

TELEGRAM

C190099

From THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA IN GREAT BRITAIN

To THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, CANADA

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

CYPHER

LONDON, January 12, 1946.

NO. 114

No. 114. Personal and Confidential. Following for the Prime Minister from Pope, Begins:

1. When dining privately with Mr. Massey last night occasion was afforded me to express an opinion regarding a proposed appointment to the office of Secretary to the new Governor General. This, I am afraid, I did somewhat frankly, but I feel in all honesty. Mr. Massey thought that St. Laurent, who was accessible, should be informed. I agreed. After discussion, Mr. St. Laurent asked me to communicate my views personally and most confidentially to you. While I am reluctant to do so, I now feel I have no option.

2. While I know well that the officer proposed for the appointment has a very pleasing personality, I feel that his predilection for some of the good things of life together with, in my judgment, his lack of a fundamental knowledge of the general Canadian constitutional position are such as to make it not unreasonable to believe that the question might merit further consideration. I feel, too, that Pearson would understand my feeling of reserve.

3. I believe that Mr. St. Laurent is telegraphing you in this regard. Ends.

HIGH COMMISSIONER