

decided to close their office and approached us, and we decided it would be unfortunate if there were no longer a Canadian government office in the Los Angeles area. We therefore decided to take the office over and turn it into a consulate-general. While there is to be a new consulate-general, it is really in a sense a continuation, under a different status, of the Canadian government office that has been there for some years.

*By Mr. Green:*

Q. How do you arrange with the Department of Trade and Commerce for representation? In other words, is it possible for an officer of the Department of Trade and Commerce to become a consul-general?—A. It is possible, Mr. Green, and it has been done in certain places. For instance, in Manila an officer of the Department of Trade and Commerce is acting as consul-general, but ordinarily it is a question as to what is our main interest in the particular post. If the main interest is trade, then it is more logical that it should be looked after by an officer of the Department of Trade and Commerce, and if the interest is of a general character, dealing with all activities of government, then it is better for the officer in charge to be a representative of the Department of External Affairs, and that is what we have discovered to be the case in Los Angeles. Needless to say, our officers will be glad to do such trade work as they are able to, and which they can perform, by passing on to Ottawa trade inquiries and other matters relating to commerce that they receive. It is always open to the Department of Trade and Commerce, if they feel it is justified, to attach to the consulate-general a trade officer who will deal with the trade end of the work, but I think in the case of Los Angeles it will not be found necessary.

Q. Is there any reason why an officer of the Department of Trade and Commerce should not be made a consul-general under the Department of External Affairs?—A. He would not be under the Department of Trade and Commerce then. If he was to be under External Affairs, we would have to take him over. We have taken over officers of the Department of Trade and Commerce. The former consul-general in San Francisco, Mr. Scott, had been a trade commissioner. We took him over and appointed him consul-general in San Francisco. He is now our ambassador in Havana.

Q. There is no reason why that cannot be done?—A. No it has been done in several cases.

Mr. McCUSKER: Is it customary to appoint both an ambassador and a consul to the one post?

The WITNESS: An ambassador has diplomatic functions in that he represents the government vis-a-vis the government of the country to which he is accredited. We could also have a consul general. Some countries do that, but we usually find that our embassy staff can look after consular matters, and we appoint a member of the staff as consul and he looks after the consular end of the work.

Mr. GRAYDON: May I ask you, Mr. Wilgress, in the number of embassies or high commissionerships Canada has throughout the world, what proportion of those holding those higher posts are definitely career men who have come up through the ordinary diplomatic channels, and how many are appointed from circles outside the department? Could you give us any idea as to the percentage?

The WITNESS: I do not think I could offhand, but we certainly could very readily make the calculation.

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Unfair question!

The WITNESS: We can, of course, go over the list and very readily tell you who is career and who is not career. I think if you would allow me, Mr.