

has added to the task of the External Affairs Department, to the volume of Canadian diplomacy.

To provide a continuous reporting service to Government on a world-wide basis; to carry into effect Government decisions and policies on an immense range of subjects; to participate in scores of international meetings - here, surely, is no idle, no fancy diplomacy. I can assure you that we have enough to do. Any notion that I may once have entertained of the gilded leisure of diplomatic life has been long dispelled. The Canadian Foreign Service Officer has little time (if indeed, he has any inclination) to "go diplomatic".

To do this job, to conduct your affairs, Canada's affairs, with the nations of the world we have in the Department of External Affairs in all some 1,250 men and women. These are divided about equally between those who serve at home and those who serve in the forty-four offices that we maintain abroad in thirty-three different countries.

The officers of the Department - there are some 240 of them in Ottawa and abroad - have been recruited by competitive examination from the universities across Canada. They represent every province. A good proportion of them have French as their maternal tongue, a contribution in itself to the working bilingualism which is of such value in international business. Most of our officers, like the Department itself, are young; most of them young men, for so far, I regret to say, only a few are young women. There are not many who are over fifty. Time will correct this, for like other Civil Servants, we are bound to the wheel till we reach sixty-five.

Although our entrance examinations are well-known in academic circles to be tough, we try not to put undue emphasis on purely academic attainments. So far we have, I think, avoided the danger which seems to beset Foreign Offices of developing a recognizable diplomatic "type". Toronto University may claim especially large representation among our officers, but I doubt that its share of appointments has been much out of proportion to its relative size. In any event, there is as yet no Canadian equivalent of Eton and Christ Church or of Groton and Harvard. The Department is now large enough and the tasks that have to be done sufficiently varied to require a variety of talents. Our debt to the teaching profession, from Dr. Skelton's time to the present, is a heavy one. I do not for a moment underrate it. But the growth of the Service and the consequent variety of our tasks has called for other capacities as well. And these have been forthcoming in the candidates that have been presenting themselves in recent years. Among them the large number of young veterans of the last war have been outstanding. We are trying to take account of these things in our entrance examinations.

In 1939 a total of 208 officers and other employees were employed by External Affairs, and Canada maintained eleven offices abroad. In ten years the number of employees has increased by six times and the number of offices outside Canada has been multiplied by four. This is an immense development even for periods of world war and reconstruction. It was, of course, the direct result of these abnormal conditions. However, we have now, I believe, very nearly completed this stage of expansion. I would expect that the numbers of new diplomatic missions that Canada would need to open would be few and that, from now on, the increases in our home establishment would be modest. This will

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