



PRESS RELEASE

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1954

The Embassy of Haiti in Canada was formally opened today when Mr. Martial Petrus presented his credentials as Chargé d'Affaires ad interim to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Jules Léger. Mr. Petrus, who has the rank of Minister-Counsellor, will head the Embassy pending the accreditation of the Ambassador designate, Mr. Jacques Léger.

Mr. Petrus was born at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in 1893. He holds a Doctorate from the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy and has made post-graduate studies at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Paris. As a chemist and a professor of chemistry, he has been associated with a number of firms and institutions in his country, and before joining the diplomatic service in 1950, was professor of chemistry and head of the laboratory at the Faculty of Pharmacy at Port-au-Prince. He was appointed to the Haitian mission in Brussels and remained there until his recent transfer to Ottawa. Mr. Petrus is married and has two daughters.

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