

and Britain was having wartime and postwar financial problems.

A second and more important cause of dissatisfaction with the system was the inadequacy of British representation of Canada in the U.S. This sentiment, based on the nationalism of the Canadian diplomatic staff and not on complaints about the quality of the work performed by the British, was not a new reason for expanding Canadian offices abroad. Immigration officials, prior to the Great War, had complained constantly about the problems of stirring up British foreign officers enthusiasm for encouraging emigration to Canada. Similarly, the Canadians responsible for the establishment of the Trade Commissioner service were spurred into expanding their offices abroad because of the problems involved in having the British promote trade for Canada.¹⁵ This situation prompted knowledgeable Canadian civil servants to advocate the expansion of Canadian diplomatic and consular functions.¹⁶

In 1942, the Trade Commissioner in Los Angeles reported to Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, Assistant Under-Secretary of State, that, "as a Canadian," he was not satisfied with the continued British representation of Canada in the United States, and moreover, he discovered most other Canadians living in and visiting the United States shared his feelings. The British, he believed, while doing a good job were not "...equipped to do the job as well as we could do it ourselves."¹⁷ Lester Pearson, Minister-Counsellor of the Canadian Embassy in Washington, reported to Ottawa in 1944 that when he addressed a meeting of the U.K. Consuls in the United States they asked questions about Canada, the Commonwealth and dominion status:

...almost pathetic and not a little humiliating to me as a Canadian, to have them ask me questions - many of them very elementary questions - about my country so that they would