

with such notes as "I omitted to mention, in our conversation yesterday", or "this morning". . . He would write notes to Laurier frequently asking him to come and dine, or "for our usual Sunday talk, about 5 p.m."

Local Contacts

Grey kept in touch not only with the head of the Government, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, but also with other Canadian Ministers from time to time. He made it a point - although very time consuming, as he said - to have personal interviews with all the Commons and Senate members once a year, to sound out their views and express his own. Besides his daily contacts and Sunday afternoon chats with the Prime Minister, where it seemed appropriate to clarify some official business, he sent for or corresponded directly with other Ministers - to Mr. Fielding, to Mr. Aylesworth, to Mr. Oliver, and others - asking for explanation, comment or advice.

If things went wrong, such as distorted press statements, or some failure in proper hoisting of flags or other ceremonial, he would personally send for the Minister or the Under-Secretary of the Department concerned, for a protest or an explanation; and then he would write an account of the matter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. In the long struggle to obtain space in the East Block for the new Department of External Affairs, he personally called in, interviewed and appealed to Deputy Ministers such as Pedley, Pope, and others. When the question of a military-religious memorial service in Parliament Square on the occasion of the death of King Edward VII was being discussed, Grey not only corresponded with the leaders of