

and stationery. On two occasions at least, Pope addressed letters of protest to the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Borden, as well as to other Ministers.

This protest over interference in the printing of his "Confidential Prints" is reproduced in the chapter on that subject.

Even much later, in 1920 he again complained over the refusal to provide him with certain printed envelopes for the safe transmission of confidential documents. To his chief, Sir Robert Borden, he wrote on December 7, 1920, in which once more he found it necessary to blame Mr. Cook:

Private

I enclose a copy of certain reports of the Editorial Committee, which you expressed a wish to see. You will observe that these are approved and "made mandatory" by Order-in-Council, (p.45). It is difficult to suppose that Council when making mandatory these reports of the Editorial Committee, could have given them any real consideration. I have always believed in and practised economy, but some of these regulations are surely a travesty of that excellent principle. With one or two trifling exceptions, no discrimination is shown between a Minister of the Crown or his Deputy, and the general staff. For example, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and his Under-Secretary are, as you know, in frequent communication. Papers are continually passing between them. In these circumstances, it is extremely convenient to use envelopes with the Prime Minister's name and address printed thereon (as we always have used them), yet when I sent in a requisition for the renewal of a small supply of these envelopes, it was refused by the Editorial Committee, on the ground that they were "unnecessary". I should have thought that I was the best judge of the necessity in this case.

These regulations contain many similar vexatious and even humiliating restrictions, commonly believed to be inspired by a man who, ignorant of the usages and requirements of the public service, and lacking in any sense of proportion or of the fitness of things, is filled with the idea of making a little cheap popularity for himself, by posing as an advocate of economy.