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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
PRESS RELEASE

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Ottawa, March 12, 1946

The Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, today announced the impending retirement of the Right Honourable Vincent Massey as High Commissioner for Canada in London. In making the announcement, Mr. King said:

"In 1926, Mr. Massey was appointed Canadian Minister to Washington. This appointment marked the establishment of the first Canadian Legation abroad. It inaugurated direct diplomatic relations between the United States and Canada. As Minister, Mr. Massey was able greatly to further the cordial character of the relations then existing between the two countries, and which ever since have been so greatly strengthened by Canada's Mission in Washington.

In 1935 Mr. Massey was appointed Canadian High Commissioner in London. His tenure of that office has, therefore, extended over more than ten years. These years have been of historic significance in Commonwealth and international relationships.

During the six years of war, Mr. Massey, and his staff in London, were under exceptionally heavy strain. Their work, much increased in volume, had to be carried out under arduous, exacting, and often dangerous conditions. In addition to the greatly increased duties of the High Commissioner's Office, both Mr. and Mrs. Massey have never failed to give generously of their time and energies to the welfare of Canadian servicemen and women in the United Kingdom. In their solicitude for the welfare of the men and women of the armed forces, the auxiliary services and the voluntary agencies, they have won for themselves a high and lasting place in the esteem of their fellow countrymen.

*Approved
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