

based on his own experience, judgment and conviction; and members were not generally in the mood to question his authoritative opinion in such a field. He had convinced Sir Wilfrid Laurier, his own chief Mr. Murphy, and, through them, the other Cabinet Ministers; and Mr. Aylesworth, the Minister of Justice, turned his hand to drafting the Bill that Pope desired. Finally, the transfer of Mr. Pope to head a new Department under the Secretary of State, - that is to say, to change his functions from the long-held Under-Secretary of State to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs in the same Ministry, signified, from Parliament's point of view, little fundamental change; merely a reorganization for greater efficiency, a sub-division of an unwieldy Department, a shifting of a few staff members from one corridor or set of rooms to another, and the appointment of an additional Under-Secretary of State (Mr. Mulvey) to replace Mr. Pope in the old position. Mr. Pope's invaluable services would not be discarded, but merely diverted into a more specialized branch.

Appointment

Eleven days after the Governor General's assent had been given to the new Department Bill, and while various Orders-in-Council were being prepared to elaborate and implement the Act, the Treasury Board, an organ of the Cabinet, passed a Minute confirming the expected appointment of Joseph Pope to his new departmental position.