

time, exceptions were introduced in direct correspondence, unofficially, between the Prime Minister and the British Ambassador at Washington, supplementary to the communications addressed by the Governor General either directly or through the Colonial Office, to the Ambassador.

Official mail to London (and/or Washington) was despatched in waterproof canvas bags, similar to those in use today. The frequency of outgoing bags seems to have been high, for in addition to the use of returnable canvas mail-bags bringing London correspondence, the Office of the Governor General's Secretary had an annual expenditure for the purchase of new canvas bags which, for the period 1895-1917 (after which the record ceases), averaged 176 bags a year or 3.55 bags per week.* This would represent the preparation of a diplomatic bag at an average of every second day, and this rate might be doubled if returnable

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Purchase of Canvas Bags for Governor General's Office. (From Auditor General's Report).

			\$
1895-6	16 doz.	192	56.55
1896-7	10 doz.	120	32.00
1897-8	15 doz.	180	58.75
1898-9	8 doz.	96	14.00
1899-1900	10 doz.	120	27.50
1900-01	4 doz.	48	13.40
1901-02	(103 linen	127	(87.46
	(2 doz.		(7.62
1902-03	14 doz.	168	51.30
1903-04	7 doz.	84	26.74
1904-05	171	171	78.89
1905-06	16 doz.	192	111.05
1906-07	...	...	...
1907-08	8 doz.	96	52.64
1908-09	18 doz.	216	165.73
1909-10	16 doz.	192	97.20
1910-11	2 (?)	(?)	51.36
1911-12	15 doz.	180	138.10
1912-13	12 doz.	144	88.14
1913-14	12 doz.	144	97.30
1914-15	420	420	212.97
1915-16	290	290	130.72
1916-17	350	350	105.00
1917-18	Not indicated	Not indicated	-
1918-19	" "	" "	-

Average per year - 176

Average per week - 3.55