

grade to another. Continued attention was being given to the whole question of promotion however, and recommendations in all grades were duly going forward.

25. Mr. MacDermot reported that the Department had taken an active part in bringing the National Defence College in Kingston into being and was anxious to emphasize the civilian aspects of its activities. Mr. Arnold Smith of the Department had been made available as civilian instructor and Mr. Jean Fournier was being posted to the College as a senior student.

26. Mr. Pearson drew attention to the increasing co-operation on personnel and administrative matters between the Departments of Trade and Commerce and External Affairs through the Joint Committee on the Co-ordination and Administration of the two Departments. Difficulties were of course encountered, as for example, over the appointment of *Chargés d'Affaires*. The Joint Committee had recently agreed that the normal practice in appointing a *Chargé d'Affaires* should be to appoint any External Affairs officer with a designation of First Secretary or higher, *Chargé d'Affaires* irrespective of the rank of the Foreign Trade Service Officer at the post, and where junior to that rank the External Affairs officer should be appointed *Chargé d'Affaires* if both were of the same F.S.O. Grade. Where the senior External Affairs officer was designated as Second or Third Secretary and the senior Foreign Trade Service Officer was of a higher grade, each case should be considered on its merits. Some commercial appointments in the External Affairs service had had good effect on morale, and a Commercial Counsellor usually developed the feeling that he was a part of the diplomatic machinery. In the last six years, owing to rapid expansion, opportunities for promotion in the External Affairs service had been more numerous than in the Department of Trade and Commerce; in that Department many officers of senior standing could not be given the promotion that their service warranted. Trade and Commerce was therefore willing to direct such people to External Affairs. Mr. Pearson said that we were very glad to have some of these, when they were highly qualified, for positions in the External Affairs service although we had to protect the interests of our own officers. Reports on Trade Officers from Heads of Mission were therefore of considerable importance and were also useful when consideration was being given to the appointment of a *Chargé d'Affaires*. Mr. Robertson pointed out that different qualifications were specified for entering each service and expressed the opinion that since the original entry was through different doors it was normally difficult to use Trade and Commerce people in the External Affairs service. The possibility of a joint or common examination might well be discussed before the next foreign service competition.

Opening of New Offices

27. Mr. Pearson said with the exception of the establishment of new Consulates we were beginning to see the limit of our expansion in 1948. In addition to the opening of a Legation in Belgrade we would probably open one or two offices in South America; it would be difficult to refuse the repeated requests from Colombia; Venezuela came second on our list of obligations in South America. It was possible also that a third Latin-American post might be opened in Uruguay under the supervision of a *Chargé d'Affaires*. Finland had also sought an agreement for the estab-