

With reference to those despatches in respect of which, according to the regulations laid down in the second paragraph of the within Minute, it devolves upon the Secretary of State for External Affairs to report to the Governor General-in-Council, such despatches will be sent to the Department or Departments immediately concerned, with a covering letter asking for the views of the Minister thereon, which views perhaps might ordinarily be most expeditiously and conveniently communicated by correspondence between the Deputy Heads.

A copy of this circular letter was also passed, for information, under a covering note of same date, to the Governor General's Secretary.

To his opposite number the Under-Secretary of State of Canada (Thomas Mulvey), who had replaced Pope, he added to the above letter an additional paragraph:

I also enclose copy of a Minute of Council (P.C.1391), approved by the Governor General on the 21st of June, 1909, transferring to the Department of External Affairs the administration of Consular matters and the issue of passports. If it suits your convenience this transfer might be made from the 6th proximo. There may probably be other matters for adjustment between the two departments, which we can settle at a later date.

All did not go perfectly smoothly: for in the next few months we find notes from Pope to the Governor General's Secretary complaining that communications were finding their way to Mr. Mulvey instead of Mr. Pope. In one case it was ascertained that the envelope had been addressed to "Hon. Charles Murphy" who was both Secretary of State and acting as Secretary of State for External Affairs, and, going to Mr. Murphy's office, it had been opened by his deputy, Mulvey, and then forwarded by Mulvey to Pope. Pope suggested, and it was mutually agreed, that