



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1955.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced today the following appointments and transfers within the Canadian Diplomatic Service:

Mr. L.P. Picard, Q.C., M.P., who is resigning his seat in the House of Commons, is to be appointed Ambassador to Argentina to succeed Major-General the Honourable L.R. Laflèche whose retirement was announced on June 1.

Mr. Alfred Rive, External Affairs Member of the Directing Staff at the National Defence College, is to be appointed Ambassador to Ireland. He will succeed the Hon. W.F.A. Turgeon whose appointment as Ambassador to Portugal was announced on March 7. Mr. Rive is expected to take up his new duties early in October.

Mr. Paul A. Bridle will succeed Mr. Leon Mayrand about October 1 as Canadian Commissioner on the International Supervisory Commission for Laos. Mr. Mayrand will be transferred to another diplomatic post which will be announced later.

L. PHILIPPE PICARD

Mr. Picard was born at Riviere-du-Loup (en bas) on August 12, 1899, and is a graduate of Laval University. He also studied at the Academy of International Law, The Hague, and at the Bureau of International Studies, Geneva. Mr. Picard enlisted in the RAF in 1918. He was called to the Bar of Quebec in 1924 and was created a K.C. in 1940. For three years Mr. Picard served as a Court House Reporter for two Quebec newspapers, "L'Evenement" and "Le Soleil". During the periods 1926-1930 and 1935-1940, he was Executive Assistant to the Minister of Justice, the Rt. Hon. Ernest Lapointe, P.C. While serving in this capacity he accompanied the Rt. Hon. E. Lapointe to a number of Commonwealth and International Conferences, including the 19th Assembly of the League of Nations in 1938. In 1943 Mr. Picard served as co-chairman of the Reception Committee for the visit of the Empire Parliamentary Association and was Canadian Delegate of a British-Canadian Mission to Burma. He was a delegate to the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations held in November 1945 in London. In 1946 and 1948 he attended meetings of the United Nations in Paris as a special commentator for the CBC. Mr. Picard was elected as a member of Parliament for Bellechasse in 1940 and re-elected in 1945, 1949 and 1953. He served as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee from 1945 to 1953 and has been Chairman of the External Affairs Committee since 1954.

ALFRED RIVE

Mr. Rive was born at Guelph, Ontario on February 17, 1897 and is a graduate of the University of British Columbia. He also obtained a Ph.D. at the University of California and a M. Litt. at Cambridge. He joined the C.E.F. in 1918. Mr. Rive was an Instructor at Cornell University, 1923-24, an Assistant Professor at Mount Holyoke College, 1926, and at Yale University 1927-29 and an Associate Professor, University Travel Association 1929-30. Mr. Rive joined the Department of External Affairs as a Third Secretary in October 1930. From 1935 to 1940 Mr. Rive served with the Canadian Advisory Office (later Permanent Delegation) to the League of Nations, Geneva, and was Acting Permanent Delegate in 1939. He served in Ottawa during World War II and at the office of our High Commissioner, London, as Acting Secretary from November 1945 until his appointment as High Commissioner for Canada to New Zealand in June 1946. Mr. Rive remained in New Zealand until his appointment as External Affairs Member of the Directing Staff at the National Defence College, Kingston, in July 1953. Mr. Rive served as Adviser to the Royal Commission on Price Spreads in 1932 and has attended a number of International Conferences.

PAUL A. BRIDLE

Mr. Bridle was born in Toronto on October 15, 1914 and is a graduate of the University of Toronto. In 1937 he worked for the "Toronto Daily Star" and from 1937-1940 was a Master at Upper Canada College. In 1940 he joined the Department of National War Services and in 1941 enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy as a Sub-Lieutenant. He was discharged in 1945 with the rank of Lieutenant. Mr. Bridle joined the Department of External Affairs as a Third Secretary in 1945. Since joining the Department Mr. Bridle has served as Acting High Commissioner to Newfoundland (1948) and abroad as First Secretary in the Office of our High Commissioner to India. He has been stationed in Ottawa since his return from New Delhi in 1952. Mr. Bridle has attended a number of International Conferences.