

On July 2, 1942, the Department of Trade and Commerce appointed Mr. R.P. Bower as Acting Trade Commissioner in Newfoundland.

During 1943 Mr. A.J. Pick, the Secretary to the High Commissioner, was transferred to Australia, his post being filled by Mr. J.C. Britton, of the Trade Commissioner Service.

Early in 1944 Mr. Burchell was transferred to the Union of South Africa.* He was succeeded briefly by Dr. H.L. Keenleyside, Head of the American and Far Eastern Division of the Department of External Affairs, as Acting High Commissioner for a few weeks.

On May 1, 1944, Mr. J. Scott Macdonald, Head of the Economic Division of the Department, was appointed High Commissioner, with Britton as Acting Secretary. During the year, E.B. Rogers, Special Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Justice, was loaned to the office to assist in clearing up titles to defence properties in Newfoundland and Labrador acquired by the Canadian Government.

Latin America

In previous years, suggestions that Canada should establish closer relations with Latin America, either directly or through the Pan-American Union, had been given no official support. But political and economic developments during war-time forced Canadian attention southward.

* Mr. Burchell was so successful during the tenure of his office in Newfoundland that he was asked in 1948 to re-assume office there during the period which would elapse before Newfoundland became the tenth province of Canada.