

At the same time, External was also advising the British Foreign Office of the Canadian decision and making arrangements for the transfer of duties.<sup>59</sup> B.G. Sivertz of the Consular Division had already been authorized to proceed in advance to Chicago and then to San Francisco to organize the offices so that the Department could avoid the "...rather haphazard methods which we are sometimes compelled to follow in opening offices abroad..."<sup>60</sup> With the receipt of the concurrence of the British Foreign Office and the American Secretary of State, the system was ready to be launched.

The various plans for opening offices in the United States culminated in the 1947 decision to proceed with the establishment of consulates in selected locations. The final plan had several features in common with both of the preceding recommendations. It recognized, like the 1940 proposal, that some centres were more important than others and, therefore, should be set up a Consulates General with a degree of supervision over other centres in their regions.<sup>61</sup> Again the 1947 plan advocated reasons apart from consular functions, trade, and tourist promotion as being important in governing the establishment of a system. Apart from these similarities, however, unlike both the 1940 and the 1944 programmes which recognized the connection between consular matters and trade, the 1947 proposal virtually ignored this relationship and made no mention of the role of Department of Trade and Commerce in its recommendations. One possible reason for this omission was Chance's belief, expressed in his report on Seattle, that,

"So far as trade is concerned, there is so much a thorough inter-locking of interests that no government intervention is necessary or probably even desirable. There will always be a great and growing number of minor trade enquiries, but big affairs will be dealt with direct through individuals and companies as well as such organizations such as ... (the) Chamber of Commerce..."<sup>62</sup>