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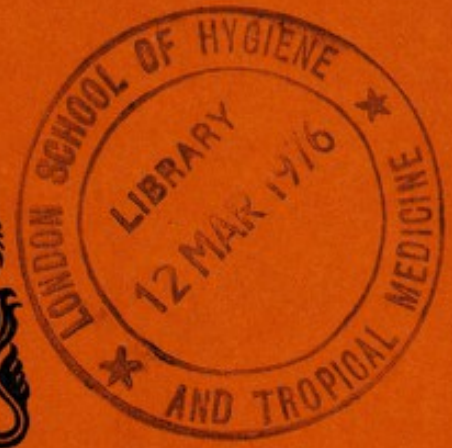
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# Falkland Islands

AND DEPENDENCIES

1972 and 1973

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LONDON  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
£1 15p net





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FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

CONTENTS  
The Falkland Islands  
1972-1973

# FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES

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Report for the years  
1972 and 1973

*LONDON*  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE



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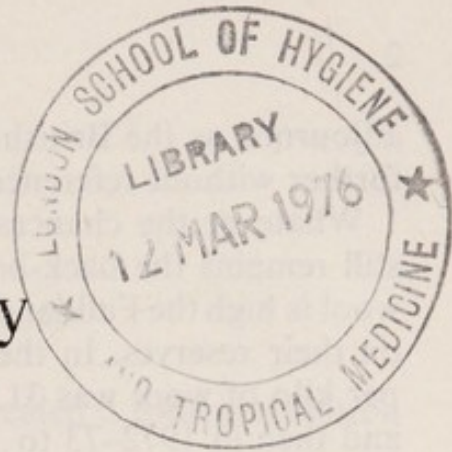
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# The Colony

## PART I

### General Review of 1972 and 1973

Two factors dominated the period under review. Firstly, the improvement of the external air link with the Argentine, and, secondly, the marked improvement in the economy due to the steady rise in the price of wool.

In January 1972 the Argentine Air Force started a fortnightly service between Comodoro Rivadavia and Port Stanley, using the amphibious Albatross. During most of the year this was the only external carrier and as the pay-load was limited to 6-8 passengers, the demand for seats far exceeded the carrying capacity, and seats had to be allocated on a priority basis. First class mail was the first priority, followed by urgent medical cases. Although the Argentine pilots did a superb job, keeping the link open sometimes in atrocious weather, it became clear that in order to give the service flexibility, land planes would have to be introduced. It was, therefore, agreed between Her Majesty's Government and the Argentine Government that a temporary airfield should be built just outside Stanley at Hooker's Point. The Argentine construction team, with an impressive array of heavy mechanical equipment, arrived in May and the temporary airfield with its slotted aluminium strip was formally opened in November 1972—just in time for the third round of political talks scheduled to take place in Stanley between the British and Argentine representatives. From that time a regular weekly service has been in operation by the Argentine State Airline (LADE), using Fokker F 27 planes. The temporary airstrip is only 800 metres long, and this limits the pay-load and is no substitute for the main airfield which is to be built by the British Government at Cape Pembroke.

The third round of talks between H.M.G. and the Argentine Government with representatives from the Islands forming part of the British Delegation was a success and helped to smooth out a long list of administrative and political problems. It also enabled our visitors to see something of the Islands at first hand. A further round of talks was held in London in April 1973, but these were



adjourned as the British Delegation did not feel they could proceed further without reference back to Ministers.

Whatever the chances are for diversification in the future, wool still remains the back-bone of the economy and when the price for wool is high the Falklands prosper, and when it is low they have to live on their reserves. In the 1970-71 season the average price received per kilo of wool was 31.74p, but in 1971-72 it went up to over 54p and then in 1972-73 to 73p. A development new to the Colony has been the selling-forward of the season's crop so that most farmers know well in advance what they can expect to receive from the season's sales.

During 1973 in particular a large number of experts came to the Colony under technical assistance arrangements, and these were a great help in improving the efficiency of the Government machine. In addition, visits by diplomats from the British Embassy in Buenos Aires were very welcome. Both the Chargé d'Affaires, Mr Theo Peters, and Mr J. Shakespeare, Counsellor, spent a week in the Islands. Sir Vivien Fuchs, the Director of the British Antarctic Survey and an old friend of the Colony, paid his farewell visit to Stanley in March 1973. In December 1973, on the day celebrating the Battle of the Falklands in 1914, Captain C. J. Isacke, R.N., on behalf of Lady Ashmore, wife of the Commander-in-Chief Fleet, presented to His Excellency the Governor the patent of baronetcy awarded to her grandfather after his great victory. This was an impressive ceremony, carried out, however, in the usual Falkland Islands blustery weather.

New Year Honours for 1973 were as follows:

Dr J. H. Ashmore, O.B.E.

Monsignor J. Ireland, O.B.E.

Miss E. McMullen, B.E.M.

## PART II

### Chapter 1: Population

THE census of the Colony taken in 1972 revealed a total population of 1,957 made up as follows:

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Stanley	573	506	1,079
Other districts, East Falkland	288	210	498
West Falkland	220	160	380
	<u>1,081</u>	<u>876</u>	<u>1,957</u>

The estimated population at 31st December 1973 was 1,874 giving a density of approximately one person to every 2.5 square miles. About half the inhabitants live in the capital, Stanley, and the remainder are more or less equally divided between the sheep farming settlements on the East and West Falklands. The population is almost wholly of British origin.

Births, marriages and deaths were:

	1972	1973
Births	39	39
Marriages	25	12
Deaths	10	12

### Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

#### EMPLOYMENT

THE whole area of the Islands outside the limits of Stanley, commonly known as "the Camp" is given over to sheep farming and almost half the male population is employed in this industry. In Stanley the Government and the Falkland Islands Company are the major employers of labour. Both in Stanley and the Camp there is a tendency to shortage of labour, and it is necessary to recruit labour from overseas to supplement the local force. There is no unemployment.



## WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

*Stanley*

At the end of 1973 wages were being paid at the following rates:

Unskilled labourers	£14.80 per week
Skilled labourers	£15.20–£16.80 per week
Artisans	£17.40 per week

Since November 1972 a five-day week of 40 hours has been worked; previously the working week was five-and-a-half days of 45 hours total. Time and a half was paid for overtime, with double time for work on Sundays and public holidays. Hourly paid workers were granted a fully paid holiday of 96 hours annually. There was no night work except in essential services.

*The Camp*

Outside Stanley general labourers at the end of the period under review were receiving £54.02 per month and foremen were paid a minimum monthly wage of £66.97. Shepherds living in the settlements earned £56.45 per month, while those living outside the settlements received an additional £3.25. In addition, labourers and shepherds received free quarters, fuel, meat and milk. Extra bonuses were paid for shearing, while labourers and shepherds were able to add to their earnings by contract work such as fencing and peat cutting. An average of 45 hours weekly was worked, with Saturday afternoons and Sundays as rest days. Employees in the Camp received an annual holiday entitlement on pay amounting to 15 working days.

## COST OF LIVING

Mutton is the staple diet: it is delivered to houses in Stanley twice weekly and is supplied regularly to farm employees, although on farms beef is usually available during the winter months. Beef deliveries to Stanley are infrequent. The wild upland goose offers a welcome change of diet and can be eaten at all seasons. Falkland Islands smelt and mullet are popular and can be caught without undue difficulty, particularly at specially constructed fish weirs. Supplies of other fish, poultry and pork are irregular but can be obtained from time to time. Poultry thrive but imported chicken food is expensive. Potatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips, radish, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower and peas are easily grown and a variety of other vegetables often raised. The majority of householders have their own gardens as there is little opportunity to buy fresh locally grown vegetables. Falkland Islands root crops are particularly palatable.



Tomatoes and cucumbers are cultivated under glass. Gooseberries, raspberries, currants, strawberries and rhubarb grow well out of doors. Citrus fruit, bananas and occasionally other fruit are obtainable from South America.

There is one hotel in Stanley where rooms with full board can be obtained at £4.00 per day and bed and breakfast at £2.50 per day. Several householders take in paying guests from £1 to £2 per day. Rents for furnished houses vary from £10 to £35 per month. Unfurnished houses are obtainable from £9 to £26 per month. The Government normally provides houses with basic furniture for its overseas officials at rents ranging from £10 to £35 per month according to the condition of the property and the number of rooms available. A general housing shortage makes it difficult to find suitable property to rent and freehold property is relatively expensive to buy.

The following table shows the approximate prices of the more important commodities prevailing at 31st December 1973 as compared with two years previously:

	Unit	1971	1973
Bread . . . . .	2 lb loaf	11p	12p
Butter (imported) . . . . .	lb	32p	54p
Margarine . . . . .	lb	16p	19p
Coffee . . . . .	lb	53p	56p
Tea . . . . .	lb	49p	50p
Eggs . . . . .	dozen	32p	35p
Flour . . . . .	lb	5p	6p
Meat:			
Mutton . . . . .	lb	4p	5p
Beef . . . . .	lb	4p	5p
Bacon . . . . .	lb	35p	60p
Ham . . . . .	lb	60p	65p
Milk . . . . .	pint	4½	5p
Jam . . . . .	2 lb tin	26p	48p
Sugar . . . . .	lb	5p	11½p
Vegetables:			
Onions (imported) . . . . .	lb	6½p	11p
Potatoes (imported) . . . . .	lb	5p	6p
Dried Fruit:			
Sultanas . . . . .	lb	15p	43p
Currants . . . . .	lb	15p	43p
Raisins . . . . .	lb	16p	43p
Porridge Oats . . . . .	lb	8½p to 11p	16p
Cereals . . . . .	packet	9½p to 16p	26p to 35p
Cigarettes . . . . .	20	12p	16p
Tobacco . . . . .	lb	£2.56	£3.19
Alcohol:			
Whisky . . . . .	bottle	£2	£2.35
Gin . . . . .	bottle	£1.94	£2.27
Brandy . . . . .	bottle	£2.15 to £2.25	£2.78



	<i>Unit</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1973</i>
Beer . . . . .	doz. small bottles	84p to £1.14	£1.50
Paraffin . . . . .	gall.	13p	66p
Petrol . . . . .	gall.	25p	82p
Electricity . . . . .	unit	2.3p	2.7p

Good quality English clothing can be purchased at prices generally comparable to those ruling in the United Kingdom.

Furniture, household appliances and hardware are all imported, generally from the United Kingdom, and as a result of freight and transshipping expenses are proportionately higher in cost than similar articles in the United Kingdom. Because there is no purchase tax and customs duties only apply to alcohol, tobacco and matches, imported luxury items are often obtainable at prices below those ruling in Britain. There is one consumer co-operative society, formed in 1952, which imports groceries, clothing, footwear and household goods.

British motor vehicles are imported and offered at prices similar to those in the United Kingdom, the comparatively high freight charges being largely offset by the absence of import duties and purchase tax. At the end of 1973 there were 807 motor vehicles of all types registered in the Colony.

The only fuel produced locally is peat and this is the main source of heating on all the farms and in most buildings in Stanley. Many townspeople cut and rickle their own peat but the expense of transporting it from the peat banks has risen steadily. According to the size of a house and the number of rooms heated, a year's supply averages from 12 to 20 lorry loads of peat, each load being approximately 12 cubic yards.

In the Camp peat is cut by paid labour as a routine task but in Stanley it has become increasingly difficult to attract men to undertake this employment and the heating systems of a number of larger buildings have been converted to oil firing.

#### LABOUR RELATIONS

There is no Labour Department in the Colony. The Falkland Islands General Employees' Union with some 500 members is the only trade union in the Islands. The union extends its interest throughout the Colony and meets annually with the Sheepowners' Association and employers in Stanley to review the wages and conditions of service for most workers. Labour relations were good.

#### SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

There are no factories in the Colony and no industries other than sheep farming. The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance provides



for the payment of compensation to persons employed in all forms of manual occupation. Legislation enacted in 1966 and 1967 lays down conditions for the employment of women, children and young persons.

There is no statutory provision for the payment of unemployment benefits.

#### INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Apprentices are indentured in the building trade, wireless telegraphy, mechanical and electrical services.

An Apprenticeship Board was constituted in 1955 for the purpose of standardising the forms of indenture and to advise on pay, working conditions and training. If the need arises the Board can act as arbiter in disputes and concern itself with the welfare of apprentices.

### Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE and expenditure during the two financial years from 1971-72 to 1972-73 were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Total</i>
	£	£	£	£
1971-72 . . . . .	532,565	676,543	521,851	665,829
1972-73 . . . . .	465,525	609,843	525,120	669,438

The main heads of revenue and expenditure were as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>	
	<i>1971-72</i>	<i>1972-73</i>
	£	£
Customs . . . . .	48,513	56,801
Electricity . . . . .	50,223	52,589
Investment . . . . .	177,574	94,421
Internal Revenue . . . . .	125,045	83,741
Posts and Telecommunications . . . . .	53,540	72,601

	<i>Expenditure</i>	
	£	£
The Governor . . . . .	8,695	17,886
Aviation . . . . .	28,634	37,661
Customs and Harbour . . . . .	18,531	17,542
Education . . . . .	60,430	67,397
Medical . . . . .	57,702	73,928
Miscellaneous . . . . .	9,420	6,680
Pensions and Gratuities . . . . .	14,907	32,585
Police and Prisons . . . . .	8,048	10,368
Posts and Telecommunications . . . . .	53,335	54,375

*Expenditure—continued*

	1971-72	1972-73
	£	£
Power and Electrical . . . . .	31,643	46,558
Public Works . . . . .	22,306	25,057
Public Works Recurrent . . . . .	41,078	32,512
Secretariat, Treasury and Central Store . . . . .	47,024	55,069
Shipping Subsidy and Overseas Passages . . . . .	85,722	20,538
Social Welfare . . . . .	17,592	9,082
Development Expenditure . . . . .	143,978	144,318

Statements of assets and liabilities at 30th June 1972 and 30th June 1973 are shown on the following pages. There is no public debt.

*Development Aid Grants from United Kingdom Funds*

<i>Project No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	1971-72	1972-73
		£	£
1	Extension to Stanley Power Station .	—	3,215
3	Scrambler Unit, Overseas Telephone Service . . . . .	4,661	—

*Loan from United Kingdom Funds*

Stanley Power Station . . . . .	80,906	19,094
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## Statement of Assets and

LIABILITIES		£	£
DRAFTS AND TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFERS . . . . .			16417.21
DEPOSITS:			
Overseas Service Aid Scheme (Inducement Allowances) . . . . .		0.86	
Other . . . . .		17453.15	
		<u>          </u>	17454.01
SPECIAL FUNDS:			
Savings Bank . . . . .		1350422.49	
Old Age Pensions Equalisation . . . . .		368548.19	
Note Security . . . . .		102762.48	
Government Employees Provident . . . . .		7385.06	
		<u>          </u>	1829118.22
COLONY FUNDS:			
Development . . . . .		62478.13	
Reserve . . . . .		102245.42	
		<u>          </u>	164,723.55
Oil Stocks Replacement . . . . .			32515.97
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE:			
Balance at 1st July 1971 <i>Surplus</i> . . . . .		42311.72	
<i>Deduct</i> Depreciation of Investments . . . . .		2958.32	
		<u>          </u>	
		39353.40	
		10713.74	
<i>Add</i> Surplus year ended 30th June 1972 . . . . .			
Balance 30th June 1972 . . . . .			50067.14
			<u>          </u>
			<u>£2110296.10</u>

The above statement does not include:

- (1) (a) A sum of £4844.58 due from Her Majesty's Government in respect of under issues of the following development aid:

Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D6820 and A Improvements to Stanley Schools	£152.82
D7053 Stanley Roads . . . . .	£335.76
Development Aid Scheme Scrambler Unit, Overseas Telephone Service . . . . .	£4356.00

- (b) A sum of £7355.99 due from Her Majesty's Government in respect of the following Overseas Service Aid Scheme under issues:

Passages . . . . .	£7355.66
Education Allowances . . . . .	£0.33



*Liabilities at 30th June, 1972*

		ASSETS	
		£	£
<b>CASH:</b>			
Treasury and Posts and Telecommunications		20260.59	
Crown Agents		625.09	
Joint Consolidated Fund		23000.00	
Remittances in Transit		1996.63	
		<hr/>	45882.31
<b>INVESTMENTS, SPECIAL FUNDS:</b>			
Savings Bank		1297578.42	
Old Age Pensions Equalisation		362252.43	
Note Security		103942.02	
Government Employees Provident		8504.32	
		<hr/>	1772277.19
<b>INVESTMENTS, COLONY FUNDS:</b>			
Development Reserve		157454.86	
		93805.07	
		<hr/>	251259.93
<b>ADVANCES:</b>			
Other Administrations		38790.25	
Departmental		37.96	
South Georgia		1260.48	
Other		787.98	
		<hr/>	40876.67
			<hr/> <hr/>
			£2110296.10

- (c) A sum of £83996.19 due from Her Majesty's Government in respect of expenditure incurred under the United Kingdom/Falkland Islands Loan 1971.
- (2) At the 30th June 1972 the amount outstanding in respect of loans for housing etc. was £38,857.55.
- (3) A sum of £22,946 is owed by the European Space Research Organisation to the Colony in respect of a loan: and an identical amount is owed by the Colony to the Government Savings Bank. (Ordinance No. 4 of 1969.)

H. T. ROWLANDS,  
Financial Secretary,  
29th November, 1972.

## Statement of Assets and

LIABILITIES		£	£
DRAFTS AND TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFERS . . . . .			23973.04
DEPOSITS:			
Overseas Service Aid Scheme (Inducement Allowances) . . . . .		0.86	
South Georgia . . . . .		1870.83	
Development Aid . . . . .		10150.00	
Other . . . . .		71908.61	
		<hr/>	83930.30
SPECIAL FUNDS:			
Savings Bank . . . . .		1368463.76	
Old Age Pensions Equalisation . . . . .		369249.14	
Note Security Fund . . . . .		111852.76	
Government Employees Provident . . . . .		8410.06	
		<hr/>	1857975.72
COLONY FUNDS:			
Development . . . . .		127155.34	
Reserve . . . . .		102245.42	
U.K./F.I. Loan . . . . .		3300.00	
Power Station . . . . .		7000.00	
		<hr/>	239700.76
Oil Stocks Replacement . . . . .			7951.72
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE:			
Balance at 1st July 1972 <i>Surplus</i> . . . . .		50067.14	
Add Appreciation of Investments . . . . .		1906.26	
		<hr/>	
		51973.40	
Deduct Deficit year ended 30th June 1973 . . . . .		59595.10	
		<hr/>	
Balance at 30th June 1973 (Deficit) . . . . .			7621.70
			<hr/>
			<u>£2205909.84</u>

The above statement does not include:

- (1) A sum of £6306.10 due from Her Majesty's Government in respect of under issues of the following development aid: Project No. 1 Stanley Power Station.  
A sum of £4586.88 due from Her Majesty's Government in respect of under issues of the Overseas Service Aid Scheme (Passages).
- (2) At the 30th June 1973 the amount outstanding in respect of loans for housing etc. was £37973.48.



*Liabilities at 30th June 1973*

		ASSETS	
		£	£
CASH:			
Treasury and Posts and Telecommunications		45144.98	
Crown Agents		772.46	
Joint Consolidated Fund		53475.37	
Remittances in Transit		266.50	
		99659.31	
INVESTMENTS, SPECIAL FUNDS:			
Savings Bank		1291309.58	
Old Age Pensions Equalisation		360056.72	
Note Security Fund		100789.80	
Government Employees' Provident		6471.08	
		1758627.18	
INVESTMENTS, COLONY FUNDS:			
Development		158538.60	
Reserve		129137.25	
U.K./F.I. Loan		3300.00	
Power Station		7000.00	
		297975.85	
ADVANCES:			
Other Administrations		47727.21	
Departmental		70.01	
Other		1850.28	
		49647.50	
			£2205909.84

- (3) A sum of £19063.00 is owed by the European Space Research Organisation to the Colony in respect of a loan: and an identical amount is owed by the Colony to the Government Savings Bank (Ordinance No. 4 of 1969).
- (4) A liability of £100,000 to Her Majesty's Government consequent upon a loan granted in respect of Development Aid Project No. 1 Stanley Power Station.

H. T. ROWLANDS,  
Financial Secretary,  
15th October 1973.

## TAXATION

The main heads of taxation were customs and income tax.

*Customs Tariff*

Import duties at 31st December 1973 were payable at the following rates:

## Wines:

- General, 39p per gallon in bulk
- Commonwealth, 27p per gallon in bulk
- General, 85½p per dozen quart bottles
- Commonwealth, 59p per dozen quart bottles

Spirits: £8.25 per gallon

Beer: 11p per gallon

## Tobacco:

- General, £1.00 per lb
- Commonwealth, 95p per lb

## Cigarettes:

- General, £1.25 per lb
- Commonwealth, £1.20 per lb

## Matches:

- General, 50p per gross boxes
- Commonwealth, 25p per gross boxes

Revenue from customs duties was:

	1971-72	1972-73
	£	£
Imports:		
Wines . . . . .	1,196	930
Spirits . . . . .	36,942	44,169
Beer . . . . .	3,622	3,381
Tobacco and cigarettes . . . . .	6,681	8,218
Matches . . . . .	74	103

*Income Tax*

The following were the rates on chargeable income as at 31st December 1973:

Companies: 40p (flat rate)

Individuals	%
First £500 . . . . .	15
Next £500 . . . . .	20
Next £500 . . . . .	25
Next £1,000 . . . . .	30
Next £1,000 . . . . .	35
Next £1,000 . . . . .	40
Exceeding £4,500 . . . . .	45

The following allowances were in force:

- Personal allowance: £230
- Married person: £180
- Children under 16 years: £130 each



Children over 16 years receiving full-time education locally: £130  
 Children receiving full-time education abroad: £150  
 Earned income: one-fifth (maximum £500)  
 Dependent relative: £100  
 Insurance or pension fund contributions: Premiums or contributions  
 (maximum one-sixth of total income after deducting earned income relief)

Revenue received during 1971-72:

Companies £43,728; Individuals £60,797

In addition £12,323 was collected from incorporated and unincorporated bodies in respect of the profits tax introduced in 1963.

Revenue received during 1972-73:

Companies £24,084; Individuals £47,451

In addition £7,541 was collected from incorporated and unincorporated bodies in respect of profits tax.

### *Estate duty*

Estate duty in accordance with the schedule below was payable, whether or not the deceased died in the Colony, on all property in the Colony, and in the case of persons domiciled in the Colony on all movable property and effects wherever situated.

Relief is allowed where it is proved that property in Britain, the Commonwealth or a foreign country has been taxed under the laws of those countries.

There is also provision of relief in respect of quick succession, and the rate of duty is reduced by 50 per cent in respect of any agricultural property that forms part of an estate.

#### RATE OF ESTATE DUTY

	£	£	Rate of Duty
Not exceeding:	5,000		nil
Exceeding:	5,000 but not exceeding	7,500	%
	7,500	10,000	3
	10,000	15,000	4
	15,000	20,000	5
	20,000	25,000	6
	25,000	30,000	7
	30,000	40,000	8
	40,000		9
			10

## *Chapter 4: Currency and Banking*

THE legal tender of the Colony consists of Falkland Islands Government currency notes of £5, £1 and 50p denominations and British



coinage. On the 31st December 1973, the note issue in circulation was £127,700.

There are no commercial banks in the Colony but the Treasury remits funds abroad on payment of commission of 1 per cent. A similar service is also provided by the Falkland Islands Trading Company Limited, and the Estate Louis Williams, who operate agencies of Lloyds Bank Limited and Hambros Bank respectively.

Deposits in the Government Savings Bank amounted to £1,198,699 at the 30th June 1973, and the number of depositors' accounts open was 1,751.

Interest on deposits was paid at the rate of 2½ per cent per annum up to 30th June 1973, but was increased to 3½ per cent per annum on 1st July 1973.

Government lends money for purposes such as the purchase of dwelling houses, improvement of essential business facilities (e.g. bakery, dairy) and for farm purchases.

During 1971-72 the amount lent totalled £7,350, and during 1972-73 the total was £6,420. At 30th June 1973, the amount owing to Government in respect of undischarged loans was £37,973.

## Chapter 5: Commerce

### IMPORTS

WITH the exception of meat, milk and to a considerable extent potatoes, vegetables, berry fruits and fish, practically the whole of the Colony's requirements in foodstuffs were imported.

#### VALUE OF IMPORTS

	1972 £	1973 £
Food . . . . .	137,206	129,757
Beverages and Tobacco . . . . .	60,548	62,711
Crude materials, inedible (except fuels) . . . . .	6,073	36,407
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants etc. . . . .	26,778	39,186
Animal and Vegetable Oils and Fats . . . . .	258	223
Chemicals . . . . .	41,198	44,473
Manufactured Goods . . . . .	111,170	94,327
Machinery and Transport Equipment . . . . .	165,599	81,793
Miscellaneous manufactured articles . . . . .	102,749	82,119
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£651,579	£570,996



PRINCIPAL IMPORTS AND SOURCES OF SUPPLY

1972			
	<i>Value</i> £	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Principal Supplying Country</i>
Provisions . . . . .	134,408	901 tons	United Kingdom £102,996 Argentina £28,392 Denmark £3,020
Electrical Machinery . . . . .	108,219		United Kingdom £101,650
Beverages, Alcoholic and Non-alcoholic . . . . .	47,491	46,309 galls.	United Kingdom £41,136
Transport Equipment . . . . .	41,130		United Kingdom £39,158
Clothing . . . . .	39,605		United Kingdom £36,480
Textiles, Fabrics and Made-up Articles . . . . .	35,545		United Kingdom £29,666
Wood, Lumber, etc. . . . .	22,559		United Kingdom £10,776
Manufacture of Metals . . . . .	21,795		United Kingdom £21,563
Photographic Equipment and Scientific Equip- ment . . . . .	19,335		United Kingdom £9,081 Japan £4,665 Switzerland £3,694
Petroleum Products . . . . .	17,087		Argentina £8,797
Misc. Manufactured Articles . . . . .	18,595		United Kingdom £16,603
Machinery not Electric . . . . .	16,250		United Kingdom £16,104
Footwear . . . . .	15,200		United Kingdom £14,402
Chemical Products . . . . .	14,398		United Kingdom £14,398
Tobacco . . . . .	13,057		United Kingdom £13,057
Perfume, Cleansing and Polishing Preparations . . . . .	12,861		United Kingdom £12,754
1973			
Provisions . . . . .	129,757		United Kingdom £93,076 Argentina £36,681
Electrical Machinery . . . . .	16,366		United Kingdom £13,456 Argentina £691
Beverages, Alcoholic and Non-alcoholic . . . . .	39,710		United Kingdom £36,165 Argentina £3,425 Denmark £120
Transport Equipment . . . . .	43,855		United Kingdom £40,280 Argentina £3,419
Clothing . . . . .	27,555		United Kingdom £23,601 Argentina £1,989
Textile Fabrics and Made-up Articles . . . . .	23,818		United Kingdom £15,682 Argentina £372
Wood, Lumber etc. . . . .	33,531		United Kingdom £12,161 Chile £19,580
Manuf. of Metals . . . . .	31,205		United Kingdom £31,051
Photographic Equipment and Scientific Equip- ment . . . . .	21,425		United Kingdom £5,478 Germany £3,236 Japan £6,472 Switzerland £4,310

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS AND SOURCES OF SUPPLY—*continued*

	1973	
	Value £	Principal Supplying Country
Petroleum . . . . .	32,685	United Kingdom £20,666 Argentina £12,019
Misc. Manuf. Articles . . . . .	21,149	United Kingdom £18,644
Machinery not Electric . . . . .	21,672	United Kingdom £20,777
Footwear . . . . .	5,304	United Kingdom £5,292
Chemical Products . . . . .	13,572	United Kingdom £13,572
Tobacco . . . . .	23,001	United Kingdom £23,001
Perfume, Cleaning and Polishing Preparations	10,660	United Kingdom £10,370

## PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES

	1972 £	1973 £
United Kingdom . . . . .	554,906	451,322
Argentina . . . . .	54,473	65,737
Japan . . . . .	8,948	10,789
Holland . . . . .	2,507	2,431
Switzerland . . . . .	4,308	4,310
Chile . . . . .	6,445	19,580
Germany . . . . .	4,132	3,236
Denmark . . . . .	5,320	—
India . . . . .	4,344	7,764
Sweden . . . . .	3,608	1,492

## EXPORTS

	1972 £	1973 £
Domestic Exports . . . . .	1,118,379	1,540,425
Re-exports . . . . .	35,081	7,531

## PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

Item	1972		1973	
	Value £	Quantity Kgs	Value £	Quantity Kgs
Wool . . . . .	1,095,448	2,008,012	1,462,757	2,007,902
Hides and Skins . . . . .	18,206	115,494	59,999	85,110

## Chapter: 6: Production

## AGRICULTURE

THE land is used almost entirely for sheep farming. With the exception of some 20,500 acres of Crown land, the Colony is divided into



freehold farms varying in size from 3,600 acres to 161,000 acres carrying a total of some 612,000 sheep, averaging about one sheep to every  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Production is in the region of  $4\frac{3}{4}$  million lb of wool annually.

A small Government agricultural unit is responsible for maintaining fences and regulating grazing on Stanley Common, attending to animals in the quarantine station and carrying out tuberculin testing of cattle. Farming Statistics are produced annually,

Cattle are kept in the Camp to provide milk and beef and there are two dairies in Stanley. Oats for hay and silage, vegetables on a garden scale and a small acreage of kale are the only crops grown. However, on progressive farms several thousand acres have been sown to Yorkshire fog (*Holcus Lanatus*) which is an improvement on the natural herbage.

Many farms are showing an interest in pasture improvement and to this end various techniques have been tried out. Several farms have brought about a marked increase in carrying capacity.

#### FISHERIES

There is no organised sea fishing industry but Falkland Islands mullet and smelt are caught occasionally by part-time fishermen and marketed for local consumption. Trout fishing provides excellent sport for anglers, the record trout weighing 18 lb. Trout of 7 lb to 10 lb weight are not rare.

## Chapter 7: Social Services

#### EDUCATION

THE Government is responsible for education throughout the Colony. All education is free and the Government bears the cost of all books, materials and equipment. The fees for boarding school education are fixed at a maximum of £50 per academic year per family: for the first child £25, for two children £25 and £15 respectively and for three children £25, £15 and £10 respectively. A fourth child is free. There is no regular secondary or higher education in the Colony though special tuition is available and several pupils have obtained Ordinary and Advanced level successfully in the General Certificate of Education. Royal Society of Arts examinations in commercial subjects (Typewriting, Shorthand, Book-keeping and Commercial



English) are part of the regular pattern and occasionally students sit City and Guilds examinations. A competitive Overseas Scholarship examination is held annually in September, enabling successful candidates to benefit from at least five years at secondary level at boarding grammar schools in Dorset, the British Schools in Montevideo, Uruguay, and at secondary schools in the Argentine. In 1973 three children were being educated in Britain, 14 in Uruguay and 24 in Argentina.

The accepted age of entry is 5 years and the school leaving age is 15 years. Pupils are encouraged to remain at school to the end of the term in which they become 15.

The age limits are applicable throughout the Islands: in the Camp (all the country beyond the environs of Stanley) attendance is compulsory for children of between 5 and 15 years living within one mile of a settlement school or visiting teacher, and for children between 7 and 15 years living within two miles of a settlement school or visiting teacher.

Children in outlying houses are taught by Camp teachers, each of whom is assigned a beat of from four to six houses which he covers by Land-Rover, horse, boat or aircraft. A camp teacher stays two weeks with each family in turn and leaves homework to tide the children until he visits again. Camp teachers have an arduous, often frustrating, though interesting and challenging task. Only young men of spirit, initiative, a sense of humour and with an ability to mix in all walks of life can succeed in this unique post. Camp teacher strength is augmented by members of the Voluntary Service Overseas who have always rendered invaluable assistance; the team usually consists of three young men.

Evening classes are held during the winter months from May to October. The subjects normally offered are: English, Mathematics, Spanish, Art, Craftwork, Book-keeping, Typewriting and Shorthand. These classes are free of charge.

There are two schools in Stanley: one caters for infants and juniors and has been extended by an additional two-classroom block measuring 54 feet by 25 feet; the other is for seniors. The latter was extensively damaged by fire in 1970 and has been rebuilt to modern specifications. It is light, warm and pleasingly decorated in pastel shades.

The boarding school at Darwin caters for 42 boarders and also provides education for 15 day pupils.

The local boarding allowance of £5.50 a month is granted on behalf of those parents who send their children to board in Stanley in order that they may attend Stanley Schools. An allowance of £3 a month is also paid on behalf of parents of Camp children who send



their children to distant parts of study under a camp teacher. Day pupils visiting school receive an allowance of 5p per meal taken outside their own homes.

Overseas education allowances are granted to parents of children between the ages of 11 and 18 years who receive full-time tuition in boarding schools in Britain, Uruguay and the Argentine. The rates are:

£282 for the first child

£336 for the second child

£402 for the third child and subsequent children.

The allowance for day pupils is £75. The parents of 12 children benefited from this scheme in 1973.

Total ordinary expenditure for all services in 1972 was £58,599 (11.5 per cent of the Colony's ordinary expenditure) and in 1973 £64,268 (10.93 per cent of the Colony's ordinary expenditure).

*Teaching staff as at 31st December 1972 and 1973:*

Including two Headmasters

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i> 1972	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i> 1973
Certificated . . . . .	9	9	18	11	5	16
Uncertificated . . . . .	5	3	8	5	1	6
V.S.O.. . . . .	1	0	1	2	0	2
Temporary . . . . .	—	—	—	1	1	2
Part-time . . . . .	0	2	2	0	2	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>

*Numbers of children receiving education:*

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i> 1972	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i> 1973
At 31st December						
Stanley Schools . . . . .	84	94	178	85	82	167
Darwin Boarding School . . . . .	32	27	59	29	27	56
Camp Houses . . . . .	46	52	98	45	43	88
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>311</b>

PUBLIC HEALTH

The standard of health is high, as can be expected in a community where there is an abundance of the basic essential foodstuffs easily available to all and where the climate is bracing and the air pure.

Natural immunity from the commoner droplet-infection diseases of more populous countries is low; therefore a programme of immunisation against tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough,



poliomyelitis and small-pox is continuously maintained. Further to protect the community from tuberculosis, no immigrants may enter the Colony unless they have been certified free from pulmonary tuberculosis before their departure from their own country.

#### *Vital Statistics*

There were 39 live births, and 10 deaths in the Colony in 1972, while in 1973 the figures were 39 live births, 1 still birth and 12 deaths.

#### *Hospital Facilities*

The Colony has one hospital, situated in Stanley. It is modern and well equipped and has 27 beds for the treatment of medical, surgical, obstetric and geriatric cases. There were 211 admissions in 1972 and 301 in 1973. Ante-natal and child welfare clinics are held weekly at the hospital.

#### *Medical and Dental Services*

For medical purposes, the Falklands are divided into three areas: Stanley with the North Camp of the East Falkland, Lafonia and West Falkland. The Senior Medical Officer and one medical officer are stationed in Stanley and see all patients in Stanley and the North Camp. One medical officer lives at Darwin in Lafonia and deals with medical cases in that area; and the third medical officer is stationed at Fox Bay on the West Falkland and attends patients on the West Falkland and the islands to the north and west of it.

All settlements in the main East and West Falkland can communicate with a doctor by telephone. All the inhabited islands are supplied with radio-telephones. Standard medical chests are provided at all settlements. The Government Air Service is available for the transport of doctors and patients. As a rule, the camp doctors travel by Land-Rover or aircraft to their patients but still occasionally ride on horseback.

One dentist is stationed in Stanley where there is a modern, fully equipped dental surgery and laboratory in the hospital. The dentist makes camp tours, endeavouring to visit each settlement in the course of the year.

Centralisation of the Medical Services in Stanley is under consideration.

#### *Medical Department*

The staff of the Medical Department includes a Senior Medical Officer, three medical officers, one dental officer, one matron, three nursing sisters and up to six nurses, together with domestic staff and a clerk.



Expenditure on medical services was £57,702 in 1971-72. Revenue in this year was:

	1971-72
Medical . . . . .	6,653
Dental . . . . .	326
	<hr/>
	6,979
	<hr/>

### *Local Authority Services*

The Stanley Town Council was responsible for street lighting and cleaning, the collection and disposal of garbage, and the maintenance of drains and sewers until July 1973.

There were three licensed dairies in Stanley at the end of 1972. The dairy herds were examined periodically and all the animals were tuberculin tested.

The Town Council was disbanded on 1st July 1973 and its duties were taken over by the central administration.

## HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

The majority of houses in the Colony are constructed of timber and iron with corrugated iron roofs but the larger public buildings are more frequently built of concrete blocks with tiled roofing. Most houses in Stanley are built on quarter acre plots which allow sufficient ground for the householder to maintain a generous vegetable garden. Plans for new buildings must be submitted to the Stanley Town Council for approval and must conform to the sanitation and constructional requirements of the Council. The Council also has power to condemn houses which are considered unfit for habitation.

The Council's powers in these matters were taken over by the Public Works Department in July 1973.

## SOCIAL WELFARE AND AMENITIES

There are three places of worship: Christ Church Cathedral, consecrated in 1892; the Tabernacle (United Free Church), established in 1890; and St. Mary's Catholic Church, established in 1899. Church services are relayed every Sunday evening through the broadcasting station at Stanley.

An old age contributory pensions scheme introduced in 1952 and expanded in 1967 is compulsory for all male and certain female residents in the Colony. The following weekly benefits are paid to contributors on reaching the age of 65 years: married man £4.65;



unmarried man, widow or spinster £2.32½. Employees between the ages of 18 and 60 contribute 26p weekly to the fund, employers contribute 34p and self-employed contribute 60p.

A non-contributory old age pension scheme was introduced in 1961 and provides pensions for old people who were excluded by reason of age from contributing to the Pensions Equalisation Fund and, consequently, from deriving any benefits from the pensions scheme introduced in 1952. Pensions are paid at the following weekly rates: married man £3.20; unmarried person £1.60; man or woman separated or living apart from his or her husband or wife £1.60.

Children's allowances are granted to all parents or guardians at the rate of 50p per month for each of the two elder children of a family and £1 per month in respect of each other child.

Poor relief is administered by the Medical Department. Accommodation for old and chronic invalids is provided in the hospital. There are no orphanages.

The Stanley Benefit Club, open to all residents, is the oldest club in the territory. It was formed on 23rd July 1859, to provide a fund for the support of its members in cases of sickness or accident; it also contributes towards funeral expenses. The total membership is about 95. Membership has decreased mainly due to improved social conditions in the territory. For an annual contribution of £1.50, sick persons can draw as much as £136 and thereafter at the rate of £2 a month. The club will meet funeral expenses up to £30.

The Falkland Islands Branch of the British Red Cross Society met regularly. Hospital visiting was carried out and Christmas presents provided for hospital patients. The Earl Haig Fund Appeal was again organised by the Branch and the proceeds sent to the Fund's headquarters in London.

The 1st Stanley Company of the Girls' Brigade provided a programme of art, cookery, basketwork and home service classes. Parties were organised at mid-winter and Christmas. The cadet section for the 6-9-year-olds flourished.

The 1st Falkland Islands Company of the Boys' Brigade continued to function successfully. Activities included physical training, drill, indoor rifle shooting and an annual summer camp. The Life Boys, a junior branch of the Boys' Brigade, provided entertainment for boys between the ages of 8 and 11 years.

Each May the Girls' and Boys' Brigades combined to organise a May Ball and a Prince Charming Dance. These events were well attended.

The Youth Club, formed in 1966, continued to attract support from young people. A variety of social gatherings and outdoor



activities was organised, and plans made to erect a hut for the use of the club members, so that meetings could be held on all days in the week.

There are several social clubs in Stanley, among them the Colony Club, the Falkland Club, The Falkland Islands Defence Force Club and the Working Men's Social Club. The clubs provide facilities for a variety of activities, including billiards, snooker, darts, table tennis and cards. The Working Men's Club organise annual sports for children and an annual children's fancy dress party. Both events are popular and well supported.

The Guild of Spinning and Handicrafts is a thriving and steadily growing concern, building up a small and prospering home industry to trade with the growing number of tourists and the increasing local demand for their products.

The Town Hall, rebuilt in 1950 with the assistance of a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds after being destroyed by fire in 1944, contains a large dance hall with stage, dressing rooms, refreshment room and a well-stocked public library, as well as certain public offices and the Court and Council Chamber. The chamber was panelled in 1966 with handsome sapele wood generously presented by the Government of Nigeria some years previously. The dance hall was re-floored in 1967.

Although Stanley has lacked a museum since the disastrous fire of 1944, a notable collection of material has been assembled in recent years and during the period under review was on display in temporary accommodation in the gymnasium building.

A branch of the Women's Corona Society was established in 1955 and holds regular monthly social meetings. In addition the society organises regular tea meetings in the summer months for the elderly residents of Stanley.

The Stanley Dramatic Society continued to function successfully, their productions providing an additional and welcome source of entertainment. A local "Pop Group" was formed and is in demand at the many dances held during the year.

The Social Club inaugurated at Goose Green in 1966 has proved a most popular enterprise.

The sea temperature around the islands does not lend itself to bathing and consequently few of the inhabitants have learned to swim. The desirability of constructing a swimming pool has long been recognised and a fund was established in 1964 for this purpose. By 31st December 1973 a sum of £6,281 had been raised by public subscription and Government contribution.



## SPORT

Full-bore shooting is organised by the Falkland Islands Defence Force Rifle Association which has a keen membership. Annual prize meetings are held and when finances permit representative teams are sent to Bisley to compete in the junior colonial competitions. There is a small bore range in the drill hall for winter use.

Association football is a popular sport and the club is strongly supported. Not only do local teams compete for a championship but keenly contested games take place against teams from visiting ships.

The Golf Club maintains a course near the Felton Stream west of Stanley racecourse.

Considerable interest is taken in angling. Brown trout (*salmo fario*) were introduced into a number of rivers between 1947 and 1952. These trout have over the years formed a sea-going habit and return to the rivers to spawn. Specimens weighing 7 lb to 10 lb are not uncommon. The heaviest trout so far recorded weighed 18 lb. The trout-fishing season opens on the 1st September and closes on the 30th April. Salmon and sea-trout ova have been imported but efforts to establish these fish have so far not succeeded.

The sub-aqua club was started in 1971 and this new sport is becoming increasingly popular.

Each year there is normally a five-day sports meeting at Darwin, East Falkland, while four of the principal farms on West Falkland hold five-day sports meetings in rotation four years out of five. The Stanley Sports Association holds a two-day meeting immediately after Christmas with horse racing, gymkhana and athletic events. Sheep dog trials are also held on both Islands, followed by a championship contest organised by the Stanley Sports Association.

The Stanley Badminton Club organises games in the gymnasium twice a week. These are well supported, particularly in the winter.

The Stanley Squash Club, revised in 1965, has a growing membership and matches are played against teams from visiting ships.

Darts is a popular winter game and there is a league in Stanley with up to 14 teams competing. The standard of play is high.

Snooker, played at the Colony Club, the Falkland Club, the Falkland Islands Defence Force Club and the Working Men's Social Club, has a strong following.

## Chapter 8: Legislation

APART from the Appropriation Ordinances, the more important legislation enacted during the period under review included the following measures:



## 1972

No. 1. *Matrimonial Proceedings (Court of Summary Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Ordinance*, removes the limits imposed upon the weekly rate of maintenance of a child or a party to a marriage, and leaves the court free to make whatever order it considers reasonable.

No. 5. *Estate Duty (Amendment) Ordinance*, making it clear that a surrendered life interest, effected within three years before the death of the deceased, is deemed to pass on death.

No. 6. *Income Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance*, reduced the standard rate of Income Tax, and Company Tax, from 35p to 30p, with effect from 1st January 1972, and also abolished the form of penalty profits tax levied against firms engaged in sheep farming which failed to list a range of qualifying expenditure for Investment Allowance.

No. 7. *Banking Ordinance*, makes provision for the licensing and control in the Colony of banks, banking business, and matters connected therewith.

No. 10. *Road Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance*, extending the exemption from road tax to motor vehicles and trailers which are the property of the British Antarctic Survey and Crown motor vehicles and trailers appropriated for the use of Her Majesty's armed forces.

Ten Ordinances were enacted during the year.

## 1973

No. 2. *Savings Bank (Amendment) Ordinance*, increases the interest paid on deposits with the Government Savings Bank to 3½ per cent per annum.

No. 4. *Stanley Town Council (Repeal) Ordinance*, giving effect to the decision to abolish the Stanley Town Council.

No. 5. *Stanley Rates Ordinance*, investing in the central Government the authority to levy a general rate and a water rate in Stanley.

No. 6. *Stanley Town Public Services Ordinance*, enabling certain powers formerly exercised by the Stanley Town Council in respect of the Stanley Fire Brigade, the cemetery, the Town Hall, public library and museum, to be transferred to the central Government.

No. 7. *Stanley Water Supply Ordinance*, providing for the regulation investing in the central Government the authority to levy a general rate and a water rate in Stanley of the water supply to Stanley, following the abolition of the Stanley Town Council.



No. 14. *Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance*, lists hydatid disease as an occupational disease for the purposes of the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance 1965.

No. 16. *Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance*, reviewed the deductions allowable, substituted a new scale of tax rates, and also provided for the abolition of profits tax and an increase in companies tax.

No. 18. *Livestock (Amendment) Ordinance*, implements recommendations made for the control and eradication of keds on sheep by the Sheep Owners' Association Limited in conjunction with the Agricultural Advisory Team which recently visited the Colony.

No. 19. *Defence Force (Amendment) Ordinance*, providing for a more efficient organisation of the Force, and for the payment of gratuities to members of the Force disabled during training or while under instruction and to the families of those members.

No. 20. *Petroleum Products Ordinance*, giving the Governor powers to regulate the importation of petroleum products, thus to facilitate the negotiation of advantageous terms for the marketing and supply of such products in the Colony.

Twenty Ordinances were enacted during the year.

## Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

### JUSTICE

THE law in force in the Colony is based on the common law, rules of equity and the general statutes in force in England on 22nd May 1900, on United Kingdom legislation subsequently applied to the Colony and on local laws known as Ordinances made by the Governor and the Legislative Council.

There are four courts: the Summary Court, the Magistrate's Court, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. There is a final right of appeal in certain circumstances to the Privy Council. The Summary Court, which has very limited jurisdiction, has not sat since 1971 and all cases are dealt with in the Magistrate's Court except those specifically reserved to the Supreme Court, e.g. murder, rape, manslaughter and divorce. Appeals from the Magistrate's Court lie to the Supreme Court and thence to the Court of Appeal.

There are 17 Justices of the Peace in the Colony appointed by the Governor to perform very much the same duties as J.Ps. in Britain.



There are no qualified lawyers in Government service or in private practice in the Colony. The Government employs a part-time Legal Adviser resident in Britain. Parties wishing to be legally represented would have to fly in their own lawyers from Britain, South America etc.

## CIVIL COURT

	1972	1973
Debt . . . . .	9	2
Maintenance Order . . . . .	1	1
Adoption Orders . . . . .	8	5
Custody of Children . . . . .	3	—
Eviction Orders . . . . .	1	—
Income Tax . . . . .	7	—
Damages . . . . .	2	—
Removal of disqualification for driving	5	1

## MAGISTRATE'S COURT

	<i>Cases Heard</i>		<i>Discharged</i>		<i>Convicted</i>	
	1972	1973	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>	<i>Adults</i>	<i>Juveniles</i>
Offences against the person:						
Assaults . . . . .	—	1	—	—	1	—
Sexual Offences:						
Indecent Assault . . . . .	—	2	—	—	2	—
Rape . . . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—
Offences against property:						
Larceny . . . . .	6	3	—	—	8	1
Malicious damage . . . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—
Offences against local Ordinances:						
Road Traffic . . . . .	18	15	5	—	28	—
Licensing . . . . .	20	14	2	—	32	—
Livestock . . . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—
Wild Animals and Birds Protection . . . . .	4	—	—	—	4	—
Harbour . . . . .	4	—	2	—	2	—
Other offences . . . . .	6	11	2	—	15	—

## SUPREME COURT

	1972	1973
Appeals . . . . .	2	—
Divorce . . . . .	3	5
Injunctions . . . . .	2	—
Custody of Children . . . . .	3	3

## POLICE

The authorised establishment of the Falkland Islands Police Force consists of one Chief Police Officer, one sergeant, one corporal and four constables. There is also a Reserve Force of six constables.



*Crime*

In 1972 59 charges were dealt with and in 1973 36 charges.

*Other Police Duties*

The Chief Police Officer is the Government Fire Precaution Officer and undertakes the duties of Immigration Officer. The police make quarterly checks on all fire equipment in Government buildings. The Department carries out all driving tests, registering of vehicles imported into the territory, the issue of driving licences, gun, dog and trout fishing licences.

## PRISON

There is one small prison in Stanley. All members of the Police Force act as Prison Officers. A matron is employed to supervise cooking and assist with female prisoners.

In 1972 three male prisoners served sentences of one month to 18 months. In 1973 two male prisoners served sentences of six months each.

*Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works*

## ELECTRICITY

CONTINUOUS electric power is supplied to the Stanley area, including the E.S.R.O. Space Station, from a Government-owned and operated diesel power station. A replacement station replaced the existing station in May 1973 and has an installed capacity of 1,280 kW. generating at 3.3 kV. 50 Hertz. Distribution is overhead at 230/400 volts, a three-phase, four-wire system is used.

The tariff, which is reviewed annually, was increased in 1972 from 1.875p to 2.3p.

Output of electrical energy from the Stanley Station for the calendar year 1973 was 2.28 million units.

The Electricity Department, which became the Electrical Section of the Public Works Department on 1st July 1973 undertakes the repair and maintenance of all Government electrical installations. There being no registered contractors the Department also accepts private installation work.

Outside Stanley most of the farms have their own generating plants, some supplying power to a single house while others with a larger generating capacity supply a whole settlement. Output from these sets rarely exceeds 12 kW. Voltages vary from 110 to 230 a.c.



TYPES OF PUNISHMENT (1972 and 1973 combined)

<i>Magistrate's Court and Court of Summary Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Convicted</i>			<i>Imprisonment</i>			<i>Fined</i>			<i>Bound over</i>			<i>Imprisonment by length of service</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>J</i>		
Larceny . . . . .	6	3	1	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	1	-	1	18 months, 6 months and 6 months
Sexual offences . . . . .	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 month and 1 month
Licensing . . . . .	32	-	-	2	-	-	30	-	-	-	22 (a)	-	-	
Road Traffic . . . . .	28	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences . . . . .	23	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	6	-	-	

(a) Indicates prohibition orders.

and d.c. Many of the outlying shepherds' houses have their own lighting systems, some being fed from 12 volt batteries charged by wind-driven generators, although a more recent trend has been to replace these by small air-cooled diesel generators with outputs of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  kW. at 230 volts a.c.

#### WATER SUPPLY

For Stanley, water is supplied from the 6,000 gallons per hour capacity filtration plant at Moody Brook to a reservoir and a high level tank with a combined capacity of 500,000 gallons. Daily consumption averages 80,000 gallons for domestic and industrial use and watering ships. About 21 tons of chemicals are used for sedimentation, filtration and sterilisation each year.

In the Camp piped water supplies are in operation at every farm.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department was responsible for the maintenance of all Government-owned properties, furnishings, Stanley roads, water supply, drainage, sea walls, quarry stone-crushing and Government transport and plant.

The renovation of the senior school building, which had been partly destroyed by fire in 1970, was completed during the period under review.

Members of the department assisted where necessary those various experts who visited the Colony in connection with matters which fall within the province of the Public Works Department, such as Mr Powell on pollution and Mr Casserly on the water supply for Stanley.

The new power station in Stanley was completed in May 1973. It was built by a local contractor using local labour, but the Superintendent of Works was responsible for ensuring that the terms of the contract were fully adhered to and that a high level of workmanship was maintained throughout.

Work was begun on tidying up Stanley, an increasing number of the grass verges and open greens being regularly mown.

The town refuse tip, which was formerly on the foreshore of Stanley Harbour, was moved inland in an effort to give a better aspect to the town and to reduce as much as possible the pollution of the harbour.

The municipal services formerly undertaken by the Stanley Town Council were transferred to the Department on 1st July 1973.



## Chapter 11: Communications

### SHIPPING

R.M.S. *Darwin*, which was withdrawn from service in December 1971, eventually left the Colony on 19th September 1973. The m.v. *Monsumen*, a vessel of 125 registered tons, arrived in Stanley on 28th September 1972, and is used for coastwise trade and occasional voyages to South American ports. She made two voyages to Punta Arenas, Chile, in 1973 to collect timber.

A Danish vessel, m.v. *A.E.S.*, chartered by Darwin Shipping Limited, to bring supplies from the United Kingdom and to take back the wool clip, made four voyages each way in 1972 and two voyages each way in 1973. The *A.E.S.* was withdrawn from this service in April 1973 and replaced by the Danish vessels *Henriette Helleskov*, which was chartered for one voyage only, and the *Annette Danielson* which made one round voyage to the Colony from the United Kingdom towards the end of 1973.

Communications between British Antarctic Territory, South Georgia and Stanley were provided by H.M.S. *Endurance*, R.R.S. *John Biscoe* and R.R.S. *Bransfield*.

During 1972-73 six Soviet fishing and scientific vessels visited Stanley. Visits were also made by the Italian yacht *San Guiseppi II*, the Polish yacht *Polonez* and the "around the world" catamaran *Anneliese*. Short visits were also made by the following tourist vessels: s.s. *France*, m.v. *Enrico C*, m.v. *Cabo San Roque*, m.v. *Libertad* and the m.v. *Lindblad Explorer*.

The following table shows the number of vessels which entered and cleared the Colony:

	1972	1973
Number of ships entered	34	39
Number of ships cleared	31	37
Net tonnage in . . .	79,689	69,476
Net tonnage out . . .	81,141	70,214

### ROADS AND VEHICLES

There are about 12 miles of concrete or macadamised roads in and around Stanley. The main road along the sea front on which most of the principal buildings are situated is of concrete.

Unsurfaced tracks connect most settlements on the main East and West Islands and travel is possible by means of Land-Rover or motor cycle, depending on the weather conditions.



At 31st December 1973 there were some 807 vehicles of all types in the territory, approximately half being used in Stanley.

During the period under review 17 vehicles of all descriptions were imported, practically all of which originated in the United Kingdom.

#### AIR SERVICE

The Falkland Islands Government Air Service (F.I.G.A.S.), inaugurated in 1948 with one J.5. Auster landplane operated throughout 1972 and 1973 with two DH(C)2 Beaver floatplanes. The original medical and mail service has been expanded over the years to include passengers, freight and private charter.

During 1972 4,225 passengers, 8,399 lb of excess luggage and 13,970 lb of freight were carried; and in 1973 the totals were 4,327 passengers, six, 490 lb of excess luggage and 16,729 lb of freight. Medical officers, dental officers, patients and travelling school teachers made up approximately 15 per cent of the passenger total. The total of passengers in 1973 was another record figure.

Camp teachers are flown regularly around their beats on the main and outer islands and camp children attending in Stanley or Darwin travel mainly by aircraft.

Letter mail is delivered and collected on all routine flights. In addition, overseas mail is dropped at settlements where no scheduled landings are to be made within three days of a mail arrival. Heavy mails, i.e. parcels and papers, are also delivered when weight/space is available.

Livestock, mainly cats, dogs and pedigree rams are carried fairly frequently.

An international air service operated by Lineas Aereas del Estado (the development airlines of Argentina) was inaugurated in November 1972 and provides a weekly scheduled (Monday) service between Stanley and Comodoro Rivadavia (Argentina) using twin-engine turbo-prop Fokker F.27 Friendship aircraft.

#### POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The General Post Office is situated in Stanley and has six sub-post offices under its control—one at Fox Bay, one at South Georgia in the Dependencies and four in the British Antarctic Territory. Stanley is the main reception and distribution centre for mails received from overseas. Overseas airmail is received in the Colony every Monday by the L.A.D.E. F.27 aircraft. In addition there were occasional direct mailing opportunities to and from the United





Passengers at Stanley preparing to leave on an internal flight by Beaver aircraft.



Scene on Kidney Island—nearest Nature Reserve to Stanley.



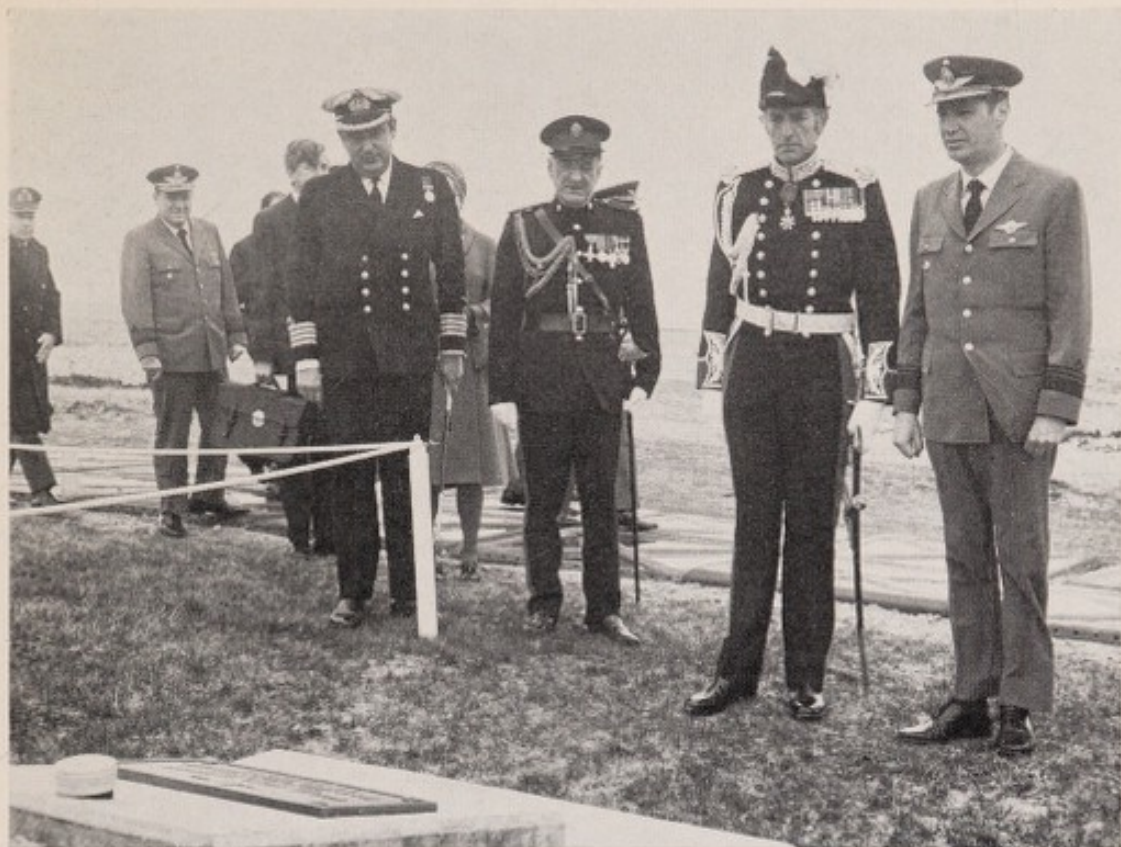


The house at Port Louis which incorporates the old English fort (which was the original Government House until the removal of the capital to Stanley in 1844).



Gentoo penguin feeding young.





First anniversary of the opening of the temporary airstrip. His Excellency the Governor and Brigadier Barthot of the Argentine Air Force inspect the plaque to the men who built the field. Captain C. J. Isacke, R.N., of H.M.S. *Endurance* and Major R. V. Goss, Staff Officer of the Falkland Islands Defence Force and A.D.C. to the Governor are on the left.



View of New Island—showing an aspect of the West Falklands.





R.R.S. *Bransfield* with Shackleton's Cross, South Georgia.



Nature finally wins—the reindeer return to the abandoned tanks at Husvik Harbour, South Georgia.



Kingdom by sea. Advantage was taken of the three monthly flights by Argentine Air Force amphibian aircraft in 1972 to despatch airmail. The distribution of letter mails between Stanley and the outlying farm settlements is carried out by the Government-owned air service, the heavier mail being delivered by sea or cross-country by Land-Rover and to a lesser extent by horse.

External telecommunications are operated by the Government from its wireless station in Stanley, first operated in 1912 and handling all Government and commercial traffic. There are daily schedules with London, Montevideo, Buenos Aires, Fox Bay and with ships in neighbouring waters.

There are three leased private telegraph circuits between Stanley and London, one being full-speed and two quarter-speed.

On 4th December 1967 the first public telephone service was opened between Stanley and the United Kingdom. A number of other countries were subsequently included in the service.

Internal communications on the East Falkland are operated by means of a radio telephone network and by land line telephone. The central exchange is situated in Stanley and the majority of the sheep stations on the East have their own lines connected to the central exchange. Six operators are employed and a 24-hour service is maintained. On the West Falkland the telephone network converges on Fox Bay, where there is a Government-owned wireless telegraph and radio-telephone station for inter-island traffic.

Communications with the British scientific bases in the Antarctic are maintained by the British Antarctic Survey's wireless station which is situated in Stanley.

## Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting and Films

### PRESS

PERIODICALS published in the territory, other than the official Gazette, are the *Falkland Islands Times*, which appears on the second Tuesday of each month, and the *Falkland Islands Journal*, devoted to items of historical, geographic and social interest which is published annually. A weekly newsletter is broadcast from the local broadcasting station every Friday evening.

### BROADCASTING

The Falkland Islands Government established the first colonial



broadcasting service when in the early part of 1929 a wired broadcasting system was started in Stanley; the service covered not only the town but also many parts of East Falkland, the programmes being carried to outlying farms by the normal telephone lines. Wireless broadcasting from a radio transmitter became a regular feature in 1942. The outlying districts are now covered by radio, while the rediffusion system continues to operate in Stanley. Using both methods a complete islands coverage is maintained.

The broadcasting service is controlled by a voluntary committee under a Broadcasting Officer. A salaried secretary is employed.

Programmes of from five to seven hours' duration are broadcast daily and there are four part-time announcers. B.B.C. news bulletins, commentaries and sports results are broadcast regularly and extensive use is made of the B.B.C. and other transcription services. Local features and some overseas programmes are recorded and rebroadcast.

Six hundred and fifty-five wireless receiving licences were issued during 1972 and in the same year 365 wired broadcasting subscriptions were paid. The figures for 1973 were 638 and 341 respectively.

#### FILMS

The Central Film Library, established in 1953 has a membership of 22, made up of 20 farm settlements, the Naval barracks at Moody Brook, and a commercial hirer who exhibits films in Stanley once a week. The library operates on a non-profit basis and obtains films from a number of distributors in the United Kingdom and from the Central Office of Information in London.

Films of educational value are shown at the Senior School in Stanley and at Darwin Boarding School.

The Council of Christ Church Cathedral acquired a 16 mm. projector in 1964 and provide a popular supplementary programme.

#### INFORMATION SERVICES

Literature and items of information received from the Central Office of Information in London and from the British Council are handled and circulated by the Education Department.

### *Chapter 13: Local Forces*

THE Falkland Islands Volunteer Corps, first formed in 1892, was reconstituted in 1920 as the Falkland Islands Defence Force.



Service in the Force is voluntary. Training was carried out with the aid of Royal Marine instructors stationed in the Colony. The Force took part in ceremonial parades including those held to mark the Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, Remembrance Sunday and the Anniversary of the Battle of the Falkland Islands (8th December).

### *Chapter 14: Science Research Council*

THE Appleton Laboratory (formerly known as the Radio and Space Research Station) is one of the establishments of the Science Research Council and is based at Slough, England. It has maintained and operated in Stanley an Ionospheric observatory since 1947, and a satellite data acquisition station from 1962 until the closure of the project at the end of 1972. It was also responsible for the operation of a separate satellite data acquisition station of the European Space Research Organisation (E.S.R.O.) from 1968 until December 1973 when the station was closed down and dismantled.

On these various projects some 20 technical staff have been employed in Stanley, including two locally engaged, together with six locally employed ancillary staff; the number of United Kingdom-based staff was reduced to 10 following the reduction in operations in 1972 mentioned above.

The ionospheric observatory makes routine measurements of the properties of the ionosphere at regular intervals throughout the day, and is currently engaged in a collaborative programme with the British Antarctic Survey, which operates similar equipment in South Georgia and the Antarctic bases. This activity will continue.

The E.S.R.O. data acquisition station has recorded data and performed control operations on all the seven satellites launched by that organisation. The work at the British station, until its closure, was mainly in connection with the British series of satellites Ariel I to Ariel IV and also with the so-called Topside Sounding Satellites which have contributed greatly to knowledge of the ionosphere and its effect on communications.

### *Chapter 15: Meteorological Services*

DURING the period under review meteorological services within the Colony and Dependencies were provided by the Falkland Islands Government Meteorological Service. Facilities for this service, other



than staff, were supplied and financed by the British Antarctic Meteorological Service, who also disseminated all the meteorological data from the Colony for international use.

The Falkland Islands Government Meteorological Service was, for the period of this review, run by staff of one forecaster and one meteorological assistant, both employed full-time by the Falkland Islands Government.

The main functions of this service were:

- (i) the organisation of meteorological observations in the Colony;
- (ii) the provision of forecasts for the general public and aviation and the provision of forecasts on request for international shipping in the Falkland Islands coastal waters, the dependencies and the British Antarctic Territory;
- (iii) the preparation of climatological data for stations in the Falkland Islands;
- (iv) limited investigations into the meteorology of the Falkland Islands.



## PART III

### *Chapter 1: Geography*

THE Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean, between latitudes  $51^{\circ}$  and  $53^{\circ}$  South and longitudes  $57^{\circ}$  and  $62^{\circ}$  West. The archipelago is separated from the South American mainland by about 300 miles of sea. It comprises two large islands and some 200 smaller islands with a total land area of approximately 4,700 square miles, comparable in area with Northern Ireland but spread over a much greater extent.

The distance from Stanley to New Island, the most westerly settlement, is somewhat greater than that from London to Cardiff while the distance between the most northerly and southerly settled areas approximates to that between Oxford and the Isle of Wight.

Complete aerial photographic cover of the territory exists and excellent topographical maps are available on scales of 1 : 50,000, 1 : 250,000 and 1 : 643,000.

#### GEOLOGY AND LANDFORMS

The Falkland Islands are composed almost entirely of Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks. Some of these have strong lithological and palaeontological affinities with those of South Africa, Uruguay and Southern Brazil. Although the islands lie on the edge of the Patagonian Continental Shelf, there is no stratigraphical connection between the Falklands and the nearer parts of the South American mainland. The extensive Tertiary deposits of eastern Patagonia are not represented in the Falkland Islands nor is the great oil-bearing Cretaceous geosyncline of eastern Tierra del Fuego. The axis of Andean folding is supposed to lie to the south of the islands, through Burdwood Bank, whence it is continued as the Scotia Arc to South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands and ultimately to the Antarctic Peninsular.

The distribution of rocks within the Falkland Islands is now fairly well known. West Falkland and the adjacent islands are predominantly composed of Palaeozoic sedimentary rocks, quartzites, sandstones and shales, with a few minor occurrences of tillite and a small exposure of the Archaean basement complex at Cape Meredith in the extreme south.



The northern part of East Falkland is composed, too, of the Palaeozoic sedimentary rocks, with the main development of younger strata in Lafonia and the surrounding islands. These Mesozoic rocks are represented by sandstones and mudstones which may be equated with the Gondwana succession of other parts of the Southern Hemisphere.

The main structural elements in the islands are folds which occurred after the deposition of the youngest Mesozoic rocks. Two main fold directions may be recognised. The first trends east-west across the northern part of the islands; the second is roughly parallel to the direction of the Falkland Sound and is exposed along the western side of it. It is now believed that folding along both axes was contemporaneous and may, indeed, form a single system.

The close relationship between the rock succession and fossil fauna of the Falkland Islands and parts of southern Africa has been frequently quoted as evidence to substantiate the hypothesis of continental drift. Recent research into the structures of the Falkland Islands suggests that this group may have moved from the vicinity of south-east Africa and that the rocks of the Falklands represent the missing portion of the truncated Karroo basin of Natal and eastern Cape Province.

Although it has been stated that the Falkland Islands were ice-free during the quaternary era when adjacent parts of the South American mainland were glaciated, there is convincing evidence that at least the mountains over 2,000 feet experienced local glaciation. The broad summits of Mount Osborne and the mountains of West Falkland are sharply scalloped by pronounced corries. Such steep-sided amphitheatres owe their form chiefly to the erosive action of small glaciers that were probably nourished by snow and ice domes located on the broad mountain tops. Investigations are at present being made to establish the terminal limits of these glaciers as defined by the moranic ridges deposited at their snouts. Since the ice domes and glaciers appear to have been confined chiefly to mountain areas whose summits exceed 2,000 feet, large areas of the Falkland Islands remained ice-free and experienced a periglacial climate. During such conditions of severe cold large accumulations of boulders—stone runs, as they are called—formed on the hillsides and valley floors of upland areas. They are particularly well developed in areas of quartzite bedrock. The origin of the stone runs has been attributed to solifluction—the mass movement of shattered debris down the valley sides under the influence of frost-and-thaw action.

Two main morphological elements may be recognised, the mountains which occur in the areas of folded Devonian-Carboniferous sandstone and quartzite, and the great plain of Lafonia, where the



Mesozoic rocks are exposed. The principal mountain ranges follow the trend of the folded quartzites, from east to west across both main islands and parallel with Falkland Sound on West Falkland. The hills occasionally rise to about 2,300 feet (Mount Usborne on East Falkland is 2,312 feet high; Mount Adam on West Falkland is about 15 feet lower), but the general summit levels are between 1,500 and 2,000 feet. On East Falkland, the main upland ridge of Wickham Heights rises steeply along the southern edge of the folded quartzites. The tillites and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks which lie to the south have been considerably less resistant to erosion so that, where these have been folded, the terrain consists of low parallel ridges rising to little more than 200 feet. South of the great inlets of Choiseul Sound and Brenton Loch, where the rocks are virtually undisturbed, the whole country is a flat plain which seldom rises more than 100 feet above sea-level.

Generally speaking, the rivers are small. The valleys show close adjustment to structure. The numerous intricate inlets round the coast, many of which form magnificent harbours, were originally formed by river action when the sea-level was at least 150 feet lower than at present. The subsequent submergence, which formed the characteristic ria inlets, appear to have been the dominant movement which has controlled the later development of the coast.

As far as investigations have gone, it appears that the islands have no mineral wealth because none of the sedimentary rocks contains minerals which are of economic value. The only local fuel is low grade peat. The impermeable nature of the quartzites and sandstones has greatly hampered drainage and most of the rocks lack important minerals for plant growth. Limestone is absent and soils are acid in reaction. Successive surveys of the islands for economic minerals have shown that only the beach and dune sand could conceivably have any value but in islands as remote as the Falklands their exploitation for glass-making cannot be regarded as an economic venture.

#### CLIMATE AND VEGETATION

The Falkland Islands lie on the northern edge of the depression belt through Drake Passage; they are thus dominated by westerly winds and by the continuous variation of weather caused by the procession of air masses and fronts across them. The islands lie in the lee of the South American continent, but are separated from the mainland by about 300 miles of relatively cold sea. Although the warming and drying influence of the Andes is still felt in the islands, the effect upon the climate is considerably modified by this sea passage. The climate of the Falkland Islands is characterised by the



narrow temperature range, strong winds, seasonal uniformity and day-to-day variability of weather which are commonly associated with an oceanic situation in temperate latitudes.

The majority of long-term climatic records which are available for the Falkland Islands depend upon observations which have been made in the vicinity of Stanley. Consequently there is little precise knowledge as to how temperature and rainfall vary through the archipelago as a whole. Several farms keep rainfall records but these data do not cover a long enough period to permit a statistical assessment of rainfall distribution. At Stanley the mean monthly temperature varies between 49°F. in January/February and 36°F. in July. The air temperature has never been known to exceed 79°F. or to fall below 12°F. No month is entirely frost-free, although the air temperature rarely falls below 32°F. in January or February. Average values for relative humidity are high and in consequence the average cloud amount is large. However there is very little atmospheric pollution, and about 35 per cent of the total possible sunshine is recorded annually; this is about the same as at many places in the United Kingdom. Fog is rare except on the hills, and dense fog, with visibility of only a few yards, does not occur. The rainfall at Stanley is about 25 inches, spread fairly evenly throughout the year, with a maximum in summer (December and January) and a minimum in early spring (September and October). The number of days with rain is high throughout the year (16–21 days per month). Snow falls on about 50 days during the year and has been recorded in every month. Snowfalls are, however, light and soon melt. The wettest year on record was 1911, when 37 inches of rain were measured. The driest year was 1960, with only 19.4 inches.

The prevailing winds are westerly. More than two-thirds of the winds blow from the quadrant between south-west and north-west. There is little seasonal variation in wind direction or speed, and the mean speed is quite high at around 17 m.p.h. Gales are recorded on an average of about four occasions per month, but storm force winds and gusts in excess of 70 m.p.h. are almost unknown; calm conditions occur more frequently than do gales. It is noticeable that most newcomers to the Falklands, who have read in advance the statistics of the climate, are favourably impressed by the weather as experienced in these islands.

The cool, windy climate has prevented natural tree-growth. The natural vegetation of the Falkland Islands is a grassland with certain species of heath and dwarf shrubs, which form plant communities similar to the moorland vegetation of upland Britain. The monotonous succession of arenaceous and argillaceous sedimentary rocks, with the absence of limestone, is reflected in the uniformity of



the sub-soil type. The top-soil is generally peaty, though the thickness of the peat horizon may vary from less than 1 inch to more than 15 feet. Much of the uplands are comparatively bare of vegetation, comprising eroded peat, scree and stone runs.

The grasslands of the Falkland Islands represent the sole natural resource which has proved capable of economic exploitation throughout the entire history of colonisation. Following the first settlement by the French in 1764, cattle ran wild on East Falkland. By 1840, the number of wild cattle had reached some figure between 50,000 and 100,000 and appeared to be increasing rapidly despite the large numbers killed annually. During the early years of the colony, the export of hides represented the principal economic activity. Within 10 years, however, sheep began to replace the wild cattle which were systematically slaughtered until, by 1880, they had been virtually exterminated. During the last 30 years of the nineteenth century, sheep-farming developed rapidly. Between 1893 and 1899, there were more than 750,000 sheep in the islands. This appears to have been a greater number than the pastures could support by the methods of large-scale ranching which have always been employed. After 1898 there was a decline in the number of sheep but this has levelled off. In recent years there has been an increase in wool production.

Little precise information was available until 1938-39 when the islands were first examined by a competent ecologist; the results of this work showed that the major subdivisions of the grasslands are composed of comparatively few species which have any significant nutritional value. Pasture improvement experiments are at present being carried out by several farms on East and West Falkland.

The Director of the Hill Farming Research Organisation in Scotland visited the islands during 1960-61 in connection with improvement to the pastures and to the sheep industry generally.

#### WILD LIFE

The Falkland Islands have a fascinating and perhaps unique collection of wild life still to be found in completely unspoiled areas of natural landscape.

The deep waters of the South Atlantic which surround these islands are rich in marine life, supplying vast quantities of food for a variety of species breeding within the archipelago.

One of the most abundant of marine creatures, krill, a shrimp-like creature, is the key link in the main food chain. Feeding directly on the one-celled plants of the sea, diatoms, the krill in turn supports not only fish and seals but countless thousands of penguins and other sea-birds, including the black-browed albatross.



Over half the island's breeding birds are largely dependent on the sea for food. Species include the grey-backed storm petrel, sooty shearwater, thin-billed prion, diving petrel and the king shag.

Penguins are perhaps the most striking feature of bird life in the Falkland Islands. Three main species are found breeding, namely the rockhopper penguin, Magellan or jackass penguin, and the Gentoo penguin. Two other species, the macaroni penguin and king penguin are comparatively rare; the latter is slowly re-establishing small breeding colonies.

Around the coasts the territories of the Falkland flightless steamer duck or logger duck (*Tachyeres brachypterus*) are contiguous, with the kelp goose (*Chloephaga hybrida*) present at frequent intervals. Oystercatchers, night heron, plover and several species of gull feed along the shore. Terns, white-rumped sandpipers, sheathbills and skuas are summer visitors.

In places where there are freshwater ponds, especially near the coast, the upland goose (*Chloephaga picta leucoptera*) and ruddy-headed goose have contributed to the formation of fine green grass by continued cropping. In such areas a variety of bird life can be found. The two previously mentioned species are common and may be seen in fairly large groups in selected areas. Yellow-billed teal, Chiloe widgeon, Rolland's grebe and crested duck frequent such areas.

Inland, the ground is covered by low shrubs, coarse grasses and ferns, with lichen-covered outcrops breaking the landscape. In such areas the more common species of bird are the military starling, a handsome bird, the male having a brilliant scarlet breast, the black-throated finch, the Falkland pipit and the ground tyrant. Predators are Cassin's falcon, the carancho and the red-backed buzzard.

In sharp contrast to the main islands many of the small offshore islands which make up the archipelago are covered in tussac grass. This giant grass forms a base which often measures two to three feet in diameter and three to four feet in height. On top of this base, the tussac throws up its stems and narrow leaves, the complete plant often reaching a height of seven or eight feet. Of the 60 different species of bird known to breed in the Falkland Islands, 30 can be found nesting on tussac islands. Species of petrels nest in burrows below and in the tussac bases, while two species of wren, a Falkland thrush, and tussac bird (*Cinclodes antarctica*) are common on many of these islands.

The value of tussac islands for the future preservation of our wild life is considerable and in view of this a number of such islands are now protected by a Nature Reserves Ordinance and a Wild Animals and Birds Protection Ordinance.

There are now no known indigenous land mammals in the islands.



Formerly there was a wild fox, known as the "warrah", a species peculiar to the Falklands, but it has become extinct, the last known specimen being killed on West Falkland in 1876. Mice, rats, rabbits, hares and on certain islands foxes of a Patagonian species and guanaco occur, all having probably been introduced by man in the last century.

Amphibious marine mammals are represented by seal, which are to be found in many of the more isolated coastal areas.

The southern sea lion is still perhaps the most abundant of the three major species breeding in the Falklands. Forming breeding colonies of between 20 and perhaps as many as 300 animals, the sea lion occupies sites on rocky foreshores of the main island many of the smaller offshore tussac islands.

Except in a few comparatively inaccessible areas, the fur seal is rarely seen. This small seal, which came close to being killed out in these waters by the early sealers, is now probably fairly well established again at the four or five colonies known to exist in the archipelago; it might however still be classed as an uncommon species.

The elephant seal represents the one other species of seal found breeding in the islands. This huge seal (males can attain the length of 20 feet and weigh over three tons) is to be found in small groups in many areas of the Falklands. Not being agile on land, the species prefers sand or shingle beaches on which to breed. While elephant seals are a fairly usual sight on the coasts, it is doubtful if their total population figure would approach that of either of the two previously mentioned species.

Occasionally the less common leopard seal is to be seen on Falkland beaches, although it is not known to breed here. A carnivore, this seal preys on a variety of species including penguins and other seal.

Of the true marine mammals to be seen in Falkland waters, Peale's porpoise and Commerson's dolphin are perhaps the most common species.

Whales are now unfortunately a rare sight, although stranded specimens of bottle-nosed whale, Cuvier's beaked whale, strap toothed whale and sperm whale have all been discovered on the shores.

#### POPULATION, LAND TENURE AND ECONOMY

The population is almost entirely of British origin, with a very small admixture of Scandinavian and Latin American blood. The first settlers, some of whose descendants still live in the Colony, began to arrive during the uneasy years which followed the establishment of the Colony in 1833. During the remainder of the nineteenth century



the population increased until it had reached about 2,000 in 1900. During the whole of the twentieth century, the population has fluctuated between 1,875 and 2,300. This unique condition of an almost static population may be accounted for by the fact that, owing to the limited economic opportunities, emigration from the islands has practically balanced the natural increases throughout the period.

During the early development of the Colony, great emphasis was laid upon its strategic position, both as a naval base and as a port of call for ships rounding Cape Horn. In consequence, the development of the land was largely neglected and no proper system of land tenure was ever devised. The Falkland Islands are unique among the colonies in that the freehold title to all the land, save a few thousand acres, was sold without any proper survey. The land on East Falkland was taken up first and most of it was sold by 1860. Colonisation of West Falkland began in 1867 and, within two years, virtually the whole of the land had been sold. The land thus acquired was converted into large sheep farms. Today, the Falkland Islands Company owns about half the entire area of the Colony. Extensive ranching of sheep for wool represents in fact the sole economy of the islands.

From time to time, attempts have been made to exploit other natural resources or to diversify the ranching economy but all these have ultimately failed. During the late nineteenth century, Stanley was an important revictualling port with a primitive ship-repairing industry. These activities began to dwindle after steamships started to replace sailing ships and finally died when the opening of the Panama Canal diverted shipping from the Cape Horn route. Sealing had been carried out sporadically since the earliest days of settlement in the islands, but since the wholesale destruction of the valuable Southern fur seal in the early years of the nineteenth century, the other, oil-producing species of seal have had less economic importance. The last attempt at commercial sealing was made by the Colonial Development Corporation, but survived for only three seasons. An effort was made to establish a meat freezing plant at Ajax Bay, East Falkland, but this project, also assisted by funds from the Colonial Development Corporation, was discontinued in 1955 and the plant was put up for sale. Whaling was carried out for a few years before the First World War, when a shore factory was built on New Island, West Falkland. This was always subsidiary to the greater activity at South Georgia, whither the company moved in 1916.

#### SETTLEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The capital of the Colony is Stanley and about half the total population live there. The only other settlement of any size is Goose Green



in Lafonia, with a population of about 100. The other settlements are sheep stations. The site of Stanley was originally selected because it had special advantages of accessibility and protection for sailing vessels. Today, its peripheral situation, near the north-east corner of the islands, is a disadvantage because many farms are remote from this site. The outlying settlements lie close to navigable water to facilitate the shipment of wool.

While there are motor roads in Stanley rough tracks negotiable by Land-Rover type vehicles and motor cycles connect most of the sheep stations. A growing number of Land-Rovers, jeeps and motor cycles has recently become a feature of camp life. The bulk of heavy supplies is transported by sea; light goods, passengers and mail are carried by air. The introduction of an internal air service in 1949 has done much to reduce the isolation of many of the outlying farms.

Previously communications with the rest of the world were largely confined to the voyages made about 12 times each year to Montevideo in Uruguay by R.M.S. *Darwin*, owned by Darwin Shipping Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Falkland Islands Company. This ship was, however, withdrawn from service in December 1971 and the sea-link with Uruguay severed. Sea communications will, in the future, be through ports in the Argentine Republic. Unscheduled flights by Albatross amphibian aircraft of the Argentine Air Force took place several times during 1971, linking Stanley with Comodoro Rivadavia (Argentina). Regular international flights, using the same type of aircraft and the same route as these unscheduled flights commenced in January 1972 and continued until November 1972, when a weekly air service with Comodoro Rivadavia, using Fokker F.27 Friendship aircraft, operating from a temporary airfield near Stanley was inaugurated by Lineas Aereas del Estado (Argentina).

## Chapter 2: History

THE sixteenth century saw the adventurers and discoverers from the leading countries of Western Europe sailing further and further south. By the time Drake circumnavigated the globe in 1577-80 the existence of the eastern coast of South America might be said to have been common knowledge to the cartographers of the time. Even so it was not until shortly before the turn of the century that the group of islands now known as the Falkland Islands was sighted for the first time.

The history of the Falkland Islands begins with the second voyage of Sir Thomas Cavendish whose expedition sailed from England in



1591. Nine months after starting, the ship *Desire*, captained by John Davis, was driven off course in "a sore storme".<sup>1</sup> Fortunately for Davis his ship was "driven in among certaine isles never before discovered . . . lying fiftie leagues or better from the ashore east and northerly from the streights."<sup>1</sup> The Falkland Islands were thus first sighted on 14th August 1592.

Following the initial discovery by Davis, history records other early navigators sighting the islands, including Sir Richard Hawkins in February 1594, who wrote: "The lande, for that it was discovered in the raigne of Queene Elizabeth my soveraigne lady and mistress, and a maiden Queene, and at my cost and adventure, in a perpetual memory of her chastitie, and remembrance of my endeavours, I gave it the name of Hawkin's Maidenland".<sup>2</sup>

Sebald de Weert, a Dutchman travelling northwards up the Patagonian coast on his way home, sighted the north-western part of the Falklands in January 1600 and called the three islands he saw the Sebald Islands but the name did not persist and these islands are now known as the Jason Islands.

Ninety-eight years after Davis first sighted the islands, Captain John Strong of the *Welfare* made the first recorded landing on 27th January 1690. Strong gave the name Falkland to the Sound between the two principal islands—"Falkland Sound as I named it"<sup>3</sup>—though it was not long before that name was applied to the group of islands as a whole. Strong named the Sound after Viscount Falkland, Treasurer of the Navy.

Visitors to the Falklands became more frequent as the years went by and it was the French, who were in the fore-front. Indeed the French called the islands "isles Malouines" after the seaport St. Malo from which port many of the French seafarers sailed. The Frenchman Jacques Gouin de Beauchene discovered the small island, now a wild animal and bird sanctuary, known as Beauchene Island, which lies south of the East Falkland.

French interest in the Falklands or "Les Malouines" developed to the extent that in 1764 Louis Antoine de Bougainville founded a French colony on East Falkland. Bougainville's inspiration to colonize the Falkland Islands followed the defeat of Montcalm and the French in Canada and the subsequent loss of that colony.

Bougainville's expedition left St. Malo on 8th September 1763, and on 31st January 1764, sighted the islands. The site for the first

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1. A. H. Markham, *The Voyages and Works of John Davis*. 1880, pp. 107-9.

2. *The Observations of Richard Hawkins, Knight, in his voyage into the South Seas, 1593, 1622.*

3. Captain Strong's log book.



settlement was duly chosen at the west end of Berkeley Sound and work started on the construction of Fort St. Louis.

While the French were thus occupied, a British expedition under Commodore John Byron was being prepared "to locate and claim Pepys' and Falkland's Islands",<sup>1</sup> and the vessels duly arrived in the Falklands on 12th January 1765 and with due ceremony claimed them for King George III. Although Commodore Byron did not find Pepys' Island he did land on Saunders Island and there discovered "one of the finest harbours in the World. I named it after your lordship".<sup>2</sup> The name he gave to the harbour was Port Egmont, after the First Lord of the Admiralty, John Percival, second Earl of Egmont. Commodore Byron reported to the Admiralty that "I coasted the islands for 70 leagues and saw no evidence of any one being there".<sup>3</sup>

The Admiralty was now keen to occupy the islands "undoubtedly the key to the whole Pacific Ocean",<sup>4</sup> and soon despatched Captain John Macbride "to complete the settlement begun last year and erect a blockhouse for the defence of the said settlement".<sup>5</sup> Macbride arrived at Port Egmont in January 1766 and in December of that year, whilst circumnavigating the islands, discovered the French settlement in Berkeley Sound. He presented the French with formal notices to quit the islands, inspected the settlement (and was indeed impressed with what he saw), and returned to Port Egmont. By March 1767 Macbride was in England presenting his report to the Admiralty.

However, before Captain Macbride had even come upon the French settlement, it had in fact been signed over to Spain. On the 3rd October 1766 France relinquished her claim in return for a £24,000 indemnity from Spain and Port Louis became Puerto de la Soledad.

Endeavours to induce the British to withdraw were more protracted and eventually orders were sent for their expulsion by force. On 4th June 1770, a Spanish frigate entered Port Egmont and two days later four more Spanish ships anchored opposite the settlement. The British vessel was a sloop-of-war, the *Favourite*, and the only fortifications a block-house and a mud battery mounting four-pounders. The British captain, playing for time, wrote to the Spanish commodore, requesting him to depart as soon as he had obtained "necessary refreshments". In a brief reply the Spaniard stated that he

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1. Letter from Captain Byron to the Earl of Egmont, 24th February 1765.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. Letter from the Earl of Egmont to the Duke of Grafton, 20th July 1765.

5. Secret instructions to Captain Macbride, 29th September 1765.



had come with a very large force, comprising 1,400 men, besides the crews of his vessels, and an ample supply of ammunition and artillery, and his orders were to expel the British occupants. The latter then had no other course but to capitulate, the Spanish troops coming ashore on 10th June 1770. The British settlers were embarked on board the *Favourite* and sailed on 14th June, reaching England on 24th September.

The Spanish action brought the two countries on the verge of war but fortunately the negotiations with Spain brought a peaceful settlement to the issue and in February 1771 Port Egmont was restored to Britain. Possession was resumed on 16th September of that year and until April 1774 the settlement underwent considerable development. In May 1774, however, the British closed their establishment at Port Egmont as it was considered to be "neither more nor less than a small part of an uneconomical naval regulation".<sup>1</sup> Before he set sail in the *Endeavour* on 21st May 1774, Lieutenant Clayton, commander at Port Egmont, fixed the following inscription engraved in lead to the door of the block-house:

"BE IT KNOWN TO ALL NATIONS That Falkland Islands with this Fort, the Stonehouse, Wharfs and Harbours, Bays and Creeks thereunto belonging are the Sole Right and Property of His Most Sacred Majesty, George the Third, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. In witness whereof this plate is set up, and His Britannic Majesty's colours left flying as a mark of possession.

by S. W. Clayton  
Commanding Officer at Falkland Islands  
A.D. 1774"

For the rest of the century and the early part of the nineteenth Spain maintained her settlement at Soledad. During this time Port Egmont remained deserted except for occasional visits by sealing and whaling vessels from England and North America.

In June 1806 the Spanish Governor Martinez abandoned Soledad on hearing that Buenos Aires was in the hands of the English General, Beresford. At this point Spanish jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands ended. On 9th July 1816, by the Declaration of Independence, the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata came into being. The United Provinces claimed to succeed Spain in sovereignty over the Falklands but for the next 10 years the new state was too preoccupied to pay attention to distant lands.

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1. Letter from Rochford to the Duke of Grafton, 11th February 1774.



The United Provinces finally took possession at Soledad on 9th November 1820 when Colonel Jewitt of the United Provinces Marine arrived there. The newly created Argentine Republic showed interest in the Falkland Islands in 1826 when Louis Vernet revived the settlement at Soledad. Vernet, of French birth, a merchant of Hamburg, developed business interest in the Falklands over the next few years dealing mainly in salted fish, cattle and skins. In June 1828 Vernet was made governor by the Buenos Aires authorities.

Following Vernet's seizure, in August 1831, of three United States schooners, he was recalled to Buenos Aires and never returned to the Falklands. The American warship *Lexington*, commanded by Captain Duncan, sought reprisals for the seizure of the United States vessels and destroyed the small fort at Soledad before retaking the seized ships.

In 1832 the British Government reasserted its sovereignty by sending out His Majesty's Ship *Clio* under the command of Captain Onslow. On reaching Soledad (Port Louis), Onslow found a detachment of 50 Argentine soldiers and their schooner *Sarandi* commanded by Don Jose Maria Pinedo. Pinedo was duly informed of Captain Onslow's mission—"I have received directions to exercise the rights of sovereignty over these islands",<sup>1</sup> and given orders to quit. The British flag was raised immediately and on 5th January 1833, the Argentine force sailed for Buenos Aires. Captain Onslow himself sailed within the next two days and left the settlement in the charge of Mathew Brisbane, Vernet's agent, and William Dickson, Vernet's storekeeper. Thus the Colony was established in January 1833.

Apart from a handful of settlers, the remainder of the inhabitants of Port Louis consisted of sealers and whalers of various nationalities, Indian convicts left by Vernet and gauchos. It was against this background that on 26th August 1833, without warning and for no tangible reason, Mathew Brisbane and William Dickson were murdered in the most brutal fashion. Brisbane lies buried in the cemetery at Port Louis where his grave is cared for and honoured.

The murderers, three gauchos and six Indians, made off into the camp and remained at large until Lieutenant Henry Smith, R.N., captured them in early March 1834. Lieutenant Smith was in charge of the establishment at Port Louis and was succeeded as such by other naval officers until a civil administration was formed under Lieutenant R. C. Moody, R.E., in 1841.

Governor Moody laid out a township at Port Louis which he named Anson but in 1843 he removed to Stanley, the present capital with an excellent harbour leading off Port William.

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1. Letter from Captain Onslow to Pinedo, 3rd January 1833.



In a despatch of 14th April 1842, he wrote, "The geographical position of the islands is so convenient, the numerous harbours in them so excellent, especially the most leeward one, Port William, that the advantages they could be made to afford to shipping in these seas has never failed to strike all persons who have given their attention to the subject, commencing with Lord Anson, the first person that appears to have drawn the public attention to the great value of this portion of the British Dominions.

"The fear of the difficulty of making these islands, arising from long-established prejudices and want of good charts, is now fast dying away. The admirable nautical chart commenced by Captain Fitzroy, and continued by Lieutenants Sullivan and Roberts, R.N., now affords the means of acquaintance with these islands not surpassed by that of any ports or harbours in the world.

"One objection that masters of vessels make to call in, is the delay in beating up Berkeley Sound to the present seat of Government, the prevailing winds being westerly, and generally strong. The same objection does not apply to Port William, which is easier of access and egress at all times, and a few tacks would bring any vessel to a secure and convenient anchorage."

At the beginning life was difficult but further settlers and fresh capital were gradually attracted by the possibilities of the new Colony and in 1846 that part of the East Falkland Islands lying south of the isthmus at Darwin was conceded by sale to Samuel Lafone of Montevideo. Lafone, however, did not long continue to farm the property on his own account and in 1851 transferred it to the Falkland Islands Company, which was incorporated by charter in that same year. Since that time the Falkland Islands Company has acquired extensive tracts of land throughout the Colony and carries on business as shipping agents and general merchants in Stanley.

The first Legislative Council for the Colony was set up during Governor Moody's term of office. It consisted of four members, one of whom was an unofficial, who was the Colonial Chaplain and Governor Moody's brother. Although the Legislature retained an official majority for many years, unofficials, most of whom were farmers, played an important part in its deliberations.

In 1849 the small garrison, composed of Sappers, which had been maintained in the Colony was replaced by a garrison of Royal Marines, 25 in number and all married. In 1855 the South American Missionary Society founded a training settlement for Indians from Tierra del Fuego on Keppel Island. The missionary settlement existed until 1898 when the last of the converts were repatriated to Tierra del Fuego. Bishop Stirling, who was consecrated the first



Bishop of the Falkland Islands in 1869, came out to Keppel Island as Superintendent of the settlement in 1862.

In February 1871, the Duke of Edinburgh visited the islands and in January 1881, Prince George (later King George V) entered Port William, together with his brother Prince Albert Victor, on board H.M.S. *Bacchante*, but was prevented from landing by the receipt of sudden orders to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope.

The early industry of the Colony was exploitation, mainly for their hides, of the wild cattle running freely over the East Falkland Island. These wild cattle were descended from the cattle introduced by de Bougainville; they were considered the property of the Crown and their slaughter was subject to licences issued by the Governor.

Sheep-farming was first attempted by the brothers Whittington on the East Falkland where by the year 1860 a considerable number of sheep was being run. During the succeeding decade a start was also made on the West Falkland. Between the years 1870 and 1880 a definite change-over from cattle to sheep took place and subsequently most of the wild cattle were killed off. They are not however extinct and a few still exist.

A period of steady prosperity followed and in 1885 the Colony became self-supporting. Wireless communication with the outside world was opened in 1912. On 8th December 1914 the Falkland Islands were the scene of Sturdee's brilliant naval victory over Graf von Spee. The 8th December has been adopted as a national day and is celebrated yearly by religious services and a public holiday. The battle is commemorated by a handsome memorial overlooking Port Stanley.

When war was declared in 1939 the Falkland Islands Defence Force was mobilised for the defence of the Colony which once again proved its value as a naval base. After the battle of the River Plate the British cruisers returned to Stanley to land the wounded who were cared for in the local hospital for several weeks. As German raiders disappeared from the seas the naval activity diminished greatly. The area to the south of the River Plate was devoid of shipping and perhaps too remote for submarine warfare. In 1942 following the outbreak of war with Japan, a garrison of British troops arrived in Stanley amounting in all to some 2,000 officers and men. The presence of such a large contingent severely strained the facilities of the town but despite all inconveniences, including the evacuation of school children, characteristic Falkland Islands hospitality was displayed. By 1945 the garrison had been withdrawn. During the war the Colony and dependencies made gifts of over £70,000 to the United Kingdom as a war contribution, including some £20,000 for war charities. Ten Spitfire aircraft were purchased with money voted



by the Legislative Council in 1940 and these aircraft flew into action bearing the name "Falkland Islands". Despite limited manpower, over 150 of the Colony's young men and women served in the armed forces, merchant navy, nursing services and the land army in the United Kingdom. After the war some of them elected to stay there.

In 1944 the Stanley Town Hall was accidentally burned to the ground. Its fine public hall played a very important part in social life, so that the loss of it was a blow to the whole community. The building also contained the public library, the museum and certain Government offices.

After the war considerable development took place. The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital was extended by the opening of the Churchill wing, the Secretariat was enlarged and a new Town Hall was built. A large freezing plant for Falkland Islands mutton was constructed at Ajax Bay but unfortunately the high cost of administration and export made Falkland Islands mutton too expensive for overseas markets and the freezer was eventually closed down. An internal air service was opened with a single land aircraft. Experience soon showed that sea-planes were of more value and since 1953 Beaver floatplanes have given remarkable service in and around the islands.

The Falkland Islands Company Limited built a new steamship, the R.M.S. *Darwin*, which together with chartered ships has kept the Colony supplied with all its needs.

In January 1957, after an interval of some 70 years, the Falkland Islands were again visited by a member of the Royal Family, when His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh spent three days in the Colony.

The inauguration of a weekly external air service with Comodoro Rivadavia (Argentina) in November 1972 brought closer communication with the outside world and removed the relative isolation of the people. The sheep farming industry, which throughout the years has provided the basis for the economy, has seen many changes: a greater use of machinery, an extended programme of fencing and seeding and better management of sheep and pastures.

### *Chapter 3: Administration*

At the head of the Government is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief who is advised by the Executive Council.

By Order in Council dated 2nd September 1964, the constitutions of both the Executive and Legislative Councils were altered to allow for a clear unofficial majority.



The Executive Council consists of the Governor, the Chief Secretary and the Financial Secretary, both *ex officio*, two Unofficial Members (known as Appointed Members) and two Elected Members, elected by the Elected and Nominated Members of that Council.

The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, the Chief Secretary and Financial Secretary as *ex officio* members, two Elected Members representing the Stanley constituency, two Elected Members representing the East and West Falkland constituencies respectively, and two Nominated Independent Members.

Since July 1973 there has been no local government in the Colony. During the period 1948-July 1973 there was a Town Council in Stanley consisting of six Elected Members and three Members nominated by the Governor. Members of the Town Council elected one of their number annually as chairman. Town Council elections were held biennially.

#### Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

IMPERIAL weights and measures are in general use.

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## APPENDIX

Governor and Commander-in-Chief

E. G. Lewis, O.B.E.

### *Executive Council (as at 1st January 1973)*

The Governor

The Hon. the Chief Secretary (The Hon T. H. Layng)

The Hon. the Financial Secretary (The Hon. H. T. Rowlands)

The Hon. A. G. Barton, C.B.E., J.P. (Appointed Member)

The Hon. A. Sloggie (Appointed Member)

The Hon. S. Miller, J.P. (Elected Member)

The Hon. L. G. Blake, J.P. (Elected Member)

### *Legislative Council (as at 1st January 1973)*

The Governor

The Hon. the Chief Secretary (The Hon. T. H. Layng)

The Hon. the Financial Secretary (The Hon. H. T. Rowlands)

The Hon. S. Miller, J.P. (First Elected Member for Stanley)

The Hon. R. M. Pitaluga (Nominated Independent Member)

The Hon L. G. Blake, J.P. (Elected Member for West Falkland)

The Hon. R. B. Monk, J.P. (Elected Member for East Falkland)

The Hon. W. E. Bowles (Second Elected Member for Stanley)

The Hon. W. R. Luxton (Nominated Independent Member)

*Clerk of Councils:* Mr. R. Browning



# The Dependencies

## PART I

### GENERAL REVIEW 1972 AND 1973

THE conversion of Shackleton House at King Edward Point into living accommodation and scientific laboratories was completed. New generators were installed to provide the extra electric power needed by the enlarged scientific programme. The construction of a special laboratory for marine investigations, which included the provision of a continuous sea water flow to the aquaria, was started.

During the period there was an expansion of biological research on and around South Georgia, particularly in the marine sphere. Long-term hydrological monitoring was initiated and several projects were undertaken concerning the ecology of important inshore organisms, notably crustaceans. Ship-borne Benthic sampling was carried out in both years from the R.R.S. *John Biscoe*.

Vertebrate research was concentrated at Bird Island where the long-term studies of fur seal population dynamics and the biology of albatross and other bird species were continued. The investigation of the reindeer herds was continued and expanded throughout the period and included a detailed appraisal of their effect on the vegetation.

Botanical studies were carried out on the taxonomy, ecology and production of a variety of vascular and non-vascular plants.

Geological parties landed at Royal Bay and successfully mapped in detail most of the east coastal area of South Georgia. Detailed geological mapping continued in the western coastal areas of South Georgia. Annenkov Island was also investigated.

During 1973 the geological mapping of the western coastal areas continued, parts of the eastern coasts were re-mapped and a reconnaissance of the higher south-east parts of the island was undertaken. Both Shag Rocks and Clerke Rocks were examined by helicopter.

Work continued on the heat, ice and water balances of Hodges Glacier as a contribution to the I.H.D. One manned and four automatic weather stations were established on the glacier and a flume



was constructed in the valley below. An avalanche in June damaged all of the automatic stations but fortunately spared the glacier hut which had men in it.

The station was resupplied by helicopters from H.M.S. *Endurance* and an excellent set of air photographs was obtained of glaciers in the vicinity. Some of the pictures were of special interest since they were taken from the same angles as photographs taken 34 years earlier from aircraft belonging to H.M.S. *Exeter*. Only very minor changes have occurred in the ice during the interval indicating that no marked climatic fluctuations are in progress in these latitudes.

Early in 1973 the Geophysical Observatory Programme was expanded to include the measurement of total of diffuse sun and sky radiation and the net earth-sky radiation balance. Studies of magnetic field variations were made using the Fluxgate magnetometer. Seismic events in the Scotia Arc and surrounding ocean areas continued to be recorded using the seismic array installed the previous year. The ionospheric programme continued unabated.



## PART II

### *Chapter 1: Population*

THE only inhabitants of South Georgia were the 22 employees of the British Antarctic Survey who wintered at King Edward Point during 1972 and 1973. There were no births, marriages or deaths.

### *Chapter 2: Occupations and Wages*

THE British Antarctic Survey staff were employed at current salary rates.

### *Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation*

	1971-72	1972-73
	£	£
Revenue : : :	31,018	28,605
Expenditure : : :	8,069	13,699

The general revenue balance at 30th June 1973, was a surplus of £48,806.

Taxation was the same as in the Falkland Islands.

### *Chapter 4: Currency and Banking*

LEGAL tender consists of Falkland Islands Government currency notes of £5, £1 and 50p denominations and United Kingdom coinage.

There are no banks, but facilities were provided by the Administration for deposits in the Government Savings Bank at Stanley and for remitting funds abroad.

The dependency went over to the decimalised monetary system at the same time as the Falkland Islands.



### Chapter 5: Commerce

THERE is no trade with South Georgia. The only items imported into the dependencies during the period under review were domestic provisions and equipment.

### Chapter 6: Production

WITH the cessation of whaling and sealing there has been no production since 1965.

The following table shows production figures for the last three years in which shore factories operated. Seal oil has been included under the heading "Oil (Barrels)".

	<i>No. of companies operating</i>	<i>No. of whales</i>	<i>Oil (barrels)</i>	<i>Meat and bone meal (tons)</i>	<i>Frozen whale meat (tons)</i>	<i>Meat extract (tons)</i>
1963-64 . . . . .	2	1,024	40,334	2,135	3,994	32
1964-65 . . . . .	2	1,150	46,175	3,627	3,786	159
1965 . . . . .	1	222	9,964	920	2,658	51

### Chapter 7: Social Services

SOUTH GEORGIA was free of all diseases during 1972 and 1973 and there was no outbreak of infection. The climate is healthy with pure air and water.

A doctor is stationed in the island with the British Antarctic Survey team.

#### HOUSING

The excellent quarters at King Edward Point previously occupied by Government officials are now used to house personnel of the British Antarctic Survey base.

#### SOCIAL AMENITIES

During the summer there is ample opportunity for walking and climbing. Walks are somewhat restricted by the mountainous and broken nature of the country but can prove most rewarding for those



interested in ornithology or photography. In winter time there is every inducement to become proficient at ski-ing as this is the only means of getting from place to place in the deep winter snow.

Recreational facilities, including a cinema projector, table tennis and billiard table, are provided in Shackleton House. There is also a hard tennis court.

## Chapter 8: Legislation

Legislation enacted for the Dependencies during the period under review included the following measures:

1972

*Application of Colony Laws Ordinance, 1972*, applying the following laws to the dependencies:

- Matrimonial Proceedings (Court of Summary Jurisdiction) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1972
- Estate Duty (Amendment) Ordinance, 1972
- Banking Ordinance, 1972

1973

*Application of Colony Laws Ordinance, 1973*, applying the following laws to the dependencies:

- Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1973
- Banking (Amendment) Ordinance, 1973
- Defence Force (Amendment) Ordinance, 1973

*Appropriation (Dependencies) (1972-73) Ordinance, 1973*, providing for the service between 1st July, 1972 and 30th June, 1973.

## Chapter 9: Justice

UNTIL November 1969, when the Base Commander assumed this function, the Administrative Officer at South Georgia was also a magistrate, sitting at King Edward Point in the first instance. The Supreme Court and the Magistrate's Court in Stanley are common to the dependencies.



## Chapter 10: Public Utilities

THERE are no public utilities. The whaling stations when operational were heated by steam from the main boilers. At other times heating was by electricity generated on the stations.

Most of the buildings at King Edward Point are centrally heated by individual oil-fired boilers, the oil supply being piped to a gravity tank in each building from the main storage tank.

The capacity of the King Edward Point electric power station is 277 kW. generating at 230/400 volts, 50 cycles.

## Chapter 11: Communications and Transport

THERE is no regular sea communication with South Georgia.

During the summer season, mails and transport are provided by the British Antarctic Survey ships which call at South Georgia during their annual supply and relief tours of the British Antarctic Territory. Normally they make about four calls between November and April.

There is one port of entry, Grytviken.

A post office is maintained at King Edward Point. Stamp sales are augmented by philatelists' requests for franked covers. These form a substantial part of outgoing mails.

Regular schedules are worked by the Wireless Station at King Edward Point, the traffic passing through Stanley.

## Chapter 12: Meteorological Services

METEOROLOGICAL services for the dependency of South Georgia were administered and financed by the Falkland Islands Dependencies Government until mid-November 1969 after which the administration and continuation of the surface meteorological station at Grytviken, South Georgia, was taken over and financed by the British Antarctic Survey. Reports were passed to the international network together with those of the Antarctic Station.

There were no other meteorological stations within the dependencies during the period of this review.

For details of the British Antarctic Meteorological Service see the British Antarctic Territory periodical reports published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London.



## PART III

### *Chapter 1: Geography*

THE Falkland Islands Dependencies were defined by Letters Patent of 21st July 1908 and 28th March 1917. They constituted that sector of the Antarctic Continent lying between the meridians 20° and 80° West Longitude, together with certain islands adjacent to the Antarctic mainland within this sector, and also the island of South Georgia and the South Sandwich, South Orkney and South Shetlands group. By an Order-in-Council which came into force on 3rd March 1962, that part of the dependencies which lay south of 60° South latitude was constituted a separate territory under a High Commissioner, with the name of British Antarctic Territory. The Falkland Islands Dependencies now comprise South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands, Shag Rocks and Clerke Rocks.

#### CLIMATE

The mean temperature of South Georgia varies between 42°F in February and 28° F in August, and about 60 inches of precipitation are recorded annually, much of which falls as snow.

#### PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE

In South Georgia the climate is sufficiently temperate to support the growth of 20 species of hardy grass and other flowering plants. Reindeer have been introduced and thrive, having increased from 11 in 1909 to about 2,000 today. There are no other terrestrial mammals.

Most other forms of life are restricted to the open ocean and to the coastal waters. The sea itself is teeming with life from the smallest unicellular organisms at one end of the food chain to the largest mammals at the other. All forms either spend their whole existence in the sea or only come ashore to breed and moult, as do the birds and seals. The fauna of these seas is, on the whole, few in species but very rich in numbers.

Only the seals and whales have any economic value. The seals were first exploited in South Georgia a few years after the visit of Captain Cook in 1775. The principal species were the southern fur seal which is only now beginning to return to some of the islands where it was



most plentiful. The large oil-bearing elephant seal was exploited during the first half of the nineteenth century but recovered more quickly than the fur seal and latterly was taken under licence in South Georgia for more than 50 years. The other species of Antarctic seal are too solitary in their behaviour to warrant economic exploitation.

Five species of whale were common in these waters, but only two, the fin whale and the sei whale, could in later years be regarded as having any economic importance.

In recent years there has been no whaling or sealing industry. The rate of killing whales exceeded the reproduction and growth rates of these mammals for many years so that the stock is now depleted and individual specimens tend to be smaller than formerly, and exploitation has become unprofitable.

## Chapter 2: History

SOUTH GEORGIA was sighted at least twice between 1675 and 1756, but the first landing was that of Captain James Cook in 1775. The South Sandwich Islands were also discovered by him during the same voyage. Thereafter, South Georgia was much visited by sealers of many nationalities, who reaped a rich harvest from the immense number of fur seals and elephant seals which frequented these shores. By 1815, the slaughter of seals had reached such proportions that sealers were beginning to look elsewhere for them.

Whaling began in the twentieth century and grew into a highly specialised industry. The principal development took place in 1903, when C. A. Larsen founded the first modern whaling company based upon a shore factory in South Georgia. The industry immediately prospered and continued to expand quickly up to and during the First World War. From the beginning, South Georgia was the most important centre of the industry and shore factories were operated at Grytviken, Leith Harbour, Stromness, Husvik, Godthul and Prince Olav Harbour. During the last 30 years increasing use has been made of pelagic factory ships which can operate in open ocean throughout the whaling season.

During the early years of the Second World War Norwegian whaling fleets operated in the Antarctic, although in January 1941 a substantial part of the pelagic fleet was captured by the German armed surface raider *Pinguin*. At South Georgia one shore station managed to operate throughout the entire war.

After the Second World War three shore stations were worked at South Georgia but between 1960 and 1963 all ceased operations.



After the 1962–63 season Japanese companies re-established whaling operations in South Georgia. A consortium of three Japanese companies operating under the name International Fishery Company operated from Grytviken for the years 1963 and 1964; they did not return after the 1964 season. At Leith Harbour the Nippon Suisan Kaisha Ltd. operated during 1963–64 and up to December 1965 when they also closed down.

### Chapter 3: Administration

THE Dependencies are subject to the authority of the Governor and his Executive Council, the former being empowered under the Letters Patent of 1948 to legislate for the Dependencies.

An Administrative Officer and an official staff were maintained at King Edward Point in South Georgia until November 1969 when the Base Commander of the British Antarctic Survey base there became magistrate for the area.

### Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

IMPERIAL and metric weights and measures are in general use.

### Chapter 5: Reading List

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No. 22. *Introduced Reindeer of South Georgia*. By W. N. Bonner, 1958, 35p.



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- No. 45. *The Vascular Flora of South Georgia*. By S. W. Greene, 1964, £1.60.
- No. 70. *Geomorphology of the Stromness Bay, Cumberland Bay Area, South Georgia*. By C. M. Clapperton, 1971, £1.75. (Obtainable from British Antarctic Survey, 30 Gillingham Street, London, S.W.1, and from Her Majesty's Stationery Office.)
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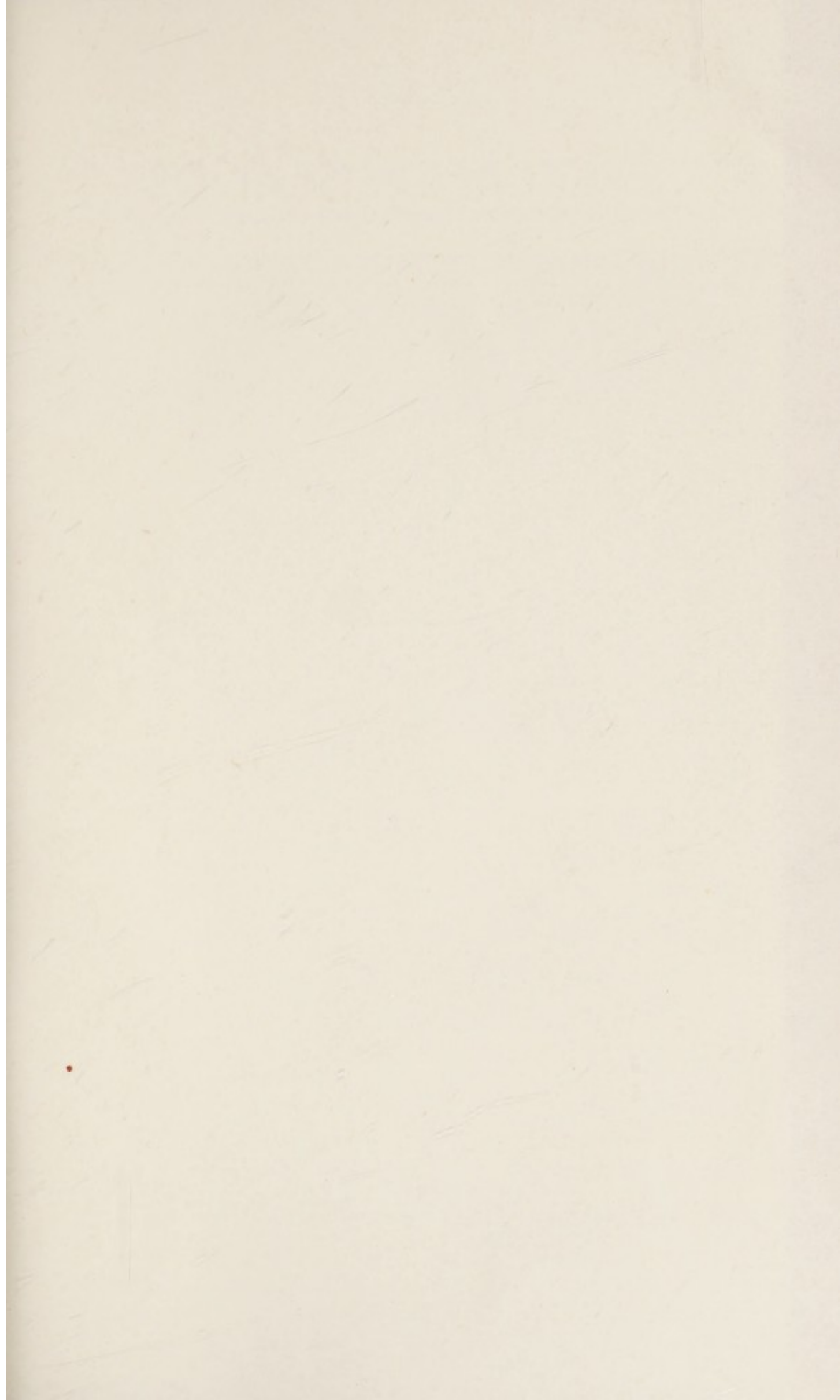


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