

1923

KENYA

36816

REC  
REC 23 JUL 25

197

FROM  
CORYNDON, SIR R.

DATE  
20TH JULY 1923

TO  
CIRCULATION

SUBJECT

Mr.  
Mr.  
Mr.  
Asst. U.S. of S.

MAGADI SCHEME

Reports as to meeting with representatives of Messrs Brunner Mond and suggests meeting of interested parties at C.O. on the 30th July.

Form U.S. of S.  
Part U.S. of S.  
Secretary of State

Previous Paper

MINUTES *within*

V  
3468

*Ans'd 21 July 1923*

*Case*

Subsequent Paper

M.S.  
37335

I said I'd write to you, and if it suited the Co., you would write to them & make the necessary arrangements

on that date, 30 June, we have a conference <sup>at 3 pm</sup> with Sir James Stevenson on Mbaraki, which Kroger will join at 3.45. If this Maqadi conference can come on at 4.30, it w<sup>d</sup> be a great advantage if Sir J. Stevenson could be present also.

Yours sincerely  
R. W. Longdon

TELEGRAMS  
TELEPHONE  
STATION TELEGRAPH

THE MANOR HOUSE,  
CLANFIELD,  
HORNDEAN, HANTS.

20 July 1923 - 198

36316

Dear Batterley -  
in Alfred  
met Mond + Roscoe

Brunner + Gold at lunch yesterday - They said in effect that they were anxious to make some arrangement with Maqadi Co. & had made proposals to Samuel's quite recently, wh. came to nothing; that Maqadi soda was not of high quality & could not compete

I said I'd write to you, and if it suited the Co, you would write to them & make the necessary arrangements

on that date, we are to have a conference <sup>at 3 pm</sup> with Sir James Stevenson on Mbranaki, which Hogan will join at 3.45. If this Maqadi conference can come on at 4.30, it w<sup>d</sup> be a great advantage if Sir J. Stevenson could be present also.

Yours sincerely,  
R. Comyns

THE MANOR HOUSE,  
CLANFIELD,  
HORNDEAN, HANTS.

20 July 1923 - 198

36316

Dear Bottomley -  
I met <sup>Mr Alfred</sup> Mond & Roscoe

Brunner & Gold at lunch yesterday - They said in effect that they were anxious to make some arrangement with Maqadi Co. & had made proposals to Samuel's quite recently, wh. came to nothing; that Maqadi soda was not of high quality & could not compete

I said I'd write to you, and if  
it suited the C.E., you would  
write to them & make the necessary  
arrangements

on that date, 30<sup>th</sup> we  
have a conference <sup>at 3 pm</sup> with Sir James  
Stevenson on M-baraki, which  
Krogan will join at 3.45. If this  
Maqadi conference can come on  
at 4.30, it wd be a great  
advantage if Sir J. Stevenson  
could be present also.

Yours sincerely,

R. Thompson

THE MANOR HOUSE,

CLARFIELD,

HORNDEAN, HANTS.

20 July 1923 - 198

36316

Lois Bottomley.  
Sir Alfred  
I met Mond + Roscoe

Brunner + Gold at lunch  
yesterday - They said in effect  
that they were anxious to  
make some arrangement with  
Maqadi Co. & had made  
proposals to Samuel's quite  
recently, wh. came to nothing;  
that Maqadi soda was not of  
high quality & could not compete

with artificial soda in which  
their firm was supreme & that  
soda similar to Naqadi was being  
now produced in other countries, &  
for this reason they did not think  
there was demand or sale for  
Naqadi soda beyond a limited  
quantity, say 50 to 60,000 tons p.a.  
that they realised that the Kenya  
Govt wanted the industry worked,  
& thought they could do it better  
than anyone else - if they could  
not make it pay, no one else  
could, & they added probably that  
they thought no one else could  
make it pay in open competition  
with their firm. They said

they had asked the Kenya Govt. to keep the  
industry idle, but had at once  
rejected the idea for obvious  
reasons. They outlined  
vaguely a proposition by which  
a limited output sh<sup>d</sup> be ensured  
under their management & by  
wh. the present shareholders  
interests w<sup>d</sup> be recognised and  
guarded. Finally they suggested  
a conference at the C. at wh.  
they, the Naqadi Coy, & the  
receivers sh<sup>d</sup> be present so as  
to come to some definite  
arrangement, & as I was sailing  
shortly they proposed a time,

Sir H. Keble

Magasin

Pl. see Sir R. Congdon's letter of  
20 July. It must be recorded as  
urgent, but it is in present  
circumstances quite impossible  
to send on a regular service on the  
subject.

The outstanding point is that  
as we told Mr. Smallwood  
yesterday & as I had previously  
told Mr. Nelson, we are waiting  
for proposals to be put forward by  
all parties concerned. Further,  
Lord S. told us that underlying  
arrangements were complete.

~~For the present~~

In both reasons it seems to  
be impossible that we sh<sup>d</sup> take a  
hand in bringing the Mond group  
& the Daniels together, & I suggest  
that I should at once tell Sir R.

Sir R. Head.

Major.

P.L. on Sir R. Congdon's letter of  
20 July. It must be regarded as  
urgent, but it is in present  
circumstances quite possible  
to send on a record minute on the  
subject.

The outstanding point is that  
as we told Mr. Southborough  
yesterday & as I had been seeing  
Col. G. Nelson, we are waiting  
for papers, etc. but forward by  
all means concerned. Further,  
Lord S. told us that underlying  
arrangements were complete.

~~For that purpose~~

In both reasons, it seems to  
be impossible that we should be  
hand in bringing the Howard group  
& the Samuels together, I suggest  
that I should at once tell Sir R.

R. Corydon that a meeting on

July 30 would be ~~best~~ unless  
~~later~~ before then that I have  
put up a scheme ~~which~~ which  
examination ~~seems~~ to make it  
necessary & desirable to endeavor to  
have some arrangement with the B-M  
Group that we must wait for the proposals  
but we understand yesterday will be put up.

Last week Sir R. Corydon was taking  
of my view - that any scheme of  
reconstruction should only be approved  
if it contained an undertaking to  
pay (after say 12 or 18 months) the  
contract rate of freight & royalty  
on a production of 160,000 tons  
a year - the output which he has  
already increased capital expenditure  
to deal with. That, of course, is  
quite inconsistent with the figure of  
£ 50,000 or 60,000 tons, was suggested.

Oct. 21. 23.

at once.

A. J. P.  
21/10/23

Whether this  
that produces  
or not.



R. Corydon that a meeting on  
July 30 would be regular unless  
~~later~~ before then that I have  
put up a scheme ~~which~~ which  
examination seems to make it  
necessary & desirable to arrange to  
have some arrangement with the B-M  
Group: that we must wait for the proposals  
and we understand yesterday will be put up.  
Last week Dr. R. Corydon was taking  
of my view - that any scheme of  
reconstruction should only be approved  
if it contained an undertaking to  
pay (after say 12 or 18 months) the  
contract rate of freight & royalty  
on a production of 160,000 tons  
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already incurred capital expenditure  
& deal with. That, of course, is  
quite inconsistent with the figure of  
£ 50,000 or 60,000 tons, was suggested.

Whether this  
that produce  
or not.

Oct. 21, 1923.

at once.

A. J. R.  
21/10/23

Downing Street,

21 July, 1923.

Dear Coryndon,

I have shown your letter of the 20th about Magadi to Sir H. Read and we think it well to tell you that we are afraid that a joint meeting here on the 30th with representatives of Messrs. Brunner Mond and Company and the Magadi Soda Company would be useless unless in the meantime a proposal is put up by the latter Company which seems to make it desirable to try to make an arrangement with the former.

We know now that the Magadi Company have got a scheme almost ready: it may be sent in at any moment and we think we must now wait for it.

For my part, if the <sup>output</sup> "united" output which would be realized under their control is the 50,000 or 60,000 tons suggested earlier in your letter, I do <sup>not</sup> think that there is any business in it for the Uganda Railway.

*Yours sincerely*  
*C.C.S.*

W.B.A. letter sent  
last  
21/7

21. July 1923

25 to my  
- 1 2 hours

Dear Compton

I have shown your  
letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> about Magadi  
to Sir H. Read and we think  
it well to tell you that we  
understand that a joint  
meeting here on the 30<sup>th</sup> with  
representatives of Messrs  
Messers Mond & Co and the  
Magadi Soda Company would  
be useless unless in the  
meantime a <sup>letter</sup> proposal is  
put up by the Company which  
seems to make it desirable  
to try to make an arrange-  
ment with the former.  
We know that the Magadi  
Company have got a scheme

DRAFT.

Re: Reunification  
ready

MINUTE.

Mr. ~~Northam~~

Mr.

Mr.

Mr. Davis.

Sir G. Grindle.

Sir H. Read.

Sir J. Masterton Smith.

Mr. Ormsby-Gore.

Duke of Devonshire.

21/7/23

almost ready: it may be sent  
in at any moment & we think  
we must now wait for it.

In any part, if the "limited  
output" which would be realized  
under their control is the 50,000  
or 60,000 tons suggested earlier in  
your letter, I think that it would  
pay the ~~Lyons~~ Railway better  
there is any business in it for the  
Lyons Railway.