

He may be congratulated for the manner in which he has discussed the subject. The principle which lies in the substance of this resolution seems to be commendable and this opportunity may be seized to consider certain aspects of the situation relating to it from the practical standpoint as seen in the light of consideration already given to the matter by the authorities concerned.

From this standpoint, it may be said generally that the desirability or advisability of establishing Canadian consulates at points where it would be altogether natural to have them is not to be doubted. There might first be mentioned certain capitals in which Canadian Legations have been created. Consular work—reference will be made later on to this phase—is different from diplomatic activities, but it may be regarded, in practice, as forming an essential connection with the work performed in foreign countries by the diplomatic services. To illustrate this point, it may be stated that our Legations in Washington, Paris and Tokyo have, already for several years, issued passports and renewals of passports. As everyone is aware, this is essentially a matter which, according to practice in almost every country, falls within the various classes of consular duties. According to the nature of things as they should be, this kind of duty should be performed by a consular officer whose signature as such should be affixed to the passport issued or renewed. This is only one example but it shows that, for the Canadian citizen who seeks travelling facilities in Paris or Tokyo, the first thought is to apply to the Legation of his country where he expects to find a competent officer who will give him such facilities. It is common knowledge that many countries exercising the right of diplomatic representation abroad have consulates attached, so to speak, to their Legations in the capitals in which many of the citizens of these countries sojourn. Not infrequently, in such cases, are the consular officers, diplomatic officers as well. This is the case for the United States Legation at Ottawa. Some thought, therefore, has been given to the question of following this practice.

There is also much force in what can be said for Canadian consulates in particular business or shipping centres in which offices of this nature may be required. Trade and shipping are two important parts of the comprehensive field of duties universally assigned to consular services. As regards the trade aspect, however, Canada has been well served by the able and efficiently trained officers whom the Department of Trade and Commerce has established abroad as Canadian Government Trade Commissioners and who have greatly contributed to make Canada's commercial opportunities better known in the countries in which they are stationed and to bring the commercial opportunities of these countries to the notice of the Canadian authorities. This efficient organization, of which the Department of Trade and Commerce may well be proud, has filled a gap which, for many years in the absence of any other Canadian representatives of this kind, would have been badly felt without them in Canada's trade. In this respect, not only have they been hard-working and deserving pioneers, but they have also proved their