

Q. Does the information that he gathers about the foreign markets filter through External Affairs or does it go directly to Trade and Commerce?—A. It normally goes directly to Trade and Commerce; but he would, of course, bring to the high commissioner's attention and to our attention any matter which is really our concern, and we get a great deal of information back which was originally dug out and prepared by its representatives on behalf of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Q. Who has the general oversight and disciplinary jurisdiction over a man like the agricultural representative in Great Britain—your department or the Department of Trade and Commerce?—A. The Department of Agriculture, although he, like other officials, is under the general supervision of the high commissioner in London. In the High Commissioners' Act there is a statutory regulation that the high commissioner exercises supervision over all Canadian officials stationed in the United Kingdom. That is only a statutory statement of what is generally recognized as the normal responsibility of the chief of a diplomatic mission; the chief represents not only the Department of External Affairs but the government of Canada. He is a member of our department, but he represents the government as a whole, and he is responsible for all the activities conducted by the Canadian government in the country to which he is accredited.

Q. Let us take the situation in Moscow. Suppose there is a trade commissioner there as well as an embassy, does the trade commissioner report to the embassy?—A. He reports directly to the Department of Trade and Commerce but also to the embassy. It depends entirely on what he is dealing with whether he will report to the embassy. If he makes reports he will furnish the embassy with copies of the reports which are of interest to them and which he has addressed directly to the Department of Trade and Commerce. That is not a difficult relationship, and it works out in practice, provided all the personalities fit reasonably well. That is not always the case in this as in any other condition of human activity.

Q. May I ask this further question: Take a country like Guatemala, with which we have some developing trade. I was telephoned over the week-end by an importer from that country whose business is going ahead in leaps and bounds at the moment. I do not suppose they have a representative here, nor have we there. We might have a trade commissioner or someone from the Department of Trade and Commerce stationed there, I believe, or perhaps our Mexican representative covers both—A. I am not sure. I think possibly Mexico or Panama would cover that. Mr. Soward tells me they are likely to station a man from Trade and Commerce there in the course of this year.

Q. If Guatemala wished to have a representative on a diplomatic level in Canada, do they simply exchange notes with our government and ask that an appointment be made from our respective countries? There are many countries in the world now—perhaps 50 or 100. We are a relatively small country, although a very productive one, and the matter of representation abroad is not without its expense. What is the dividing line? Is there any rule of thumb at all? Are we in the near future going to have representation in 50 or 100 countries?—A. Not in the near future, certainly. I think once you start your representation abroad you have to go a fairly long way. I should think we would have to go as far, let us say, as a country with old established diplomatic services of its own, such as Sweden—perhaps farther than Sweden. Sweden maintains, I think, something like 30 diplomatic missions abroad. We might run up to 35. We now have 22, I believe. It is not a thing we can do in a hurry. For one thing it will involve coming to parliament for very large votes if we are going to try to establish missions simultaneously in many countries. There is the problem of finding skilled personnel. I would not want to recommend opening missions if we could not staff them well. And there is the point of working out the