



17863
RE:
REG: 22 MAR 19

344

Reason for

1919

21 inch.

last previous Paper.

Wild Baobab tree Concession

in S.W.A. & Nyasaland

Requests concession to cut and export the wild baobab tree, the fibre of which provides excellent material for paper manufacture

Mr. Stanley W. Knight

He ought to know the regulations governing the grant of concessions better than we do. Sir, G.E.A. obviously nothing can be settled till after June, & in any case concession may quite probably be prohibited under the mandatory system.

As regards S.W.A. & Nyasaland very strong reasons would have to be adduced to show that a concession was necessary before a grant could be made, it is quite clear that the matter cannot be arranged by cable. The best way will be to grant him his interview & then, if he brings forward satisfactory reasons, get him to set out details in writing & consult Governor.

This is March 1919

subsequent Paper.

539

Both for
24.3.19
26/3/19

21, Ranelagh Gardens,
Stamford Brook, W. 6.
21st March, 1919.

17863

REC
22 MAR 19

Sir,

I gave the honour to apply for a concession granting to me the sole right to cut down and export the wild Baccab trees growing in British East Africa, (late) German East Africa, and Nyasaland.

2. You will be aware that the fibre of this tree has been found to provide a most excellent material for the manufacture of paper of all kinds, from strong bond paper to the finest paper used for bank notes. These trees are not used by the natives for any purpose whatever, not even for firewood owing to its toughness, they therefore simply grow to maturity and then decay and are wasted.

3. I should be glad if you could grant me an early interview as I am anxious to arrange the matter by cable through the Governor, General Sir E. Horsley and the Administrator Sir Horace Byatt.

4. I am known to you as the Superintendent of Native Affairs, Nyasaland.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. Casson

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

Osborne Hall,
Terrace Mount
Bournemouth
2nd April 1919.

Sir,

I received a letter saying I might call upon you with reference to a concession I have asked for to enable me to handle Raotab trees in Africa. I am returning to town on the 11th April (Friday) & propose to call upon you between 2.30 & 3 o'clock unless I hear that that time is not convenient to you.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

J. G. Casson

Ottomley Lodge
Colonial Office

Filed

He

SPK

DOWNING STREET,

29 March, 1919.

C
17863/1919.
G.A.C
24.500
Sir,

I am directed by Viscount Milner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, and to inform you that if you will call at this Office any day except the 1st of April, Mr. W.C. Bottomley, the Head of the East African Department, will see you with regard to your application for a concession in East Africa to cut down and export the Baobab trees.

I am to observe however, that in no case could you be granted a monopoly in the matter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G.H.

DOWNING STREET,

29 March, 1919.

C
17863/1919.

Sir,

I am directed by Viscount Milner to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, and to inform you that if you will call at this Office any day except the 1st of April, Mr. W.C. Bottomley, the Head of the East African Department, will see you with regard to your application for a concession in East Africa to cut down and export the Baobab trees.

2. I am to observe however, that in no case could you be granted a monopoly in the matter.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G.H.