

approaching different departments on their various items of business, their approach to the Canadian departments was henceforth to be through the Department of External Affairs, a source of simplification and benefit to them.

When Senator Lougheed asked on April 29, 1909, during the Senate's discussion of the Bill, "May I ask in what department the consular service is now?" Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright, the Government spokesman in the Senate, replied: "Practically speaking, it has been with half a dozen departments. That is one reason perhaps for the introduction of this new measure. The foreign consuls have communicated rather indiscriminately."(1)

In words already quoted elsewhere, Senator Dandurand, speaking on the debate on the 1909 Bill on the same date, adverted to the uncertainty of foreign consuls as to where to address their communications or where to call. "There is a number of subjects that cannot be easily classified by the representatives of those foreign nations, and I know that very often I have been approached by some of them to know to whom to address themselves, and in most cases, when not exactly au fait, they have addressed themselves to the Prime Minister. . . . I think there should be a branch of the Department of State organized with a special name, which will herald to the world who is the official with whom the outsider should correspond."(2)

(1) Senate Debates. 1909-10. April 29, 1909. p.401.

(2) Senate Debates. 1909. p.400.