

consuls were simply foreign residents. Special courtesies might well be extended to them, but none such as to entail change of status. They were not, for example, granted their request to have private entry to the Governor General's Drawing Room, for this was a privilege conferred on diplomats. From time to time one or more of the consuls protested that they did in fact occupy a position not analogous to that of consuls in sovereign states, but were doing diplomatic work that would otherwise be handled by embassies. For some years attempts by the consuls to act as diplomats were quashed. In 1876, for example, the Danish consul was discouraged from acting as an intermediary in discussions over mutual rights of Danish and Canadian ships in the coasting trade. Again in 1881 Sir John Macdonald gracefully intimated to the French consul that the latter's views on trade negotiations were for the ear of Her Majesty's Government. (1)

In later years, however, principles were tacitly ignored to allow for the convenience of utilizing a representative of a foreign power resident in the Dominion. In what were at first described as "informal negotiations", the Canadian Government discussed with the German consul general the tariff quarrel between the two countries, and in 1910 the Minister of Finance and the consul reached an agreement for a settlement. (2) As early as 1906, tariff

(1) Glazebrook. op. cit. pp.232-233.

See Farr. The Colonial Office and Canada 1867-1887. p. 228, and references there enumerated.

(2) Report of the Department of External Affairs, 1909-10; 1910-11.

Canadian Sessional Papers, 1910. No.10.G.

* See footnote next page.