



# PRESS RELEASE

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In recognition of the growing importance of their commercial relations and of the desirability of establishing direct diplomatic communications between them, the governments of Canada and of Colombia have agreed to exchange missions of embassy rank.

Mr. Edmond Turcotte has been appointed Canadian Ambassador to Colombia, at Bogota.

Mr. Turcotte was born on January 24, 1898. After completing his education, he entered the field of journalism. In 1931, Mr. Turcotte was made assistant to the editor-in-chief of the Montreal daily newspaper, "Le Canada", and in 1934 became its editor-in-chief. After a tour of Western European countries in 1937, Mr. Turcotte returned to Canada where he served successively as secretary to the mayor of Montreal in 1939, deputy director of the Board of Economic Reconstruction of the Province of Quebec from 1939-42, and organizer of the French-language service of the Information Branch of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in 1942. In April 1942, he resumed his functions as editor-in-chief of "Le Canada".

Mr. Turcotte was a member of the National Film Board of Canada from 1939-47. In this connection, he went to Paris in October, 1944, on a mission to the French Government. He was a member of the Canadian Delegation to the UNESCO conferences in London in 1945, and Paris in 1946, and organized the public relations section of UNESCO in London in 1946. In 1947, he was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour by the French Government.

In October 1947, Mr. Turcotte was appointed Canadian Consul General at Chicago where he served until 1950 when he was appointed to Caracas, Venezuela, in the same capacity.

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