



PREFATORY NOTES

I. AUTHORITY.

This number of the Hydrographic Review (N^o 6 of the series) is published in accordance with the provisions of Art. 46 (a) of the STATUTES of the Bureau.

II. DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE DIRECTING COMMITTEE.

It is with very great regret that the Bureau announces the death of the President of its Directing Committee, Admiral Sir John Franklin PARRY, K. C. B.

He was taken ill in May 1925 shortly after his return from Cairo, where he had attended the International Geographical Congress as the representative of the Bureau. Though he was able, in the early stages of his illness, to return to his work occasionally, he never recovered his strength and he died in England of heart-failure on 21st April 1926.

A short account of his career will be found on page 193

The Directing Committee informed the States Members by Circular Letter N^o 2-R/10-H of 1926 that no election to fill the vacancy would be held. Director J. M. PHAFF automatically became President of the Directing Committee.

III. ADHESION OF STATES.

POLAND. By letter dated July 13th 1926, POLAND now adheres to the Bureau, and the States Members were informed by Circular-Lette, N^o 21-H/16-R.

(b) URUGUAY. The position with reference to this state remains unaltered.

IV. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS DEALING WITH SUBJECTS ALLIED TO HYDROGRAPHY.

In December 1924, the "Technical Committee for Buoyage and Coast Lighting", a sub-committee of the "Sub-commission of Ports and Maritime Navigation" of the "Consultative and Technical Commission of Communications and Transit" of the League of Nations held a meeting in Paris, at which were present representatives of CHILE, FINLAND, FRANCE, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS and SWEDEN. The Bureau offered to collaborate with this Committee and to communicate the data which it possessed.

This collaboration was accepted and the Directing Committee arranged a meeting with Mr. HAAS, the Secretary-General of the Consultative and Technical Commission of Communication and Transit of the League of Nations, Mr. WATIER of the French Ministry of Public Works, Director of Ports and Navigable Waterways, who had presided over the meeting in Paris, and Mr. DE ROUVILLE, Engineer-in-Chief of the French Lighthouse and Buoyage Service. At this meeting it was decided that a Conference should be convened at Monaco, in November 1925, by the Commission of Communications and Transit and by the Directing Committee of the Bureau. This Conference was to be international if possible, should be but preliminary, should make proposals only and should adopt no resolutions.

For the purpose of comparison and discussion, the Bureau had drawn up a tabulation of the Buoyage and Buoy Lighting systems of the world from information contained in Sailing Directions; this tabulation was published by the U. S. Hydrographic Office in the form of supplements to its Pilot Charts, and by the Bureau in Vol. III, N° 1 of the Hydrographic Review.

The preliminary Conference was held on 3rd to 6th November 1925, the Bureau being represented by Director NIBLACK and various proposals were drawn up, these being tentative only, as stated above. A report of the proceedings was sent to the States Members by Circular Letter N° 11-R/ 27-H of 31st December 1925. A sub-committee of the Technical Committee of Buoyage and Coast Lighting met on 3rd March 1926 in Paris to draw up suggestions relative to Coastal and Port Signals for submission to the Conference to be held by the Technical Committee in Stockholm on 3rd August 1926. Director NIBLACK again represented the Bureau at this meeting, as he will also at Stockholm.

V. SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

The results of various technical studies made by the Bureau are being published in this series as occasion arises.

A list of these publications will be found on the inside of the front cover of this Hydrographic Review.

VI. INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC CONFERENCE

The regular quinquennial Conference, provided for by Article 50 of the Bureau's Statutes, will be held at Monaco during October-November 1926 and the list of subjects and questions to be discussed has been distributed.

