

the New Hebrides, in conformity with the International Postal Convention.

(4.) English and French money and bank-notes authorized by either Power shall be legal tender in the Group.

ARTICLE V.

Financial Provisions.

(1.) Each of the two Signatory Powers shall defray the expenses of its own administration in the Group.

(2.) The expenses of the Joint Court and of the public services undertaken in common shall be defrayed out of local taxes, to be imposed by the High Commissioners jointly, the receipts from fines and from the postal service, and all other revenue of a joint character.

In the event of the revenue from the above proving insufficient, the two Signatory Powers shall each pay one-half of the deficit.

ARTICLE VI.

Joint Naval Commission.

(1.) It shall be the duty of the Joint Naval Commission established by Article II of the Convention of the sixteenth November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, to co-operate in maintaining order in the Group.

(2.) Except in case of urgency, it shall only act on the joint request of the two High Commissioners or their Delegates.

(3.) The Convention of the sixteenth November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, the Declaration signed in Paris on the twenty-sixth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, between the British and French Governments, and the Regulations adopted on the same day by the two Governments as instructions for the Joint Naval Commission, shall remain in force, except where contrary to the present Convention.

(4.) The Joint Naval Commission shall send copies of the reports on its operations to each of the two High Commissioners and to each of the two Resident Commissioners.

ARTICLE VII.

Legislation—Regulations.

The High Commissioners shall have power to issue jointly, for the peace, order, and good government of the Group, as well as for the execution of the measures resulting from the present Convention, local regulations binding on all the inhabitants of the Group, and to enforce such regulations by penalties not exceeding one month's imprisonment or a fine of twenty pounds.

ARTICLE VIII.

Native Administration.

(1.) In the present Convention "native" means any person of the aboriginal races of the Pacific who is not a citizen or subject or under the protection of either of the two Signatory Powers.

(2.) No native, as defined above, shall acquire in the Group the status of subject or citizen or be under the protection of either of the two Signatory Powers.

(3.) The High Commissioners and their Delegates shall have authority over the native Chiefs. They shall have power to make administrative

and police regulations binding on the tribes, and to provide for their enforcement.

(4.) They shall respect the manners and customs of the natives, where not contrary to the maintenance of order and the dictates of humanity.

ARTICLE IX.

Civil Status of the Natives.

(1.) The persons appointed by the High Commissioners or their Delegates to receive declarations of births, deaths, and marriages for the subjects or citizens of their respective countries shall receive and enter on their registers all declarations of the same character which natives may wish to make for the purpose of acquiring civil status.

(2.) Entries so made shall be kept in a general register at the Registry of the Joint Court.

JOINT COURT.

ARTICLE X.

Composition.

(1.) A Joint Court shall be established, consisting of three Judges, of whom one shall be President. A fourth officer shall act as Public Prosecutor, and shall have charge of the preliminary enquiries.

The Court shall be provided with a Registrar and the requisite staff.

(2.) Each of the two Governments shall appoint one Judge.

His Majesty the King of Spain shall be invited to appoint the third, who shall be President of the Court. The Officer who acts as Public Prosecutor shall be appointed in the same manner. Neither of these two Officers shall be a British subject or a French citizen.

The Registrar and the staff shall be appointed by the President.

(3.) If either of the two Governments considers that it has a cause of complaint against the President of the Joint Court, or the Officer acting as Public Prosecutor, it shall inform the other Government.

If both Governments agree, they shall request His Majesty the King of Spain to appoint another person to fill the post.

If they disagree, His Majesty the King of Spain shall determine whether the complaint is justified, and whether the Officer complained of shall be retained or superseded.

(4.) The arrangements as to salaries, travelling allowances, leave, acting appointments, and, in general, all matters relating to the working of the Joint Court, shall be settled by common agreement between the two Governments.

ARTICLE XI.

Assessors.

(1.) In the trial of criminal cases, the Joint Court shall be assisted by four Assessors, taken from the leading non-native inhabitants of the Group.

(2.) The Assessors shall be chosen by lot from a list drawn up jointly by the High Commissioners or their Delegates at the beginning of each year.

(3.) The Assessors shall have a vote in deciding the question of the guilt of the accused, but a consultative voice only in deciding the sentence.

(4.) The prosecutor and the defendant may each challenge two of the Assessors.