INTRODUCTION

about the Prime Minister's interviews, King's diaries remain an indispensable source that must be read in conjunction with this volume. Also of special note are Lester B. Pearson's article "Canada Looks Down North." in the July 1946 issue of Foreign Affairs, the testimonies of officials of the Department of External Affairs before the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and the published speeches delivered before the General Assembly of the United Nations. In a Department that was not much given to philosophizing about its total objectives the reader should not be surprised at the lack of documentation thereon. The first public statement of this period on the long-term principles governing Canadian policy which comes closest to putting on paper Canada's approach to international problems was made by St. Laurent in the Duncan and John Gray Memorial Lecture at the University of Toronto on January 13, 1947. In this lecture the Minister described what was meant by Canada's policy of "constructive international action" within the context of "secondary power" manoeuverability. "There is little point", said Mr. St. Laurent, "in a country of our stature recommending international action, if those who must carry the major burden of whatever action is taken are not in sympathy." Evaluations of the role revealed in the documents in this volume will have to be read in the context of this statement. Above all, the views of officials described in this volume will have to be read within the overall framework of the five general principles enunciated as a result of the 1946 experience:

- a) external policies must not destroy Canadian unity;
- b) external policy should be based on Canada's belief in political liberty;
- c) external policy should reflect respect for the rule of law;
- d) external policy should be based upon some conception of human values;
- e) external policy should be based upon a willingness to accept international responsibilities.

Those familiar with this series will notice the elimination from this volume of the customary list of documents containing a summary of each. This change has become necessary because of the enormous increase in the postwar documentation. When the editor had to choose between including the list or approximately two hundred important documents within the confines of a single manageable volume, he opted for the presentation of as complete a record as possible in the belief that, while users could make their own lists, they could not as readily acquire missing documents.

In addition to these reasons for the change in format, readers should be reminded that this volume was produced during a period of financial stringency. The publication of the manuscript has already been delayed for more than a year because of a lack of funds and further delays would have been necessary if a list of documents that is costly to prepare had been added to an already massive volume. It is hoped that the expanded index will somewhat alleviate the inconvenience created by this decision. Suggestions for an author