

qualifications. He apparently thought that Pope was so indispensable and valuable in the Secretary of State's Office that he could not be spared; he also felt that if Pope were to be transferred it would necessarily mean going to a more inferior department and position.. "It is not likely", he opined, "that Mr. Pope would be turned over to this new appointment which would, in point of seniority, be inferior to the deputyship of the department as it is at present constituted." He then speculated on who the new incumbent might be - probably a much less qualified man, and therefore not justifying the separation into a new sub-department. He was also afraid of a patronage appointment.⁽¹⁾ But, for want of knowledge, Senator Ferguson was mistaken in his supposition; for it was elsewhere generally understood that Pope was the candidate.

In fact, an assumption might be ventured that the acceptance of the proposal to create a new sub-department was, in large degree, influenced by this expectation. Mr. Pope's personal prestige as a diplomatic expert as well as a most able Deputy Minister, may have been a factor in winning the support of the parliamentarians for a department which he would efficiently head. It was also presumably known and appreciated that the whole idea of a separate specialized Department had been initiated, and zealously promoted for at least two years, by Mr. Pope, for reasons

(1) Senate Debates. 1909. p.399.