

about 130 members of the staff of the Finance Department moved to the new Bank of Canada Building; and the Department of External Affairs put in a claim for a part of that released space. It was indicated that a total number of 37 rooms were required, not counting the Passport Branch, which "might be included in the same building, but which while desirable, is not essential".

In November, 1938, addressing a meeting of the Alliance Francaise, the town-planning expert, M. Jacques Greber, advanced a proposal of a new building, north of Bank and Wellington Streets, exclusively for the Prime Minister and his staff, the Privy Council and the Department of External Affairs.

From time to time thereafter, proposals for a new special building to accommodate External Affairs, the Passport Branch and other sections, were suggested, but without any avail.

In October, 1939, Dr. Skelton described the set-up in his own corner under the main tower. "At present the small room adjoining mine, No. 203, which is occupied by my Secretary, Miss McKenzie, and our Chief Clerk, Mr. Boyce, serves the double purpose of a waiting-room for visitors wishing to see Mr. Beaudry or myself and as the distribution room for mail and telegrams despatched from and to offices abroad as well as from and to Canadian points. This has never been a satisfactory arrangement, but under war conditions it is not only unsatisfactory but dangerous to have the latter activities carried on in a room used at the same time as a waiting-room for visitors.