

During the 1914-18 War years, after the death of Lord Strathcona in 1913, the need of greater Canadian representation abroad, especially in London and Washington, grew. There were innumerable special missions throughout those years; Borden made regular visits to England, accompanied by Christie and other departmental secretaries; and there was inevitably much intercourse with the United States Government departments, both through the British Embassy and directly by Canadian agents.

The Office of the Canadian High Commissioner in London became an increasingly important agency, both as a political-diplomatic mission with a Cabinet Minister, Sir George Perley, in charge, and as a military headquarters.\* But it was not formally brought under the Department of External Affairs until 1921. Before that, the High Commissioner was responsible to the Prime Minister, although he also corresponded

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\* Sir George Perley was Minister without Portfolio from October 10, 1911. He was in London when war broke out on August 4, 1914. He remained there and from that date to October 12, 1917, he exercised the functions of High Commissioner, although not officially appointed to that Office. He was appointed Minister of Overseas Military Forces of Canada in the United Kingdom on October 31, 1916, by Order-in-Council P.C.2651 of October 28, 1916, under the War Measures Act; he was sworn in in London on November 2nd. He was to reside in London and submit reports and recommendations to the Governor-in-Council through the President of the Privy Council; (Borden until October 12, 1917; Rowell 1917-20). On October 12, 1917 he was appointed High Commissioner for Canada in the United Kingdom. Sir Edward Kemp, who had also been Minister without Portfolio from October 10, 1911, and Minister of Militia and Defence from 1916 to 1917, was then appointed Minister of Overseas Military Forces of Canada in the United Kingdom on October 12, 1917. He returned soon after the end of the War, and was again Minister without Portfolio from July 13, 1920, until the defeat of the Meighen Government on December 29, 1921, when he was appointed to the Senate.