

case, that of Canadian sailing vessel *H.M. Gardner*, it seems undoubtedly that ship was seized nearest land at least eight miles and probably twenty-two miles.

Seizure of money found on vessels brought in amounting to as much as fifty thousand dollars in one case, is another new feature in recent cases. Seizure of this money although it most probably represents proceeds of liquor sold to small boats coming out from shore, cannot I think be defended even under American law.

Although H.M. Consul[ar] Officers are doing their best for all British nationals, the treatment of crews appears to be unsatisfactory and sometimes brutal.

Legal proceedings are protracted beyond all reason once vessel is seized, and no case has yet been brought shipping court as far as I am aware.

It seems to me that time may have come for re-consideration of policy of non-interference so far pursued and that we should at least request United States Government to state principles on which these seizures are being made even although I am convinced that all seizures so far reported have been vessels engaged in contraband traffic with shore. Detailed report of recent cases is being sent. Sent to Canada by post.

GEDDES

948.

L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis au Gouverneur général
Ambassador in United States to Governor General

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM 35

Washington, September 26, 1922

SECRET. After a Cabinet Meeting a statement was issued to-day at the White House to the effect that an embarrassing situation which may involve the United States in diplomatic discussions with foreign nations has been threatened by the activities of prohibition officers beyond the three mile limit. In future prohibition officers will be enjoined to use more judgment, but to the searching of ships beyond the three mile limit which are known to be in contact with the shore – such as running of small craft of (from) ship to some point on the land – this caution will not apply. According to communiqué this point, which is stated to be now before Supreme Court, has been held to be a violation of the prohibition laws by several courts of the United States. Following discussion between Secretary of State and me this action was decided on, with special reference to Canadian ships, by the United States Government. I hope Canadian Government will find this satisfactory.

GEDDES

949.

Le Gouverneur général à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
Governor General to Ambassador in United States

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM

Ottawa, September 30, 1922

SECRET. Searching of vessels by the United States prohibition Officers. My Ministers state that announcement with regard to vessels not in contact with