

1938

38022

CO 533/489  
KENYA

38022

SISAL INDUSTRY  
(DECORTICATING MACHINERY)

~ SUPPLY OF SISAL LEAVES FROM GOLD COAST

Previous		297	7/2/38
		309	8/2
1937		Mr Jones	9/1/38
		R. 209	
		297	11/2/38
Subsequent		Accounts Dept	18/2
		Mr Bradley White	19/2
		Mr Jones	14/1/38
		Accounts Dept	22/2
	20/1/38	297	7/3
297	24/1	<del>Accounts Dept</del>	2/3
309	25	Mr Bradley White	28/2
Mr Parker	25/1	Mr Jones	28/3/38
Dr. Tompary	25/1	R. 209	
Mr Jones	25/1/38	Mr. Palmer	27/3
298	26/1	Mr. Jones	1/4/38
Dr. Tompary	26/1	Dr. Tompary	2/4
298	27/1	297	6/4
297	28/1	A/c Dept	23/4
309	28/1	Mr. Edmonds	25/4
Mr Jones		Dr. Tompary	27/4
297	4/3/38	297	
309	5/2		
Mr Jones			

38022

C.I.  
AGRICULTURE  
10/11/38

Mitchell Cotts & Co. Ltd. 19.1.38  
Confirms arrival of Seal Leaves & requests C.O. to good enough to write as before to the effect that they are the produce of British best quality and are accordingly, admissible to Imperial Preference.

The leaves shipped in Wm. 'Aba' were intended for Captain Magnall (of the Hydraulic Engineering Co, Chester - see No 2) on -37) but by some mistake have arrived in the hands of Mitchell Cotts and Co (see No 1 herewith).

After much telephoning on the 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> of January the position was discovered to be as follows.

Mitchell Cotts & Co are the legal owners of the leaves as they have in their possession the 'Bill of Lading'; they are liable to the Steamship Company for freight and to H.M. Customs for any duty on the goods; and they do not want the leaves themselves as none of the <sup>manufacturers</sup> firms which they are in the habit of supplying with leaves are at the moment prepared to receive any.

Captain Magnall on the other hand says that he does not want the leaves now so they have been lying about in the open air for some days (in the ship they were in cold storage) during which they will have rotted considerably.

Mitchell Cotts offered to deliver the goods to Captain Magnall in Chester if we could give an assurance that Captain Magnall or we ourselves would accept Mitchell Cotts' debit note for freight & delivery. This assurance

was not obtainable from Captain Maguall's  
London Office.

It is not known exactly how  
Mitchell Cotts got possession of the leaves;  
it may be that force of habit led them  
to accept delivery, as they have had  
many consignments in the past, or it may  
be that they were incorrectly addressed to  
Mitchell Cotts from force of the <sup>conversing</sup> same habit in the Gold Coast.  
Anyway it seems that it is impossible  
either to fast bad leaves on Maguall, who  
has evidently not been responsible for the  
mistake, or to expect Mitchell Cotts to pay  
freight on goods they did not order (that  
is assuming no mistake was made by  
them in Liverpool).

It has been arranged on the telephone  
that we send more his letter us, &  
submit drafts accordingly. Captain  
Maguall is to let us know later what  
arrangements he would like about  
a second instalment of leaves, &  
Mitchell Cotts want a letter to the  
Customs so they will have to move  
the leaves from the dock even if only  
to check them into the sea.

Clotworthy

29/11  
H. Thompson  
25/11

To Custom House — Cotts  
DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

To Messrs Mitchell (w/c 2).  
Cotts & Coy Ltd (Lond.)

26.1.38.

To Capt Maguall — S.O. Cotts.

5. Goods & Maguall (S)

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

and states that he would be grateful if another consignment  
could be sent by the "Accra" which leaves the Gold Coast on 12.2.38.

To Gov. G. B. Tel No 25 — 28/1/38

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

7. Custom House

3.2.38

States that they have given instructions for the further consignment  
of leaves shipped per S.S. "Aba" to Liverpool, to be admitted to  
Special Preference.

Draft submitted for assent on memo of 14/1/37

Clotworthy 5/2

Handwritten signature  
7/1/38  
at home

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

To Mitchell Cotts  
& Co. Ltd

7.2.38.

9 Mitchell Cols & Co. Ltd 4.2.38.

Accts (3) with thanks.

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

10 The South Coast TEL 33 5.2.38.

(10.12.38) States that shipment will be made as requested.

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

note s/o

? Short letter to Capt. Mangnall for Dr. Temporary's signature telling him the shipment of leaves has been arranged as requested in No 5, and adding that it is hoped this time they will not go astray.

(Nos 10 & 6 were not made recoverable as Capt. Mangnall paid for the Cels. on the abortive shipment)

No 9 ? Put by

Clorky White 8/2

*James*  
8/2/38  
above

11 To Capt. Mangnall 10.4.38

DESTROYED UNDER STATUTE

mt. Bentley-White.

Please see minute letters (26) on 1937 file. We sent claim to the [Captain Mangnall of the, Hydrographic Engineering]

Co. for the cost of Nos. 25 on 26 but they have not paid. The telegram cost £1.14.10 and 18/4d. respectively.

In view of the situation explained in your minute below (1) in this file do you see any objection to Capt. Mangnall being

reminded (? by So. letter). We could perhaps explain to Capt. Mangnall that no charge will be made for the telegrams relating to the second shipment which was necessary.

*J. Smith*  
18/2/38

When reminding I think it should be made clear, as Mr. Bos Smith proposes, that Capt. Mangnall is only being asked to pay arrears of Cels - i.e. those on the abortive shipment and not those arrears present last coming in the 'Acra'

Clorky White

Please refer to Records Book 14/3/38.

*W. Med.*

The reminder might stand over until the 'Acra' arrives & Capt. Mangnall gets his Ccames.

*James*  
19/2/38

above

Capt. Mangnall has not paid? Am I to letter reminding him should one be sent.

*J. Smith*  
2/3

Clorky White 28/3

*James*  
28/3/38  
above

I have issued the letter from him

4/1/38  
2/4

~~1/8~~ Capt. Mangnall

2/5  
cons

1/4/38

C/o. to have form of 12

13 Captain W.R. Mangnall 3/0 ——— 4/4/38.

Ref 12. States that account has been passed for payment of first of for calligrams: comments on condition of consignment.

Ref. para. 1. The account has not yet been paid.

? See again on 4/5/38.

Noted

Capt Mangnall

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

23/4/38

*[Signature]*

27/4

22/4



TELEPHONE  
CHESTER 2087  
Private Branch Exchange  
3 Lines

CONTRACTORS TO  
THE ADMIRALTY, WAR OFFICE,  
AIR MINISTRY, INDIA OFFICE,  
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,  
AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

TELEGRAMS  
"HYDRAULIC CHESTER"  
CODES  
A.B.C. 8<sup>th</sup> EDITION.  
BENTLEY'S

# The Hydraulic Engineering Company Ltd

LONDON OFFICE  
TRAFALGAR HOUSE, WATERLOO PLACE,  
PALL MALL, S.W. 1  
TELEPHONE WHITEHALL 9384  
TELEGRAMS HYDROCHEST, PICCY, LONDON.



Chester 4th April 1938.

REFERENCES YOURS  
OURS ARM/

Dr. d. A. Tempany, C.B.E.  
Colonial Office,  
Caxton House (East Block),  
Tothill Street, S.W. 1.

Dear Dr. Tempany,

1 I have looked into the question of the small account for cablegrams to and from the Gold Coast and I find that this was passed through with last month's accounts.

2 We have not received any further account for the later consignment which came by the "Accra".

3 From an agricultural point of view, you will be interested to know that the consignment of leaves which reached us were in absolutely perfect condition, and it would have been difficult to find any difference between their condition and the condition of freshly cut leaves.

4 This is very interesting in view of the fact that on almost all previous occasions the leaves have either been quite "rotten" or dried up like pieces of leather.

Yours sincerely,

38022/1/38

6

G. O.

Mr. Colley White 29/1

Mr. Parkin 25/1

Dr. Tompkins 25/1

Sir H. Moore. m. Jones 25/1/38

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh

P. mu. U.S. of S.

Parry U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

S/O for ? Dr. Tompkins's signature

82 2.6.1.38

3 DRAFTS

Captain A. H. Magrath

In the absence of Stockdale  
abroad I am writing to  
explain what happened to  
the sisal leaves that were  
to have arrived for you  
on ss. "Aba". ~~Exhibition~~  
You have heard about it  
by telephone, but we don't  
know how much got  
relayed up to you in  
London from your London  
Office, so here is the full  
story.

The leaves arrived ~~at~~  
night in Liverpool but

FURTHER ACTION.

owing to some mistake (we don't know exactly what) came into the possession of a firm which is in the habit of receiving such consignments. As soon as the mistake was realised that firm offered to hand the leaves over to you, but we quite realise that you were chary of accepting delivery of stuff which had been sitting about on the quayside for a number of days, and almost probably ~~totally~~ deteriorating fast. So that lot of leaves has been wasted.

~~I expect~~ <sup>of</sup> you with ~~brood~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~Tantrix~~ <sup>arrange for</sup> lot to be sent from the gold coast in their place, ~~if so, will you let us know, and we will try to make sure they don't go astray~~ <sup>as usual</sup> ~~our time~~

(Signed) H. TEMPANY.

(? any objection to mentioning Mitchell Cottons?)

J.P.P.  
I would prefer to ~~leave~~ as in H.  
Spring

38022/138

C. O.

Mr. Colby White 27/1

Mr. Parkin 27/1

Mr. Tempany 25/1

Sir H. Moore. m: Jones 25/1/38

Sir G. Tomlinson.

Sir C. Bottomley.

Sir J. Shuckburgh.

Perms. U.S. of S.

Privy. U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

3 DRAFTS

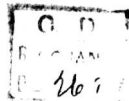
Mitchell Cottons & Co Ltd.

House  
to Customs Office  
drafts house

FURTHER ACTION.

3

26. January 1938



Gentlemen, I am etc. to ask the receipt of your letter of the 19th of January, regarding the arrival of a consignment of 5000 leaves in ss 'Aba', and to enclose a copy of a letter which has been addressed to H.M. Commissioners of Customs in accordance with your request.

It is understood that delivery of the leaves in question was accepted by your representative in



Liverpool in the belief that your company  
was expecting their arrival. In fact,  
however, the leaves were intended for  
another destination firm. It is understood, also,  
that by accepting delivery you have become  
liable to the steamship company for freight  
charges on the leaves. It is further  
understood that you are unable <sup>yourself</sup> at the  
moment to find any use for these leaves.  
Assuming, therefore, that on equity it is  
established that the leaves failed to reach  
their intended destination owing to no error  
on the part of the representatives of your  
company, I am to inform you that the  
expenses you have incurred in this connexion  
will be reimbursed <sup>from S.C. funds or some fund being</sup> ~~on receipt of an account~~  
to the office. [ It is assumed that the  
proceeds, if any, of the disposal of the leaves  
will be offset against the abovementioned  
expenses. ]

J. H. G. A. J. DAVE.  
Jan etc.

? [ ]

Yes.  
[Signature]

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES { FOREIGN NONPAREIL LONDON  
INLAND NONPAREIL STOCK LONDON

CODES BENTLEY'S (FIRST & SECOND); SCOTT'S BROOMHALLS A B C (ALL EDITIONS); WESTERN UNION LOMBARD BOX

TELEPHONE NO LONDON WALL 4731 (FIVE LINES)

**MITCHELL COTTS & CO LIMITED.**

DIRECTORS  
ALEXANDER HAMILTON  
L ALDRIDGE R C MITCHELL COTTS  
L O DANN J M DONALD  
F C HORNBER A F PROCTER C A

LONDON & CARDIFF

AGENCIES  
PORT SUDAN AND COLOMBO

Agents for

MITCHELL COTTS & CO (SOUTH AFRICA) LTD  
CAPE TOWN, PORT ELIZABETH, EAST LONDON  
JOHANNESBURG, LOURENCO MARQUES, BEIRA

WM. COTTS & CO LTD  
DURBAN AND POINT NATAL

MITCHELL COTTS & CO (EAST AFRICA) LTD  
MOMBASA, NAIROBI, KITALE  
KARAMEGA, KISUMU, MAKURU  
KAMPALA, DAR-ES-SALAAM

DINGWALL COTTS & CO LTD  
VANCOUVER B C

J. J. Paskin Esq.,  
The Colonial Office,  
Downing Street, S.W.1.


Dear Sir,

We beg to confirm telephone conversation of this afternoon when we advised you of the arrival of 20 bundles of Sisal Leaves per s.s. "Abe" at Liverpool.

In the absence of a certificate of origin, H.M. Customs in Liverpool will no doubt enforce the payment of duty, and therefore we shall be glad if you would kindly write as on a previous occasion to the effect that the Sisal Leaves are the produce of British East Africa and are accordingly admissible to Imperial Preference.

Thanking you in anticipation of your kind attention.

Yours faithfully,



BY THE DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS

10, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 4A

TELEPHONE 5541

TELEGRAMS: "COTTS" LONDON

TELETYPE: "COTTS" LONDON

POST OFFICE BOX 10, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 4A

TELEPHONE 5541

TELEGRAMS: "COTTS" LONDON

TELETYPE: "COTTS" LONDON

POST OFFICE BOX 10, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 4A

TELEPHONE 5541

TELEGRAMS: "COTTS" LONDON

TELETYPE: "COTTS" LONDON

Handwritten note: 2000 3.

Handwritten mark: 8 /

C. O.

- Mr.
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir H. Moore.
- Sir G. Tomlinson.
- Sir C. Bottomley.
- Sir J. Shuckburgh.
- Parlm. U.S. of S.
- Parly. U.S. of S.
- Secretary of State.

DRAFT.

Dear Captain Mangnall

In continuation

(11) of my letter of the 10th of Feb about the consignment of sisal leaves in the "Acera", I have been asked to drop you a line to remove a possible source of uncertainty over the business of the recovery of the cost of the telegrams which had to be sent to the West Coast.

I understand that your Company has been sent an account for the telegrams ~~sent~~ <sup>concerning</sup> the shipment on the "Aba" which ~~has~~ <sup>has</sup> reached you, but that no account has been sent for the telegrams on the later <sup>consignment shipped</sup> shipment on the "Acera" which I hope has reached you safely by

FURTHER ACTION.

now.

~~If it is not inconvenient~~  
~~heard your mind regarding the~~  
~~telegrams in the above shipment~~  
~~as applying to the second shipment~~  
Although this is really the wrong  
way round, would you find it  
inconvenient to treat the Cels  
in the former as applying to the  
later shipment? There is of  
course no question of sending  
in accounts for both sets of Cels,  
but as the later set were a bit  
larger than the former, and as  
the account for the first set has  
already <sup>gone</sup> been sent off, we thought  
it would be simplest <sup>if you agree</sup> to let it  
stand like that.