



PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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January 25, 1949.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced today the following appointments:

Mr. Charles Pierre Hébert, who has been Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Canada in Cuba, has been appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Canada in Mexico, to succeed Mr. Sydney David Pierce, who was recently appointed Associate Deputy Minister of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. R. G. Riddell, Head of the United Nations Division, has been appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Mr. John W. Holmes, who was First Secretary and Chargé d'Affaires at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from November, 1947, to September, 1948, has returned to Ottawa and has been appointed Acting Head of the United Nations Division.

— Brief biographies are attached.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

CHARLES P. HEBERT

Born at Montreal in 1899. Educated at Mount St. Louis Collegiate, McGill University, (B.A.) and New College, Oxford (B.A. and M.A.). Served as a member of the Canadian Tariff Board, a Commissioner on the Trade and Industry Commission, and on the staff of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. During Second World War served as officer in the Fusiliers Mont Royal in Iceland, the United Kingdom, Sicily, Italy and Northwest Europe. For a time served as Military Attache to the Canadian Missions in Brussels and The Hague. On returning to Canada, he was appointed Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Washington and later was with the Economic Division of the Department of External Affairs. In November, 1947, was a delegate to the International Trade and Employment Organization Conference in Havana, Cuba. He presented his Letter of Credence as Canadian Minister in Cuba on March 16, 1948.

ROBERT G. RIDDELL

Born at Edmonton, Alberta in 1908. Graduated from University of Manitoba in 1930 (Honours Degree in Arts), University of Toronto (Master of Arts) and awarded I.O.D.E. Overseas Scholarship for study in New College, Oxford (B.A. 1933, Bachelor of Letters and Master of Arts, 1933-4). Lectured in history in University of Toronto from 1934-42. In 1942, joined Department of External Affairs as Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary and in 1946 appointed Head of the United Nations Division. Has attended a number of international conferences including the Third Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris, 1948, as an alternate delegate.

JOHN W. HOLMES

Born at London, Ontario, 1910. Graduated from University of Western Ontario (B.A.), University of Toronto (M.A.), and post-graduate studies at University of London, England. Former instructor at Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario. In 1939 was appointed Information Secretary of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, later named National Secretary of the same organization. Joined Department of External Affairs, 1943, and later served in the Office of High Commissioner for Canada in London. Served at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow from November, 1947, to September, 1948. He has attended a number of international conferences including the Third General Assembly of the United Nations in Paris.
