

purpose. In other places it is the task of one of the Secretaries, and where there are no diplomatic representatives the trade commissioner or other Canadian government official stationed in the country does this work.

In some cases officers of other departments of the Canadian government -- commercial secretaries, military, naval, air ~~or~~ special attachés -- are attached to the mission. Though responsible to their own departmental head in Ottawa they also work under the general supervision and direction of the head of the mission.

The work of a mission abroad is:

- (a) to conduct negotiations with the government to which it is accredited;
- (b) to keep the home government fully informed of political developments and significant matters in that country;
- (c) to watch over Canada's interests in the country in which it is serving;
- (d) to serve Canadians in the country;
- (e) to act as an information bureau on Canadian affairs.

A constant flow of despatches keeps the missions and the Department in Ottawa in close touch on all such matters.

Qualifications for the Service

Those entering the external service of Canada do so on a career basis under the merit system. Only British subjects who have resided at least ten years in Canada are eligible for admission.

The basic qualification for the diplomatic service is a University degree with, preferably, post-graduate study in political science, history, economics or law. Examinations are held periodically by the Civil Service Commission and consist of three parts: a written test, a rating on the basis of education and experience and an oral examination. The written test for the position of Third Secretary or Foreign Service Officer, Grade 1, consists of essay and précis writing and papers on such subjects as international affairs, international law, economics, political and social science and modern history. The oral examination is designed to disclose personal suitability and knowledge of modern languages.

As in other government departments veterans are given preference in all appointments.

The higher posts of High Commissioner, Minister and Ambassador are filled by appointment. Appointees are normally "career men" who have come up through the Civil Service, but in some cases distinguished citizens are appointed directly from private life.

Only recently have women been admitted to the Canadian diplomatic service on the same basis as men. During the war of 1939-45 a limited number of qualified women were admitted to the Department to do the work of Third Secretary, but though their position as officers was recognized within