

# CONVENTION

BETWEEN HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY AND THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA RESPECTING THE REGU-  
LATION OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC, WASHINGTON, JANUARY 23,  
1924.

[Ratification exchanged, May 22, 1924]

His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland  
and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India;  
And the President of the United States of America;

Being desirous of avoiding any difficulties which might arise between them  
in connection with the laws in force in the United States on the subject of  
alcoholic beverages;

Have decided to conclude a convention for that purpose;

And have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland  
and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India:

The Right Honourable Sir Auckland Campbell Geddes, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,  
his Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United  
States of America;

The President of the United States of America:

Charles Evans Hughes, Secretary of State of the United States;

Who, having communicated their full powers found in good and due form,  
have agreed as follows:—

## ARTICLE 1

The High Contracting Parties declare that it is their firm intention to  
uphold the principle that three marine miles extending from the coastline out-  
wards and measured from low water mark constitute the proper limits of terri-  
torial waters.

## ARTICLE 2

(1) His Britannic Majesty agrees that he will raise no objection to the  
boarding of private vessels under the British flag outside the limits of territorial  
waters by the authorities of the United States, its territories or possessions in  
order that enquiries may be addressed to those on board and an examination  
be made of the ship's papers for the purpose of ascertaining whether the vessel  
or those on board are endeavouring to import or have imported alcoholic  
beverages into the United States, its territories or possessions in violation of  
the laws there in force. When such enquiries and examination show a reason-  
able ground for suspicion, a search of the vessel may be instituted.

(2) If there is reasonable cause for belief that the vessel has committed  
or is committing or attempting to commit an offence against the laws of the  
United States, its territories or possessions prohibiting the importation of  
alcoholic beverages, the vessel may be seized and taken into a port of the  
United States, its territories or possessions for adjudication in accordance with  
such laws.