

(37)

## PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No.78

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, DECLMBER 4, 1952

In recognition of the desirability of establishing direct diplomatic relations between them, and the importance of their commercial relations, the governments of Canada and Uruguay have agreed to exchange missions of embassy rank.

Major-General L.R. LaFlèche, D.S.O., has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to Uruguay and will act in that capacity as well as carry out his present functions as Ambassador to Argentina. An Embassy will be established in Montevideo which, during the absences of the Ambassador, will be under the direction of a resident Chargé d'Affaires.

General LaFlèche, 64, was educated at Sorel and Montreal, P.Q. During the first World War he served in France with the Royal 22nd Regiment. He entered the Cabinet in 1942 as Minister of National War Services and served as Member for Outremont in the House of Commons. In 1945 General LaFlèche became first Canadian Ambassador to Greece, a post which he held until 1949 when he was appointed High Commissioner for Canada in Australia. He relinquished this assignment in 1951. In April, 1952, he was appointed Canadian Ambassador to Argentina.

General LaFlèche is married and has five children.