

a host of secretaries. The first secretary will report to the second secretary; the second secretary will report to the third secretary; the third secretary will report to the fourth secretary, and finally that dignitary will report to the minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary—and I admit that some of them are extraordinary. Here is a sample of some of the extraordinary things they do, these articles with reference to Sir Herbert Marler. That gentleman at one time represented the constituency of St. Lawrence-St. George in this house, and then he was made a diplomat overnight. I had never known him to be a diplomat; certainly he never looked like one; but, as I say, he was made into a diplomat, and in these articles we see what he had to say with reference to the situation in Mexico when certain British property was confiscated there.

Are we going to open another legation in Belgium and hoist our flag there? I suppose the next thing will be to have legations in all the Balkan states. No doubt after our representative has been in Belgium for some time he will be moved on. He will probably get an order to make room for the ambassador from Washington. That gentleman has been all over the world and he will probably be sent to Belgium. I do not know who will be selected for the post in China, probably the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Massey). I saw him talking the other day with a couple of Chinamen—

The CHAIRMAN: Order. May I ask the hon. member what item he is discussing?

Mr. CHURCH: A principle is involved in this vote of \$60,000 for representation abroad, Mr. Chairman, and I am dealing with that principle, the principle of separatism, and the dividing of Britain's representation in Holland and Belgium. I am absolutely opposed to it, and I believe that the Canadian people will be opposed to it too. No wonder someone made the statement on one occasion that Britain was the hardest country in the world to deal with because of all these embassies. He said it was hard to make a treaty with Britain because Britain could do nothing without consulting the dominions, and the dominions could do nothing without consulting envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary. I am absolutely opposed to all this sort of thing, and if they open an embassy in China I am going to oppose it, just as I shall oppose one in Rome. It was proposed two years ago to open one there, and we know the trouble we got into over the question of sanctions. However, this policy of creating one embassy after another

will simply seal the fate of the government when the people understand that the embassies are nothing but mischievous institutions, the practical effect of which is to divide Britain's authority abroad.

Mr. MacNEIL: How will these representatives be designated? Will they both be known as ministers?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: There will be one minister who will be Minister to Belgium and also Minister to The Netherlands.

Mr. MacNEIL: Will that mean that they will have power to negotiate matters political as well as with respect to trade?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The political end of it is the more important of the two with respect to diplomatic representation, using "political" in the large sense of the word.

Mr. MacNEIL: Can we have some further explanation as to why Belgium and Holland were selected in this instance, seeing how extremely important it is that we should have our own representatives at Berlin and Rome?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: The trade and business that Canada has with Holland and Belgium is more extensive than the business with Germany and Italy. As mentioned a moment ago, Belgium has opened a legation in Canada, in the city of Ottawa. It is customary in diplomatic matters, where a step of the kind is taken by one country, to return its representation. That has not been the governing principle in this case, but we thought that in extending our legations Belgium and Holland, having regard to the important relations we have with those two countries, were the natural countries in which to take the next step. There is this advantage in having an additional minister in Europe, that there are many matters which the government may wish to have reported upon by a minister of its own, and a minister resident at Brussels would be in a position to visit Scandinavian countries if that were thought advisable and to report upon any special matters there, or to visit Berlin or other centres. We have frequently had occasion to ask our minister in France to act for the government at the League of Nations and we have had occasion to have our high commissioner represent us also at the league and in different parts of Europe. The addition of one more minister in Europe at this time will be helpful to the government in obtaining such information as it desires to have from its own source with regard to matters of concern to our own country.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I thought the Prime Minister said a few minutes ago that the