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There may however have been a boomerang, in this development, at least from the Under-Secretary's point of view. While Under-Secretary under Charles Murphy, who held office only three years, Pope had because of his vast experience, been the dominant personage of his Department under the Secretary of State. When, however, Sir Robert Borden took over the Department of External Affairs, and when the War broke out in 1914, Borden became more and more his own foreign minister, and Pope's influence progressively diminished except as a bureau chief. Borden went to the Imperial meetings in London without Pope. From 1917, and at the Peace Conference, he took with him Mr. Loring Christie, the legal adviser of the Department. Thereafter, Canadian external relationships were handled more and more by the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and the Department of External Affairs as such, was neglected, and apparently had a minor role. In the early twenties it still was small and unimportant, with only three officers and a small clerical staff. The Prime Minister had come to overshadow his own Department, and Sir Joseph Pope. Or, to put it another way, the Department was retarded in its own development by the paramountcy of the Prime Minister and his borrowed staff.

While the key-role of Sir Joseph Pope in external business apparently diminished to that of a bureau chief and administrator, Sir Robert Borden took more and more of the responsibility on himself, he relied on his legal adviser, Mr. Loring Christie, he attached to his own office a whole group of secretaries and clerical staff nominally belonging to the Department of External Affairs; and, finally, he appointed a Parliamentary Under-Secretary with nominally fairly wide powers that could, if applied, partially eclipse Sir Joseph Pope.<sup>(1)</sup>

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(1) See chapter on "Parliamentary Under-Secretaries."