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The Prime Minister, the Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, C.M.G., announced today the appointment of Mr. James A. Strong, Canadian Ambassador in Peru, as Special Ambassador of Canada at the inauguration of President Elect Don Romulo Gallegos as President of the Republic of Venezuela.

Mr. Strong is to present his Letter of Credence today. In doing so he will transmit to the new President Elect the following message from the Prime Minister:

"I desire to take the opportunity afforded me by the attendance of Mr. J. A. Strong as Special Ambassador of Canada at Your Excellency's inauguration as President of the Republic of Venezuela, to extend to Your Excellency the assurance of the high regard and sincere friendship which the Government and people of Canada entertain for Your Excellency and for the Government and people of Venezuela.

I am confident that the friendship existing between Canada and Venezuela, in spite of the distance which separates our two countries, will be maintained and strengthened during the years of your term of office and will contribute to friendship and co-operation between all nations, and thus to the preservation of world peace.

In entering upon the important duties of the distinguished office of President of Venezuela, may I assure Your Excellency of the best wishes of the Government and people of Canada."

The actual inauguration of the new President, preceded by the "Oath of Office" taken in the House of Assembly, will take place on February 15 in the Salon Eliptico at Caracas.

Mr. C. S. Bissett, Acting Canadian Consul General of Canada in Caracas, has been appointed as Counsellor to the Special Ambassador.
