

Circular Document

No. B. 22

Sir,

Ottawa, February 9, 1948

Consular Instructions - Amendment No. 5

I have the honour to enclose one copy of Chapter XXI of the Canadian Consular Instructions entitled "Fees".

Schedule A, "Tariff of Canadian Consular Fees" which is attached to Chapter XXI, is the first comprehensive tariff to be prescribed by the Canadian Government. Hitherto all Consular services, other than those performed in respect of passports and visas, have been charged for at British rates under the authority of Order-in-Council P.C. 2899 of April 18, 1943, Part 3. The authority for the new tariff is Order-in-Council P.C. 5310 of December 30, 1947. A copy is enclosed for your information.

Order-in-Council P.C. 4193, which authorizes passport fees, remains in effect for the time being, although there is some duplication by reason of the first section of the tariff, "Passport and Visa Services."

Officers performing Consular functions, whether with or without Commissions of Appointment, will note that P.C. 5310 is confined to the charging of fees. It does not dispense with the necessity of complying with all the requirements of the Consular Instructions.

Diplomatic Missions having no officer with a Commission of Appointment will be aware that certain Governments may wish to question the propriety of their charging fees in respect of Consular services. It is hoped that Commissions of Appointment may be issued shortly to one or more Diplomatic officers in countries that have no objection to the dual status. If in the meantime an objection is raised by any Government, it should be reported as soon as possible.

A fee stamp system is under consideration. In the meantime payment of the fee should be written in the place of the stamp. Where no fee is payable or where the fee is waived, the word "Gratis" should be inscribed.

I have the honour to be Sir

Your obedient servant,

Secretary of State for External Affairs

To the Heads of Canadian Missions Abroad.