

In 1947 women were admitted to examinations for entry into the diplomatic service,⁽¹⁾ although it is believed that before that date the late Miss Marjorie McKenzie, Dr. Skelton's Private Secretary, wrote and passed, on more than one occasion, the written examinations, more for her own satisfaction than for any other reason, although she did not aspire to be granted any Foreign Service Officer rank, until she was appointed as an F.S.O.1 in 1946.⁽²⁾

(1) File 1-EA-1957,

(2) In a profile sketch of Miss McKenzie, Miss Carolyn Cox wrote: "Back in 1930, as a tour de force, she wrote the departmental examination for Third Secretaries, just to see what she could do, though knowing that no woman was eligible for appointment, and equally certain she herself could never either manage or endure the social requirements of a diplomat. She wrote a brilliant paper." (Toronto Saturday Night, March 17, 1945).