



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 26

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 6, 1951.

The Department of External Affairs announced today the appointment of Mr. Jules Leger as assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Leger succeeds in this position Mr. Leon Mayrand who was recently appointed Canadian ambassador to Chile.

Mr. Leger, who is now Head of the European Division, will be succeeded in his present position by Mr. J.B.C. Watkins, who was until recently Charge d'Affaires at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow.

Mr. Leger was born in 1913 at St-Anicet, P.Q. He was educated at the College of Valleyfield, at the University of Montreal, and at the University of Paris.

Mr. Leger joined the Department as Third Secretary in July, 1940. Shortly after his appointment to the Department, he was seconded to the Prime Minister's Office where he remained until 1943 when he was posted to the Canadian Legation, Santiago. He was transferred to the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London in January, 1947. On his return to Canada, in February, 1949, Mr. Leger was again seconded to the Office of the Prime Minister; he returned to the Department in August last year when he became Head of the European Division.

Mr. Watkins, who succeeds Mr. Leger in the European Division, was born in Norval Station, Ontario, in 1902. He attended the University of Toronto (B.A. 1926, M.A. 1927) and Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. (Ph.D. 1944). He was associated with the American-Scandinavian Foundation from 1930 to 1945. In 1945-46, Mr. Watkins was Associate Professor of English at the University of Manitoba. He was appointed to the Department in September, 1946. He was Charge d'Affaires of the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from September 1, 1948, until March 10, 1951.