Kirkwood, who had been granted a Commission of Assignment signed by the King, presented to Mr. Swane a letter of introduction, signed by Mr. Mackenzie King as Secretary of State for External Affairs, appointing him Consul of Canada in Greenland. It is believed that the Greenland authorities sent no written acknowledgement of this letter. They had, of course, previously telegraphed to the Danish Minister, Mr. Kauffmann, and the Danish Consul General, Mr. Holler, their provisional approval of "agrément" to the appointments of a Canadian Consul and Vice-Consul. These were of course given informal recognition and all courtesies and cooperation, since their mission was that of relief, assistance and protection of the orphaned colony of Canada.

An exequatur could not be issued by the local colonial Administrator or Governors, as it was beyond their authority and