

foreign country whose language (other than English and French) they had learned. This small bonus was an inducement toward learning the local language.

During the War years, the language question had not become acute, although as has been shown above, the Department kept it under continuous consideration. The Legations in the Netherlands and Belgium, where English or French had sufficed, had been closed. In Greenland, Porsild, the Vice-Consul, was at home in both Danish and Eskimo languages. Many of the new diplomatic relations during the War were with Allied countries whose governments-in-exile were in London, and official intercourse could be conducted in English or French. English of course sufficed for the new High Commissioners' Offices in the other parts of the Commonwealth. The Mission in Tokyo was subsequently closed. For the new Missions in Latin America, Spanish (and in Brazil, Portuguese) offered no great problem, and new officers assigned there were encouraged to learn the language and fairly readily did so.

In the years after the War, diplomatic representation was extended to more and more foreign countries, and the linguistic needs increased. Recruitment of Foreign Service Officers from ex-service men just out of the forces did not provide sufficient linguists in the less common languages, and this gap had to be met as best it could be.

Not until the 1950's did the Department undertake any organized arrangement for the special training of language experts in the more recondite languages. No