

this morning. I do not think the furnace should be allowed to go out on Sundays during cold weather.

The inconveniences, from 1909 to 1914, of having an important department of government, so intimately tied to the offices of the Governor General, the Prime Minister, the Privy Council and the Secretary of State, separated across centre-town four or five blocks away from the East Block building, were obvious to all. It meant a good deal of messenger work,* and doubtless a good deal of daily leg-work by the Under-Secretary and Assistant Under-Secretary personally in their goings and comings, in winter and in summer, to and from the offices with which they had to have constant contact and discussion. Joseph Pope was a man to smart under this kind of thing, and was supersensitive to any appearance that his Department was a side-show or annex; this no doubt explains the querulous tone of some of his letters, and his bitter reference to his Department being "over a barber-shop in Bank Street". According to Earl Grey, Charles Murphy had "very strong views with regard to the unsatisfactory nature of the present arrangements"; and the Governor General himself, complaining that the Department seemed "as remote as Calcutta" in personal inconvenience, took the matter very much to heart.

Struggle for East Block Quarters

On the Governor General's return from England, followed by a Western tour, there began a new battle for

* No messengers had been provided for in the original Order-in-Council fixing the staff of the new Department. It was then expected that the messengers, Duggan and Jessup, of the Secretary of State's Office, could be shared, in the East Block. Great inconvenience was caused by having to transfer them to the Trafalgar Building. In 1911 Pope apologized for not being able to have a book delivered because his "only" messenger was ill.