

correspondence through the Governor General's Office with London - can be imagined when it is recorded that new appointees of all grades numbered 17 in the years 1909-10; 11 in 1911; 6 in 1912; 19 in 1913; 16 in 1914; 18 in 1915; 32 in 1916; 27 in 1917; and 43 in 1918. The War caused the larger number of appointments in 1916, 1917 and 1918.

The lists of consular officials in Canada, published annually in the Departmental reports do not differentiate between consuls de carrière sent out from abroad and locally-nominated honorary consuls. Of the large numbers listed, therefore, it is not possible to state how many were actual foreigners. It may be assumed that the majority of consuls general at least were foreigners appointed by their governments, while the more junior grades may have been locally appointed residents of Canada.

Quasi-Diplomatic Status

Over a long period the question of status of foreign consular representatives, more than the methods of appointment or formalities of recognition, exercised the concern of both the Canadian and the Imperial authorities. Consuls were in principle not diplomats or plenipotentiaries, and lacked those prerogatives and privileges accorded to diplomats. Nevertheless, they sometimes tried and perhaps were obliged to assume the diplomatic role and function, since Canada was not a sovereign State to which plenipotentiary ambassadors or ministers could be accredited. This intrusion by consuls and their claim for special consideration, was disapproved in the early days, but in later years, after 1910 especially, this position was unofficially accepted. After Confederation, as before it, the general rule of the British Government was that