



Mr. Anderson

PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 89

FOR RELEASE AT 10 P.M. DECEMBER 30, 1949.

December 30, 1949.

The Honourable L. B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that the Civil Service Commission had approved the appointment of C. S. A. Ritchie as Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Pearson also announced that R. M. Macdonnell had been named Minister at the Canadian Embassy in Paris. Mr. Macdonnell has recently been Canadian Charge d'Affaires in Prague. Mr. Ritchie has been Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy, Paris. It is expected that Mr. Macdonnell will take up his appointment in Paris some time in January; Mr. Ritchie will assume his responsibilities in Ottawa some time during the same month.

The appointment to France of an experienced officer of the Department with the rank of Minister is a recognition of the importance attached to the Canadian Embassy in Paris. The Ambassador is Major-General Georges P. Vanier.

With the present appointment of Mr. Ritchie, the number of Assistant Under-Secretaries in the Department is increased from two to three. The others are Leon Mayrand and Herbert Moran.

— Biographical notes of Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Macdonnell are attached.

C. S. A. RITCHIE

Mr. Ritchie was born in Halifax on September 23, 1906. He attended Trinity College School, Port Hope; University of King's College, Halifax; Pembroke College, Oxford (B.A. and M.A., 1929); Harvard University (M.A., 1930) and the University of Paris. He joined the Department of External Affairs as a Third Secretary in 1934 and was posted to the Canadian Legation, Washington, in 1936. In 1939 he was transferred to the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London, and returned to Ottawa for duty in January, 1945. Since January, 1947, he has been Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Paris.

R. M. MACDONNELL

Mr. Macdonnell was born in Vernon, B.C., on May 11, 1909. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1930 with the degree of B.A. in History and Philosophy, and later studied modern history at Oxford University. Before joining the Department of External Affairs as a Third Secretary in 1934, Mr. Macdonnell was a lecturer at the Manitoba University Summer School, 1930, and at St. Paul's College, Winnipeg, 1932-33. He was posted to the Canadian Legation, Washington, in January, 1935, and transferred to the Canadian Legation, Kuibyshev, U.S.S.R., in 1943. After serving from January, 1945, to March, 1947, with the Department in Ottawa, he was appointed Charge' d'Affaires at the Canadian Legation in Prague.
