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On May 14, 1940, Dr. Skelton gave a memorandum to his Counsellor, Mr. Laurent Beaudry:

Council has decided to appoint a Canadian Consul to Greenland. The Prime Minister and Mr. Crerar are considering the possibility of finding a competent Canadian of Danish or Icelandic descent. We are sending up the Hudson Bay boat, the 'Nascopie', carrying supplies and bringing back a load of cryolite. She will probably sail next Monday or Tuesday. You will see from the telegram attached that we have telegraphed London about our intentions. Unless there is any strong contrary re-action there, the appointment will doubtless have to be made soon. I should be obliged if you could consider the question of the procedure in making the appointment.

Telegrams to the United Kingdom Government had been sent on May 10th and 11th.

Again on May 15th, Dr. Skelton wrote a memorandum on the question of the appointment of a Canadian Consul to Greenland. Hon. James Gardiner proposed a number of names, men who were experts in Scandinavian matters, language, trade, or official connections. Hon. C.D. Howe recommended other names. Dr. Skelton also noted a suggestion of the name of Mr. Diamond Jenness, an anthropologist, and Professor F.H. Soward, a historian of international affairs. Dr. Skelton's memorandum concluded:

It is possible we have been attaching too much importance to the question of language and not enough to experience in international work. It had seemed to me that it was not possible to spare any man from our own Service, or to get him to Greenland in time. It now seems that perhaps the best solution might be to send Kirkwood to Greenland. Since the occupation of Holland, he is without any duties of importance, and