

The "laborious" task of preparing the Confidential Prints was entrusted to Mr. W.H. Walker, whose previous experience in the Governor General's Office stood him in good stead, and, as Pope wrote, "whose long acquaintance with public questions has made him thoroughly expert in the process of selection." (1) In 1910, while in the Trafalgar Building, Pope asked his Minister's approval for a special telephone for Mr. Walker: "The preparation of our Confidential Prints, which is his special work, involves almost hourly communications with the Governor General's Office. At present his only means of doing this is through the messengers' telephone in the third room from his, and in respect of which no privacy is possible." (2)

In May, 1910, Pope made a special visit to England to study the Foreign Office and Colonial Office organization, and filing and registry system, and also to collect copies of documents concerning Canadian external affairs which he might be able to utilize in his own compilations. From London he wrote privately to Mr. Murphy, on May 2, 1910:

I have gone over many papers in the Library of the Foreign Office, and indicated a number of confidential prints dealing with various public questions in which Canada is interested, reaching back 70 or 80 years. I have asked for copies of these papers and my request is now under consideration of some of the numerous Under-Secretaries I have met. Some of the documents I don't think they will give me. Some they can't, for the reason that they have no copies, but I hope to secure a number of interesting and important papers." (3)

(1) Pope to Rowell, May 10, 1920. (Borden Papers.O.C.552)

(2) File 48/1909.

(3) Departmental file 48/1909.