

majority extended the boundary South of Sitklan and Kannaghunut Islands and through the channel of Tongass, a route which Vancouver had not pursued and which had not been claimed in the United States argument. Of this "gross travesty of justice," to use Mr. Aylesworth's words, I will have something to say later.

The most important branch of the case concerned the mountains, or *lisiere* boundary along the coast between Portland Canal and the 141st Meridian near St. Elias. Count Nesselrode, on behalf of Russia, in the negotiations preceding the Treaty had expressed the Russian claim when he said: "We restrict our demands to a small strip (*lisiere*) of coast on the continent." The Canadian contention was that there were mountains parallel to the coast within the meaning of the Treaty, and that the tops of the mountains nearest the sea should be the line of demarcation. The United States contended that an unbroken chain of mountains exactly parallel to the coast was intended and that as no such chain existed (or ever did exist in the known world) the boundary line should everywhere be placed back ten marine leagues, or thirty-five miles from the shore, including in the term "shore," the heads of all inlets, bays, etc. The Tribunal found the Canadian contention to be correct as to the existence of mountains within the terms of the Treaty, but arbitrarily chose mountains not along its coast but at a great distance from it. Canada achieved the victory "but," to use Mr. Aylesworth's words, "the fruits of victory are taken from Canada by fixing as the mountain line a row of mountains so far back from the coast as to give the United States substantially nearly all the territory in dispute." "Instead of taking the coast line of mountains," continued Mr. Aylesworth, "a line of mountains has been drawn far back from the coast, clearing completely all bays, inlets, and means of access to the sea, and giving the United States a complete land barrier between Canada and the sea from Portland Canal to Mount St. Elias." Speaking for himself and Sir Louis Jette, Mr. Aylesworth added: "We have been compelled to witness the sacrifice of the interests of Canada, powerless to prevent it, though satisfied that the course the majority determined to pursue in respect to the matters above specially referred to, ignored the just rights of Canada."