

The Department of External Affairs and the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources announce the appointment of Dr. Arthur E. Blanchette, Director, Historical Division, Department of External Affairs, as Chairman of the Canadian National Section of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History. He succeeds Dr. S. G. Gamble, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. The new Alternate Chairman of the Section is Mr. L. M. Sebert, a senior officer of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. Biographical notes regarding Dr. Blanchette and Mr. Sebert are attached.

The Pan American Institute of Geography and History is one of the oldest specialized organizations of the Organization of American States. It was founded in 1928. Canada became a member in 1961. Its headquarters are in Mexico City. It is organized in National Sections which assist it in carrying out its programmes throughout the Americas. Its objectives are to co-ordinate, promote, and carry out studies, work, and training in the fields of history, geography, cartography, and geophysics of interest to member governments. Canada has been an active member of the Institute and the Canadian National Section has conducted several international scientific meetings of interest to member governments. It has also published a number of scientific and historical works regarding Canadian achievements in fields of concern to the Institute.

Other members of the National Section are:

- Member for Cartography -- Mr. T. H. Kihl,  
Director of Map Production,  
Surveys and Mapping Branch,  
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.
- Member for Geography -- Dr. Gordon Merrill,  
Carleton University.
- Member for History -- Mr. F. J. Thorpe,  
Chief, History Division,  
National Museum of Man.
- Member for Geophysics -- Dr. G. J. Tanner,  
Chief, Gravity Division,  
Earth Physics Branch,  
Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.