

ally the uneasiness felt by the Soviet-Ukrainians. I wondered in reply whether such a statement might not give the anti-Soviet elements an opening for precipitating a public controversy over Soviet-Canadian relations in general. A statement of this sort might well defeat its own purpose.

I added that as a matter of fact the Canadian Government was studying this problem from the point of view of Canadian unity as well as of Soviet-Canadian relations and that it seemed to me that the most effective policy under the present circumstances was to develop good all around Canadian-Soviet relations, in trade, exchanges of information, visits of scientists etc., and to avoid doing anything which might excite strong emotions. M. Manuilsky again asked me to give further thought to this problem with a view to formulating some more positive recommendations to the Government. He himself disclaimed, however, any right to give me any advice on how it should be handled.

I do not know whether I succeeded in convincing M. Manuilsky of the harmfulness of Soviet press attacks on Ukrainian nationalists, but I am glad that I had the opportunity of suggesting to him the complexity of the problem and of outlining the position of the Canadian Government. My impression is that he had not really considered the problem from this point of view, and that, as an old revolutionary, he had thought of it almost entirely in terms of polemical frontal assaults.

Lest my detailed account of the arguments should convey a false impression of acrimoniousness, I might add that the conversation, which was carried on in Russian, was conducted in an atmosphere of great cordiality, and even intimacy. The talk ended with M. Manuilsky expressing his admiration for Mr. Mackenzie King and for the contribution made in this war by Canadian soldiers. On saying good-bye he extended to me a warm invitation to visit the Ukraine and call upon him in Kiev.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. John Holmes at Canada House.

Yours sincerely,

[LEO MALANIA]

1245.

DEA/8213-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Ambassador in United States*

DESPATCH 1420

Ottawa, December 19, 1945

SECRET

Sir:

I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 2629 of November 8th^t concerning the registration of Soviet citizens in Canada and to inform you that this registration has now taken place at offices which were opened for the