St. Laurent would become Prime Minister he was determined to take Pearson into his Cabinet, as a colleague rather than as an official assistant. In due course, Pearson found himself unable to refuse the invitation of Mr. St. Laurent to whom he was devoted and in whose policies he believed. (1) On September 16, 1948, Pearson left the Civil Service, after twenty years service, and became Secretary of State for External Affairs, two months before Mr. King resigned as Prime Minister.

Hugh L. Keenleyside was appointed Third Secretary on September 1, 1928, and worked in the Department until the following year, when he was sent out as Second (and soon afterwards First) Secretary and Chargé d'Affaires to open the new Legation in Tokyo, prior to the arrival of the first Canadian Minister, the Hon. (later Sir) Herbert M. Marler. Toronto-born in 1898, he was a graduate of the University of British Columbia, B.A., LL.D, and of Clark University (M.A., Ph.D.) and had taught at Brown University, Syracuse University, and the University of British Columbia. He was the author of a standard work - "Canada and the United States" and contributed extensively to journals of history and political science. While in Japan, he co-authored with Thomas, a book 'The History of Japanese Education". On Keenleyside's return from Japan, he was seconded to the Prime Minister's Office from January to October, 1936, and in June, 1941, he was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary.

⁽¹⁾ B. Hutchison: The Incredible Canadian, pp.425, 435.