ACT OF 1912

The provisions of this Act, which received assent on the 1st of April, 1912 were as follows:

His Majesty by and with the consent of

the Senate and House of Commons of Canada,

enact as follows:

Short Title.

1. This Act may be cited as <u>The Department</u> of External Affairs Act.

Department constituted.

2. There shall be a Department of the Government of Canada to be called the Department of External Affairs over which the Secretary of State for External Affairs shall preside.

Department to be under First Minister. 3. The Member of the King's Privy Council for Canada holding the recognized position of First Minister, shall be the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and in this Act he is hereafter referred to as "the Minister".

Deputy head.

Officers

4. The Governor in Council may appoint an officer who shall be called the Under Secretary of State for External Affairs, and who shall be the deputy head of the department, and may also appoint such other officers and clerks as are requisite for the due administration of the business of the department, all of whom shall hold office during pleasure.

Powers and duties of department

5. The Minister as head of the department, shall have the conduct of all official communications between the Government of Canada and the Government of any other country in connection with the external affairs of Canada and shall be charged with such other duties as may be assigned to the department by order of the Governor in Council in relation to such external affairs, or to the conduct and management of international or inter-colonial negotiation in so far as they may appertain to the Government of Canada.

Foreign Consular Service .

6. The administration of all matters relating to the foreign consular service in Canada shall be transferred to the Department of External Affairs.

Annual Report to Parliament.

7. The Minister shall annually lay before Parliament, within ten days after the meeting thereof, a report of the proceedings, transactions and affairs of the department during the year then next preceding.

1909 **4.** 13 repealed.

8. Chapter 13 of the statutes of 1909 is repealed. 1

⁽¹⁾ George V. chap. 22