



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
FEDERAL PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER

April 3, 1923.

Mr. R. H. Todd,
National Republican Committeeman,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Mr. Todd:

I missed you by two hours the day you left for Porto Rico and I was very anxious to have a chat with you.

The situation in Porto Rico has improved very materially in the last three or four months and Acting Director Barrett is giving a good account of himself. The office conditions were deplorable. They have been thoroughly renovated and the work put current, and the personnel is in very much better condition.

I am finding in a number of states in the United States where a Director's organization has broken down and it is necessary to inspire confidence on the part of the people in a new organization, that it is not only in the best interests of the service, but also is for the best interest of the party that an outsider be made Director. One example is Texas. In Texas, with complete agreement on the part of the National Committeeman and the State Committee, I recently appointed as permanent Director a man from Massachusetts, one of my General Agents who has a large knowledge of the work and who has had a large experience. The plan there has worked out eminently satisfactorily. In the interest of the service -- and, in my judgment, in the interest of the party -- I would like very much to appoint Acting Director Barrett permanent Director for Porto Rico. Mr. Barrett, of course, will confer with you, with reference to political matters and with reference to policies, and I know you would be of every assistance possible to him in the administration of the office. I have talked to Mr. Lockwood about the matter and he, I think, will write to you, for I think he is in entire agreement with my recommendation.

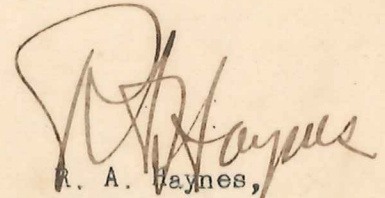
Commissioner Blair and I have also discussed the mat-

ter thoroughly and, while he would not want to take this action without your approval, yet we both believe that it is the best solution of the problem.

If you will be good enough to have a conference with Mr. Barrett and let me know the results of same, I shall be very glad, and, in the event that you acquiesce, if you will cable me a recommendation to this effect, we will take prompt action.

With cordial regards and assurances of highest esteem, I beg to remain

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. A. Haynes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R".

R. A. Haynes,
Prohibition Commissioner.

EP

U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

SRS

NAU V NDD DE WASHINGTON NR 244 CK 43. 4.11.23.

R H TODD NATIONAL REPUBLIC COMMITTEE SAN JUAN PORTO RICO.
HAVE NOT HAD REPLY MY RECENT LETTER BUT
ASSUMING APPOINTMENT MR BARRETT SATISFACTORY YOU FROM INFORMATION
OTHER SOURCES WOULD LIKE TO INITIATE APPOINTMENT EARLEST POSSIBLE
TIME LOCKWOOD CONCURS AND HAS ALSO ~~-----~~ WRITTEN.

HAYNES .

0840 JP.

April 18th, 1923.

Honorable Roy A. Haynes,
Federal Prohibition Commissioner,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Haynes:-

Sometime last week I was favored with a radio communication signed by you referring to a recent letter which you had written me regarding the appointment of Mr. Barrett and the very next day the mail brought me your communication of the 3rd. instant, to which I now beg to reply.

I am very sorry myself that we did not take up this matter verbally while I was in Washington, for we then would have arrived at an understanding.

It is a pleasure for me to state that, ever since Mr. Barrett took charge of the office, we have been seeing much of each other, our offices being on the same floor of the Federal Building, and I want to say that I have found Mr. Barrett both pleasing and painstaking in his work as Acting Prohibition Director.

Of course, Mr. Commissioner, in the performance of your duty as the head of the Prohibition organization, you believe that the best success of the local office in Porto Rico calls for an outsider as Director, and after what happened to the previous incumbent, I have nothing to say and I hope your decision will meet with success. On the other hand, I also have a duty to perform with my people and, notwithstanding the good qualities that I recognize in Mr. Barrett for the office, I believe that if you had given another chance to a local man, we might have made good, as there is good material from which to select; and I do hope that when-

Honorable Roy A. Haynes.
Page 2.-

April 18th, 1923.

ever you find yourself in need of sending an outsider to any other State or Territory, as the example in Texas, to which you refer in your letter, you will kindly give Porto Rico the opportunity of supplying a candidate who will surely make good.

With kindest regards, believe me to remain

Sincerely yours,



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
FEDERAL PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER

Personal and Confidential

April 24, 1923.

Hon. Robert H. Todd,
Republican National Committeeman for Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Mr. Todd:

I am just in receipt of your letter of April 18th and very greatly appreciate the attitude you have taken. The appointment of Mr. Barrett, no doubt, will be acted upon within a few days. I am quite sure that the action taken will be amply justified by the successful conduct of the work in Porto Rico.

With cordial regards and assurances of highest personal esteem, I beg to remain

Yours very truly,

R. A. Haynes,
Prohibition Commissioner.

EP

May 9, 1923.

Hon. Roy A. Haynes,
U. S. Prohibition Commissioner,
Bureau of Internal Revenue,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Haynes:-

This is simply to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 24th, 1923, which calls for no answer.

A piece of news which I saw in the morning paper today regarding the appointment by Mr. Barrett of someone as his immediate Assistant, has made me recall a paragraph in your letter of April 3, 1923, to the effect that Mr. Barrett would confer with me with reference to political matters and in policies and you assumed, naturally, that I would give Mr. Barrett any possible assistance in the administration of his office. The reason for recalling this paragraph is that you assumed something which has not happened, as may be Mr. Barrett has found someone else whom he considers more safe to consult about political matters and policies, for I don't even know the man whom he has appointed as his immediate Assistant.

Far from ~~be~~ the intention of complaining. I only want to make the statement, inasmuch as in the position I hold within my party, people come to me, some for information and others for recommendation and of course, it is embarrassing to have to refuse to give both.

Believe me to remain

Sincerely yours,



OFFICE OF
FEDERAL PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

WASHINGTON

Pro-RAH

May 15, 1923.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. R. H. Todd,
National Committeeman,
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Mr. Todd:

I am just in receipt of your letter of May 9th, for which I thank you.

I have noted what you say relative to appointment matters, and am rather inclined to think that the newspaper article to which you refer was erroneous, for I do not recall that there has been such an appointment pass through the office. However, I expect to have a talk with Mr. Barrett at an early date.

Thanking you for your many evidences of cooperation, I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. A. Haynes".

R. A. Haynes.
Prohibition Commissioner.

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