

over the congestion and inefficient handling of external affairs documents in the Privy Council - a body of which he had long personal experience. The creation of a new special Department was designed primarily to remedy the obstruction or inadequacy of that organ; and in this matter he naturally had the sympathy and support of Laurier, a victim of that defective machinery, and of some other Cabinet Ministers and Departments.

It must be repeated that Pope was an administrative reformer above all other things. Even his diplomatic missions, e.g. to Washington, to Japan, and to London, were usually in the capacity of a technical or administrative adviser. His great expertise on matters of form, ceremonial and protocol were also a reflection of his concern for detail and for efficiency.

There is little evidence that he had any imaginative powers in questions of policy, Dominion status, or imperial or foreign relationships. Such matters were to be left to the politicians and statesmen. Although Sir Joseph was one of the best of the "bureaucrats", he did not believe that the "bureaucracy" should try to dominate or direct the political government, as it was so often accused of doing. He was an engineer in charge of certain machinery - which he liked to improve; but he made no claim to be a manager of the business of government.

Thus, Pope appears to have been, fundamentally, what the French embrace in its widest sense in the term "clerc". In spite of his extensive diplomatic activities, his historical authorship which was largely documentary,