

June 19. In these, he protested (a) that the members of the Editorial Board had no right to see at all the restricted Confidential Prints, sent to the King's Printer under the seal of secrecy, which were for the use of Privy Council Ministers in strictest confidence; (b) that they had no jurisdiction to interfere with the work of the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, who "is, under the Minister, or ought to be, a better judge of what documents emanating from his Department should or should not be printed, than the members of the Editorial Committee;" (c) that the Order-in-Council setting up the Editorial Committee referred only to Parliamentary public documents, and not to secret and Confidential Prints; and (d) that, while the price charged by the Printing Bureau was admittedly excessive, the total expenditure, covering the past three years of arrears of war-time suspended printing, was not unreasonable. In a longer memorandum, Pope reviewed the whole history of the need for unification of external documents, which had been one of the raisons d'être of the Department of External Affairs. To have this principal task "disparaged" and discontinued, on the suggestion of the Editorial Committee comprised of Civil Servants from other Departments, was to have the axe laid at the root of the Department. But, while vigorously objecting, and defending his Confidential Prints, Pope, like any Civil Servant under unwelcome instruction, submissively wrote: "If the Minister thinks it desirable, I am prepared to acquiesce in the suggestion of the Editorial Committee that the remaining copies shall be made on the mimeograph machine. I submit,