

implement the principle which had been adopted by parliament. I hope that we shall not continue any longer in Canada without a separate full-time Minister of External Affairs. . . I wish to say that the Prime Minister's position at the moment is the best argument we could have for a Minister of External Affairs. He is finding the burden heavy; he has not been able to be in the House of Commons more than a small fraction of the time this session; and even at this moment, on the closing day of the session, he is unable to be with us. He ought to be the first one - and the government - to admit that if ever there was a need for a full-time Minister of External Affairs it is now. I hope the government will not try to face parliament any longer in another session without a full-time minister in that department." (1) After criticizing the government for its procrastination in filling a number of vacancies in Canadian diplomatic posts abroad - the United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, and Chile - Mr. Graydon went on: "As to the Department itself, let me say that without having a full-time minister we are following a dangerous course. In the Department one finds public servants whose competence is unsurpassed by any others in the public service of Canada. I make no reflection upon them when I say that we cannot allow a department, even one with good men in it, to grow up like Topsy, without a full-time minister. Every one knows what it

(1) H. of C. Debates, August 31, 1946, p.5731.