On September 3rd, Mr. Lapointe wrote from Paris privately to Mr. King:

> I have had a long talk with Mr. Roy. I
> believe the reason why he felt rather aggrieved
> was that he was under the impression that the so-
> called haste to effect the change here was be-
> cause we needed the appointment for somebody
> and were asking him to step aside for that purpose.
> I explained to him that far from being the case,
> we did not know who would be the best man to
> appoint and were rather embarrassed about it,
> but that the change here had to be made as part
> of a general scheme of transfers and promotions
> in the Service and had to be made at the same
> time. . . His own preference would be to retire
> finally on December 1st. . .

By this time, Mr. Roy, seventy years old, infirm, very deaf, and separated from his wife, was reconciled to retirement, providing he received an adequate pension. On September 29th, he wrote to the Prime Minister:

> Now that an immediate danger of war seems
> to be avoided, I wish you would let me know
> your decision on the date of my retirement from
> my post. It is important that I should know this
> a few weeks ahead of my departure. Naturally this
> would be providing the pension which was voted
> for me by Parliament during the last Session
> takes effect as soon as I leave my post. . .

> If you refer to my answer to your letter
> of the 27th August you will notice my desires
> in the matter. I am entirely at your disposal,
> my dear Prime Minister, your decision will be
> accepted in the most grateful way. It will always
> be a great satisfaction to us both, my wife and I,
> that we have been at the service of our country
> under your direction for such a long time without
> the least friction. . . Our common friend Mr.
> Lapointe, who will return to Canada shortly,
> will tell you personally how much I would like
> to meet your wishes and to accommodate you in
> the reorganization of your services abroad.

On January 3, 1939, the Prime Minister in a statement to the press announced that "The Honourable Philippe Roy has tendered his resignation of the position