

should probably have these added after the war (U.S.S.R., China, France, Germany, Brazil, etc.). Personnel could be circulated, in part, between these attaché posts and the Division in Ottawa. New personnel in the Department could all be given a minimum period of work in the Division, and thus they would be somewhat equipped to handle press and information work at posts with no attachés. Such a Division would also have responsibility for coordination of work with the Film Board, CBC and with Trade and Commerce information services.

There may be some distaste for the idea of the establishment of a Division of Cultural Relations, in part because of such excesses as are seen in the inundation of 'information' material by the USA Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs into Latin America, and in other uses to which such organizations are turned. However, there seems to be no reason why these excesses cannot be avoided and a fairly large amount of constructive work done. We are not equipped to do it now, and I doubt if we can handle it properly without a special type of Division of the sort suggested.

It is evident that the Gordon Robertson initiative was taken seriously by the Department and a marginal note indicates it was read by Messrs. N. A. Robertson, Wrong and Pearson. Copies were circulated to other senior members of the Department and the first to offer views on paper was Léon Mayrand in a memorandum of June 30, 1944. (3) Mr. Mayrand expressed complete agreement that the Department should set up a separate Division but "As the emphasis will be not so much on the export of 'culture' as on providing information about Canada, it might simply be called the Division of Information."