

Mr. Anderson *free*



PRESS RELEASE

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The Department of External Affairs announced today that on January 5 the Canadian Government presented notes to the Governments of Hungary and Roumania in connection with the disputes which have arisen over the implementation of the human rights clauses of the Peace Treaties signed by Canada with those countries. The notes named Rt. Honourable J. L. Ilesley, P.C., as the Canadian representative on the commissions which are proposed in accordance with the provisions of the treaties.

As Canada has no diplomatic representative in Hungary or Roumania, the Canadian notes were delivered by the British Ministers in Budapest and Bucharest. Similar notes were presented by the United Kingdom and the United States to the Governments of Hungary and Roumania, and of Bulgaria as well.

The text of the Canadian note to Hungary reads as follows:

"His Majesty's Legation present their compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with reference to their note of August 1, regarding the reference to a commission as laid down in Article 40 of the Peace Treaty with Hungary of their dispute with the Government over the interpretation of Article 2 of the Treaty, have the honour, on behalf of the Canadian Government, to inform the Government of Hungary that the Canadian Government has appointed Right Honourable Justice J. L. Ilesley, P.C., as its representative on the proposed commission. It is accordingly requested that the Hungarian Government appoint its representative forthwith and, at the same time, enter into consultation with the Canadian Government through the Canadian Ambassador in Washington with a view to the appointment of the third member of the commission as stipulated in the Peace Treaty."

The note to the Roumanian Government was similar to the note to Hungary. It referred to the dispute which exists over the interpretation of Article 3 of the Roumanian Peace Treaty, and called for the establishment of a commission as provided in Article 38.