

The trade agreement between Canada and Brazil signed at Rio de Janeiro on October 17, 1941, was ratified by Brazil on April 15. It had been ratified by Canada on April 8. The exchange of ratifications will take place shortly.

The Legation co-operated closely in economic warfare matters with the embassies of the United Kingdom and the United States, and the Commercial Attaché has continued to assist the export control authorities of Canada in determining essential Brazilian import requirements.

Cultural relations between Brazil and Canada have been considerably strengthened during the year by the activities of the legation in showing films, arranging for radio broadcasts and exhibits of Canadian paintings and handicrafts, and in other ways.

Other matters dealt with included the issuance of passports and visas, assistance to Canadian visitors to Brazil and to Brazilian visitors to Canada and the answering of numerous enquiries concerning Canada.

Canadian Legation, Argentina

During the year 1942 the Canadian Legation in Buenos Aires maintained its diplomatic contacts with the Argentine authorities, the representatives of the American Republics, and the representatives of the United Nations. The Commercial Attaché continued to work in close relationship with the commercial offices of the Argentine Government and of the British and United States Embassies, as well as with local business interests.

Routine matters dealt with included the issuance of passports and visas, arrangements for volunteers proceeding to Canada, assistance to Canadian seamen, and others. A constant series of political, economic and commercial reports were forwarded to the interested departments in Canada. Considerable attention was given to the protection of Canadian commercial interests under the control measures and general conditions arising out of the war.

Until Switzerland took over from Argentina the protection of Canadian interests in the Far East the Legation served in a liaison capacity between the Canadian Government and the Argentine Government, which was the protecting power for Canadian interests in the Far East.

The Legation officers made trips to various parts of Argentina as well as to Chile and Uruguay. A number of visiting Canadian business men, journalists, and students were given assistance during their sojourn in Argentina.

The Legation collaborated closely with the Argentine-Canadian Cultural Institute, formally inaugurated in Buenos Aires in May. Several successful meetings, luncheons and lectures of that association have been held, Canadian films loaned by the Legation have been shown, and Canadian-Argentine broadcast exchanges arranged.

Canadian Legation, Chile

The first Canadian Minister to Chile, the Hon. W. F. A. Turgeon, presented his credentials to the Vice-President and Acting President of Chile on January 2nd, 1942. Although not permanently resident in Chile, he spent a month there in January, during which time he was Canadian delegate to the International Congress of Geology and Mining Engineering. He was also in Santiago in September as head of the Canadian delegation to the Inter-American Conference on Social Security.

In April, Mr. K. P. Kirkwood, First Secretary of the Canadian Legation in Buenos Aires, was in Santiago as temporary Chargé d'Affaires and Special Representative of the Canadian Government for the inauguration of the President of Chile, His Excellency, Don Juan Antonio Rios.