

Ministers on questions related to the conduct of the war. The visiting Ministers were:—the Hon. J. L. Ralston, Minister of National Defence; the Hon. C. G. Power, Minister of National Defence for Air; the Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Munitions and Supply; the Hon. W. P. Mulock, Postmaster General; and the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour. A considerable number of departmental officials also visited London during the year on special missions or for discussions with the United Kingdom authorities.

Other visitors included two groups of Canadian Parliamentarians. For one of them a tour was organized by the Empire Parliamentary Association; for the other arrangements were made by the Office. Two groups of Canadian journalists also visited the United Kingdom during the year, one under the auspices of the British Council and one whose tour was arranged by Canada House and the Canadian Service Headquarters.

There have been no changes in the personnel of the senior members of the High Commissioner's staff during the year.

### *Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Australia*

Major-General Victor W. Odlum, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who was appointed to succeed Mr. C. J. Burchell, K.C., as High Commissioner for Canada in the Commonwealth of Australia, took up his duties at Canberra on January 8. He returned to Canada on September 15 and was subsequently appointed Canadian Minister to China. On November 4 the Prime Minister announced the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Justice T. C. Davis of the Court of Appeal of Saskatchewan as High Commissioner in succession to Major-General Odlum. Mr. E. B. Rogers was acting High Commissioner following the return to Canada of Major-General Odlum.

Before his departure Major General Odlum visited various parts of Australia. In the course of his trips he delivered a number of addresses and met a large number of the leading citizens of Australia.

During the year study was made of a variety of subjects including developments in the work of the armed forces, war finance, national security regulations, passport and immigration questions, broadcasting, post-war reconstruction, rehabilitation of members of the forces, relations with allied and neutral countries, treatment of enemy aliens, rationing and other economic controls, and the changing political situation. Efforts were made to trace Canadians evacuated to Australia from war areas, and the repatriation of several Canadian refugees was arranged. Assistance was rendered to other distressed Canadians. Arrangements were made with the Queen's Canadian Fund for a grant of £5,000 (Australian) to be expended by the Canadian Women's Association in Australia on the relief of war victims. Specific enquiries from Australian Government departments and from other sources in Australia and Canada were dealt with. Bulletins of Canadian news were distributed from time to time to the press, Government departments, Canadians resident in Australia and others.

The Secretary of the Office represented Canada as an observer at the British Commonwealth Telegraph Rates Conference which was held at Canberra in December.

Effective co-operation was maintained with the Canadian Government Trade Commissioners in Sydney and Melbourne in the handling of certain trade matters, in the distribution of Canadian Government films, in assisting Canadian refugees and distressed Canadians, in dealing with miscellaneous enquiries, and in many other ways.