

himself in these negotiations and corresponded with Bryce, and convinced Laurier that Canadian affairs had never "in the past twenty years" been in better hands in Washington.

American Affairs

On the major treaty problems, such as sealing, fisheries, international waterways and boundaries, arbitration, tariff questions, and relations of Canada with the West Indies and with the Orient, Grey was tireless. He studied every question in greatest detail; he kept up a steady flow of correspondence with the Colonial Secretary, the British Ambassadors in Washington, Tokyo, and elsewhere, and with Laurier and other Cabinet Ministers. He collected information as busily as a squirrel does nuts. On his western tour in 1910, going by coastal ship to the Yukon, he collected at first hand, data on trade, and territorial fisheries, and sealing; and faithfully scribbled off informative reports to the Prime Minister. If hastily written in any available black or red pencil on any rough paper at hand, on boat or train or in camp, he would ask his secretary, to whom he posted them, first to make typescripts in order that Sir Wilfrid could more easily read them. * Grey conducted himself as an Ambassador of the Canadian Government, not only in his speech-making, and his travels to the United States, but also in his zeal for collecting information and reporting it back to the Government, as conscientiously as any Trade Commissioner.

* Earl Grey was of the "old school", who believed that personal letters should be written by hand. Whenever they were dictated and typewritten to Laurier or to the ~~Colonial~~ Colonial Secretary, he would invariably express an apology and excuse.