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April 29, 1948.

The Department of External Affairs announced today the appointment of William Garthorne Stark as First Secretary of the Canadian Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Mr. Stark, who has been Commercial Secretary at the Canadian Embassy in Lima, Peru, since 1944, entered the Department of External Affairs on April 1, 1948. He will be proceeding to Brazil shortly.

Mr. Stark was born in Toronto, Ontario, on May 29, 1908. He graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1929. Before entering government service he worked with several financial houses, including brokerage firms in Toronto and London, England. He assisted Professor Gilbert Jackson, economic consultant in Toronto, in industrial and economic survey work.

In August, 1931, Mr. Stark entered the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa as Junior Trade Commissioner. He served in Brussels, London and Rotterdam, and with the opening of the Canadian Legation in The Hague in 1938 was appointed Assistant Commercial Attache there. When German troops entered the Netherlands in 1940, he escaped with other members of the Canadian Legation on the Destroyer "H.M.S. Mohawk".

Mr. Stark volunteered for war service on his return to Canada in August, 1940, but was requested by the Department of Trade and Commerce to continue duties as Assistant Canadian Trade Commissioner in Lima, Peru. He arrived in Lima in September 1940, and was appointed Commercial Secretary of the Canadian Embassy in 1944.