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No. 37.

From His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington to the Governor General

No. 103.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, March 12, 1924.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to transmit to Your Lordship, herewith, copies of the paper mentioned in the subjoined schedule.

I have, etc.,

(For the Ambassador)

H. G. CHILTON.

His Excellency
The Governor General of Canada.

Name and Date	Subject
To Department of State dated March 12th, 1924.	Improvement of the St. Lawrence River Waterway.

Reference: Ottawa despatch No. 32 dated March 10th, 1924.¹

¹ No. 25.

ENCLOSURE IN No. 37

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

No. 228.

Urgent.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, March 12, 1924.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Canada have had under consideration the contents of the note which you were so good as to address to Mr. Chilton on the 27th ultimo in connection with the proposed improvement of the St. Lawrence River Waterway, and they concur in the suggestion of the Government of the United States that two additional engineers be appointed by each Government to the Joint Engineering Board whose membership will thus be increased to six, three members thereof representing the United States and three representing the Dominion of Canada. The Canadian Government desire me to express regret, however, that, owing to the death on the 3rd ultimo of Mr. W. A. Bowden, the late Canadian member of the Board, all three Canadian representatives will have to be new appointees.

The Dominion Government have noted the proposal of the United States Government that the national committees to be appointed by the two Governments concerned should meet from time to time for the purpose of formulating the terms in which the matters to be enquired into by the enlarged Joint Engineers Board should be defined. In this connection I would point out that the intention of the Dominion Government in constituting a national committee is that the body in question should be advisory to the Government of Canada, and it is felt that to impose upon this body, at all events at the outset, the duties suggested would be inconsistent with the purpose which it is intended to serve and would change the character of the said body from one primarily national to one of international significance. The Government of Canada consider that the terms of reference can, at least in the first instance, be

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settled quite adequately and in all probability more promptly in the manner set forth in the note which Mr. Chilton had the honour to address to you on January 30th last and they desire me to express the hope that the Government of the United States will concur in this view. Immediately upon being advised to that effect the Government of Canada will be ready to appoint a technical officer for the purpose named, and in the event of the Government of the United States considering the appointment of more than one such officer to be desirable, they would have no objection to making an additional appointment.

The Government of Canada are entirely agreeable to the inclusion in the first instructions to the enlarged Joint Engineering Board of the two fundamental questions referred to in your note under reply, namely, whether the scheme for the improvement of the St. Lawrence Waterway which the Engineering Board submitted in their report of June 24th, 1921, is practicable and whether the estimates of the costs put forward by the Board require revision. On their part, the Dominion Government would suggest that amongst other matters, the Board should be directed to enquire into the extent to which the water levels in the river at and below Montreal, as well as the river and lake levels generally may be affected.

The Dominion Government desire me to suggest that, subject to the concurrence of the United States Government, this correspondence may be released on the night of Friday the 14th instant for publication simultaneously in Washington and in Ottawa on the morning of Saturday the 15th instant, and in these circumstances, I have the honour to request that I may be favoured with the views of the United States Government on this matter as soon as possible.

I have, etc.,

ESME HOWARD.

The Honourable
CHARLES E. HUGHES,
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D.C.

No. 38.

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

No. 39.

CANADA,
GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
OTTAWA, March 13, 1924.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Chilton's despatch No. 70 of the 19th February,¹ enclosing a copy of a letter dated the 16th February from Mr. Leland Harrison, on the subject of the Chicago Drainage Canal, I should be glad to receive, for the use of my Government, a copy of the note addressed to the United States Department of State on the 29th December, 1923, to which Mr. Harrison's letter is the reply, and also a copy of the previous reply in this matter which, it would appear from Mr. Harrison's letter, was sent to Mr. Chilton.

I have, etc.,

BYNG OF VIMY.

His Excellency
The Right Honourable
SIR ESME HOWARD, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O.,
H.B.M. Ambassador at Washington.

¹ No. 26.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers
Memoranda & Notes

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