

means to have team-work between a full-time minister and those who serve under him. I suggest we cannot allow this default to continue, because a departmental reorganization is needed, one which would include a new Minister of External Affairs. (1)

Procrastination

Mr. King, although he had obtained the legislative authority to transfer the portfolio to a separate Minister, continued to make excuses for postponing action until September. On April 2nd he replied to Mr. Graydon's strictures by referring to his predecessor, Mr. Bennett. "If the measure is to be criticized for coming so late, my criticism would be that it did not come many years ago, and in particular that it did not come at the time when the then Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett was Prime Minister of Canada and also Secretary of State for External Affairs. I am wholly right, I believe, when I say that when Lord Bennett became Prime Minister he had previously entertained the view that it would be desirable to separate the two offices, but he had been in office for only a very short time before he expressed quite frankly the view that it would not be wise to separate the two offices. He found that the Department of External Affairs was in many important particulars concerned with the work that the Prime Minister's office would have to undertake in connection with many of the questions that came up, and throughout the five years that he was in office he continued to hold the two positions. If those positions had been separated during

(1) Ibid. p.3732.