

appointed to London at a time I came into office, have thought twice before I would have asked him immediately to forego that position. If the Hon. Howard Ferguson were to be asked by me to resign immediately, it would not be on the score of partisanship exhibited before the election, though heaven knows that no man ever exhibited more in the way of partisanship; it would be for the manner in which he has discharged his duties of high commissioner since he has been in London. (1)

Mr. King also cited the example of Lord Strathcona, appointed High Commissioner to London by the Tupper Government, continuing throughout the whole of the Laurier Government, of which he was a political opponent, and continuing for some time under the Borden Government.

On the return of a Liberal administration, Mr. Ferguson promptly resigned, and Mr. Massey was again appointed by Mr. King to the London post, where he served for the next eleven years.\*

Although the precedent of appointing a political henchman (or even Cabinet Minister, as in the case of Tupper and Ferley) of the party in office, to the High Commissionership in London, was upheld by both Mr. Bennett and Mr. King (and subsequently Mr. Diefenbaker), the apparent tradition was broken, however,

(1) Ibid. p.1665.

\* This procedure was again adopted with the next change of Government in 1957, when the Conservatives under Mr. Diefenbaker returned to office. The post in London had been vacated by the transfer of Mr. Robertson as Ambassador to Washington. Mr. Diefenbaker repeated Mr. Bennett's step, and appointed the former Premier of Ontario, Mr. George Drew, as High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.