

PRESS RELEASE



COMMUNIQUÉ

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

No. 6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 1968

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

The Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced the appointment of Mr. Robert Choquette, at present Canadian Consul General at Bordeaux, to be the new Canadian Ambassador to Argentina with concurrent accreditation to Uruguay. He will be replaced by Mr. René Garneau, Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland who is also accredited to Algeria.

Mr. Choquette was born in New Hampshire, USA, in 1905 and educated at the College Notre-Dame de la Côte-des-Neiges, College Saint-Laurent and Loyola College, Montreal (BA, 1926). After graduation, he was with the staff of the Montreal Gazette and was editor of "La Revue Moderne" and was active in the period 1932-61 as a writer for CBC television and radio ("La Cure de Village", "La Pension Velder", "Métropole", and "Quatuor"), and was an instructor in radio writing at Smith College in 1942-43. He was appointed Associate Commissioner of the Centennial Commission in Ottawa in 1963 and joined External Affairs as Consul General at Bordeaux in November 1964. Mr. Choquette is also well-known as a novelist and poet and is a member of many Canadian and French academic groups and societies. He was awarded the poetry prize of the Province of Quebec in 1926, 1931 and 1956; the Governor General of Canada Prize in 1930; prix Duvernay, 1954; prize by the French Academy for poetry, 1954; prix Edgar Poe (Paris), 1956, and prix international des Amitiés françaises (Paris) in 1962. He is married to the former Marguerite Canac-Marquis and they have two children.

Mr. Garneau was born in Quebec City in 1907 and graduated from the Universities of Montreal, Laval (Quebec) and the University of Paris. He was a journalist with "Le Soleil" and "Le Canada". Before joining the Department of External Affairs, he was Assistant Librarian of the Province of Quebec Library; Supervisor of French Language programmes with the CBC-International Service, and Associate Secretary of the Royal Commission on Arts, Letters and Sciences. In 1947 he was created a Knight of the Legion of Honour of France and had previously been awarded the medal of the Société des Gens de Lettres and the silver-gilt medal of the City of Paris. Mr. Garneau served in the Canadian Army in Britain and joined the Department of External Affairs in 1951. In addition to his present posting in Switzerland, he has served with the Department in Paris and Brussels and was formerly accredited to Tunisia.

Mr. Garneau is also a contributor of articles and reviews to several Canadian and French periodicals.

Mr. Martin also announced the appointment of Mr. Richard V. Gorham as the new Canadian Commissioner to the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Cambodia, replacing Mr. S. H. Nutting who will return for duty within the Department in Ottawa.

Mr. Gorham was born in Fredericton, N.B., in 1927 and was educated at the University of New Brunswick (BA, 1950) and Clark University in Worcester, Mass. (MA, 1951). He was a lecturer in Canadian History at the New Brunswick Summer School before joining the Department of External Affairs in 1952 and has served at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo and at the High Commission in New Delhi. Mr. Gorham also attended the Foreign Service Language School in Tokyo.

He is married to the former Doris Landry and they have five children.