

The conception of policy of this government is that the ministers at the cities named, of ministers of France, Japan and the United States are permanent and are not to be subject to changes of administration. That is, the British custom in that regard will be followed, and no action will be taken changing ministers to these countries because of change of administration. (1)

Thus, the question of automatic retirement on a change of government did not arise in the case of Washington. Mr. Bennett had no need to apply, there, any doctrine of compulsory retirement. Indeed, later, he re-emphasized his doctrine that if a Minister had been still holding office there at the time of a governmental change, and was performing his diplomatic duties satisfactorily, there would be no notion of removing or replacing him. He did not believe in an automatic change of representatives (other than in London) on a change of government. "No one has suggested that a change of government should result in a change of ministers."

On the other hand, when the existence of vacancies occurred as in both London and Washington, the opportunity was provided for the new government to

(1) H. of C. Debates, Special Session, September 20, 1930, p.491.