

useful to the service, and quite an important part of a refresher course for someone who has been a long time abroad.

Mr. STINSON: May I for a minute pursue what Mr. Smith referred to a few minutes ago?

Canadian trade commissioners recently have been given a lot of attention, as a result of government pronouncements, activities and stories in the press. These people have been concerned primarily with promoting Canada's material advancement and prosperity. I would like to think that the foreign service officers under the authority of the Department of External Affairs have other objectives in addition perhaps to those, and I wonder what might be done to make known to the Canadian people something of the activities that are carried on by both senior and junior foreign service officers in posts abroad. This would have to do with informing people in all places in which they serve of what is happening in Canada, and what Canadians are trying to put on the world scene. Friends of mine have disappeared into the service, as far as I can see, and one knows very little about what they are doing until he sees them on their return from abroad. I am sure many other Canadians are like myself in that they would like to hear of the good work for Canada which many of these young men and women are doing day by day.

As Mr. Smith suggests, perhaps the department has not done sufficient to make Canadians aware of the activities of the department in this connection. Would the undersecretary or Mr. Gill have anything to say in this connection?

Mr. ROBERTSON: If the minister were here he would agree with your point completely.

The foreign service is part of the civil service. We have jobs to do, we have not much room for personal publicity in it. We rather take it for granted that the people are doing a good job in the station to which they are appointed, whether that job is in Ottawa or abroad. I am not sure that it is a service the country misses very much if there is not a great deal of personal publicity for them there.

Mr. SMITH (*Calgary South*): I do not think we are talking about personal publicity.

Mr. ROBERTSON: Perhaps personal publicity is a bad word, but generally we make our announcements of transfers as routine affairs without much ado.

Mr. STINSON: It was not about the announcement of transfers and things like that of which I was speaking. I am sure many Canadians would be interested in knowing something of the day to day activities of foreign service officers abroad, whose duties are helpful to Canada, and to the carrying out of our foreign policy. Perhaps at some time some more information of this kind could be disseminated.

Mr. ROBERTSON: Something has been done. For instance the film board has made for television some short films, a typical working day in an embassy in Washington and another in Brussels.

Mr. GILL: The last one was the consul general in Los Angeles. Mr. Robertson there has been a certain amount of special newspaper coverage, cinema stories, for their purposes. I think that has been welcomed and the department has cooperated with them.

Mr. JUNG: Mr. Chairman, I have a question in regard to representation abroad. In view of the number of emergent Afro-Asian states, I wonder if the undersecretary could tell me if the department has received any applications from Canadians of other than Anglo-Saxon extraction indicating a desire to serve in those areas because of their racial background and so on. We have