

The burden of the Office with its two divisions and a General Department, proved too severe for his health after two or three years. The next Colonial Secretary, Colonel L.S. Amery, in 1924 ~~still~~ found it still difficult to promote any one of the staff to the full senior position, but solved the impasse by appointing an outsider with, however, much Colonial experience, for the Crown Colonies division, and a member of the staff of the Dominions division. (1)

Then, in 1925, the Colonial Secretary of State adopted the additional title of Secretary of State for Dominions Affairs, which was tantamount to creating an independent Dominions portfolio. The Dominions Department became a new and separate Office, or Ministry; it was dignified by a separate vote in the estimates, and there was an investiture of a Permanent Under-Secretary and a Parliamentary Under-Secretary all its own. (2) In theory, the new Dominions Office was to be under its own Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, <sup>\*</sup> but for practical convenience it was to remain housed in the Colonial Office, and the two Secretaryships of State were provisionally combined in the same individual, (Mr. Amery, followed by Lord Passfield, the former Sydney Webb). The new Dominions Office was manned by the ad-

(1) Berriedale Keith: Responsible Government in the Dominions. (2nd ed. 1928) II p.915.

(2) See statements by the British Prime Minister and the Colonial Secretary of State in the British House of Commons, June 11 and July 27, 1925. See also Journal, Vol.VI, pp.444-5, 675-8, 685.

\* The proposal suggested at various times, and by Borden on July 16, 1918, (Memoirs II, p.831) that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom should head the Department of Dominion Affairs had been unacceptable to Mr. Asquith and subsequent Prime Ministers.