Government Service and is therefore no longer required for civilian employment.

K. G. BRADLEY  
Governor's Deputy.

No.

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



MINUTE.

4th August, 1943. (10)

From THE SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER,  
STANLEY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

To THE HONOURABLE,  
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,  
STANLEY.

Re:- Sanitary Carter.

Skilling, the Sanitary Carter, has fallen ill and Kelway his helper is incapable of doing the work alone. The Public Works Department have so far been unable to find a man willing to do this work. In consequence until Skilling recovers there will be no Sanitary Service.

Skilling complained last week that Kelway was useless to him and asked if he might have another helper. Kelway also complained that he wished other work for the reason that walking aggravated his rheumatism.

One Browning saw me to-day and told me that he was willing to do Kelway's work for 33. 7. 6. per week provided that he did not have to work for the Public Works Department in the afternoons. He refused to consider doing Skilling's job until the Carter recovered. This whole situation is very unsatisfactory but in the circumstances will you approve the discharge of Kelway and the employment of Browning in his place please?

  
SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER.



No. 105/43MINUTE.

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

From The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

5th August, 19 43.

To The Honourable  
The Senior Medical Officer,  
STANLEY.

*Reduo*  
With reference to your minute of 4th August. Browning has agreed to serve as Assistant Sanitary Officer on the following terms.

He will work only on this job and will be paid for a 36 hour week. Should he ever work longer hours than this in any one week he will receive additional pay accordingly. He will also receive 1/6 per hour dirt money. His normal pay will therefore be

Wages 36 hours @ 1/2	02.	2s.	0d.
Dirt Money @ 1/6 per hour		12.	
C.O.L. Bonus @ 3/6 per hour		9.	
	03.	3s.	0d. per week.

He may be engaged on this basis as from to-day and should care for the horse until Skilling returns to duty. His refusal to do Skilling's work meanwhile is alleged to be due to a physical disability which prevents him from lifting weights continuously.

2. Melway should return to the P.W.D.

3. In the event of further trouble please consult Mr. J. Barnes who has been extremely helpful in this matter.

K. G. BRADLEY  
Colonial Secretary.

COPY.

Original filed in 26/44.

FALKLAND ISLANDS LABOUR FEDERATION  
STANLEY.

12th May, 1944.

Sir,

With reference to our recent conversation regarding the Sanitary Carter's Assistant, I am instructed by the Committee of the Labour Federation to inform you that after a careful study of the points discussed it was decided to tell the assistant that his wages were considered sufficient, and should the Government require him to work during night time he was expected to do so.

I am,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) M. Evans,

Secretary.

The  
Hon. Colonial Secretary,  
STANLEY.