

Other important events during Earl Grey's term of office were two federal elections returning Sir Wilfrid Laurier to power; the formation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta out of the North West Territories; a great influx of emigration to Canada, especially from the British Isles; the Imperial Conference of 1907 in London; the Tercent^{an}ary Celebrations in 1908 of the founding of Quebec, with a great concourse of British, American, French and other naval warships; and 12000 Canadian troops; the death of King Edward VII in 1910, and Coronation of King George V in 1911; the defeat of the Laurier Government in September, 1911, over its proposals for reciprocal trade with the United States, and the formation of a Conservative Government under the Premiership of Hon. Robert (afterwards Sir Robert) Borden.

In May, 1909, at which time he paid a brief visit to England, it was announced that Lord Grey's term of office would be extended for the full period of six years, a term only exceeded by those of Lord Dufferin and Lord Minto. He did not, however, leave Canada until October, 1911, thus extending his Governor Generalship to seven years less two months. He sailed for England on October 13, 1911.

With respect to his vigorous diplomatic activities, Lord Bryce, former British Ambassador to Washington, said:

The growing friendship and mutual understanding of the people of the United States and the people of Canada, a most happy and blessed change from the suspicion and jealousy of former days, owes a great deal to him, not only in respect of what he did at Ottawa, but also by the personal impression which the warmth of his heart and elevation of his mind