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25 Feb., 1943MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER:

C167457

Since I spoke to you about the proposed exchange of Rogers in Canberra and Chapdelaine in Washington, family complications have developed in the Chapdelaine case which make it impossible for his wife to travel to Australia and unwise to separate them at this particular time. Dr. Mackintosh knows something of Chapdelaine's capacity, and asks if we could bring him back to Ottawa and make his services available as Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction. I think the experience gained in doing this work would be valuable for him and useful for his future in our Service. If we find we can get the additional assistance I mentioned in a previous memorandum, I think we should make Chapdelaine available for this work. In this case the recommendation I made in proposing his transfer to Australia - to give him the rank of Acting Second Secretary - would still stand.

With Chapdelaine not available for Australia, I think Pick, who is at present Third Secretary with Burchell in St. John's, would be the best young man to send out to Canberra. He is single, footloose, and entirely capable. I think he would do well in Australia, and the transfer would be in line with our general policy of moving the younger secretaries, who are prevented from enlisting, to posts a little nearer to actual theatres of operations.

I have not a definite suggestion to put forward yet for the replacement of Pick in Newfoundland. We might send Feaver, who was formerly in Tokyo and has been dealing with Newfoundland and Labrador questions since his return. Alternatively, it might not be a bad idea to send one of the younger French Canadian secretaries to St. John's. In this case we might send P.A. Beaulieu.

OK  
M. W. King

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