

Highness that we see no reason why the despatch should not be delivered at once. So far as the interests of this country are concerned the terms of the despatch meet with our concurrence.¹

I have etc.

R. L. BORDEN

992. *British Columbia Order in Council*

February 15, 1913

The Committee of Council submit for the approval of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia of the 11th instant, as follows:

Whereas according to the provisions of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty of 1901, as expressed in Rule 1, Clause 3, it was agreed by the United States of America that the Panama Canal should be open to the ships of all nations upon terms of perfect equality;

And whereas by Act of Congress passed in August, 1912, vessels owned in the United States and engaged in the coastwise trade are to be exempt from all Canal dues;

And whereas such discrimination would obviously operate to the disadvantage of British vessels engaged in the carrying trade of the Pacific Coast;

And whereas in July, 1912, the British Government entered a protest against the preferences granted by said Act of Congress to American vessels, and again in November renewed the protest, and requested, failing other means of settlement, that the question should be referred for arbitration to the Hague Tribunal in accordance with the provisions of a treaty with the United States in 1908;

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Legislature views with great satisfaction the attitude assumed by His Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs in upholding the rights of British and Canadian shipping in the use of the Panama Canal, and expresses the sincere hope that the negotiations which have been undertaken may speedily result in a just and amicable settlement being reached.

The Committee advise that a copy of this Minute be forwarded to the Honourable the Secretary of State of Canada for transmission to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

993. *Ambassador in United States to Governor General*

DESPATCH 67
Sir,

Washington, April 23, 1913

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of a resolution² introduced into the Senate by Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, designed to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer and Hay-Pauncefote Treaties.

Resolutions similar to the enclosed were proposed about 1900 for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty before the matter was set at rest

¹ In the note as delivered to the Secretary of State on December 9, 1912, the last sentence of the extract reproduced on page 845 was substantially altered, to read: "A reference to arbitration would be rendered unnecessary if the Government of the United States should be prepared to take such steps as would remove the objections to the Act which H. M. Government have stated."

² Not printed.