

## THE EARLY YEARS, 1947-52

After Leslie Chance prepared his plans in July, 1947, External Affairs set in motion the machinery for opening new Canadian offices across the United States and rearranging the responsibilities of New York, but Chance's programme, when carried into practice, was modified after the first few consulates opened. In some cases, guided by Chance's and Allard's recommendations, External Affairs could refuse to open offices in cities where forces were at work pressuring them. In other situations, however, especially following 1954, External Affairs could not withstand the pressure to open new offices.<sup>63</sup> The Department, by not keeping its programme for expansion up-dated, lost the ability to take the initiative when proposals were made.

The first post war career consulate office opened in Chicago in 1947.<sup>64</sup> Leslie Chance, after his visit there, believed that a Consulate General was urgently needed because:

- (1) The anti-British atmosphere which was generated and promoted by the Chicago Tribune damaged the Canadian image in the eyes of the Americans.
- (2) "Far more important government representation is necessary to our prestige."
- (3) The Canadian tendency to lose their distinctiveness as Canadians would be diminished by a Canadian office.<sup>65</sup>

In accordance with a decision of the Department, the Consulate General opened November 1, 1947, under the direction of Edmond Turcotte, former editor of "Le Canada".<sup>66</sup> From its establishment to 1955, the