

that my right hon. friend and his colleagues have, that some politician they may want to reward may be appointed to this new position. If it should happen that this particular friend of theirs is a well-qualified man, there is no complaint to be made. . . . I know something of the present Under-Secretary of State. Every member of this house knows the experience he has had, in what might be called a diplomatic sphere. Under the Conservative Government and present government we know that Mr. Pope has been the right hand of the government in translating business of this kind. If this Bill would necessarily - and I am afraid it would - take the supervision of that work out of his hands and place it in the hands of a new and raw man who may be appointed simply because he is a supporter of my hon. friend's administration, injury to the public interest may arise. Everybody knows that Mr. Pope's experience is very prolonged, and that he has qualifications for that position as the result of that experience, as well as from his own ability, which render him very capable; and if the effect of the passage of this Bill would be the appointment of some person who has had no experience in conducting these affairs, which may be very delicate in themselves, and who has no qualification for the position, it would certainly be inimical to public interest." (1)

Curiously enough, Senator Ferguson was almost the only one who manifested some doubt that Mr. Pope would be the new incumbent, notwithstanding his exceptional

(1) Senate Debates. April 27, 1909. p.359.