

Yet within the more modest limits of his aspirations, a certain amount had been achieved. The Department became an auxiliary government agency for centralizing and regulating certain work - not a dynamo but merely a governing wheel. It assimilated to itself a number of chores that had formerly encumbered other departments, such as passport issuance, consular connections, centralization or distribution of files and correspondence. Its staff remained small, and relatively static; there was almost no senior expansion in the sixteen years between 1909 and 1925, and with only three officers, it was regarded more as a personal department of Sir Joseph Pope than as an impersonal but larger and more influential department of government which it later became. It was