

"the 'conduct' of official communication between the Government of Canada and other Governments would be regarded as an improper attempt to shelve the Governor General" and suggesting that the substitution of the word 'care' for the word 'conduct' was all that was required. Sir Wilfrid Laurier assured Lord Grey that the change would be made, but, owing to an oversight, this was not done, the Bill passing the Commons and the Senate in its unamended form. When the matter was brought to Sir Wilfrid's attention, he regretted that it was impossible to amend the Act during the current session and gave explicit assurance that the Act would be amended next session.

This was communicated to Lord Crewe in Lord Grey's Confidential Despatch of the 8th of May. Lord Crewe's Confidential Despatch of the 5th of June stated in answer: "In reply I have to inform you that I approve of your action in assenting to the Act on the understanding that the Act shall be amended next Session in the sense indicated in your correspondence with Sir Wilfrid Laurier." (1)

The matter however does not appear ever to have been brought up.

Following a discussion or private letter between the new Governor General and Mr. Borden, the Duke of Connaught forwarded to Mr. Harcourt the following telegram:

Your telegram of the 9th instant. My Ministers submit that in view of the fact that no inconvenience has arisen during three years existing Statute has been in force in all probability none may be seriously apprehended. My Ministers, however, will be pleased to consider at another Session suggestion of desirable amendment. (2)

(1) Jones Memorandum, March 11, 1912.

(2) Duke of Connaught to Harcourt, March 15, 1912. (The file copy of this telegram is annotated as follows: "I understand from the Gov. General's Secretary this is based on a private letter from Mr. Borden to H.R.H. J.B.")