

To quote Dr. Riddell: "My new post of Canadian Advisory Officer was not considered by the Canadian Government to carry any diplomatic status but I soon found that my diplomatic functions were legion. Apart from a High Commissioner in London and Agent-General in Paris, two countries racially linked with Canada, I was the first Canadian representative to be accredited to the outside world, although in my case it was to an institution instead of to a Government or to the head of a state. . . . My new duties, I soon discovered, consisted primarily of representing my Government at Conferences and Committees. There were years when I sat in League and International Labour Organization meetings more than two hundred days." (1)

"The Geneva Office", as Skilling remarks, "served as a listening post in connection with European developments and a source of information on these matters for the Department of External Affairs, its importance enhanced by Canada's lack of permanent representation in any other of the great European capitals east of Paris, including Berlin, Rome and Moscow." (2)

It was noted, however, that Dr. Riddell's actual appointment was accomplished somewhat differently than that of a diplomat - by the Canadian Government itself, through a letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the League. (3) Dr. Riddell opened an office at 41 Quai Wilson, Geneva, with one Secretary to assist him. The salary and cost of office were first included

(1) W.R. Riddell: World Security by Conference. p.28.

(2) Skilling, op. cit. p. 167.

(3) Ibid. p. 168.