

AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT: The Department of External Affairs announced on October 21 that Mr. Kenneth P. Kirkwood has been appointed as Canada's first Ambassador to Egypt and concurrently as Canada's first Minister to Lebanon.

Mr. Kirkwood, who is at present serving with the Canadian Delegation to the Ninth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, will proceed about the end of November to Egypt and to Lebanon to present his letters of credence.

In the meantime, the Canadian diplomatic missions, which have now opened in Cairo and Beirut, will each be under the direction of the senior officer of the mission, serving as *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*.

Mr. Kirkwood was born in Brampton, Ontario, on April 14, 1899. He attended the University of Toronto, the London School of Economics and Columbia University. During the First World War he served with the Canadian Army, the Royal Naval Air Service, and the Royal Air Force. From 1923 to 1928 he taught history in Turkey, Canada and the United States.

Mr. Kirkwood joined the Department of External Affairs as a Second Secretary in 1928 and has served in Washington, Tokyo, The Hague, London, Greenland, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and Warsaw. In Warsaw, Mr. Kirkwood was *Chargé d'Affaires a.i.* from 1947 until 1950. He was appointed Canadian High Commissioner in Pakistan in November 1951 and returned to Ottawa in June of this year.

Mr. Kirkwood has attended a number of international conferences and is the author of several books of verse, essays and travel.

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NORTHERN SERVICE OFFICERS: Nearly three hundred Canadians from every part of Canada have volunteered to serve as Northern Service Officers in the Canadian North. "Now", Northern Affairs Minister Jean Lesage announced, "the long task of selection is completed and six adventurous Canadians will soon begin training for their new life on the roof of the world."

Each new Northern Service Officer will come to Ottawa for a period of training as soon as he can be released from his present employment. He will study the background of the problems of Eskimo society which he will later help to solve. Within the next few months all the Northern Service Officers will have set forth for their new homes in remote places from the mouth of the Mackenzie River in the Western Arctic Ocean to the shore of Hudson Bay. In each place the pattern of work will be generally similar. The Northern Service Officer will move among the people, get to know them, gain their respect and co-operation, and help them to help themselves.

AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL: The Department of External Affairs announced on October 21 that Mr. T. W. L. MacDermot, the Canadian Ambassador to Greece, has been appointed as Canada's first Ambassador to Israel. Mr. MacDermot, who will continue to be accredited to Greece, will shortly proceed to Israel to present his letter of credence. In the meantime the Canadian Embassy, which has already been opened in Tel Aviv, will be under the direction of the Counsellor, Mr. George P. Kidd, who will act as *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim* during Mr. MacDermot's absence from this post.

Mr. Terence W. L. MacDermot's appointment as Canadian Ambassador to Greece was announced on March, 1954. He was born in Jamaica in 1896 and is a graduate of the Universities of McGill and was Principal of Upper Canada College, 1935-42.

He served overseas in the Canadian Army during the First World War and during the Second World War was in charge of the Civil Affairs Staff Course at the Royal Military College.

Mr. MacDermot joined the Department of External Affairs in 1944 and was appointed High Commissioner for Canada in South Africa in August 1950.

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RCN MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE. Ships of the Royal Canadian Navy's First Escort Squadron sailed from Londonderry, Northern Ireland on October 17 for a two-month operational cruise to the Mediterranean, Naval Headquarters announced today. The squadron is composed of the destroyer escort HMCS Algonquin and HMC Ships Lauzon, Prestonian and Toronto (frigates).

First port-of-call for the ships was to be Lisbon, October 21. The squadron will enter the Mediterranean next week and will pay formal and informal visits to ports in several NATO countries.

After leaving the Mediterranean early in December the ships will call at Ponta Delgada in Azores, enroute to Halifax.

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1953 RAILWAY RECORDS: Canada's two major railways made and spent more money in 1953 than in any other year in history, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Operating revenues of the Canadian National Railways climbed to \$696,622,000 from \$675,219,000 in 1952 and operating expenses to \$659,049,000 from \$634,853,000, while operating revenues of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company rose to \$509,314,000 from \$492,982,000 and operating expenses to \$456,652,000 from \$438,344,000.

Both lines transported less freight and fewer passengers than in 1952, but while passenger revenues declined freight revenues reached new records.