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"this moment taking counsel together for the purpose of renewing old treaties, and amending them, or at all events establishing the commerce of the world, so far as Europe is concerned, on a new basis. Therefore the Dominion, like the other Dominions of the Empire, has been, to a great degree, unrepresented; and it is of great importance, at the present juncture, to have in Europe a resident agent, who will be on the spot for the purpose of being consulted on any negotiations which are going on between Her Majesty's Government and the various European powers in commercial matters. Her Majesty's Government have, as will be seen by the papers laid before the House, assented to the proposition of Canada. They are willing to receive and to give proper position and prominence to such an officer. They will give him such a diplomatic position as is consistent, of course, with the subordinate position of Canada as a dependency of the Empire".

The point to which I wish to draw particular attention is the position which, in Sir John's opinion, was to be accorded the incumbent of the position of High Commissioner.

Quasi-diplomatic - Diplomatic

Always with reference to Canada's position in the Empire in relation to that of Great Britain.

W.L. Mackenzie King Papers Memoranda & Notes

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