

The records under scrutiny do not indicate the source and nature of the "opposition" that was growing towards the Bill nor the "difficulties" for its passage. Whether there was mounted opposition in Parliament, in Cabinet or in caucus is not revealed in these files but it is certain that neither External Affairs nor Trade and Commerce had ever wholeheartedly accepted an independent external information service and the experience, over a number of months, of working with the C.I.S. and observing its performance had not converted or reconciled them. From the files available, Mr. Claxton's telegram of August 14 was the last hurrah for the C.I.S. and thereafter the path led to its incorporation into the Department of External Affairs.

Paul Martin  
Tom  
Opposition  
Hot. Ind.  
Bessie

As early as December of 1945, Terry MacDermot, who more than most of his colleagues in External, had accepted the utility of an independent information service in Ottawa, under suitable terms of reference and with clearly defined division of labour between it and the "overseas Departments," had begun to have serious doubts that the system would work.

In a letter of December 18, 1945, <sup>(20)</sup> from London addressed to Norman Robertson, Mr. MacDermot wrote:

In a week of discussion with every one concerned with information in Paris and Brussels, collectively and separately, I have tried to explain what the C.I.S. set-up was, and to learn as much as possible