

1923

KENYA

C C  
11566

FROM

DATE

KENYA EXTRACT SYND: LTD

5TH MARCH 1923

REC'D  
6 MAR 23

CIRCULATION:—

SUBJECT

Mr. *Bolton*

CUSTOMS DUTIES

U.S. of S.

ON PLANT & MACHINERY FOR WATTLE EXTRACT

Enclosure for information copy of correspondence between their local Manager and the Colonial Secretary.

U.S. of S.

U.S. of S.

Secretary of State.

Previous Paper

MINUTES

711-2  
8023

Under the order XIII of 1922 (amended to 27/9/22) there is no way out of the difficulty, that I can see, except by special legislation.

*Act = 25 March 1923  
X 150 W Anderson 5.0 14308  
Apr 25  
Copy sent to Anderson on 3 May 50*

The inf. given to the Balkan Coy in C.O. letter of 9/1/22 or 9/5/22 was as follows:—

"A let: has been received from the Gov. of Kenya stating that machinery for wattle bark extraction is admitted into the Colony duty-free."

Subsequent Paper

711-9  
14308

*he had in my opinion better*

wait for an official  
statement to Dept.  
from the Customs.

all receipt.

recd

8.3.23

That it will be considered  
should have thought that  
this matter is for  
Dept. may not  
plant could have been  
allowed in free zone  
under the law & all  
such plant must be  
in possession or be in  
possession.

G.S.

8.3.23

at home

Mr. Anderson called on  
Monday - the material  
charged for duty is essentially  
for fruit equipment (the  
"bottles" are 17 feet long) &  
the equipment has passed  
through Customs, have had  
the interpretation strictly.

We agreed that nothing  
could be done until we  
get the reply from Dept.,  
especially in the position

Coming home.

132

We talked also about  
Thangrove bank - which he said  
that E.A. produces the bank & we  
may find another "copy" by  
Portuguese E.A. if we are not  
careful. When (before the war)  
he took the matter up through  
Messrs. Gray Davis & Co. he  
was told that he could be licensed  
could be licensed.

Agreed to bring up the  
L. Hallscombe case.

Notes  
in file  
8.3.23

Bring up accordingly

G.S. 18.3.23

at home

Thangrove bank was discussed with  
Mr. Hallscombe yesterday. There is  
little except near home and the  
industry is purely auxiliary to the border  
industry, which has been in operation  
while arrangements were being made  
for rendering papers acceptable. It  
is not worth any body's while to set up  
themselves plant for extracting from  
Thangrove bank.

Further for a commission one  
order for in January when all  
about now (have no doubt the

the Governor's recent logging about price).

He also told W. Anderson to take

in the ...

the ...

and ...

see attached copy of my letter to Anderson

... to go on waiting as to

Wells

W.A.S. 1/14/23

to Anderson

to give the letter of ...

from W. Anderson

attached.

We might send to

to the ... (S.O.)

copy of this ...

to W. Anderson

and him as to X.

to for any remarks

generally so he may

know to make.

W.A.S.

27. u. 23

W.A.S. 2/8/23  
at once

See city ...

attached.

Putty

had

878723

at

S.P. 2A

to Governor's recent logging about (price).  
You can tell to Anderson is to take  
in ...  
has ...  
and ...  
So enclosed copy of my letter to Anderson.  
... left ... to  
60000

W.C.S. 11/4/23 at

to Anderson  
for further letter of ...  
from Anderson  
attached

we might send to  
to ... (S.O.)  
copy of this concept  
with Anderson  
work him as to X.  
of my remarks  
generally so he may  
have to make.

All  
27. u. 23

W.C.S. 28/4/23  
at

See city concept  
attached.

Putty  
Lad  
28/4/23  
at

S.P. 2A

8 August, 1923.

Dear Mr. Anderson

I am sorry that in <sup>a</sup> the very <sup>trying</sup> ~~trying~~ season I have left your enquiry about Mangrove Park in Kenya so long undealt with.

On my return from leave I consulted Mr. Battiscombe, and I attach a copy of his letter of the 11th of May. It was clear that your Syndicate at that stage could not usefully put in an application under the invitation of last January, but, I have now seen a <sup>(the notice)</sup> Gazette notice dated the 11th of May which shows that a new invitation has been issued closing on the 1st of October. It looks as if the response to the previous invitation was not satisfactory.

Mr. Battiscombe is now in Canada, and will not be available before he returns to Kenya in the late Autumn. I can only suggest that if you wish to carry the matter further you should instruct your local representative to consult the Forest Office in

Nairobi

ANDERSON, ESQ.

August, 1923.

Dear Mr. Anderson

I am sorry that in the very <sup>a</sup> ~~best~~ <sup>trying</sup> season I have left your enquiry about Mangrove Park in Kenya so long undealt with.

On my return from leave I consulted Mr. Battiscombe, and I attach a copy of his letter of the 11th of May. It was clear that your Syndicate at that stage could not usefully put in an application under the invitation of last January, but, I have now seen a Gazette notice <sup>(attached below)</sup> dated the 11th of May which shows that a new invitation has been issued closing on the 1st of October. It looks as if the response to the previous invitation was not satisfactory.

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Nairobi

ANDERSON, ESQ.

obi or Mombasa with a view to his putting in  
application if he and you think it worth your while.

I do not know, but I should think that to  
transport Mangrove Bark from Lamu to your Wattle Factory  
in Mombasa would be hopelessly impossible from a  
practical point of view.

Yours very truly,

*W. S. Hamilton*

HINTON COURT  
HEREFORD.

11th. May 1923.

W. H.

Dear Bottomley,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd. inst. on the subject of Mr. Anderson's letter to you and more especially paragraph 2 thereof I find it somewhat difficult to give you definite information for I am totally ignorant as to the whereabouts of the Kenya Extract Syndicate's factory, if indeed it exists at all.

As regards the bark from the larger Mangrove poles this would be the property of the successful applicants for the cutting rights, applications for which were invited last January.

In former years the natives were in the habit of making dyes from several different herbs, shrubs etc. for colouring the plaited mats, the making of which is a regular industry on the Coast. In more recent years the cheap aniline dyes have almost completely ousted the natural and indigenous product. As far as my knowledge goes no attempt has ever been made to study or analyse the many vegetable dyes of the Colony and it is quite possible that there may be one or two which would be of value, but they would have to possess very outstanding technical properties and be available in large quantities to warrant their exploitation on a commercial scale.

I am sure every assistance would be afforded to any



qualified person whom the Syndicate might care to send out to the  
country to make investigations.

Yours sincerely,

*S. Rathbone*

qualified person whom the Syndicate might care to send out to the  
country to make investigations.

Yours sincerely,

S. B. Batten

THE KENYA EXTRACT SYNDICATE, LTD.

24 GEORGE SQUARE,

GLASGOW, 20th April 1923.

*copy*

Dear Mr. Bottomley,

Thank you for your letter dated 7th inst., and the information contained therein. — It was forwarded to me while in London and I called at your office, to thank you in person, but found that you had gone on leave.

If the cutting of Mangrove poles is carried on in Kenya to a considerable extent, there should be a substantial quantity of bark produced as a by-product, which if dried, might be worth the cost of carriage to our Factory where the Plant and Machinery is quite suitable for its treatment, as well as that of any wood or bark containing either tannins or colouring matter or anything of extractive value. Would you be good enough to ask Mr. Battiscombs if you see him, if he is aware of any vegetable material of this character, that grows in the Colony?

If H.E. the Governor or any other member of the Delegation is interested in the contracting project, I would be very glad to have an opportunity of supplying him with further information on the subject.

Thanking you for your interest,

I am,  
Yours faithfully,

*W.C. Bottomley*

W.C. Bottomley, Esq., C.M.G., O.B.E.,  
Special Office,  
Downing Street,  
LONDON, S.W. 1.

## THE KENYA EXTRACT SYNDICATE, LTD.

11566

REC  
6 MAR 23

24 GEORGE SQUARE,

GLASGOW, 5th March

19 23.

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

Sir, Ref. 8127/23.

In reference to our letter to you dated 14th Feby. and your reply thereto of 23rd Feby. relative to the imposition of Customs Duty on Plant and Machinery shipped to Kenya Colony for the erection of our Wattle Extract Factory there, we enclose herewith for your information, copy of correspondence between our Manager and the Colonial Secretary, Nairobi, received this morning.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

for THE KENYA EXTRACT SYNDICATE, LTD.

*[Signature]*  
Secretary.

LIMURU,  
11th Decr. 1922.

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary,  
NAIROBI.

Sir,

With reference to the erection of the Factory for the production of Wattle Extract at Limuru, and the shipments of Machinery at present arriving in this country, permit me to draw your attention to the following:-

1. Under date 9th January 1922, our Directors received a letter from the Colonial Office, Downing Street, London, arising out of telegrams exchanged with H.E. The Governor of Kenya Colony, stating that Machinery for Wattle Bark Extraction is admitted free of duty into this Colony.
2. Recently we have been charged duty upon various items which include bolts and nuts for our Extracting Vats and Firebricks for the Boilers, etc.
3. These items all form part and parcel of the Plant and are not procurable in this Colony, being of special design and material.
4. We have placed large orders for the ordinary type of firebricks and other materials in this country and in fact whenever possible, we have procured local material.
5. Application has been made to the Commissioner of Customs for a refund of the duty paid, but he does not see his way to grant this without further authority.

I shall esteem it a favour if you would bring this matter to the notice of H.E. The Governor with a view to granting us alleviation in this matter. I can assure you that we are importing nothing for trading purposes, but everything constitutes part of the Factory equipment. Moreover, as the Factory will be a great

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The Colonial Secy.

11/12/22.

great benefit to the local Wattle producers, who are also financially interested, it is most desirable that initial expense should be kept to a minimum to establish the industry successfully.

Awaiting the favour of your reply,

Yours faithfully,

[SRD] J.W. JOHNSTON.

1888

The Hon. The Colonial Secretary,  
T. B. JOHNSTON

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the proposed establishment of a Wattle Industry in the Colony. I am glad to hear that you are interested in this matter and I am sure that the Government will be glad to consider any proposal that may be made to the effect of establishing such an industry.

I have also received your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the proposed establishment of a Wattle Industry in the Colony. I am glad to hear that you are interested in this matter and I am sure that the Government will be glad to consider any proposal that may be made to the effect of establishing such an industry.

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Awaiting the favour of your reply,

Yours faithfully,

(Sd) J.W. JOHNSTON.

THE SECRETARY OF THE COLONIAL DEPARTMENT  
GEORGETOWN

118

With reference to the proposal for the establishment of a Wattle Industry in the Colony, I have the pleasure to inform you that the proposal has been considered by the Secretary of the Colonial Department and it is his recommendation that the proposal should be approved.

I have also the pleasure to inform you that the Secretary of the Colonial Department has agreed to the proposal and has authorized the necessary expenditure for the establishment of the industry.

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Yours faithfully,



C.W. Johnston, Esq.,  
LIMURU.

13th January, 1923.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 11th December on the subject of the exemption from import duty on consignments of bolts and nuts as well as of firebricks and fireclay and other material forming part of the plant required for Wattle Bark Extraction.

1. I have to invite attention to the fact that the assurance cited by you was given by the Colonial Office prior to the enactment of the Customs Tariff Ordinance No. 13 of 1922.

2. You will realise that the conditions notified you in January last could be subject to variation in accordance with the terms of any subsequent legislation.

3. The new Ordinance specifically excludes material from the exemption from duty extended to machinery, and firebricks and fireclay have been correctly assessed for duty at the rate of 10% ad valorem. Nor have articles of this nature hitherto been classified as Machinery; the telegram mentioned does not therefore cover their case.

4. With regard to bolts and nuts there have never been regarded as machinery parts and are now liable to duty at the rate of 10% ad valorem. If it can be established however to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Customs that the bolts and nuts included in the

J.W. Johnston, Esq.,  
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2. I have to invite attention to the fact that the assurance cited by you was given by the Colonial Office prior to the enactment of the Customs Tariff Ordinance No. 13 of 1922.
3. You will realize that the conditions notified you in January last would be subject to variation in accordance with the terms of any subsequent legislation.
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J. W. Johnston

the shipments under reference are intended solely for the original construction of the plant, they will be admitted free of duty.

I understand that, pending the production of such evidence, the consignments have been delivered against a deposit which is refundable.

6. The matter has been referred to His Excellency in the light of the above observations and I am to inform you that he regrets there is no power to exempt individual imports from the tariff prescribed.

7. I may add that the Acting Commissioner of Customs states that there is no record of any previous application in connection with the duties paid on the above shipments having reached his office.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

(SGD) G.C.S. Northcote,

for Colonial Secretary.

I shall be pleased to hear

Section

J. W. Johnston.

The Secretary

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(SGD) G.C.S. Northcote,

for Colonial Secretary.

In this question, it would be...  
and will from the...  
me.

I shall be...  
action

143  
16th January 1923.

Hon. The Colonial Secretary,  
The Secretariat,  
Nairobi.

I have the honour to acknowledge your favour of the 13th inst. the contents thereof are duly noted. With regard to the duties on firebricks and fireclay, in the case of the former these being of special shapes, design and material not procurable locally and are supplied by the makers of the boilers and their agents. This to my mind, puts these articles in a rather different position from firebricks imported to be sold as merchandise.

For ordinary purposes where it is possible to use the local articles we have not imported them and at the present moment we have for execution an order for 18,000 firebricks of local manufacture.

These bricks being unprocurable locally and in view of the above statement, I submit that they are part of the machinery.

2. With respect to the bolts and nuts referred to in section (5) of your letter and also in Section (7), I may say that all applications made to the Acting Commissioner of Customs were made by our Mombasa agents who submitted our invoices and also all statements in support of the claims made. The bolts and nuts in question are all part of the plant in its entirety and if any other interpretation is placed on this question, it would be just as reasonable to extract all the bolts and nuts from the machinery and machine parts and levy duty upon the same.

3. I shall be obliged to hear how to proceed to guarantee satisfaction/

COPY.

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143  
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7th April, 1923.

on this occasion, but from what I have discussed

Dear Mr. Anderson,

In answer to your enquiries with reference to your call here on the 12th of March, when among other things we discussed the question of mangrove bark in Kenya, I write to let you know that Mr. Battiscombe, the Conservator of Forests, is now on leave and I asked him about this question when I saw him yesterday.

He says that there is very little mangrove bark except near Lamu and the bark cutting is purely ancillary to the cutting of mangrove poles (borities). He is certain that the mangrove bark industry would not justify anyone in erecting a plant for making extract.

It appears that applications were invited in January for a mangrove bark concession, and that the applications were returnable at the beginning of April. It is therefore too late for you to take any action

Lodge, Baccarat, 3 May

7th April, 1923.

Dear Mr. Anderson,

With reference to your call here on the 12th of March, when among other things we discussed the question of mangrove bark in Kenya, I write to let you know that Mr. Battiscombe, the Conservator of Forests, is now on leave and I asked him about this question when I saw him yesterday.

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action

Colby Battiscombe 3 May



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said, I should judge that you have missed nothing.

Upon enquiries which we have had occasion to  
make, it would seem that there is no demand at all  
in London for Kenya mangrove bark whatever; there  
might be for the extract, if extracting machinery were  
provided by the amount of bark available.

Yours very truly,

G.C.S.

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W.C.S.

~~SECRET~~      *Added 11/1/23*      140

THE KENYA EXTRACT SYNDICATE, LTD.

24 GEORGE SQUARE

GLASGOW.      16th August 19 23.

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

Dear Mr. Bottomley,

Thank you for your favour of yesterday's date enclosing copy of Mr. Battiscombe's letter to you dated 11th May last and also copy of General Notice 429 from the Gazette.

We will instruct our people in Kenya to make further enquiry regarding the matter of Mangrove but I fear, as you suggest, that the distances between Lamu and Limuru will make the project of treating the bark at our present Factory, ~~impossible~~.

The erection of our machinery and plant is nearly completed and we are hopeful of being able to commence operations within a few weeks.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

*Wm Anderson*

~~S. J. ...~~ 11. 6. 1904 140

THE KENYA EXTRACT SYNDICATE, LTD.

24 GEORGE SQUARE

GLASGOW

10th August

19 2

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

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Yours faithfully,

*Wm Anderson*



11566/23

*J. H. B. Bostrom*

3 May 1923

*W. H. B. Bostrom's signature*  
*M.C.*  
*Recd*

DRAFT.

Dear Bostrom

Bostrom's Eyes

*London*  
*Hereford.*  
MINUTE.

You remember when you called here on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April, we talked about the Mangrove bark question in Kenya.

I enclose a copy of my correspondence on the subject with Mr. Anderson of the Kenya Entomol. Syndicate w<sup>h</sup> ~~you~~

- Mr. Whitehead
- Mr. Parsons 20/4/23
- Mr. ~~Bostrom~~ / S.
- Mr. Davis.
- Sir G. Grindle.
- Sir H. Read.
- Sir J. Masterton Smith.
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore.
- Duke of Devonshire.

*may be able to give him the information you supply. The information he asks for in para 2? of his letter.*

should be glad to have any general ~~remarks~~ <sup>opinion</sup> you may ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> make on the subject. His letter is on particular subjects ~~concerning~~ <sup>concerning</sup> the Mangrove bark.

Yours sincerely  
*J. H. B. Bostrom*

*Anderson 7<sup>th</sup> April*  
*Mr. Anderson 20<sup>th</sup> April*



dy

M.C.

11566/23

*[Handwritten signature]*

*For the following signature*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

3 May 1923

DRAFT.

Dear Balfour

Balfour's eyes

*[Handwritten]*  
*[Handwritten]*  
MINUTE.

You remember when you called here on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, we talked about the Mangrove bank question in Kamp.

I enclose a copy of my correspondence on the subject with Mr. Anderson of the Kamp

Mr. Whitehead

Mr. Parson 20/4/23

Mr. *[Handwritten signature]*

Mr. Davis.

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Road.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormsby-Crook.

Duke of Devonshire.

Extract Lyndicate *[Handwritten note]*

*[Handwritten note in a box:]*  
~~may be able to give him the information you supply the information he asks for in para 2? of his letter~~

*[Handwritten note in a box:]*  
I should be glad to have any general <sup>opinion</sup> ~~remarks~~ you may <sup>have</sup> ~~like~~ to make on ~~the subject~~ his letter. *[Handwritten note]*

Yours sincerely  
A. W. B. *[Handwritten signature]*

*Anderson 7<sup>th</sup> April*  
*Mr. Anderson 20<sup>th</sup> April*



11566/23

H. O. [unclear]

3 May 1923

W  
Mr.  
The Hon. Secretary's  
Department  
Alid

DRAFT.

Dear Batterscombe

Batterscombe Esq

MINUTE.

- Mr. Whitehead
- Mr. Parnett 20/4/23
- Mr. ~~Batterscombe~~
- Mr. Davis
- Sir G. Grindle.
- Sir H. Read.
- Sir J. Masterton Smith.
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore.
- Duke of Devonshire.

You remember when you called here on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April we talked about the Mangrove bank question in Kenya.

I enclose a copy of my correspondence on the subject with Mr. Anderson of the Kenya Extract I indicate ~~where~~ you

~~may be able to give him the information you supply the information he asks for in para 2? of his letter~~

should be glad to have any general <sup>opinion</sup> remarks you may ~~like~~ <sup>make</sup> on the subject his letter is particularly <sup>important</sup> ~~should~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~read~~ <sup>read</sup>

Yours sincerely  
H. B. Batterscombe

Anderson 7<sup>th</sup> April  
Mr. Anderson 20<sup>th</sup> April



11566/23

H. G. (unclear)

3 May 1923

DRAFT.

Dear Batterscombe

Batterscombe Esq

Your remembrance

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MINUTE.

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- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. ~~Batterscombe~~
- Mr. Davis
- Sir G. Grindle.
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- Sir J. Masterton Smith.
- Mr. Ormsby-Gore.
- Duke of Devonshire.

Extract Syndicate of ~~the~~ you  
~~may be able to give him the~~  
~~information you supply the~~  
~~information he asks for in~~  
~~para 2? of his letter~~

should be glad to have  
 any general ~~remarks~~ <sup>opinion</sup> you  
 may ~~like~~ <sup>feel</sup> to make on  
 the subject <sup>in letter</sup> ~~in letter~~ <sup>in particular</sup> ~~in particular~~  
<sup>I should like to know</sup>

Yours sincerely  
H. G. Batterscombe

Anderson 7<sup>th</sup> April  
Anderson 20<sup>th</sup> April