

become practically nations. Now, I believe we should endeavour to determine by law, or rather somewhat officially, what the rights and status of the Consuls General of the different nations are. Practically they are diplomatic agents as well as consular agents, and for my part I think it would be proper that at an early date their official position should be defined. I think we should have an understanding with the Imperial Government that the Consuls should be allowed semi-diplomatic recognition amongst us. This is a matter which I suppose concerns Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa as well as Canada, and probably it may be a proper subject for discussion at the next Imperial Conference. If there are any papers such as are called for by the motion, they will be brought down. . . .

8. *Décret du Conseil*¹

P.C. 1181

May 22, 1911

The Committee of the Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Acting Prime Minister, advise that Your Excellency may be pleased to solicit the good offices of the Right Honourable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies in requesting that His Majesty's Foreign Office will address a communication to His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, France, informing him that the Canadian Government has appointed Mr. Philippe Roy as *Commissaire général du Canada* in France, with headquarters at Paris, and that therefore the Canadian Government will be glad if the Foreign Office will bespeak for Mr. Roy any assistance within the purview of the office of the British Ambassador at Paris which it may be deemed expedient to extend to Mr. Roy from time to time.

9. *Le secrétaire aux Colonies au Gouverneur général*

DESPATCH 555

Downing Street, July 8, 1911

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 319 of the 31st of May, on the subject of the appointment of Mr. Philippe Roy as *Commissaire général du Canada* in France, with headquarters at Paris.

2. Before notifying this appointment to the French Government I shall be glad to learn exactly what is the status and the functions assigned to Mr. Roy.

3. As your Ministers are no doubt aware, Mr. Roy's predecessor held the position of Canadian Trade Commissioner, and in the notification which was made to the French Government of his appointment in 1882, it was merely stated that he was to represent certain interests of the Dominion in Paris.

¹ Envoyé au secrétaire aux Colonies, le 31 mai 1911.