

In this connection I may observe that I did not know of Mr. Leblanc's request to Mr. Roy. At the same time I am afraid I do not attach as much importance to it as you appear to think the incident calls for. Mr. Leblanc did not know there was any principle at stake, and I suppose did not consider it necessary to approach you or me on such a trivial detail as the obtaining of a mailing list. Personally I am always careful, in view of my relations with your staff, when I have occasion to consult a file or a book of your Department, to address my request to you personally. In larger departments such intercourse in routine matters is commonly had between the officials immediately concerned, without troubling the Deputies.

With reference to the distribution of Imperial publications in general, when last I discussed the question with you, I promised to see that you were furnished with two copies of every document that reached my hands for that purpose. That promise I have faithfully carried out. In all cases when there is enough to go round my instructions are to see that you are first served, for the reason that I am almost as much interested in your Library, which I founded, as you are yourself.

I have already told Mr. Roy that if there are any gaps in his Treaty Series or other collections I am always glad to help him fill them.

(2) As regards Police Medals, all I have done is to acknowledge the receipt of a certain recommendation addressed to me in that behalf, and forward it to the Governor General. I take occasion to say however that I consider all matters connected with Honours, Titles, Precedence and the like to appertain to the First Minister, and should be administered under his direct control.

These I understand are your principal grounds of complaint. I too have many grievances. I will only mention one here, as this letter has already grown to an inordinate length. Although the rule of communicating with the provinces through your Department was made long before the Department of External Affairs was thought of, and although its observance is attended by a good deal of practical inconvenience to me, I recognize its propriety and am willing to conform to it. I submit, however, that your Department is in such cases merely the channel of communication and that you are not justified in dealing with the replies you receive from Lieutenant Governors as you did with the Naval Reserve Lands Order-in-Council of British Columbia of the 27th March, 1912, leaving me quite in the