

Norman Robertson, an unfailing inventor of solutions for insoluble problems; Arnold Heeney, Escott Reid, and a younger generation of unsuspected talent, now nearing the top." (1)

And in the House on February 18, 1941, Mr. Mackenzie King declared: "The result of Dr. Skelton's example and influence is that today in the Department of External Affairs, in London, in Washington, and elsewhere throughout the world this nation is served by men who, thinking nothing of public acclaim, of personal distinction, or of public reward, have laboured without ostentation, steadily and silently, for the great cause which has been entrusted to their hands." (2)

On January 28, 1941, Dr. O.D. Skelton, who had been Under-Secretary since 1925, died of a heart attack, brought on, it was believed, by excessive strain and over-work. In the emergency, Norman A. Robertson, who had been working most closely with Dr. Skelton, was temporarily named Acting Under-Secretary; and shortly afterwards his appointment to the position was confirmed and made permanent.

(1) Bruce Hutchison: The Incredible Canadian, p.266.

(2) H. of C. Debates, February 18, 1941, p.818.