

[PIÈCE JOINTE / ENCLOSURE]

Le secrétaire d'État des États-Unis au chargé d'affaires aux États-Unis
Secretary of State of United States to Chargé d'Affaires in United States

Washington, October 1, 1925

Sir,

As you are doubtless aware, the authorities of this Government have been giving considerable attention to means whereby the unlawful importation into the United States of narcotic drugs, alcoholic beverages and merchandise subject to duties through smuggling operations might be prevented and persons engaged in the illicit traffic prosecuted and punished. The first conference with this end in view was held at Ottawa in November, 1923, and it has resulted in the ratification of two conventions between the United States and Great Britain in respect of Canada, one of which was signed on June 6, 1924, and provides for the suppression of smuggling operations, and the other, signed on January 8, 1925, provides for the extradition of persons charged with crimes and offences against the narcotic laws of the respective Governments.

A similar conference was held between representatives of the United States and of Mexico at El Paso, Texas, during May, 1925. The delegates at that conference recommended that the United States and Mexico conclude conventions containing, among others, provisions similar to those contained in the conventions above mentioned.

As a result of the consideration that has been given to these subjects since the conventions were signed on June 6, 1924, and January 8, 1925, it has been deemed desirable to make further provision for restricting and suppressing illicit smuggling operations. My attention has been particularly called to the fact that ships with cargoes of liquor on board are cleared from Canadian ports for places in the United States, although it is well known that the importation of such cargoes into the United States is prohibited by its laws. I hope that it will be found possible to take measures whereby clearances of ships with cargoes of liquor destined for the United States may be refused by the Canadian authorities, since it is evident when such clearances are requested that the object of the expedition is unlawful.

I am also of the opinion that it would be helpful if provision might be made for extradition between the United States and Canada of persons guilty of violating the customs laws of either Government and seeking refuge within the territory of the other. Violations of these laws are becoming more frequent and it is therefore of importance that the guilty parties should be punished.

During the conference between representatives of Canada and of the United States, held at Washington from August 19, to August 22, 1925, the representatives of the United States explained to the Canadian representatives the desirability of providing by treaty for these additional measures to aid in the suppression of illicit smuggling operations. The representatives of the Government of Canada, while expressing informally their appreciation of the