



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced today the appointment of Mr. J.B.C. Watkins as Canadian Minister to Norway and Iceland. Mr. Watkins will succeed Mr. E.J. Garland who is retiring this summer after having served for over twelve years in Dublin and Oslo.

Mr. Watkins joined the Department of External Affairs in September, 1946, and was appointed Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in Moscow in 1948. In 1951 he was recalled to Ottawa to become head of the European Division. Mr. Watkins attended the Fourth Session of the General Council of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris in 1949 as Canadian Delegate and the High Frequency Broadcasting Conference in Florence and Rapallo in 1950.

Mr. Watkins was born at Norval Station, Ontario, on December 3, 1902. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto (M.A. in English) and Cornell University (Ph.D. in Scandinavian Studies). He was associated with the American-Scandinavian Foundation in New York from 1930 to 1945 when he resigned as Secretary of that organization to become Associate Professor of English at the University of Manitoba.
