

Although, by a Minute of Council dated December 7, 1903, the papers anterior to Confederation were to be transferred to the Archives Branch of the Department of Agriculture, and the office of Keeper of the Records amalgamated with that of Dominion Archivist, there still remained in the Secretary of State's Department in 1904, "large quantities of papers and books, many of them destined to be of great historical interest, the accumulation of the thirty-seven years since Confederation. This accumulation, which is daily increasing, needs constant care and regular classification and indexing in order to prevent it falling into chaos." It was probably Joseph Pope who prepared the Annual Report for Mr. R.W. Scott, the Secretary of State, who added the note that "in view of the number of valuable and in many cases rare official books and papers in this branch of my department, it is my intention to form a library of reference for purely official publications, which when properly catalogued and housed will I trust be made use of by all departments of the service".

This branch of his work proceeded under Pope's care, and his reference library remained even after the Public Archives had been set up elsewhere. After the Department of External Affairs had been established, Pope brought a large part of his essential reference material with him, and there was a certain amount of interchange and borrowing and lending. Although Pope had a habit of inscribing his own name in a large number of books held in his office, and had the majority of current govern-