

ment reports handsomely bound in leather embossed with his own name, he was generous in lending out books to correspondents and enquirers.

#### 11. Public Archives

Sir Joseph Pope has himself told of his participation, in either of his two offices, in the organization of public records. Both in 1902 and in 1912 he was chairman of special commissions appointed to study the problem.

"The first move in the direction of establishing an Archives and Record Office," he writes, "was made in 1872, when parliament placed the sum of \$4000 at the disposal of the Minister of Agriculture for the purpose. The Minister of the day entrusted an official of his department with this duty, but that officer, while amply qualified for the post, was not provided with proper facilities for its administration. The position of Archivist was not even created by the Governor-in-Council. For years Douglas Brymer laboured in the basement of the Western Block doing, in spite of limitations, excellent work, as his published reports abundantly show. Not only were his merits and services inadequately recognized, but rival collections of public records were suffered to grow up in the service. The Department of the Secretary of State possessed a somewhat similar store of documents to that of the Archives, under the immediate charge of an officer known as the 'Keeper of the Records'. The Privy Council Office likewise contained an accumulation of 'State Papers' reaching back one hundred and fifty years.(1)

(1) Pope, serving many years both in the Privy Council Office and in the Secretary of State's Department, would probably have known a good deal about these documentary deposits.