which the Governor General ceased to represent the government of the United Kingdom and became the personal representative of the King. This brought about two changes. As the United Kingdom government was now without a representative in Canada it appointed a High Commissioner to represent it at Ottawa. And after July 1, 1927, correspondence from Commonwealth or foreign governments was addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs instead of to the Governor General.

All official external communications now are channelled through the Department of External Affairs, although decisions are made by the Government or by the departments directly concerned. There is normally no direct intercourse between any outside government and any department of the federal or any provincial government in Canada. Communications requiring action by provincial governments are passed on by the Department of External Affairs to the office of the Secretary of State for Canada, whence they are forwarded to their destination. Replies from provincial governments utilize the same channel.

Representation abroad

Prior to 1926 Canada had no diplomatic representatives abroad, although as early as 1920 it was announced that a minister would be appointed to Washington. The appointment was made in 1926 and the first Canadian Legation was opened in Washington early in 1927. This was followed in 1928 by the appointment of a Canadian Minister to serve in Paris and in 1929 a legation was opened in Tokyo. At about the same time the United States, France and Japan opened legations in Ottawa.

The expansion of the service was interrupted during the depression of the 1930's. The three years of rapid expansion from 1926 to 1929 were followed by another decade of consolidation and recruitment of personnel. The next step in the exchange of diplomatic representation abroad was taken when Belgium sent a minister to Ottawa in 1937 and the Canadian government appointed a minister in January 1939 to Belgium and the Netherlands.

With the outbreak of World War II it became imperative that Canada should have more intimate contacts with other members of the British Commonwealth and with many foreign countries as well. The day after Canada's separate declaration of war (September 10, 1939) it was announced that the Canadian government would send High Commissioners to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland. The Commonwealth governments reciprocated. The list was made complete (except for India) in 1941 when a High Commissioner was appointed to Newfoundland, a step which recognized the importance of that island to the defence of Canada.

The increasing magnitude of Canada's war effort and the desire to strengthen the concept of the United Nations led to a rapid increase of diplomatic exchanges with European countries. In 1942 Canada sent ministers to the U.S.S.R. and China. D ing the war, also, Canada had a single minister accredited to a number of the Allied governments then functioning in London - Belgium, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Norway, Poland and Yugoslavia - and received ministers from each of them in Ottawa. After the liberation of France this minister moved to Paris with the rank of ambassador. This, however, was only a temporary arrangement. Separate missions are now being appointed to the various capitals as conditions warrant.

The Canadian government has agreed to the exchange of ministers with Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey and these countries have already established legations in Ottawa.

Diplomatic relations with Latin America were also a wartime development. In 1941 Canadian legations were opened in Brazil and