

It is probable that Christie was persuaded to rejoin the Department as Counsellor at the behest of the Rt. Hon. R.B. Bennett, another Maritimer by origin. There was always a certain clannishness among the Maritimers. Bennett also would have had excellent reports of Christie from his Conservative colleagues like Sir Robert Borden and Meighen. Christie was not perhaps a real intimate of Dr. Skelton, a Liberal and a Mackenzie King man; and when Christie rejoined the Department under Skelton, he seems to have followed his own path, but he had been well acquainted and had corresponded with Dr. Skelton for some time past.

His services under Mr. Bennett, however, were to be very brief, for the Bennett regime was defeated at the polls only a few weeks later, on October 14, 1935. (He tendered his resignation to the Governor General on October 23rd.)

He continued to serve, however, for the next four years under Rt. Hon. W.L. Mackenzie King in Ottawa until his appointment as Minister to Washington in 1939.

In the past, Christie had never had much affinity toward Mr. Mackenzie King, and even made aspersive remarks about him in his personal letters to his old Conservative friends, Borden and Meighen.* It was apparently due to Mr. King's coolness toward

* Borden Papers. Folder 59. Correspondence with Christie (2). (Document 148403-12).