

The Press Office continued to expand its activities throughout the year and supplied a steady output of information regarding the Canadian war effort to the British press.

The High Commissioner received many donations for war purposes in the United Kingdom and gifts of foodstuffs, comforts and equipment from individuals and organizations in Canada, which were allocated to the most deserving objects.

Mr. L. B. Pearson, the Official Secretary, was recalled to Canada in May to assume the position of Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. F. Hudd, the Chief Trade Commissioner in the United Kingdom, took over the duties of Official Secretary as a war-time arrangement. At the same time, Major D. C. Unwin Simson was appointed to act as Assistant Secretary. Mr. Leon Mayrand was transferred to the Canadian Legation in Rio de Janeiro in September. Mr. David M. Johnson, solicitor to the Treasury in the Department of Finance, who had been loaned to the Department of External Affairs for the duration of the war, has taken up his duties as Attaché at Canada House, his appointment being effective from the 1st October. Dr. L. E. Howlett was appointed Chief Scientific Liaison Officer in London on behalf of the National Research Council. The very substantial increase in the work of the office in 1941 is indicated by the fact that 4,013 cables and telegrams were despatched from the office during this period as compared with 2,464 during the calendar year 1940.

Canadian Legation, United States

The Honourable Leighton McCarthy, K.C. was appointed Canadian Minister to the United States and took up his post on March 14, 1941, in succession to Mr. L. C. Christie, who died after a lengthy illness on April 8, 1941. At the same time Mr. H. H. Wrong was appointed to the Legation with the rank of Minister Counsellor, and Mr. Merchant Mahoney became Counsellor of Legation.

Throughout 1941 there was exceptionally close contact between the Canadian and United States Governments, and the entry of the United States into the war on December 7, 1941, has strengthened this cooperation in every field of government activity. The work of the Legation, as a consequence, greatly increased in volume as the year progressed.

The Agreement reached between the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States at Hyde Park on April 20, 1941, for coordinating the resources of Canada and the United States, and the creation and functioning of the Materials Coordinating Committee, the Joint Economic Committees and the Joint War Production Committee, provide concrete illustrations of the closeness of the relationship between the two countries during 1941. The Permanent Joint Board on Defence set up in August 1940, continued to hold regular meetings in Canada and the United States during 1941. While such independent bodies as those referred to above were created to deal with various specific problems, a great deal remained to be done in many fields where the Legation had the responsibility of carrying on direct discussions with agencies of the United States Government. It was consequently found necessary to enlarge the staff considerably.

During the year Air Commodore W. R. Kenny, Air Attache at the Legation, was obliged to relinquish his post because of illness, while Mr. James E. Coyne who was appointed Financial Attache on March 30, 1941, returned to Ottawa in October to assume a post with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

The special war problems dealt with by the Legation included every phase of wartime activity—the fighting services, economic warfare, finance, shipping, war industry, security arrangements, raw materials, publicity and many other fields. The various treaties and agreements in the negotiations for which the Legation was concerned, are listed in another section of this report.