

municate to me in due course the observations of the Dominion Government on the enclosed aide-mémoire.

I have etc.

[For the Ambassador]

H. G. CHILTON

957.

L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis au secrétaire aux Affaires étrangères¹
Ambassador in United States to Foreign Secretary¹

TELEGRAM

Washington, June 11, 1923

My telegram No. 255. Secretary of State sent for counsellor to-day and said he was most anxious that inconvenience caused to maritime powers by recently issued prohibition regulations should be overcome. With that end in view he had drafted a treaty which he suggests should be concluded between United States and the various maritime powers, text of which is given in my immediately following telegram.

Secretary of State said that he was sure that Congress would not amend the law in so far as it relates to carriage of liquor in foreign vessels without some *quid pro quo* in view of the strong sentiment which still existed both in Congress and in the country in favour of prohibition. Main argument which would be used would be "why should we do anything to assist foreign powers which will do nothing to assist us in preventing their ships from breaking our laws"? Whereas, if it could be shown by means of these treaties that foreign governments were assisting United States by consenting to right of search up to 12 miles, Mr. Hughes was convinced that a very favourable sentiment would be created and he was sure that treaties would be ratified by Senate.

Mr. Hughes begged that no publicity should be given to this scheme at present though he realised that Your Lordship would of course wish to discuss it with other maritime powers to whom he is communicating draft text.

Mr. Chilton said he knew that His Majesty's Government had always been seriously averse to any interference with vessels outside the three mile limit, but he could not say what view they would take with regard to Mr. Hughes' proposal.

Mr. Chilton added that he presumed that proposed scheme would not involve any further interference with vessels regularly plying to United States ports than took place at present.

Mr. Hughes assured him that it would not.

¹Le texte du télégramme fut transmis au Gouverneur général dans une dépêche du secrétaire aux Colonies en date du 30 juin 1923.

¹The text of this telegram was transmitted to the Governor General by the Colonial Secretary in a despatch dated June 30, 1923.