

1925

AFRICA

456

57873

23rd December 1925.

REC'D  
28 DEC 25

FRANKLIN: W.H.

CIRCULATION:

Mr. Hoja

U.S. of S.

U.S. of S.

U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Previous Paper

*Handwritten notes:*  
x To MacSwaine  
copy x abstract  
BIMAN J.C.  
30. Apr. 176  
H.B. for To 7.16  
H. Apr. 176

Subsequent Paper

M. W. H. F.

APPLICATION OF MACSWAINE SEED BAILING PROCESS TO COTTON SEED.

*Handwritten:* Two copy of letter from Messrs. Hoja stating that the process would result in very little damage to the seed, and indicating suitable size of scale. Two also notes on the process as it would apply to Uganda.

MINUTES

I attach to this paper Mr. MacSwaine's letter about the interview with Mr. Ormsby-Gore which took place on Friday. I do not think that there is anything to record about West Africa, but I pass the paper through Mr. Flood. Mr. MacSwaine produced some meal made from ground nuts (after the extraction of the oil) which he said was 50 per cent protein, and he said that it would be a most valuable addition to the ration of local labour, a matter which East Africa is attracting much attention at present. He did not, however, contemplate that the oil should be extracted locally, but considered that the value of the meal would bear the cost of retransport in this country to Africa.

As regards cotton seed in E.A., I attach

(a) some type-written notes which I prepared and sent to Colonel Franklin for his

(b) further notes from Colonel Franklin on the further correspondence. This has material bearing on the financial aspect.

It was impossible to get anything very definite from Mr. MacIlwaine at the interview, but he expressed good hopes of getting the E.G.G.C. to finance the experimental plant as a result of the inspection of the process by Mr. Harris, the Engineer of the B.C.G.A. It was arranged that I should ask the Corporation how things stood. I telephoned to Mr. May, the Asst. Secy., this morning, and he tells me he has heard of no developments since Mr. Harris' visit to Letchworth, but that he will let me know what happens.

He is not sanguine of the Corporation changing its adverse opinion indicated in the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Committee. I understand that, apart from the loss of price in this country (for which Col. Franklin has got us a fairly definite figure), the Manchester people consider that unless there are two or three seed presses attached to a ginney, the gins would produce far more seed than the press could bale, and that there would be an inconvenient accumulation of seed which is not very material, as the accumulation of seed has to be dealt with now. Also we must deduct from the total seed the amount required for fuel purposes. Also handling would be more difficult even with the 2 cwt. seed bale, because a man can grip the corners of a bag, but a square bale with hard corners would not be so easy to manage. On the other hand, the danger from plague is recognised. The Manchester verdict seems to be that there is no money in the scheme, and the Corporation take the usual line that if there were, the ginners themselves would take it up without any need for an experimental effort.

Mr. MacIlwaine put the experimental case to us

on the basis of the baling factory pressing on agency terms for the ginners. This gives us some means of constructing a receipts and expenditure account.

On the one hand, the ginners lose the reduction in price in this country, which at the best, is 10/- a ton, and they have to bear the extra cost of local transport which I fancy could hardly be put at less than 10/- a ton, namely 1/- a ton mile for an average distance of 10 miles. Total loss 20/- a ton.

As regards saving in railway freight, on Col. Franklin's figures, this works out at 9/2d., namely 40 per cent of the present rate of 22/9d. a ton. My investigations in the tariff book led me to take 12/6d. a ton as the present rate, on which 40 per cent would only be 5/-. I am inclined to accept Colonel Franklin's figure. Saving on steamer freight, he puts at 20/-, and there is something to be added in respect of the cost of bags which, instead of being an outright expense on each occasion, would simply be used to take the seed to the ginney, and would come back at once for further use, but the depreciation in value would be heavy. As the value of the bags here appears to be about 7/- per ton seed, I take the saving on bags as 3/-. This makes 32/2d. in all, and we have a net saving of 12/2d. per ton of seed from which the expenses of the baling factory have to be met.

As regards these expenses, Col. Franklin put the dead weight charge of the cost of the plant at 2/9d. a ton, and we may accept this figure, although Mr. MacIlwaine, as an optimist, expects that the value would very quickly be realised by a sale to a ginner who would wish to take the plant over. There are also overhead charges on the building required, and this can hardly be put at less than 2/- a ton which, indeed, I regard

board as far too small.

Mr. MacIlwaine gave the cost of baling groundnuts in the Gambia. Labour 1/- a ton, running charges (including fuel) 6d. a ton. He said that the cost in the case of cotton seed would be more, and I do not think we should put it at less than 2/6d. Mr. MacIlwaine refused to allow anything for the cost of transport and supervision, and as regards the press attached to a ginners, he is partially right. But for the experimental stage of a central factory, we must certainly allow for this. The expenses detailed come to £1100 or £1200 less than the saving I have arrived at. Therefore, on the basis of 1,000 tons a year, we have a sum of £200 a year left, on the assumption that the ginner does not require any special incentive to send his seed to the factory. This sum is all that is left for supervision, and I think we must conclude that the experimental stage at all events must show a material loss.

My figures are necessary sketchy, and the question for immediate decision is whether we put up the facts as we know them for local consideration at once with a view to Government action if the E.C.G.C. decide not to invest, or whether we wait for Mr. Felling's arrival (which we hope will be little more than a month from now) in order to go into the question with him.

I am inclined to the latter course.

L.C.S. Mowles 18.1.26

*Handwritten signature*

9/11 as far as W.A. is concerned the groundnut traffic is the main possibility. If the opinion & action can make it pay then it will be a success, it would.

J.L. [unclear]

*Handwritten notes:*  
 West Country firm  
 I send this direct  
 your time is limited  
 18/1/26

Take up with Mr. Felling when he arrives. Personally I hope that something will come of this. It has an important bearing on railway & shipping charges as well as on the plebeian question. We should help if we reasonably can.

*Handwritten notes:*  
 Mr. Mowles has returned to the bank  
 change of 50/- covered

Handed over 20<sup>th</sup> 26.

*Handwritten signature*

19.1.26

See reports with Mr. May, E.C.G.C. attached. Had his authority by telephone to make & keep a copy of the minutes which prepared but he had not yet signed.

See it  
 Give  
 18.1.26

I have discussed this with Mr. Pelling and Mr. Simpson, and I have since consulted Sir H. Leggett on the question of the present railway rates on bagged seed for which several inconsistent <sup>figures have</sup> ~~feelings~~ have been collected. His letter, attached, shows that Col. Marklin's figure of 22/9d. was correct. Mr. Simpson considers that I had exaggerated the distance that the seed has to be carried from the ginners to the mill factory, and he does not put it at more than 1/4 mile. On the other hand, Sir H. Leggett puts the cost at 1/2 ton mile instead of my figure of 1/-. The ~~cost is~~ <sup>my</sup> estimate of £640. It is not available for the cost of working the factory ~~as it is~~ <sup>is</sup> to be remembered that the factory was not ~~to be~~ <sup>is</sup> permanently working (that only rental, repairs and depreciation are included in respect of the building and plant), and that the purely experimental stage involves a direct <sup>cost</sup> expenditure of government money which may not be recovered at the end of the experimental period. Against this must be set the fact that while on my basis the cost of European supervision must be allowed for, it will have to be a condition of the experimental stage that Mr. MacIlwaine must provide supervision himself.

Mr. Simpson blessed the idea of an experiment, provided that he was not to be responsible for it, but he is sceptical about the practicability of the process as the seed falls from the gins to a lower floor, where it is bagged, he pointed out that either the seed must be pressed on that lower floor by a specially designed press working horizontally, or be carried <sup>up</sup> to the higher

*£640*

higher floor. The latter would cost money, but I pointed out that, according to his own showing, the seed bagged below the gin has to be carried at least 200 yards to the store shed without (presumably) any corresponding saving on the ultimate cost of transport.

In the Notes attached, I have endeavoured to outline the conditions on which the Government might give its help. They will serve as a basis for discussion here, and, if agreed, with Mr. MacIlwaine. But before we approach him, I think that it would be desirable to ask the E.C.G. Com. definitely whether the Government would be prepared to participate in the experiment.

*I should have stated the details of the idea of a ...*  
*no objection ...*  
*Mr. ...*  
*16.3.2024*  
*17.3*

Mr. MacIlwaine called on the 7th and, while not turning down our scheme altogether, said that the cost of the plant would be a little more than he anticipated as a second box would be necessary to increase the rate of output, and also pressed for the original idea of a demonstration at

at Mombasa under the auspices of the B.E.A. Corporation. He is still under the impression that Mr. Freeman Pannett is in love with his scheme, but I think that even if that is so Bir H. Leggett has definitely turned it down.

My objections to the Mombasa idea were

1) that it would certainly not introduce the scheme to more than a small number of Uganda Ginners;

2) that if there were any deterioration in the seed on arrival here it would be ascribed by Ginners to the process and it would be impossible to prove the negative. Mr. MacIlwaine was sceptical about there being any deterioration between Uganda and Mombasa which would not be detected by the man in charge of the experiment, <sup>but</sup> I think that Mr. Hart, who was with him, was rather of my opinion.

3) A mere demonstration with 250 tons would not be so conclusive as to the rate of output as the larger experiment under actual Uganda conditions which I have contemplated

4) The 250 tons was chosen as the amount for which Lord Kipling had offered free of freight. I considered that this offer should be held over for the benefit of ginners who actually adopt the process, and that neither the Government nor the B.E.A. Corporation have any claim to Lord Kipling's offer in respect of an experiment.

5) The demonstration at Mombasa would not give the Railway an experience in handling the baled seed. Mr. MacIlwaine pointed out that an experimental loading of an empty truck at Mombasa would show them all that was necessary. *That is all that is*

I

I agreed to his consulting Sir H. Leggett showing him my memorandum of conditions, and asked that he should then write to us fully on our scheme and putting up his alternative if he wished. He still wants a demonstration this season, but we shall have to lose no time when we get his reply.

For the present wait.

*W. H. Leggett*  
8/4/26 *at*

*X* In the above I omitted to say Mr. MacIlwaine also <sup>referred to</sup> consulted Mr. Hibury and I agreed.

It appeared later (when Mr. Hart called) that Mr. MacIlwaine <sup>had</sup> abandoned his idea of a demonstration at Mombasa, and proposed that Mr. Hibury should be "the ginner" under my scheme.

He saw Mr. Hibury who expressed interest and said that no one ginner could supply 1,000 tons of seed so that it would have to be balked. Mr. Hibury saw me last week and made the same point; he also said that he must look up c o w t. s. etc. before he could accept my figures as to advances etc.

He pointed out that (a) much of the seed had not been properly cared for this year owing to the embargo on export until May; and (b) the removal of the embargo in April meant that much of the seed that remained serviceable would be out of reach. He said he would try to impress upon Mr. MacIlwaine the view (which is mine also) that there is too much to be done to make it worth while trying to start this season, and that he should aim

at

at beginning in January.

Mr. MacIlwaine will call on Thursday or Friday.

Wed. 11/4/16.

Several calls - the last on Apr. 30<sup>th</sup> and the Charles Wilson, the gas for added to pipes to buy against water samples. The nice and samples over adjustment of basin and, by electric, making of pipes samples, prevent the pipes being blocked irregularly. Consequently, they can safely start this year.

Mr. Wilson was generally complimentary but thought we should not be sure of gas used as to C. a. <sup>beginning</sup> ~~Wilson~~ would therefore have to

be shared equally as well as used. I see no serious objection, & it is for them to square the "givers". [But Mr. Wilson is the "giver"]

Wed 11/5

They will write fully - I should not start the whole thing was for local commission that was definite (without which no business could be made) arrived <sup>arrived</sup> ~~arrived~~

sent to May.

Went  
Wed morning

1.5.16

W.D.

GRAMS: KERNEL, FOOTBALLS-OLD-LONDON  
PHONE: AVENUE 2374-3992

CABLES: ...  
CODE USED: ...

# OILSEEDS BALING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Reducing the bulk of Oilseeds, Wolls, etc., for transportation and preservation of the quality.

DIRECTORS:  
ACILW, H.K. J.P. (CHAIRMAN)  
ACILWAINA

INDIA HOUSE,

461

84, LEADENHALL STREET,  
LONDON, E.C.3.

RECEIVED  
3 APR 1926  
COL. OFFICE

1st April 1926.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

*W. B. ...*  
*W. B. ...*  
*9.0 am ...*

We beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 31st March enclosing a memorandum containing suggestions as to the lines on which an experimental trial of the MacIlwaine Process for baling Cottonseed might be conducted in Uganda.

Mr. MacIlwaine has returned to his home in Yorkshire for the Easter Holidays, but the writer is travelling north tonight and will bring the matter before Mr. MacIlwaine at the earliest opportunity.

We will communicate with you again immediately after the holidays.

Yours faithfully,

For Oilseeds Baling Company Limited.

*Vicen Hart*  
Director.

## EMPIRE COTTON GROWING CORPORATION

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

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TELEPHONE:  
VICTORIA 2611.TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"EMCOTTON, PARL., LONDON."CABLES:  
"EMCOTTON, LONDON."*Millbank House,**2, Wood Street,**Millbank,**London, S.W.1.*

24th March 1938.

My dear Bottomley,

May has shown me your letter and Minute on the MacIlwaine cotton seed baling press. Mr. Jackson went very carefully through all the papers with May when he was down in London last week, and he decided that the financing of a cotton seed press was outside the scope of the Corporation. May tells me that Foster talked unofficially to the Executive Committee about it in Manchester in January, and they were all of the opinion that this is a matter for the ginners. You say in your letter that the ginners have to face the prospect of no seed at all being allowed to be exported in bags; this is the point that Foster made, and said that obviously it was up to people such as Leggett to go thoroughly into MacIlwaine's invention, and to try it out, even if the saving in transport charges was quite small. I will show your letter and Minute to Mr. Jackson next time he comes down here.

Yours sincerely,

*James Finnie*



Suggestions for a Co-operative  
 experiment with the McIlwaine  
 cotton seed baling process  
 in Uganda.

*For envelope Station to  
 Sir Kay. Onis Hospital*

*G. C. ...  
 22.3.26*

*S. for envelope to  
 Mr. ...  
 Was  
 29.3.26*

1. Mr. McIlwaine to arrange with ginners who will bring seed (aggregating at least 1000 tons) to the factory in fresh condition in bags which will be returned to them, and will advance 40/- a ton for operating, freight, etc.
2. The Uganda Government to provide a building to the specification of Mr. McIlwaine and to provide 2750 (~~to include freight, erection etc.~~) for plant ordered, shipped, and erected by him.
3. Mr. McIlwaine to provide European supervision, material, fuel, oil etc. and also labour-as to which he will expect no more assistance from the Government than is given to ginners.
4. The Uganda Railway to carry the bales at 13.85 per ton for 10 ton lots, payment to be deferred.
5. Mr. McIlwaine to arrange for Ocean transport at 30s. a ton and to meet all costs of working, supervision, etc. from the remaining 10s. advanced by the ginners. He will also be responsible for the disposal of the bales.

*to Franklin's paper  
 to 2. at ...  
 engine).*

*40% 22.75  
 8.70  
 13.85*

*(110)  
 (S. ...)  
 Was  
 29.3.26  
 Copy to MacIlwaine*

6. Assuming the seed to be sold for £6 a ton, the receipts will be divided as follows:-

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| To the ginner (including the repayment of the advance) | 88               |
|  | <del>85</del>    |
| To the Uganda Railway                                  | 13.85            |
|  | <del>12.50</del> |
| To the Government of Uganda.                           | 5.               |
| To Mr. McDwaine  | <del>13.85</del> |
|  | 13.15            |
|  | <hr/> 120        |

*See Mr. Leggett says £6.00 a ton for bagged seed.  
 12% loss for baled seed.  
 The 8% is for Mr. Leggett's 30% interest something for bagging the seed plus a small bit*

7. The receipts in excess of £20 a ton to be divided equally between the ginner, the Government of Uganda, and Mr. McDwaine.

8. The receipt to Mr. McDwaine to be subject to penalties (to be agreed) in respect of loss through improper packing or bad condition, stoppages at the factory (not due to force majeure), or failure to keep the factory working until at least 1000 tons have been baled and despatched.

9. The plant and building to be the property of the Government and to be at its disposal at the end of the season.

10. The arrangements are for the first season only and, in particular, the Uganda Railway will be free then to revise its freight rate in the light of the experience gained.

IL

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Yours sincerely  
A. W. MacAlister

---

April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1861  
Dear Mr. Bottomley,  
Just  
a line to thank you  
personally for your  
letter of Mch. 31<sup>st</sup> which  
reached us here yesterday.  
I expect to return  
to London Tuesday  
Evening & hope to have  
the pleasure of seeing  
you on Wednesday next.

# British East Africa Corporation, Limited.

(Incorporated in England.)

Secretary:

JOHN G. STUTFIELD.

PHONE: ROYAL 3230-1-2 (3 LINES).

GRAMS: TALL, FEE, LONDON.

CABLES: INCREASE, LONDON.  
ODDSE:

BROOMHALL'S COMBINATION,  
A.B.C. 5TH & 6TH EDITIONS,  
WESTERN UNION.

LONDON HOUSE,

35, CRUTCHED FRIARS,

LONDON March 11th., 1926.

E.C.S.

AND AT

MOMBASA, NAIROBI, KISUMU,  
KENYA COLONY.

In your reply please refer  
to No. ....

MPLA JINJA.

UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

SALAMA, TANGA, BUKOBA,  
TABORA, MWANZA.

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

HEAD OFFICE IN EAST AFRICA,  
MOMBASA.

Dear Bottomley,

In reply to yours of the 2nd inst. re freight rates per ton on Cottonseed from Uganda to the Coast, I think you will find the following figures to be accurate. They are the data on which we are at present working, as reported to us by our people on the other side.

Railage from Lake Chioga and Lake Victoria ports wide to Kilindini is at a flat rate of Shgs. 22.75 per ton of 2240 lbs., in quantities of not less than 10 tons, loading and off-loading to be done by consignees and consignors, *at their expense* and the transit to be at Owner's Risk.

It may interest you to have a note of the shipping charges on Cottonseed at Kilindini. The figures current to-day are:-

|   |                  |                   |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Government Cranage & Wharfrage  | Shs. 1.50        | p.t. of 2240 lbs. |
| Lighterage  | " 3.50           | do.               |
| Supervision, Tallying, Reconditioning of bags and general Agency services at the Port | " 2.00           | do.               |
| <b>Total charges at the Port</b>  | <b>Shs. 7.00</b> | <b>do.</b>        |

The ocean freight rate current to-day is 20s/- less 10s per ton of 2240 lbs. The 10s is deferred rebate, payable to the shipper under the Conference liner sub-arrangement, at from four to eight months after date of shipment, and subject strictly to the shipper not having consigned or been interested in any cargo by steamers outside the Conference during the preceding four to eight months.

Of course, I do not know what the particular occasion may be for your enquiry as to the cost of the Cottonseed transit, but should it be that you are trying to calculate the current value of Seed as it lies on the spot in Uganda, it may be of some interest to you to know that the road transport rates, as charged by the Haulage Contractors who own and work motor transport in Uganda, are practically all at a flat rate of Shs. 1.50 per ton per mile.

It also bears on the question of local spot value to mention that on the present prices of Gunny Bags of type suitable for shipment of Seed, it costs almost precisely 20s/- for the bagging of one ton of Seed.

Adding all the above together, you will see that to bag, rail, ship and deliver the Seed at a Europe port, costs Shs 95, plus say Shs. 5 for insurance and interest, making a total of 100 per ton, in cases where the Ginney of origin is actually at a Lake port. The present selling value of the Seed in Europe is from 26.10.-. to 27 per ton, thus leaving a margin of 30s/- to 40s/- per ton, which, as

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you will see, is enough to cover up to about 14 miles of road transport in Uganda, but no more than that. In other words, the Seed produced at any Ginnery more than 14 miles from a Lake port is not shippable, and, indeed, in practice, it would be unsafe to ship Seed from a Ginnery more than 10 miles from a Lake port, as it is necessary to have a margin of from 5s/- to 7s/6d. to cover uninsurable damage and other incidentals.

As the home value of Cottonseed is now down to pre-war, and fully £2 per ton less than last year, it is an ideal time for the Tanganyika Government to purchase its Seed requirements in Uganda, and it should be able to do so at under £3 per ton, bags included, I.o.b. Lake Port. This is a grand chance for Tanganyika to supply itself with best selected Uganda Seed, and to get rid of the rubbishy stuff grown in the Mwanza and Shinyanga areas last year. Of course, Ukerewe Island, which I heard that the Tanganyika Government had in mind as a sort of Seed Farm, may have produced good quality stuff in 1925, but I do not know this at first hand.

Yours sincerely,

*Humphrey Leggett*

W.C. Bottomley Esq., C.B., C.M.G.,  
Colonial Office,  
S.W. 1.

BHML/DA.

Downing Street,

5<sup>th</sup> February, 1926.

Dear May,

Thank you for sending me Dr. Harris's report to look at. I now return it. As I promised over the telephone, I enclose, for confidential use, a copy of the analysis supplied to us by Colonel Franklin, who as you will see (or know already) combines the posts of His Majesty's Trade Commissioner in East Africa and Commissioner of the New East African Office in London.

I think that it may be taken as proved that if the seed is in good order at the time of baling and is properly baled, there is no deterioration. The lower price offered by Bibby's is simply a matter of (a) greater trouble in opening the bales, which might be got over by special appliances if the quantities were large, and (b) the loss of the value of the bags.

56 p + of the most serious drawback I see is the  
 2240 138 do slowness of the process - you will notice that over-

a close agreement between Mr. Harris and Colonel Franklin on the rate of output. Possibly Colonel Franklin's three and a half months season is too short, but on his figures the overhead charge for the press is a serious item.

I have tried, on the information we have, to construct an account of expenses and receipts; but there is altogether too much conjecture at present. Much depends on whether the baling, after the experimental stage, would be done at the ginnery or at a central factory. In the first place, the ginner can be content with as low a profit per ton of seed as he now gets on bagged seed. He has some prospect of getting more tons out, and a little more is worth making if, without loss, he can cooperate in simplifying general transport and reducing the risk of plague infection. On the other hand, if there is a central factory (whether working on commission for the ginner or buying the seed from him) there is an extra profit made out of the operation. Secondly, costs of supervision are lower if the work is done at a ginnery.

Thirdly, a certain amount of labour is saved up at the ginnery in bagging the seed as it



comes from the gin. Some of that would be available for feeding the press and the only extra labour would be that of actually working the press. On the other hand, with a central factory, the seed must be bagged and transported from the ginnery, and shortage of labour may mean that baling must be postponed.

My conclusion is that the proposed experimental plant would probably show a loss, owing to disproportionate cost of supervising, but that that would not prove that the process is unprofitable if worked on a commercial scale even at a central factory.

I hope that the Corporation will not lose sight of the plague question. As you will know, it was necessary to hold up seed export on this account for a short period last autumn; ginneries ought not to turn down too lightly a process which may save them from complete loss on the seed.

I hope to be able to clear up some doubtful figures when the General Manager comes here at the end of the month, but there are many other things to trouble him with, and he is coming for a rest.

Yours sincerely,

W. S. [Signature]

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Colonel Franklin's notes. 2nd December, 1925.

From Messrs. Bibby. 15th December, 1925.

From -do- 2nd January, 1926.

To -do- 5th January, 1926.

From -do- 25th April, 1925.

From British Oil and  
Cake Mills. 25th April, 1925.

Colonel Franklin's  
further notes. 14th January, 1926.

# EMPIRE COTTON GROWING CORPORATION.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

TELEPHONE  
LONDON 2811.  
OFFICE ADDRESS  
10, DART LONDON.  
CABLES  
EMPTON LONDON.

Milbank House,

2, Wood Street,

Milbank,

London, S.W. 1.

472

1 2  
26

Dear Mr. [unclear]  
I send you confidentially  
replies of the report by the T & G A.  
on the three specimens from  
your letter from your country  
(shown as confidentially by Harris)  
and that the seed which has been  
sent to you is for the purpose of  
in bags. It is to be further  
checked. Will you send me back the  
same grain to try to collect  
on the seed for the Executive &  
at the whole cost of. What our  
conclusion is will be of course  
the price is when three specimens

*N.B. Strictly Confidential. Not to be  
communicated to Mr. MacIlwaine  
Listed*

BRITISH COTTON GROWING ASSOCIATION

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333-350, THE ROYAL EXCHANGE,

MANCHESTER.

27th January, 1926.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Engineering and Stores Dept.

J. C. May, Esq.,  
--Empire Cotton Growing Corporation,  
Millbank,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Mr. May,

I enclose in triplicate my report on the Shirliff Press used for baling cotton seed. Mr. MacIlwaine asked me to let him have a copy of this report, but as the work has been carried out on behalf of the Corporation, I have told Mr. MacIlwaine that I do not feel at liberty to send him a copy. Probably he will be 'phoning you early in the morning.

All the confidential reports sent to the Office on the condition of the seed have shown that there is more free fatty acid set up when baled than when the seed is sent home in the ordinary way. Again we believe that the crushers do not like the seed in the form of bales so much as when in bags.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) O. H. Harris.

CHIEF ENGINEER.

ENC:

BRITISH COTTON GROWING ASSOCIATION

333-350 THE ROYAL EXCHANGE,  
MANCHESTER.

Shipping and Stores Dept.

January 27th, 1926.

Messrs. The Empire Cotton Growing Corporation,  
London, S.W.1.

Dear Sirs,

I have to report that as desired by you I have in company with Mr. MacIlwaine, visited Letchworth and witnessed trials on the new Seed Baling Press which Messrs. Shirtliff Bros. have made for him on the well-known 'Bijoli' principle. A satisfactory bale was turned out in 4 minutes, and this is the time occupied by the complete process. By satisfactory I mean one which stood knocking about without showing any signs of disintegrating, and cannot vouch for the condition of the contents, and as to whether the Seed was damaged from the Crushers point of view.

The Press has been designed to make bales of about 2 cwt. and to give a density of about 45 lbs per cu.ft., or 50 cuft. per ton.

The finished bales measure weighing approximately 224 lbs. each nett, and having a tare of 8/10 lbs.

Allowing for stoppages, which as you will appreciate will always occur in practice, we do not think that a bale can be turned out in less than 5 minutes, and even at this estimation no time would have to be lost. This equals 12 bales per hour i.e. 24 cwt. of Seed, or 12 tons of Seed per day of 10 hours.

Assuming the tare at the lowest figure there will be about 80 lbs. of packing material on a ton of

Seed,

Seed, whereas if the Seed is shipped home in the ordinary way the tare is only about 40 lbs. and this, of course, is slightly against the baling process, as additional freight to the extent of 40 lbs. has to be paid on every ton of Seed brought home.

We calculate that at the present time the cost of bagging a ton of Seed, as far as the Bags and Twine are concerned is 20/- . For the baling process 2 1/2 yds. of Hessian are required per bale, equalling 25 yards per ton, and which at 9d. per yard in Africa is equivalent to approximately 20/- per ton for this item. In addition there is the cost of the Baling Wire, which we admit is not very great, but then there are the wood slats or battens to be taken into account, and in some places which we know of this timber would not be available locally, and would have to be imported at considerable cost.

We assume the cost of one of these new Presses, complete with Engines to drive same and a Building in which to house the Plant, to be as follows:-

|   |        |       |
|---|--------|-------|
| One Press   | £620   |       |
| One Oil Engine, 20 H.P.   | £400   |       |
| One Building, 166 x 25 x 15'  | £300   |       |
|   | <hr/>  |       |
| Freight & Erection  | £1,320 |       |
|   | £1,000 |       |
|   | <hr/>  |       |
|   | £2,320 |       |
|   | <hr/>  |       |
| Interest & Depreciation say 15%   |        | £348  |
| Native Labour for Press & Engine only<br>5 boys at 1/- per day - 200 days |        | £ 50  |
| <del>NOB. No Seed Handling.</del>   |        |       |
| White supervision for say 3 months  |        | £150  |
| Cost of Fuel Oil, etc.  |        | £100  |
|   |        | <hr/> |
|   |        | £448  |
|   |        | <hr/> |

You will notice that these figures do not include

include for any storage accommodation for the bales and seed, nor have we allowed any amount for the extra Native Labour which would be expended in handling the Seed, and it may be argued that this would not cost any more than at present when the Seed is bagged.

Appended in connection with the statement regarding the cost of Press and Auxiliary Plant is a small summary of working expenses, and taking the pressing period as extending over the major portion of the year we arrive at the following:-

200 days x 12 tons per day = 2,400 tons of Seed  
Baled.

This is accomplished with an expenditure of about £700 which represents 6/- per ton of Seed treated.

Now bagged Seed occupies 80 cu. ft per ton, and with the baling process as outlined above we calculate that there is a saving in freight space of 30 cu. ft. per ton, or roughly 37%, though in practice it is unlikely that this would work out to more than 30%, and this is the figure at which we propose to base the subsequent calculations.

The present rate on Cotton Seed from West Africa and / or Mombasa to U.K. is 45/- per ton deadweight, and representations would have to be made to the Shipping Cos. to bring down their charge on the ground that the Seed was occupying less steamer space. As we believe this existing rate of freight is based on what the product will economically stand, and not on any relation of bulk to weight, we do not think that a reduction of more than 5/- per ton deadweight can reasonably be expected.

Assuming, however, in Mr. MacIlwaine's favour that freight would be reduced proportionately to saving in space we calculate.

45/- x 70% = 31/6d. per ton deadweight.

This assumed revised tariff shows a saving of -  
13/6d. per ton.

and assuming bagging to be identical only in cost, whereas we think the material required for the baling process would cost more than the material employed with the present system of bagging.

Now the absence of bags is a loss considered by the Crusher when buying Seed, as he has no surplus to sell, and this will represent a depreciation in value to him of

7/6d. per ton.

Adding this to the cost of baling it will be seen that curiously enough any possible saving in freight is just balanced by the other factors mentioned, i.e. the cost of baling to the absence of bags.

You will thus see that the new Press introduced by Mr. MacIlwaine does not appreciably alter the pros and cons of the process except that we admit that the time taken to deal with a ton of Seed has been considerably reduced.

So far as we can see the main and essential factors ruling in the matter have not been altered at all, and if there are any further deductions or information with which we can assist you we shall be pleased if you will let us know.

Yours faithfully,

CHIEF ENGINEER.



# OILSEEDS Baling COMPANY, LIMITED.

Facilitating the bulk of Oilseeds, Nuts, etc., for transportation and preservation of the quality.

DIRECTORS:  
MACILWAINE, J.P. (CHAIRMAN)  
MACILWAINE  
MACILWAINE

INDIA HOUSE.

84, LEADENHALL STREET.

LONDON, E.C.3  
8th January, 1922.

478

W. C. Bottomley Esq,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
S. W. 1.

Dear Mr Bottomley,

I see in the "Times" this morning that Mr Ormsby Gore, M.P. is leaving for the West Coast in a fortnight's time.

You will, no doubt, remember that Mr Ormsby Gore expressed a wish to see me and hear my report on my journey to South and East Africa, when I saw him before I sailed.

I may say that I had a most interesting tour and found that practically every exporter of Groundnuts, Copra and Cottonseed is anxious to adopt my baling process.

I notice that the new crop of Groundnuts in the Kano District is expected to total 150,000 tons and I am sure you will agree with me that my process is exactly what is required to make it possible to transport this enormous quantity to Lagos.

As time is so short I have asked Mr Hirst to call and see you and shall be much obliged if you will kindly arrange a time for my interview with Mr Ormsby Gore.

Yours sincerely,

*A. H. MacIlwaine*

W.C.  
W.C.  
6/1/22

## His Majesty's Eastern African Dependencies

KENYA, UGANDA,  
NORTH RODESIA, ZANZIBAR.

LONDON, 1926

PUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES  
PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN DEPENDENCIESTRADE & INFORMATION OFFICE  
ROYAL MINT BUILDING,  
32, BOSTON STREET,  
LONDON, E.C. 4.NEW ZEALAND  
NORTH RODESIAPUBLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES  
PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES

14th January 1926.

Dear Bottomley,

Many thanks for the Kenya Manual.

McIlwaine Process.

I enclose a note of your rough ideas and also some further notes of my own.

I think that after yesterday morning's talk the Company will come down to something more definite and business-like in the way of a statement of what they want to get out of the process in the way of royalties.

Yours sincerely,

W. H. Frank

Commissioner.

W. C. Bottomley Esq., C.M.G., C.B.E.,  
Colonial Office,  
Downing Street,  
London, S.W. 1.Enclosures.

- (1) Mr. Bottomley's notes.
- (2) Copy of letter from J. Bibby & Sons.
- (3) Copy of letter from Oilseeds with correspondence attached.
- (4) Further Notes by Colonel W. H. Frank.

2nd.  
Jan. 1926

One of the advantages which we had foreseen from the cotton seed baling process was that it would bring into the market a lot of seed which, by the present method of transport, cannot now be exported. From this point of view, the process may have a special value, but that is a matter for local investigation and we can only usefully consider the process as applied to normal districts.

There are various points which Colonel Franklin has necessarily not been able to supply on this side.

(1) In the case of a central factory for seed baling there are overhead expenses in connection not only with the plant but with buildings, store-sheds, etc., and also costs of supervision, all of which would be much smaller in the case of an extension of an existing well-found ginnery. In addition, the factory would have to pay to the ginnery the price for seed equivalent to the profit which the ginnery could make on bagged seed under present conditions, so that, while a ginnery might be willing to adopt the process and so simplify the transport problem in consideration of a very slight extra profit, a central factory with more expenses to meet would only have this small margin to rely on.

(2) Whether seed baling is carried on at a ginnery or a central factory, the seed would apparently have to be bagged in the first instance.

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The vagueness of Mr. MacIlwaine's views on the royalty question is a serious stumbling block. As indicated, is the question whether he is legally entitled to any royalty at all. I do not see that we are in a position to help him and the industry by encouraging private enterprise to take up this process until something definite is known on this point.

It would, I think, be a great pity if the process were not seriously experimented with, but, in view of all the difficulties that arise, it seems to be yet another case in which the Government will probably have to take a hand if anything is to be done. The Government experiment might take the form of joint finance by the Government of Uganda and the Uganda Railway, selection of an operating officer by Mr. MacIlwaine, to be paid for, of course, from Government funds, settlement of a price to be paid to the ginners for the seed (this to be agreed before any expenditure is incurred), payment of ocean freight at the permanent rate without trenching on the tons which the Union Castle will carry free, and half <sup>disc</sup> provision of profit with <sup>to</sup> Mr. MacIlwaine during the first two seasons of operation, the payment to him thereafter to be determined in the light of any experience of working which might be gained elsewhere and in the light of the prospects of the process. Any loss will be borne by the Government, but Mr. MacIlwaine will get nothing.

*Disc*  
*to*

If

If this is considered prima facie to afford a reasonable basis for experimenting Colonel Franklin might be asked to go into the matter in detail with Uganda and the Uganda Railway when he returns to East Africa.

483

January 5th 1926.

Dear Sirs,

I have to thank you very much for your letter of January 2nd., which I am answering from the new office of H.M. East African Dependencies. Letters addressed either to the Department of Overseas Trade or here will reach me, as I am combining the work of Trade Commissioner for East Africa and Commissioner of the London Office.

I am very pleased to see from the letter under reply that owing to the smaller bale Mr. MacIlwaine now proposes to make his standard for pressed cotton seed the reduction in the c.i.f. value of the seed as compared with the seed in bags is not as much as you originally estimated in your letter of December 15th, and that we can now calculate it at 10/- to 12/6 per ton.

This will make all the difference, and should allow the seed to be exported from a much larger radius than is possible under the present circumstances. I am doing all that I possibly can to try and arrange for export on a much larger scale, and I would appreciate it if you will keep me informed from time to time as to conditions, and also for any advice that you think would be of benefit.

Yours faithfully,

Messrs. J. Bibby & Sons Ltd.,  
King Edward Street,  
Liverpool.

*W.B.*  
Commissioner

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COPIES OF LETTER FROM OILSEEDS BALING COMPANY Ltd.

TO COLONEL W.H. FRANKLIN. C.B.E. D.S.O.

485

Indian House,  
84, Leadenhall Street,  
London, E.C. 3.

Colonel W.H. Franklin. C.B.E. D.S.O. 12th January 1926.  
Royal Mail Building,  
Cockspur Street,  
Trafalgar Square

Dear Colonel Franklin,

I must crave your indulgence for being so long before communicating with you with regard to the important question which you raised, namely, the value of East African Cotton seed Bags. I only got the last reply this morning on the subject and beg to bring the following figures before your notice.

Messrs. J. Bibby & Sons Ltd. Liverpool.

I believe you have heard from them direct to the effect that "The average price of East African Cotton seed Bags would be about 30% below the present level and on this basis the difference between bags and sales (allowing also for the alteration in size of same) would be, in our opinion, from 10/- to 12/6 per ton."

The British Oil & Cake Mills Ltd. London.

They make the present value of East African Cotton seed Bags to be about 8/9 per ton" but the price at the beginning of this year was 6/6 and has gradually risen since."

Thos. Smith & Company.

One of the largest bag merchants in England state that "the average price of East African Cotton seed bags varies from 3d to 7d each according to the condition." This works out at an average price of 5d each and on 17 bags to the ton shows 7/1d per ton of cotton seed.

I am bringing this letter, also copies of the British Oil & Cake Mills & Thos. Smith's letters, with me in case there should be any further points which you would like to clear up. I am also bringing with me the six copies of the former letters from the British Oil & Cake Mills Ltd. and Messrs J. Bibby & Sons, Ltd. as promised at our last interview.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) A.W. MCILWAINE.

AWM/ACC

Copy of letter written by Messrs J Bibby & Sons Ltd., Liverpool.

20th April 1926.

486

Messrs Oilseeds Baling Company Ltd,  
India House,  
84 Leadenhall Street,  
E. C. 3.

Dear Sirs,

In reply to yours of the 18th instant, with regard to the bales of Cottonseed delivered to us some time ago, as mentioned to you verbally on Friday last, there was no indication that the baling had had any deleterious effect on the quality of the seed, and our only objection to this lot was on account of the size of the bales.

We are,  
Your obedient servants,  
J Bibby & Sons Ltd.,



23rd April, 1925.

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Dear Sir,

WAG SHALL BALEING PROCESS.

In your favour, we are interested to hear you have been in touch with Mr. MacIlwaine, the originator of the above process.

We are ourselves interested in this process as we are rather anxious to see some materials come to this country in bales instead of bags or in bulk.

A considerable amount of experimenting has been done, both with cottonseed and with groundnuts. As far as cottonseed is concerned you may take it from us there is no deterioration at all and as long as the bales are properly packed so that the seed is not broken, we shall expect to arrive if anything in rather better condition than in bags. We see no reason to anticipate any trouble in handling the bales at all, although of course at first they would be a little unusual.

As far as groundnuts are concerned, we should expect some substantial advantage. It is our opinion that groundnut deterioration considerably on the journey and the fatty acids in the resultant oil are inclined to increase. The experimental shipments point to the expectation that groundnuts in shell baled will travel much better than in bags. We may safely state that for the most part buyers would prefer to have the nuts in the shell rather than second rate if they could be shipped at a reasonable price, but on account of the bulky nature of the nuts in shell and the enormous amount of freight space occupied, the price works out too expensively to compete with the price of nuts. We should ourselves prefer to have groundnuts in shell in bale from Coromandel rather than the Coromandel kernel.

My only other point you raise is one that would have been raised, i.e. that the bales should not

Yours faithfully,  
THE BRITISH OIL & COKE MILLS, LTD.  
J. W. Pearson,  
Managing Director.

FURTHER NOTES BY COLONEL W. H. FRANKLIN.

In discussion on January 13th., with Mr. A. W. McIlwaine, he said that he was now pressing  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton of cotton seed for the firm of Messrs. Leslie & Anderson, 14, Billiter St. E.C.3 who have branches in Zanzibar and Mombasa. On January 8th I had an interview with Mr. Baty, of Messrs. J. W. Baty & Co. of 30, Cheapside, Liverpool, who I think are the largest brokers of cotton seed in Liverpool. Mr. Baty gave it as his opinion that the pressing of cotton seed by the McIlwaine process did not damage the <sup>oil</sup> cotton content, but he stated definitely that the cotton seed before pressing should be kept under cover and that when baled, it should be treated, not as a cheap product, but as a valuable one.

The reason why he emphasized that the cotton seed in its original state should be kept under cover, is that if it is allowed to become wet and not thoroughly dried before pressing, there is a danger of spontaneous combustion, and I think the cotton seed ferments.

As a broker, Mr. Baty stated that the knowledge that the bales were pressed and more easily handled would help business, and give more security for forward contracts. A new point was raised by Mr. Baty, in that certain of the seed coming forward was not of such good quality as it had been. 18% oil content is what buyers look for - some seed has come forward as low as

13%. The Egyptian seed to-day is ranging from 21 to 22% - (This would appear another argument for plant and seed selection.)

Baty also stated that a ton of cotton seed was being pressed as an experiment by Mr. Ilwaine; and he (Mr. Baty) was going to inspect it and watch the actual bales as received at Oil Mill-house and put through the process of manufacture. The reason for this is to see whether the size of the bales fit the elevating hopper, and whether it entails any extra labour for breaking up; in other words, whether the cost to the Oil Millers would be any greater by handling the pressed bales instead of the seed in bags.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. MCILWAIN ON JANUARY 13th

I brought up the question as to whether presses were suitable in size for general use in pressing sisal, cotton, flax etc., because if so, it reduces the money risk in any experiment in East Africa, as the cost of the machine would not be altogether lost if it had to be sold for other purposes. Mr. McIlwaine had not thought of this, and was making enquiries - the pressure necessary for these other articles is not so great as for cotton seed, so that in re-selling the machine it is unlikely that one would get the full cost. I understood that Messrs. Leslie & Anderson are willing to take a sample press at the f.o.b. U.K. price, but not to pay for it. They, however, would pay freight

erect, demonstrate in Uganda and Mombasa, but are not willing to pay the initial cost until the experiment has proved a success. Mr. McIlwaine brought this matter up before the Empire Cotton Growers Corporation, asking them to finance the scheme between the time of Mr. Leslie & Anderson prove or disprove the success of the system. He put this matter to rest six months - I should make it longer.

Mr. McIlwaine gave me to understand that the Empire Cotton Corporation had deputed Mr. Harris, the Chief Engineer, of the British Cotton Growing Association to attend a demonstration and report on the scheme. If this report is favourable Mr. McIlwaine understands that the Empire Cotton Corporation will finance the shipment to Leslie & Anderson. I am to receive Mr. Harris' report and also the Brokers and Millers' report on the cotton which is to be pressed.

On the discussion of the royalty question I practically told Mr. McIlwaine that I would not recommend any experiment, either by the Government or by private enterprise, until he could put it on a business-like footing. He promised to amend his ideas and let me know a specific amount per ton that he would accept as a royalty.

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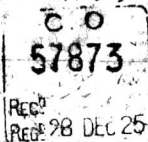
Notes on the Shewan's process  
of baling oilseeds.

J. BIBBY & Sons Ltd.,  
King Edward Street,  
LIVERPOOL.

490

15th December, 1925.

H.M. Trade Commissioner in E. Africa,  
Department of Overseas Trade,  
35, Old Queen Street,  
London, S.W.1.



Dear Sir,

Ref. P. 1405.

We are in receipt of yours of the 11th instant with regard to the use of the MacIlwaine baling process for E.A. Cottonseed.

In view of the fact that our works here are organised for the handling of Oilseeds in bags or bulk, we have not encouraged this method of packing, but we understand that the matter has special interest in Uganda. In view of the difficulties of internal transport, and we are therefore anxious not to stand in the way of any improvements which would accrue to the mutual advantage of the shippers and ourselves.

We think there would be very little danger of any damage or bruising to Cottonseed in the process of baling and if the bales were limited to say, a weight of 200 lbs, and were of the following maximum dimensions, i.e. length 2 ft 9 ins, breadth 1 ft 6 ins, and depth 1 ft, we should have no objection to this method of shipment.

It will be necessary, however, to sell material so packed at an allowance of £1 per ton below the price of Seed shipped in bags on the usual Liverpool contract. This is to compensate for the loss of bags i.e. 15/- per ton, and also for additional costs of handling bales here. We understand that an allowance of this amount has already been suggested by the Steamship owners and no doubt there will be further savings to the shippers in internal transport.

If we can give you any further information on this point, we shall be glad to be of service, as we are anxious to encourage the export of larger quantities of this Cottonseed, the bulk of which has already been sold to us in the past.

We are,  
Your obedient Servants,  
For J. Bibby & Sons, Ltd.,  
(Signed) ...

The process are sold by Cartliffe Bros. of  
 London, and are known as the "Mull" process. <sup>the same type</sup> They are  
 used especially in Africa for seed, flax and cotton baling.  
 I cannot see where they apply, as neither the  
 press nor the bale is patented, but Mr. Macilwaine assures me  
 that it is the process itself which is patented - the patents  
 have 12 years to run - all I can see is that the idea of  
pressing bales is just that of a bale without  
expressing any oil is all that there is in Mr. Macilwaine's  
scheme. Certainly the press does not work and the package  
 is such as to make such a "load for" carry by railways  
 and steamers. The price of the whole machine is about £400  
 f.o.b. 1/2 part.

In estimating the use of this process I consider  
 at what points there would be

- (1) A distinct cheapening of railway and ocean freight.  
 Mr. Macilwaine claims that the Great Eastern Railway will carry  
 heavy bales at the same rate as it does in some for  
 light ones at present, thus making a saving of 40%  
 in railway freight - if sugar is allowed to be filled  
 whilst in ordinary freight, if bales are pressed to about  
 40 cubic feet per 2240 lbs. - I think the present rate  
 would be at 50/- per ton weight, whereas 20/- is  
 if pressed.
- (2) The facility of bringing pressed bales from ports  
 inland to railhead owing to convenience of packages  
 for transport.
- (3) A saving from deterioration of the seed whilst awaiting  
 and during shipment. The avoidance of reclamations for  
 damaged and heating.

The Great Eastern Railway at present refuses to accept  
 heavy bales, but I believe, by the use of this process

it would appear possible to prepare it for shipment and store without too much loss of storage space.

To my mind it is a question of economics -

- (1) What amount of seed would one have to handle to afford the overhead charges?
- (2) Are these charges (based on 2 1/2 tons pressed in Uganda) too high if the press only handles 2 tons an hour?
- (3) What is the saving between the cost of 16 gunny bags and that of the square of haling hessian?
- (4) Will the U/K buyer accept the pressed seed at the same price as bagged?
- (5) Will the U/K buyer make a reduction in price on account of not getting the gunny bags?

In regard to Nos. 1 and 2, I think it would be uneconomic unless the press was installed in the centre of a cotton district and was assured of a supply of at least 1,000 tons - this would be about 1/2 months' work and the overhead cost per ton works out about 2/6d per ton - (allowing 10% for depreciation and 10% for capital investment).

I think the calculation of 2 tons per hour is optimistic and I have taken 10 tons per day as an average.

As to No. 3, I think the calculation is that to bag a ton of cotton seed is (including cost of bags) 20/- and think a saving of 10/- would be effected.

Am I right in assuming as 19, 20, 21 and 22.

When experimenting we should be assured that the seed is landed in better condition and not worse should be verified - my enquiries under No. 5 should answer this.

The proper way would be for the marketing company, The Oilseeds Trading Co., to instal their machinery and

charge for baling or hire, or sell their machines after proving their use, but I understand the company have no funds and also do not make a profit on the process, they are therefore asking for a royalty on the savings effected. This appears very unbusinesslike, as no-one is likely to buy the machines, take the risk of the process being unsuccessful, and then, if the process is successful, bother to make up complete accounts so as to divide the savings, which must be approximate and vary at every operation.

In spite of all these disadvantages, I consider the matter well worthy of consideration by the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation and the British Cotton Growers' Association so undoubtedly, if the scheme is successful, it will be of benefit to the cotton industry and bring into consumption many tons of seed at present being destroyed.

The financial risk to instal one press is said to be as great as it appears prima facie, as doubtless the Corporation could arrange for some firm in a central district to work it on a basis of payment of so much per ton, and even if the process was a failure the press could be used for pressing cotton or other produce - sisal, flax, etc. (I am enquiring into this.)

Further, there is a promise that the first 200 tons shipped in bales from Mombasa will be carried by the Conference lines to the U/K free - this would mean that the first people to instal the press would have an initial return of £270 (200 tons @ 30/- less 10%) to place against their capital outlay.

I am suggesting to Mr. Leollwaine that he should put his proposition for royalties on a more businesslike footing.

9/12/26 Mr. Leollwaine is willing to consider any reasonable proposition re royalties

Stomley. 22. 3. 26

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London

Downing Street,

23 March, 1926.

Dear May,

Following on our talks

about the McIlwaine cotton seed  
baling  
haring process, I have had various

further discussions, and as a  
result have made a first draft  
of proposals for an experimental  
test of the process in Uganda.

I enclose a copy of my suggestions.

If they are approved

here, we have got to get them  
accepted by Mr. McIlwaine, and  
by the Govt. of Uganda, and the

Uganda

RAFT.

MAY, ESQ., O.P.E.A.

(E.C.G.C.)



India Railway, but in the first  
place, I should be glad if you  
would find out whether the Empire  
Cotton Growing Corporation are  
likely to agree to take a hand  
in the scheme.

The most important point,  
apart from the possibility that,  
if the experiment is successful,  
the growers will get more for  
their seed, *the perhaps greater possibility that*  
~~and that possibly seed~~  
will be exportable from more  
parts of Uganda, is that of  
the danger of plague infection  
from bag seed. That is a real  
danger, as was shown last Autumn,  
and ginners have to face the

prospect of no seed at all being allowed to be exported in bags.

My information shows that, at ginneries well situated for transport, the seed as it leaves the gin is worth from 30/- to 40/- a ton, or, say, 25/- a ton of seed cotton; that is to say, the ginner is able to give a native about 1/- per 100 lbs. of seed cotton more than he will be able to give if export is ~~difficult~~ <sup>prohibited</sup>. It is not a small matter in these days of low cotton prices, and, in addition, the seed is too valuable here to go to waste if it can be saved.

If the Corporation are willing to co-operate, I suggest that they should put up £750 towards the cost of starting the experiment on the understanding that if, on disposing of the plant and bull

~~the loss to the Govt. of Uganda is less~~  
~~on its ~~the~~ outlay,~~  
~~that the £750, the Corporation will be~~  
~~refused the amount, by which their~~  
~~figures of £750~~  
~~contribution is in this way proved~~  
~~to be excessive.~~ *See above, for instance,*

*the cost of building and plant (including  
my 2000 cwt) were £2000, of  
which the Corporation put up £750  
and Uganda <sup>only was</sup> £1250; and then, if  
Uganda sold the premises for £1200,  
there would be no refund to the Corporation  
and Uganda would lose a £50. If Uganda  
sold the premises for £1500, the extra  
£300 would go to the Corporation.*

*[These figures  
£2000 of course  
the Corporation's  
must all be paid]*

*That is merely a suggestion to fix  
the ideas. The total initial outlay is  
very uncertain.*

*Yours sincerely*

(Signed) W. C. BOTTOMLEY.

Downing Street,

23 March, 1926.

Dear May,

Following on our talks about the Mollwaine cotton seed baling process, I have had various further discussions, and as a result have made a first draft of proposals for an experimental test of the process in Uganda. I enclose a copy of my suggestions.

If they are approved here, we have got to get them accepted by Mr. Mollwaine, and by the Government of Uganda, and the Uganda Railway, but in the first place, I should be glad if you would find out whether the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation are likely to agree to take a hand in the scheme.

The most important point, apart from the possibility that, if the experiment is successful, the ginners will get more for their seed, and the perhaps remoter possibility that seed will be exportable from more remote parts of Uganda, is that of the danger of plague

infection from bag/seed. That is a real  
 r, as was shown last Autumn, and ginners have  
 be the prospect of no seed at all being allowed  
 exported in bags.

My information shows that, at ginneries  
 situated for transport, the seed as it leaves  
 in is worth from 30/- to 40/- a ton, or say,  
 a ton of seed cotton, that is to say, the ginner  
 able to give a native about 1/- per 100 lbs of  
 cotton more than he will be able to give if  
 it is prohibited. It is not a small matter  
 these days of low cotton prices, and, in addition,  
 seed is too valuable here to go to waste if it  
 be saved.

If the Corporation are willing to co-operate,  
 suggest that they should put up £750 towards the  
 of starting the experiment on the understanding  
 that if, on disposing of the plant and building at  
 end of the experimental period, the Government  
 of

of Uganda made a profit on its outlay, the Corporation will be refunded the amount of that profit, up to the figure of £750. Suppose, for instance, the cost of building and plant (including freight and erection) were £8,000, of which the Corporation put up £750 and Uganda's outlay was £1250; then, if Uganda sold the premises for £1300, there would be no refund to the Corporation and Uganda would lose the £50. If Uganda sold the premises for £1500, the extra £250 would go to the Corporation.

That is merely a suggestion to fix the ideas. The total initial outlay is very uncertain.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) W. C. COTTOMLEY.

F 57873/25.

DOWNING STREET,

18 MAR 1936.

Sir.

With reference to your interview with Mr. Ormsby-Gore in January, I am directed by Mr. Secretary of State to inform you that the question of an experimental trial of your process for baling cotton seed in Uganda has been under consideration and has been discussed with various officials of the Government who have arrived on leave since that date.

2. I am to enclose a memorandum containing suggestions as to the ways in which the experiment might be conducted. These suggestions have been prepared at the Colonial Office and must be communicated, not only to you but also to the Government of Uganda, for observations before the scheme is definitely approved in any form by the Secretary of State.

3. You will understand, therefore, that it would be premature at this stage to communicate the details suggested to any firm of ginners, and, in the first

instance, Mr. Amery desires merely to have your  
comments on the suggestions made and to be informed  
whether you consider that they would constitute a  
satisfactory arrangement for testing your process.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Mr. Bottomley 29.3.26

501

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. E. J. Harding

Mr. Strachey

Mr. J. Shuckburgh

Mr. G. G. G. G.

Mr. Davis

Mr. Wilson

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31 March, 1926

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DRAFT.

WALINE, ESQ.

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copy (copy) to  
Mr. G. G. G. G.

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to be informed whether you consider that they would constitute a

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I am, etc.,

(Signed) W. C. BOTTOMLEY.

RAFT.

Mr. Amery  
No. 176  
Sowers Ltd.  
(Over 1000 ft)

57873

57873/15

R 7 5417  
D 127

15 APR 1926

Si,  
Hear the case of the  
By the case of the  
a letter, with the  
which has been sent to  
the MS (not hand)  
of the Overseas Trading Co.  
regarding an experimental  
installation of this  
process for being  
examined.

2. The desirability of  
an experiment has  
been discussed with

for many had the papers  
which they could not have,  
the same volume had been  
the Hawaiian laws, etc.

orderly been to be collected  
to those officers, but it is  
believed the constant  
with their views.

2. I have come to  
know with you that  
the Hawaiian affairs,  
the matter is that  
frequency of the copy  
is to be placed this volume  
and time may be saved by  
sending you this publication  
as usual.

508  
I have been thinking  
of being published.

January 14, 1842

H. C. in Transference

With those you will be  
don't forget to be  
necessary. You are both,  
I am confident, aware of  
the importance bearing of  
the transfer of the  
seed in the stead of  
plague in future.

(Signed) L. S. AMERY.