

examination, and promotion from junior to senior ranks of those so recruited. I can assure you that the ex-service men we are now recruiting are practical enough to satisfy any factory foreman. I do not, however, admit that we have ever been remote from the business aspect of Canadian life. If we were, we would certainly be of little value to our Government and to our country.

The future growth and development of the Canadian Diplomatic Service, is, of course, a matter for Government decision. Our expansion, up to the present, has been dictated by our growth as a nation in the world, and has merely tried to keep pace with that growth. I, for one, have no illusion that Embassies and Legations abroad establish our international position, or indeed add to it. They are merely a reflection of that position. If our standing in the world is now high--and I think it is--that is due, first, to the men who built our nation and our national reputation on battlefields far away, and secondly, to the working men and women at home. They, and not officials, either diplomatic or otherwise, are the ones who have established Canada's status among the nations. To carry out the responsibilities of that status, we should, in my view, be represented abroad in all countries where our interests necessitate such representation. Diplomatic offices never should be a luxury established for considerations of prestige. They must justify themselves by the contribution they make to Canada's interests. On this basis, we should, I think, be represented worthily, but not extravagantly; with dignity, but without display.

It may be that further expansion, to cope with increasing duties, will be required. In some respects we have still not accepted all of our responsibilities as a Department charged with protecting the interests of Canadians abroad. For instance, in the U.S.A. we have only one consulate; in New York. The rest of the Canadian consular work is done for us by British Consuls. In border cities like Buffalo, and Detroit, a large proportion of the work of the British Consul is entirely Canadian. In due course, as we say in official intercourse, that situation will no doubt be corrected.

You will be interested to know that the Canadian diplomatic service is a bilingual one. Not primarily because English and French are the languages of diplomatic intercourse, but because they are the languages of Canada. There are no sectional or racial divisions in our service. One reason for this is that we now insist that our incoming Third Secretaries should be proficient, or become proficient in our two languages. Among other things this gives them a double voice at international conferences--and incidentally makes it unnecessary for them to stifle their heads with earphones for translations.

Posts in the Canadian Service, either at home or abroad (they are interchangeable), are now open to every young Canadian who can qualify by competitive examination to fill them, with a priority--as is proper--given to veterans. Furthermore, it is possible for a successful candidate without any advantages of wealth or position, to rise from Secretary to Ambassador in the Canadian Service. That it is possible, is shown by the fact that we already have several career Ambassadors who have done it. In at least one case that I know very intimately, the Ambassador has had to rely for his livelihood solely on his monthly pay cheque from the Government. In that important sense our diplomatic service is democratic. It is no preserve of the plutocracy and I hope never will become one.

It should not, in fact, be a preserve of any kind, even for those who enter by examination. There must be encouragement for the junior to rise to the top posts. But it should, I think, always be possible to bring in persons from outside who have special qualifications for specific jobs.