

C 69877

38

No. 46.

*From His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to the Governor General*

No. 141.

BRITISH EMBASSY,  
WASHINGTON, April 10, 1924.

My Lord,—With reference to Your Excellency's despatch No. 36 of April 14, 1923,<sup>1</sup> and to subsequent correspondence regarding the proposed convention for the regulation of the levels of the Lake of the Woods, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency herewith copies of a note from the United States Government relative to this matter.

My note No. 207 of March 3 last, to which Mr. Hughes refers, was merely in the nature of a formal enquiry as to the present status of this question. The Secretary of State's note of March 7 was communicated to Your Excellency in my despatch No. 98 of the 10th ultimo.<sup>2</sup>

I have, etc.,

(For the Ambassador),

H. W. BROOKS.

His Excellency  
The LORD BYNG OF VIMY, G.C.B.,  
etc., etc., etc.,  
Governor General of Canada,  
Ottawa, Canada.

<sup>1</sup> No. 156, Vol. IV, p. 191.  
<sup>2</sup> No. 36.

ENCLOSURE IN No. 46

*From the United States Secretary of State to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, April 8, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to refer to the Embassy's note No. 207 of March 3 and to my reply of March 7, 1924, regarding the proposed convention between the United States and Great Britain, concerning the Lake of the Woods Watershed, and to invite attention to the identic letter of reference which it is proposed shall be addressed to the International Joint Commission by the United States and Canada at the time of signing the convention, requesting the Commission to investigate and report upon certain questions regarding Rainy Lake and other international lakes of the Lake of the Woods Watershed.

Question 4 of the proposed letter, which would require the Commission to determine, among other things, the cost of the present storage of water on these lakes, reads as follows:

"What interests on each side of the boundary are benefited by the present storage on Rainy Lake and on the waters controlled by the dams at Kettle Falls? What are the nature and extent of such benefits in each case? What is the cost of such storage and how should such cost be apportioned among the various interests so benefited?"

The authorities of the State of Minnesota are desirous that the Commission in determining the cost of the storage should ascertain the amount

C 69878

39

of damage occasioned thereby to land and other property and have requested that there should be inserted in the fifth line of the question after the word "storage" the following words "including damages to land and other property." As amended the question would read as follows:

"What interests on each side of the boundary are benefited by the present storage on Rainy Lake and on the waters controlled by the dams at Kettle Falls? What are the nature and extent of such benefits in each case? What is the cost of such storage, including damages to land and other property, and how should such cost be apportioned among the various interests so benefited?"

This Government considers that in order to determine the cost of maintaining the storage it will be necessary for the Commission to take into account the resulting damage to riparian property and that, consequently, the suggested amendment is hardly essential. However, in order to avoid any possible difference of views when the questions come before the Commission for consideration this Government would be pleased to have the assent of the Canadian Government to the proposed amendment of the question in the manner indicated.

Accept, etc.,

CHARLES E. HUGHES.

His Excellency  
The Right Honourable  
SIR ESME HOWARD, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O.,  
Ambassador of Great Britain.

No. 47.

*From the Acting Under-Secretary of State of Canada to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

OTTAWA, April 24, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, herewith, a copy of a despatch dated the 23rd instant, from the Administrator of the Government of the Province of Ontario, with the copy of the resolution referred to therein relative to the diversion of water at Chicago.

You will observe that the Administrator desires to be informed regarding the action taken in connection with this resolution. I should be obliged therefore if you would be good enough to advise this Department, as soon as the resolution has been considered, what action if any has been taken with respect to it.

I have, etc.,

P. PELLETIER,  
Acting Under-Secretary of State.

The Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
Ottawa.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers  
Memoranda & Notes

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA