

the very nature of things he is more closely in touch with the government and with their policies and views than any man who occupies a purely diplomatic post. He has under the statute to deal with so many matters that it is quite clear that it is so. It is an old story now but we certainly did inform Mr. Massey that we thought he should retire from the post to which he had been appointed in the closing days of the former administration, and he did retire accordingly. I think on second thought most men would realize that that was a sound position. I feel perfectly certain that the present high commissioner in London [Mr. Howard Ferguson] in the event of a change of government will regard it as his duty to retire at once, and I feel equally certain that whether he did or not he would be retired. (1)

In 1930, the post of Canadian High Commissioner at London was vacant in consequence of Mr. P.C. Larkin's death on February 3, 1930. Mr. Lucien Pacaud, Official Secretary, became Acting High Commissioner. Prime Minister Mackenzie King appointed Hon. Vincent Massey, then Minister at Washington, by Order-in-Council dated July 24, 1930. The same Order-in-Council also advised that there be issued a letter of recall of Mr. Massey from his post in Washington. "The way in which a Minister is withdrawn is not by order-in-council. He has his letters of recall signed by the sovereign on the application of the government affected, and in this instance the letters of recall were actually signed on the day this [Bennett] government came into office. They subsequently came back to Ottawa from London; they were signed on the 7th day of August, 1930." (2) Actually, the letter of recall of Mr. Massey was not

(1) H. of C. Debates, July 3, 1935, IV., p.4204.

(2) R.B. Bennett. H. of C. Debates, May 15, 1931, III., p. 1658.