

WEST INDIA AND PANAMA TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

Station, _____ 191

No enquiry respecting this Message can be attended to unless made within fourteen days from the date of the Message.

N.B.—You are requested to give no fee or gratuity to the Messenger, and to pay no charges beyond those entered on this sheet.

Charges to Pay.	
Message
Porterage
Cab Hire
Total

<p>FROM</p> <p>Frank</p> <p>Hitchcock</p>	<p>TO</p> <p>Roberto H. Todd</p> <p>Panama</p>
---	--

Is behin going chicago
shall you go write me
metropolitan club newyork

Washington
DC 13th

The receiver of this Message can have it repeated from the original Station to rectify any supposed error, by depositing the ordinary tariff for a fresh Message and Reply, which will be immediately refunded if the repetition shows any error to have occurred in the original transmission.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK
1 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL.

Washington, D. C.,
May 13, 1916.

Hon. Roberto H. Todd,
San Juan,
Porto Rico.

Dear Mr. Todd:

In a cable I sent you today I inquired if National Committeeman Behn was planning to be at the Chicago Convention and if you also expected to be there. I earnestly hope that you will be able to come, for in my judgment the future of the Republican Party for a good many years will depend on the action there taken. I assume that Mr. Behn will be on hand, but if by any chance he does not intend to come, perhaps he will give you his proxy. It is important that all members of the Committee be there early enough to insure a full consideration of the contest cases.

Please let me hear from you, addressing me at New York, where I return tonight.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Frank H. Hitchcock

COPIA

San Juan

May 16, 1916.

Hon. Frank H. Hitchcock,
Metropolitan Club,
NEW YORK CITY.

My dear Mr. Hitchcock:-

I was favored yesterday with your cablegram inquiring whether Mr. Behn and myself will attend the Chicago Convention in June, and I beg to answer as follows:-

It is due to our old friendship that I should write you plainly and without evasion, and must say that our local organization has decided not to be represented at the Chicago Convention. The action taken by the National Committee in refusing Porto Rico her two votes to which she was entitled since 1904, has angered our people to the extent of deciding to abstain entirely from any participation whatever in the Convention.

It must be added that Porto Rico has been neglected by the Republican Party. During the Spanish days the Portoricans were Spanish citizens, and were represented in the National Congress at Madrid by sixteen representatives and two senators. With the change of sovereignty, not only her voice in national affairs was silenced, but mere citizenship was denied the Portoricans, although, both Presidentes Roosevelt and Taft in several messages recommended that Congress should confer citizenship upon the Portoricans, and although the national platform in 1908 and 1912 contained such a promise, the Republican majority in Congress always refused to grant us said citizenship.

I was one of those who opposed and voted against the resolution, but could understand the reasons for a proud race as the Portoricans ~~are~~ ^{to act} against measures which they believe are unjust.

Mr. Sosthenes Behn is stopping at the Hotel Breboort, 8th. Street and 5th. Ave., New York, and if you should care to confer with him, he would confirm my information. I believe nevertheless, that he intends to attend the Convention but as a private citizen.

I do not know in what direction your activities are at present; but as I know you enough to feel that you are always on the right side, I wish you all success and

- No. 2 -

only regret that I will not be in Chicago to help you.

Let me hear from you now and then, and believe me to remain,

Yours sincerely,
(signed) R. H. TODD.

May 16th 1916.

Mr. Frank H. Hitchcock,
Metropolitan Club,
NEW YORK CITY.

My dear Mr. Hitchcock:-

I was favored yesterday with your cablegram inquiring whether Mr. Behn and myself will attend the Chicago Convention in June, and I beg to answer as follows.

It is due to our old friendship that I should write you plainly and without evasion, and must say that our local organization has decided not to be represented at the Chicago Convention. The action taken by the National Committee in refusing Porto Rico her two votes, to which she was entitled since 1904, when we never made bad use of said votes, has angered our people to the extent of deciding to abstain entirely from any participation in the Convention.

It must be added that Porto Rico has been neglected by the Republican Party. During the Spanish days the Portoricans were Spanish citizens, and were represented in the National Congress at Madrid by sixteen representatives and two senators elected in the Island. With the change of sovereignty, not only our voice in national affairs was silenced, but American citizenship was denied us, and Congress was then Republican. Although presidents Roosevelt and Taft, in several messages recommended that Congress should confer citizenship

upon the Portoricans, and although the Republican National platform in 1908 and 1912 contained such a promise, the Republican majority in Congress always refused to grant us said citizenship.

I was one of those who apposed the resolution and voted against it, but could not help feeling that my friends were right and that the action of the Republican Party towards Porto Rico has been unjust from the start. I assure you, my friend, that if something is not done soon to stop it, the anti-american feeling in Porto Rico will soon be general. Remember, too, that this country received the American Soldiers in 1898 with open arms and sided with them in the conflict against Spain.

Mr. Sosthenes Behn is stopping at the Hotel Brevoort, 8th St. and 5th Ave., New York, and if you should care to confer with him I believe he would confirm my information. I understand, nevertheless, that he intends to attend the Convention as a private citizen.

I don't know in what direction your activities are at present; but as I know you enough to feel that you are always on the right side I wish you all success, and only regret that I will not be in Chicago to help you.

Let me hear from you now and then and believe me to remain,

Yours sincerely,

RHT/RM.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK
1 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL

May 25, 1916.

Hon. Roberto H. Todd,
San Juan,
Porto Rico.

Dear Mr. Todd:

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 16th instant. It was a pleasure to hear from you again.

I have sent Mr. Behn a note at the Brevoort Hotel asking him to lunch or dine with me before the end of the week and I hope I shall have the good fortune to see him. In writing him I took the liberty of saying that I had received a letter from you giving me his address.

Party conditions in Porto Rico as you describe them are certainly most unfortunate. If we succeed in electing a Republican president in November I hope all these things can be corrected.

I wish you were here so as to be in attendance at the coming National Convention. I leave for Chicago next Sunday. The National Committee begins its meetings on Thursday, June 1st, and the Convention opens, as you know, on June 7th.

When you have a few moments to spare write me again. I am always glad to have word from you.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,



FHH/KW

P. S. My address at Chicago will be the Congress Hotel.

METROPOLITAN CLUB
NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL

May 25, 1916.

Hon. Sosthenes Behn,
Hotel Brevoort,
Fifth Avenue and Eighth Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Behn:

Several days ago I received a letter from our friend Roberto H. Todd of San Juan, Porto Rico, stating that you were at Hotel Brevoort in this city. I promptly telephoned with the idea of making an appointment, but was unable to reach you, the report being that you were temporarily away. I trust that by this time you have returned and that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you. I shall be glad to have you lunch or dine with me between now and Sunday, on which day I go to Chicago. Please telephone me at the Metropolitan Club.

Sincerely,



FHH/KW

COPIA

June 14, 1916.

Hon. Frank H. Hitchcock,
Metropolitan Club,
NEW YORK CITY.

My dear Mr. Hitchcock;-

I want to say today what I failed to state
in my previous letter, and that is that I am sorry
I was not at Chicago to help you with my vote.

Since I was in Washington in February last,
I found out through Mr. McKinley that you were out-
spoken in favor of Justice Hughes for the nomination,
so I therefore add my congratulation to the many which
you may have received.

Without any further,

I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,
(signed) R. H. TODD.

METROPOLITAN CLUB

NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL

June 30, 1916.

Hon. Roberto H. Todd,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Mr. Todd:

I thank you very much for the congratulations conveyed by your kind letter of the 14th instant, which awaited my return to New York. It was a disappointment to me to learn from your previous communication that you were not coming to the Convention, for I had counted on the pleasure of seeing you there.

On receiving from you the address of National Committeeman Behn I posted a note to him at the Brevoort Hotel, hoping to arrange an interview with him, but he had evidently departed from the country, for my letter was afterwards returned by the Dead Letter Office. You will find it herewith enclosed.

By the way, there is now a vacancy in the position of national committeeman for Porto Rico and I am hoping that the appointment will go to you. As Mr. Behn did not go to Chicago to attend the committee meeting and Convention I take it that he is not particularly interested in the matter. You have served on the committee before and would be a useful member. I am suggesting as much to the new chairman of the committee, Hon. William R. Willcox, who is a close friend of mine. If your Republican committee for Porto Rico would endorse you for the place and send the recommendation to Chairman Willcox I think it would practically settle the matter. Why do you not arrange to

COPIA

July 11, 1916.

Hon. Frank H. Hitchcock,
Metropolitan Club,
NEW YORK CITY.

My dear Mr. Hitchcock:-

Your letter of June 30th. came duly to hand and I was very glad to hear from you.

As regards the vacancy in the position of national committeeman for Porto Rico, I have to ask you to see that nothing is done until you hear from me again on the subject. The reason for this is that we will hold our territorial convention on the 29th. instant, and we intend to take up this matter again and have a vote on same.

Of course, I would be pleased to be appointed for the position, but I want it with the full consent of my friends.

In taking this again it would be only with the idea of being of some help to my people, as well as of the pleasant recollection of the many friends and acquaintances I made when I was serving on such a position.

I thank you very much for your personal interest, and believe me to remain,

Sincerely your friend,
(signed) R.H.TODD

METROPOLITAN CLUB
NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL

July 26, 1916.

Hon. Roberto H. Todd,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Mr. Todd:

Your kind letter of the 11th instant was duly received and it has been since decided to take no action for some little time looking to the filling of the vacancies in the membership of the Republican national committee. I am hoping that the territorial convention you are to hold on the 29th will recommend your appointment as national committeeman for Porto Rico. Please let me know what happens in this regard, for I shall be most interested to learn.

Sincerely,

Frank H. Hitchcock

FHH/KW

Opportunitas
Acordo Chamber

Mexico -
Proced. Bayous.

T. S.
Constit. de Districto E. S.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK
1 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

PERSONAL.

November 14, 1916.

Hon. Roberto H. Todd,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Mr. Todd:

Your kind note of the 8th instant, conveying congratulations on the result of the election, came today. You were evidently prompted to write it by the first reports sent out by the press associations indicating a Republican victory. Later returns showed that we had lost instead of won. It was a tremendous disappointment to me, for when Mr. Hughes was nominated I felt that we had chosen a winning candidate. I can not help feeling now that we had a fine opportunity to win and the fact that we lost by so narrow a margin makes the outcome seem all the more regrettable. It will do little good, however, to lament over what has happened. The thing to do is to get ready for the next fight and to make our preparation so thorough as to insure success.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Frank H. Hitchcock

FHH-G