Replacing A. E. Ritchie

Marcel Cadieux appointed Ambassador



Canada's new envoy to the United States, Marcel Cadieux, presented his credentials to President Nixon at the White House on February 20.

Mr. Cadieux comes from Ottawa, where for the past five years he served as Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, the senior career position in Canada's foreign service. He has also served as Deputy Under-Secretary and Assistant Under-Secretary.

This is his first assignment as Ambassador. His previous postings have included London, Brussels, Paris and the International Supervisory Commission in Vietnam. He represented Canada at the United Nations and at many other international meetings, including those of NATO and UNESCO.

Mr. Cadieux' predecessor in Washington was A. Edgar Ritchie, who has exchanged jobs with him. Mr. Ritchie was Ambassador in Washington from July 1966.

Other distinguished chiefs at the Chancery on Massachusetts Avenue have included the former Prime Minister of Canada, Lester B. Pearson (1944-46) and the late Vincent Massey (brother of actor Raymond Massey). Mr. Massey was named Canada's first diplomatic representative in Washington in 1927. He held the rank of Minister and the mission was technically a legation, becoming an Embassy in 1943. Mr. Massey later became Canada's first native-born Governor General.

Other noted Canadian Ambassadors to the United States were the late Hume Wrong and Norman Robertson; A. D. P. Heeney, now chairman of the International Joint Commission; and Charles S. A. Ritchie (no relation to A. E. Ritchie), presently Canada's High Commissioner to Great Britain. In 1969, Mr. Cadieux was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service of Canada and the Vanier Gold Medal of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada.

A former professor of international law, and a member of the Royal Society of Canada, Mr. Cadieux is a frequently published author in both French and English. In 1961 the General Assembly of the United Nations elected him to serve five years as a member of the International Law Commission. He was elected as a member in his own right, the first such honor for a Canadian. He has been a governor of the National Film Board of Canada.

Born in Montreal in 1915, he was educated in French-language schools before undertaking postgraduate studies in constitutional law at McGill University. He holds doctorates of law from the University of Montreal, Poitiers University, France, and the University of Ottawa.

The new Ambassador takes over the direction not only of the Washington Embassy, but also the activities of twelve Consulates and Consulates General throughout the United States.

Other Federal Government agencies in U.S. cities coming under his general supervision include Canadian Government Travel Bureaus in 17 centers, and Immigration Service, National Film Board, and defense liaison offices. (Canada is also represented in various U.S. cities through provincial government offices.)

Canadian Consulates General are located in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, San Francisco, and Seattle; and Canadian Consulates in Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Philadelphia, and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

"Personally and professionally," said Mr. Cadieux, "I have always been fascinated by the United States." His personal acquaintaince goes back many years when as a boy and a young man he spent frequent summer holidays with relatives in the New England states. "I'm looking forward to renewing these ties," he says.