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this department, and of its officers, is to become imbued, both consciously and unconsciously, with principles of government properly applicable to the great countries with which they are dealing day by day and hour by hour, but which are very foreign, and in some cases almost antagonistic, to the principles on which the affairs of self-governing Colonies are conducted."

Sir Joseph Ward stated:

In regard to the machinery that has existed up till now, we are not reflecting upon it in any way whatever, nor have I ever had the impression that the Colonial Office have done anything other than their duty in every possible way and with the greatest possible satisfaction to the people of our country. . . While I would not for a moment presume to say how it should be arranged for internally in the Colonial Office, there should certainly be a division of administration. . . There is a natural desire on the part of the governments of the self-governing Colonies to have a more distinct recognition of what we are trying to carry on in our respective spheres. To a very large extent, what I want would be met if we were to get out of the position of the self-governing countries being regarded as on a par with the Crown Colonies. . . In view of the very important statement made by Lord Elgin as to division of self-governing and Crown colonies, I have only to say that I heartily congratulate him and the Conference upon it. We have his assurance that he proposes to divide the administration of the Colonial Office in such a way as he may think best in his own Department, so that the self-governing Colonies will be treated separately from the Crown Colonies.

Lord Elgin, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, had said, during these discussions:

It is quite true that this Office has grown considerably, and that the section of it which deals with responsible governments has not as yet been so clearly differentiated and defined as it may quite naturally seem reasonable now that it should be, but which everybody will understand was not at least as necessary in days gone by. I take considerable responsibility upon myself, but I am prepared to say that we will endeavour, I think we shall succeed, to so separate the departments of this Office that you will have in the Office in the form which we shall present it to you, a distinct division dealing with the