

Larkin, P. Roy). Under the supervision of the new Under-Secretary, O. D. Skelton, and with the impetus of growing Canadian responsibility for external affairs and the corollary establishment of legations in three foreign capitals, a number of new officers joined the Department or became associated with it. Some of these recruits rose to great prominence in later years both in the Canadian diplomatic service and in other areas of the nation's life (e.g., Vincent Massey, Lester B. Pearson, Norman A. Robertson, Georges P. Vanier). Not until World War II did the Department again experience such an influx of able men.

As indicated above this was also the period when our first diplomatic missions were established abroad; first in Washington and then in Paris and Tokyo. The story of the founding of each of these legations is to be found in Chapter I, and the whole process of negotiating the establishment of legations can be seen when the documents on the three events are read as a whole.

In preparing this volume for publication the main source of documents has been the files of the Department of External Affairs. This has been augmented by material found in various collections in the Public Archives of Canada. The most valuable of these collections were those of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Arthur Meighen and Richard Bedford Bennett and the so-called Skelton Papers. The collections of the Governors General, both at the Public Archives and at Government House, have also been useful and the Editor would like to express his thanks to Her Majesty the Queen for permission to publish Documents 67, 75, 79, 84 and 85, and to the Governor General's Office for assistance in obtaining this permission. The reader is assured that, subject to considerations of space, no documents have been omitted if it was felt that they would throw light upon Canada's external relations. The Editor has had access to all documents of the period and has been under no restrictions in their selection and publication. No document has been omitted for reasons of state or to avoid embarrassment to any individual or group.

Finally, the Editor would like to thank the regular members of the staff of the Department's Historical Division who have assisted in the preparation of this volume. A special word of thanks is due to the succession of summer students and graduate assistants who have made the search for documents much easier and to the typists who have handled the bulky mass of material with good humour and willingness. When all that is said the Editor wishes he could join with the Venerable Bede who, in his introduction to *The Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation*, wrote: "I humbly entreat the reader, that if he shall in this find anything not delivered according to the truth, he will not impute the same to me . . ." Scholarly practice, however, no longer permits such disclaimers and the Editor therefore accepts full responsibility both for what is presented in this volume and for what is omitted.