

Although I have heard nothing official or authoritative on the subject from any quarter, the ever thickening rumours that reach me lead me to believe that I am shortly to remove to the Eastern Block, and that the rooms in the corridor leading down from the Privy Council Office, and which were previously occupied by the Indian Department, will be assigned to the Department of External Affairs. I understand these rooms are six in number - three on each side - together with a small space (numbered 96) between two rooms, which can scarcely be called a room, but which I might perhaps utilize for messengers. Now this is not sufficient accommodation for the Department of External Affairs. I shall require in addition to these six rooms, two extra rooms, which I am prepared to take upstairs. I hope there will be no difficulty about this, as it will be quite impossible to pack my present staff (which will be augmented by Mr. Christie who now occupies a room in the Privy Council Office) into these six rooms downstairs. (1)

On August 24, 1914, Mr. Hunter wrote to Pope informing him that certain rooms on the first floor of the East Block had been vacated and were now at the disposal of the Department of External Affairs. These included Nos. 97, 99 and 101 on the first floor fronting the lawn, and Nos. 95, 96, 98, and 100 on the first floor facing the courtyard - seven rooms in all. Three other rooms, Nos. 145, 147 and 149 on the top floor overlooking the courtyard were still occupied, but would be vacated in about two weeks and placed at Pope's disposal. On September 29th, Mr. Hunter notified Pope that the two top floor rooms were available and "should be in a condition enabling you to occupy them by say next Monday." No further correspondence for that period is on file, but this arrangement was acknowledged by Pope, and apparently acceptable.

It is presumed that he transferred his Department from the Trafalgar Building to the above-mentioned rooms