

June 18, 1938: "No decision has yet been taken as to the appointment of a language officer in Tokyo, but we are still definitely interested in the possibility."

In June, 1939, Norman informed Dr. Skelton that his work with the Institute of Pacific Relations was completed. He returned to Canada and called on Dr. Skelton. Apparently arrangements were then made for his appointment, for on July 11, 1939, Dr. Skelton wrote a letter to Mr. Blair, Director of Immigration, stating that "Mr. Egerton Herbert Norman has been appointed to this Department as Language Officer for the Canadian Legation at Tokyo. It is anticipated that he may be here for several months and that later he will be sent to Tokyo as a member of the staff of the Legation there." Meanwhile Norman completed his Ph.D. degree at Harvard. He also qualified in a Civil Service Commission examination for Third Secretaries.

In January, 1940, Norman proceeded to Japan, where he worked under E.D. McGreer, the Chargé d'Affaires. In June, 1941, he was offered a position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Oriental Studies at the University of Washington, and anticipating early war, probable rupture of Canadian-Japanese relations, and probable evacuation from Japan, was greatly tempted to consider this offer, not wishing to return to Canada to be employed in routine duties in the Department in Ottawa not directly connected with the Far Eastern field. He was, however, dissuaded from this desertion; (1) and

(1) File 80-L-30