

1099 square feet, containing the files of some twenty years, while the Prime Minister's filing branch has the same number of rooms with 861 square feet, housing the files of, I imagine, a comparatively brief period. I understand the Prime Minister's Office has since obtained from Finance a basement room for storage of correspondence files, and that further basement storage space is being made available by Finance for Prime Minister's Office clippings, close to Miss Shield's quarters." (1)

Allocations, 1941.

By June, 1941, the early part of the Second War years, the Department, then headed by Mr. Norman A. Robertson as Under-Secretary, was expanding rapidly both in respect to numbers and space. A review of the existing situation was set out in a memorandum by Robertson to the Prime Minister, dated June 6, 1941: (2)

The following notes on the office accommodation available for the Department of External Affairs may be of use when you have an opportunity of discussing the question with the Minister of Finance, whose department now occupies the balance of the East Block.

(1) Between September 1st, 1939, and May 1st, 1941, the number of employees on the External Affairs staff in the East Block increased from 54 to 101. In that period it secured the use of three additional rooms - one from the Governor General's Office, one from your Office and one from the Department of Finance. The increased personnel required by the increasing volume of work has been accommodated by closer and closer crowding of officers and clerical staff into room space which does not permit them to do their best work.

(2) The File Room, for instance, has increased

(1) File 4068-1-40 (I).

(2) File 4068-1-40 (I).