

opening a legation in one or other of the South American republics. We have had communications from more than one republic expressing the desire to be represented in Canada. The matter will continue to receive consideration with a view to making at least one appointment in the not too distant future." (1)

Although running ahead of the period embraced in this survey, we may complete the picture of Canadian diplomatic expansion in Latin America during the war years by the following brief notes.

On February 24, 1941, the Prime Minister gave reasons for the Government's intention to open Legations in several countries of Latin America, initially Brazil and Argentina. One of the reasons, he said, was that "for some time past each of these countries has been desirous of opening Legations in Ottawa." Another reason was that, in view of the changing world conditions in consequence of the war, "the government feel that we owe it to the people of our country to be able to get first-hand knowledge of the changing situation in South America and that we should not leave that field, so far as relationships between countries are concerned, exclusively to other countries, leaving Canada the one country in this hemisphere with no diplomatic representation in South America." A third and most important reason was the promotion of continental trade, and that "all matters of trade are becoming increasingly matters with which governments must of necessity

(1) H. of C. Debates, August 6, 1940, p.2537.