

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Mr. Wrong, would a university qualification be requested for all representatives abroad?—A. All those who were appointed as foreign service officers.

Q. That would not apply to the head?—A. Not necessarily. That is an appointment that is made by the government. A number of our missions are now headed by persons who have been promoted from the ranks of the foreign service, such as Mr. Pearson in Washington, Mr. Wilgress in Moscow, Mr. Keenleyside, ambassador to Mexico; and, of course, there are outside appointments as well.

*By Mr. Graydon:*

Q. Might not the all-university qualification bar some of our returned men from the services of Canada? I do not know what your experience is, but all the smart people are not university graduates, and all the people who can render the best service are not always graduates of universities; and while no one suggests that such a training is not a grand thing, at the same time I am not so sure that you should make it such a completely hard and fast rule in connection with that work. There must be a good reason behind it. I do not wish to be unduly critical.—A. The normal method of recruiting for the service—and ours is a lifetime professional service—is to take in young men of the age of 20 or 21 up to 25 or 26, and I do not think a young man who had gone from high school into business and then competed for admission as a foreign service officer grade I would have acquired in that interval an experience which would be more useful to him as a member of our service, by engaging in business or in some other profession, than he would have if he had attended a university during the interval; and that is what our regulations are based on. The idea is to bring men in about that age, not younger, because we cannot send a young, immature person abroad even as a third secretary at a large mission.

*By Mr. Diefenbaker:*

Q. I was reading the other day that in the United States a school for diplomatic students or attaches is being established with a view to giving special training to ambitious young men who wish to go into the service, to ascertain whether or not they have the qualifications. Are we doing anything like that?—A. I do not know the details about what they have done in Washington. They have, of course, to deal in so much larger numbers than we have that they have been able to adopt more regularly organized methods of training than we have been able to do here. Our training is mainly what might be called an in-service training. We try to give a variegated experience in Ottawa to the young men who come into the department, and we send them abroad after they have proved that they are some good. We give them that experience in the foreign field and move them around quickly.

Q. I have in mind two or three young men who have come back from overseas and are much attracted to the prospect of the diplomatic service, but as they put it to me that they find it difficult to get consideration given to their applications. How should a young man desiring to have consideration given to his application go about it?—A. As Mr. Hemsley said earlier, we published in the orders of all the services at home and abroad details about the competitions. We received a very large number of applications, far more than it would be possible to bring to Ottawa to interview. We have, as I think we have to have in these cases, a sifting on the basis of the recommendations made about the individual, first. A great number have appeared before the examining boards. There is still a residue. I imagine those in whom you are interested are, probably, from the west?

Q. Yes, they are.—A. There is a residue. We do not like to ask these young men to pay their expenses to come to Ottawa to sit on the board here,