



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1955.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced today the retirement next spring of Lt. Gen. Maurice Pope, C.B., M.C., Canadian Ambassador to Spain, and of Mr. Frederic Hudd, C.B.E., Official Secretary to the Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, and the following transfers within the Canadian diplomatic service:

Mr. Sydney Pierce, O.B.E., Canadian Ambassador to Brazil, will become Deputy High Commissioner for Canada to the United Kingdom. He is expected to take up his new duties about June 1. An announcement will be made later regarding Mr. Pierce's successor.

Mr. Leon Mayrand will succeed General Pope as Canadian Ambassador to Spain and is expected to take up his new duties in April 1956.

General Pope, C.B., M.C., was born at Rivière-du-Loup, P.Q., in 1889 and is a graduate of McGill University. In 1915, he joined the Canadian Army with which force he served for thirty years. He saw action in the First World War, and during the Second World War he held various senior staff appointments, including that of Chairman, Joint Staff Mission, Washington, and Staff Officer to the Prime Minister and Military Secretary to the Cabinet War Committee. In 1945 he was named Head of the Canadian Military Mission in Berlin and in 1950 was appointed Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany at Bonn. Later in the same year he was appointed Ambassador to Belgium and Minister to Luxembourg, which positions he held until his appointment as Ambassador to Spain in 1953. General Pope is married and has four children.

Mr. Frederic Hudd, C.B.E., was born in Bromley, Kent, in 1891 and is a graduate of the University of London. During World War I he served in the Canadian Army overseas and was discharged with the rank of Lieutenant. From 1921 to 1947 Mr. Hudd was a member of the Foreign Trade Service and served in New York (1921-34) and London (1934-41). From 1941 to 1947 Mr. Hudd was on loan to the Department of External Affairs as Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner in London and in 1947 he joined the Department of External Affairs as Official Secretary at Canada House in which capacity he has served ever since. Mr. Hudd is single.

Sydney David Pierce, O.B.E., was born in Montreal in 1901 and is a graduate of McGill University. He served on the editorial staff of the Montreal Gazette (1925-26) and of the Associated Press in New York (1927). From 1928 to 1939 he was employed in private business. In 1940 Mr. Pierce joined the Department of Munitions and Supply and became Director General of its Washington office. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1944 and three years later was appointed Canadian Ambassador to Mexico. In 1949 he was named Associate Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce. In 1950 Mr. Pierce became Canadian Representative to the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, Paris, and in 1951 was appointed Director of the Washington office of the Department of Defence Production, with the rank of Minister. In 1953 Mr. Pierce was appointed Ambassador to Brazil. He is married and has four children.

Mr. Leon Mayrand was born in Montreal in 1905 and is a graduate of the Universities of Montreal and Paris. He also studied at the London School of Economics. Mr. Mayrand served on the Editorial Staff of "La Patrie", Montreal, (1933-34) and joined the Department of External Affairs as a Third Secretary in 1934. He has served abroad at diplomatic missions in London, Rio de Janeiro and Moscow. In 1949 he was appointed an Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. In 1951 Mr. Mayrand was appointed Canadian Ambassador to Chile and in 1954 Canadian Commissioner, International Supervisory Commission for Laos, Indochina. Mr. Mayrand has recently returned from Vientiane. He is married and has three children.
