

gotiations. Canadian interests abroad were handled by British diplomatic and consular authorities. All communications to other governments were made through the Governor General in those early years.

Canada's first attempts to have a diplomatic representative appointed in the United States were made towards the end of 1917. Owing to the importance of the constitutional issues that were raised, the project was postponed until the end of the war. Early in 1918, a Canadian War Mission was established at Washington to provide adequate representation and to secure closer co-operation in the conduct of the war effort. Soon after the war, the question of diplomatic representation was revived, and by 1920 the governments concerned agreed that a minister could be appointed to Washington. In spite of this agreement, the actual appointment was not made before 1926 and the first Canadian legation was opened in Washington early in 1927. This was followed in 1928 by the replacement of the Commissioner-General in Paris by a minister to France, and, in 1929, by the opening of a legation in Tokyo. At about the same time, the United States, France and Japan opened legations in Ottawa.

The expansion of the service was thereafter interrupted by the depression of the Thirties. The three years of rapid growth from 1926 to 1929

were followed by a decade of consolidation. The next step in the exchange of diplomatic representatives with other countries was taken when Belgium sent a minister to Ottawa in 1937. In January 1939, Canada established legations in Belgium and the Netherlands.

With the outbreak of the Second World War, it became imperative that Canada have closer and more direct contact with other governments of the Commonwealth, with the allied governments and with certain other foreign governments. The day after Canada's separate declaration of war on September 10, 1939, it was announced that the Canadian Government would send high commissioners to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland. The governments of these countries reciprocated. The appointment in 1941 of a high commissioner to Newfoundland recognized the importance of that country to the defence of Canada.

The increasing magnitude of Canada's war effort and its growing international commitments led to a rapid increase of diplomatic exchanges with foreign countries. In 1942, by reciprocal agreement, Canada appointed ministers to the U.S.S.R. and China. During the war, a single Canadian minister was accredited to a number of allied governments then functioning in London or Cairo: those of Belgium, the Netherlands, Czech