



Receipt will communicate with the  
G. H., A.R.  
Rec. receipt of the Coy's letter, they've  
now warned the G. H. & said that  
there is no doubt that on resumption they  
will make every effort to insure them  
to the necessary transport so that  
they may be able to deliver the  
war material for the year (under 31 Oct)

Rec. rec. O. H. Harriott & am com  
O. H. Harriott & am com

Cont. tomorrow  
16/11/15  
O. H. Harriott

I fear I shall be more than "impaired"  
for the present  
with economy.

Mr. Harriott called 31<sup>st</sup> May. They are  
telegraphing to their local branch  
telling him to inform the Railway  
people that the Co. can't remove  
consignments before 1<sup>st</sup> August (possibly  
not then)

6368/75  
regt  
y will  
in the

Mr. A. Wood is probably better  
his chairman, but there will be  
an interregnum till August during  
which Mr. Harriott will probably be  
in the chair.

We may expect that he shall be  
asked to <sup>stand</sup> ~~take~~ the chair for  
conveying the first 50,000 tons.  
Mr. Harriott really little more for it,  
and it would expect us to criticize  
if we yield in the one assurance of  
serious working.

Appendix  
[cont.]

Wed 31.5.26.

GENE CENTRAL 530.  
TELEGRAMS OTWARI LORSON.

1. BROAD STREET PLACE,  
LONDON, E.C. 2.

15th December 1925.

C. O.  
56368  
16 DEC 25

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

Sir,

At the request of Mr. Bottomley I have obtained from the Chairman of the Magadi Soda Co. a letter which I enclose herewith setting forth the reasons on which the Magadi Board decided to discontinue outputting soda from the Lake for a few months.

The Board have been energetic in pushing the sales of Magadi Soda even though at times this has been replacement of orders which could have been supplied by Brunner Mond product and an endeavour was recently made to lighten the load of the Magadi stocks on hand by an arrangement made with the Brunner Mond agents in the different world centres by which they took over the Magadi stocks at their centres and paid cash for them.

The reduction in consumption of the product which has chiefly affected the Magadi Company in the case of Japan is, however, world-wide. I have the assurance of Mr. Gold, the chairman of the Board and who is also a director of Brunner Mond, that the alkali makers both in this country, U.S.A. and on the

Continent have been working below 75% of their full capacity for the last six months. The available figures of exports from Great Britain bear out this statement and it is evident that disposal of our product up to the limits of our present output is for the moment beyond the powers of the Board. . As the depression in this trade is so general it will probably only be temporary and I concur in the view that it is better for us to shut down while we are working off our accumulated stocks rather than continue to turn out a restricted product at an increased price. This is more advisable as we have a large amount of construction work going on at the Lake in which the labour force can be well employed thus completing this work with greater rapidity and avoiding the increased costs of additional supplies of temporary labour for the purpose.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Wm L Harrison

# The Magadi Soda Company Limited.

Winnington.

Northwich 11th Dec 1925  
ENGLAND.

H.M. (MAYN)  
LEGATE.  
ION  
TT.  
MOLSONA. OUR REFERENCE  
KILFN, C.B.E. YOUR REFERENCE

The Rt. Hon. L.C.M.S. Amery, M.P.,  
H.M.'s Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
London, S.W.1

Sir,

At the meeting of my Board held on the 4th instants, I found it necessary to report that owing to the depression in general trade conditions in practically all the markets of the World, the demand for Soda Ash has fallen considerably during the last six months. As a result of this, stocks in the various markets to which we ship have accumulated heavily, in addition to which our warehouse accommodation at Kilindini is nearly full.

Japan — by far the best market for our product — has unfortunately been undergoing a particularly severe depression, and from a cable recently received our Agents estimate they will not require another cargo before June. They have 60,000

tons of Soda Ash in stock half of which has been furnished by this Company. South America and India are also carrying large stocks, and Australia, where we had hoped to develop substantial trade, has been set back by reason of the shipping strike.

The position, therefore, is as follows:

We must close the works in January, or seriously reduce the daily production rate, as by that time all our warehouse accommodation will be full and it will be uneconomical to ship further cargoes to overseas markets to lie in godowns incurring heavy rent, and deteriorating through long storage. The Board therefore have decided to close down the Works for a period of three months from some time early in January. Our technical advisers tell us it is more economical to work the plant to its full capacity with occasional stoppages than to run steadily on a reduced output.

We have been manufacturing to the limit of capacity at the rate of 60,000 tons per annum for some months now, but we cannot maintain this rate in the present state of trade. It is unfortunate that this should be so, but we can no longer hope to work at full capacity under the present conditions of trade, and must submit to a reduction in output, which other manufacturers have for some months had to bear.

We trust this will not unduly inconvenience the Uganda Railway, and we are arranging for our Works Manager to

give them as long notice as possible of the stoppage he decides on so as to give them time to make their dispositions as to rolling stock, and to give similar notice of restarting.

We intend to use the labour force at the works on vitally necessary construction work, which will in fact be facilitated by a stoppage.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*J. H. ...*  
Chairman.

Washington 12/12/53

allow Patard

56360

145

Harding

Washington

Seattle

Portland

San Francisco

Los Angeles

London



Call me 12/12/53

*[Handwritten signature]*

RAFT (Code) Tel.

23 December

mor  
airoli

Magadi Bay have show

that owing to the overstocking

of the world's markets demand

for them to suspend production

for three months from early

January 1954

rafts



will communicate with

~~By~~ General Manager.

Uganda Railway  
Secy.

Uganda 12/25  
Allen 28/25

146  
4m.  
56368  
25 Kenya.

28

28

RAFT.

28 December, 1925

Uganda Engg,  
M.M., MINT.CE, etc

Sir,

I am etc. to ack. the

receipt of your letter of the  
18th. of December, 1925,  
regarding the decision of the  
Uganda Soda Coy. to manufacture

Dec.  
Receipt

Traffic

will communicate with the  
of soda like the other;  
production from their works  
and to Mr. to you  
the accy. copy of a letter which  
has been addressed to the Coy.  
the matter.

I am etc.

Signed W. O. BOTTOMLEY.

Whitcombe 15/12/25  
Rev. Mr. J. P.

56268

25  
Kenya.

Sd/  
/

*[Handwritten signature]*

28 December 1925

FT.

Chairman,  
Agade Soda  
Coy., Ltd.

Sir,

Copy H. F. M. ...  
28 DEC 1925

I am etc. to ack. the

receipt of your letter of the

11th. December in which

you state that, owing to

the fall in the demand for

soda

Yr  
afly

in. market.

Soda Ash, it has been <sup>the</sup> decided to suspend production.

<sup>of Soda</sup> Lake Magadi  
from the ~~Boys' works in Kenya~~  
for a period of three months

from early in January next.

2. This decision has been

~~communicated to the Gen. Mgr.~~  
communicated to the Gen. Mgr. Kenya & the int.

the General Manager of the

Uganda Rly; <sup>and the</sup> has been ~~announced~~

~~accordingly.~~

~~I am to add that the~~

Secretary of State has no doubt

was on the boys' deciding to resume

production.  
~~production~~, the General Manager

will

DRAFT.

will make every effort  
Company  
enable them to obtain speedy  
in order to secure

~~no. 1000 so that they may~~  
~~be able to do so~~ the agreed

quota for the year ending the  
31 Oct 1926  
I am etc.

W. C. BOTTOMLEY