

his personal service as Prime Minister. Moreover, as Mr. King later pointed out, the Prime Minister's Office had no appropriations for staff, while the External Affairs Department could obtain appropriations for staff and administration useful to the Prime Minister's Office. These were practical considerations, not declared in the debate of 1912, but possibly not overlooked.

Passage of Bill

The Bill was approved on February 6, 1912.

As a result of this new statute, Sir Robert Borden took up this additional portfolio and was sworn in on April 1st, 1912 as Secretary of State for External Affairs.

Sir Joseph Pope must personally have been pleased to see his conviction and objective thus realized, and to have a single chief instead of two, and a Minister actually bearing the title of the Office to which Pope had been the Under-Secretary.

The wheel had turned. As Pope wrote in his memorandum to the Royal Commission in 1907, - "in the early years of Confederation the Prime Minister of the day kept them [external affairs questions] pretty much in his own hands, but with the growth and development of the Dominion this is no longer possible." In 1912 these matters were again put under the control, this time more formally, of the Prime Minister, in his joint capacity as Secretary of State for External Affairs, and with the difference that he now had, to assist him, a special Department of External Affairs and an expert Under-Secretary and staff. This arrangement was to continue for the next thirty-four years, until once more the wheel turned, and in 1946, the Prime Minister, Mr. King cut off the extra portfolio (but not the inevitable responsibility) for external affairs, and yielded it to a separate Minister.