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*Le délégué commercial intérimaire au Venezuela
au directeur du Service des délégués commerciaux du ministère du Commerce
Acting Trade Commissioner in Venezuela
to Director, Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce*

Caracas, October 20, 1950

RE MODUS VIVENDI BETWEEN VENEZUELA AND CANADA

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Venezuelan Gaceta Oficial dated October 11, 1950,† which contains the Spanish version of the modus vivendi just concluded between Venezuela and Canada. Two copies of the English version submitted to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, are also attached.⁸

Negotiations between the Canadian Delegation and the Venezuelan authorities went smoothly, and the only difficulty arose at the outset when the Venezuelans insisted that the Delegation be formally introduced by the British Ambassador. As you know, the Venezuelan Government has continually refused to negotiate on a diplomatic level with a Consulate General, and insists that all approaches should be made through our diplomatic representative in Caracas. However, I am pleased to advise that the British Ambassador cooperated with the official introduction and there was no difficulty thereafter in working towards the conclusion of the modus vivendi.

During the visit of the Mission, numerous sources close to the Government indicated most strongly to us that the Venezuelan Government was very anxious to exchange diplomatic representation as soon as possible. Members of the Canadian Delegation were constantly on the defensive in this regard, and it was clearly pointed out to us that the Venezuelans find it hard to reconcile the fact that we have diplomatic representatives in Peru and Chile and not in this country, in view of the amount of business now being done between Canada and Venezuela. I understand that the Canadian Trade Delegation will be making a full report to you on this subject; as well as to the Department of External Affairs.

[J.A. STILES]

⁸ Voir Canada, *Recueil des traités*, 1950, N° 16/See Canada, *Treaty Series*, 1950, No. 16.