

Marler personally but with emphasis on the very valuable commercial work which Mr. Marler had been doing in Japan and the Far East. For instance, he said in July, 1931:

I think it is now abundantly clear from the observations that have been made publicly and otherwise by our minister at Tokyo, that the Legation in that place is an adjunct to our commercial activities, and permits him, by reason of his diplomatic position, to have audience - if I may use that term, which I believe would be the proper one under the circumstances - with the authorities of another country, more readily and more expeditiously than could be hoped for if he did not occupy that position. Hence it is that the reports of that distinguished Canadian are so filled with commercial matters, and the concern he has manifested for the expansion of trade and the attendant advantages upon our commercial position by better understanding in foreign countries. (1)

In 1935 Mr. Bennett explained to the House what his views then were, and had been in 1930 when he took office as Prime Minister. Whether his views in 1930 were as positive as he later asserted, is not clear. It is possible that his own doubts or misgivings as to the proper action to take concerning Ministers appointed by a previous administration were crystallized or converted by Mr. Marler himself, during his correspondence and later (1931) interviews with Mr. Bennett.

At all events, Mr. Bennett made a positive declaration in 1935:

So far as the service is concerned it must be known to all members of this house that the only legation in which there was a vacancy when the government came into office, or where a vacancy

(1) H. of C. Debates, July 30, 1931. pp.4335-6. See also pp.4344.