

Today's announcement will not involve any changes in the personnel of either Mission. Mr. McCarthy becomes Ambassador of Canada forthwith, and the Honourable Ray Atherton has been nominated as Ambassador of The United States to Canada.

It is fitting that what was the first Canadian diplomatic office abroad - the Legation established at Washington in 1927 - should now become the first Embassy of Canada. The creation of this Embassy may be expected to foreshadow the elevation of other Canadian legations abroad to embassies, and of this announcement will be made in due course.

I am very glad to add that Honourable Leighton McCarthy will continue in his new rank as the head of Canadian representation to the Government of the United States, and my colleagues and I are much pleased that we shall continue to have the benefit of his counsel in close association with the President and the leaders of the administration in our good neighbour, the United States. We welcome also the presence of Mr. Atherton in Ottawa in his new capacity, as the latest of a remarkable group of public servants of the United States.