

formal rank or status. It would seem to be quite practicable to arrange with the British Government for the appointment by His Majesty, on the advice of the Canadian Government, of a Canadian official with the rank of Consul, who should be responsible to and act under the instructions of the Canadian Government. His relations to the British Consul-General could be settled by agreement between the two Governments. If this experiment proved successful it might eventually be extended to cover the other principal consular districts in the United States, viz.- Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, and possibly New Orleans. It may be mentioned here that so far as the Departments in London are concerned the British Consular Service has a dual capacity. Consuls are appointed by the Foreign Office, since the latter is responsible for British representation abroad, and for the conduct of foreign relations. To the Foreign Office they render through the Ambassadors certain reports on general and social conditions, but they correspond direct with the Board of Trade on commercial matters. There would be certain advantages in pursuing a similar procedure here, but this need not be insisted upon if it would create any difficulties. (1)

In a personal letter to Dr. Skelton dated August 6, 1927, Mr. Philippe Roy, Commissioner General for Canada at Paris, wrote:

I am informed by colleagues attached to foreign embassies and legations in France that the revenue from their consular posts covers and even exceeds the general expenses of all their services administered by the Department for Foreign Affairs. In the case of the United States, I know that the revenue of the American Consulate is greater by far than all the expenses incurred by the Consulate and Embassy at Paris. It seems to me that we should establish a system similar to that adopted by other countries and that in this matter we could with more grace ask parliament to vote appropriations required for the upkeep and development of our representation in foreign countries. I recall that you already mentioned the matter to me the last time I had

(1) File 603-19C, Part I.