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On June 29th the Secretary of State for External Affairs notified Mr. Roy that "Provision for annuity was included in supplementary estimates tabled June 24th"- i.e. two days after the first notification concerning it was sent to Mr. Roy. He also said:

As regards date when new arrangements will take place it is of course recognized that time will be required for making the necessary official and personal adjustments and for making the necessary arrangements for your successor. It is anticipated that some weeks will elapse before the change but definite arrangements on this point can be effected later.

Dr. Skelton also sent a personal telegram the same day:

With reference to official telegram of this date, on assumption you accept proposal for life annuity, which in my personal opinion is a very fair offer, I think that in intimating to Government your desire to resign, you need not specify date but suggest that resignation take effect at early date. Immediate reply to official telegram by Tuesday morning at latest is necessary to ensure appropriation providing for life annuity being passed.

Mr. Roy not unnaturally resented this summary notice of retirement and the suggestion that he "intimate to the Government his desire to resign", and on July 2nd telegraphed:

I have taken time to consider situation your telegram puts me in. This is the first notice that I have had of proposed Government action. I respectfully suggest that new regulations concerning age limit should not apply to representatives already in office and appointed without restrictions, at least should not be made applicable on such extremely short notice. In any case I cannot accept proposed pension as adequate after my 24 years service. Your telegram suggests that I send in my resignation and you want my reply by Tuesday morning. I am not resigning and I hope there is no misunderstanding upon that point, but I realize I must submit to whatever action Government may take. (1)

(1) Ibid.