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ALL APPROVE CHOICE OF  
VISCOUNT GREY FOR U.S. POST

New British Ambassador to Washington is One of the World's Great Diplomats—Was Foreign Secretary of Great Britain for Eleven Years—All Parties in Britain Approve of the Appointment.

The appointment of Viscount Grey to be Ambassador at Washington will be regarded throughout the British Dominions as an event of far-reaching international importance. Since the resignation and death of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Embassy has been virtually vacant, for the interrupted, though brilliant tenure of the position by Earl Reading had to be temporary only, because this Ambassador was also Lord Chief Justice and could not be permanently away from his judicial duties.

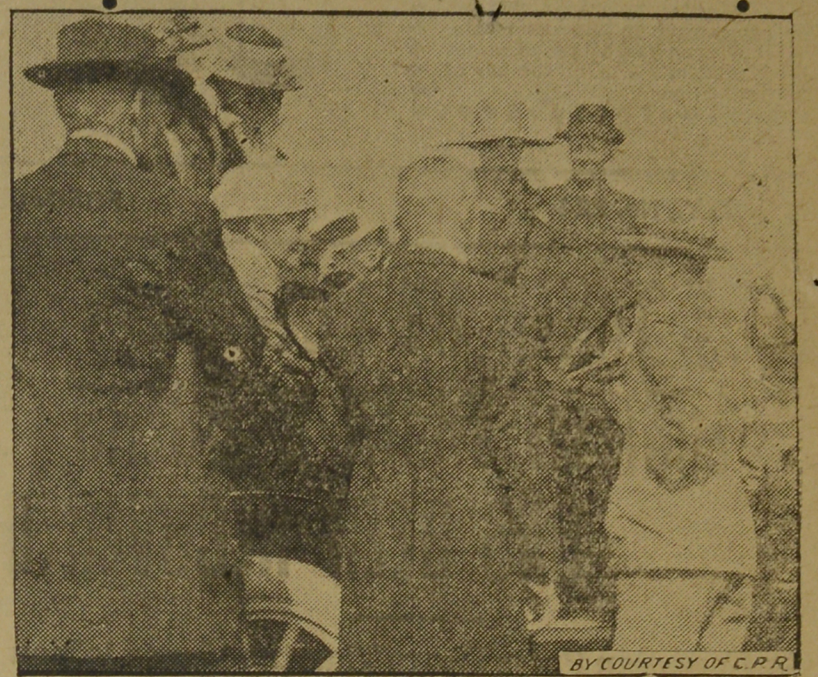
Lord Grey was Foreign Secretary for eleven momentous years. Never before has a British Foreign Secretary consented, after holding office, to be an ambassador. It is a precedent which indicates his views, at any rate, of what the friendship of the United States means for the 430,000,000 who dwell within the British sovereignty and for the peace of the world. The situation is the more interesting because Lord Grey is a strong supporter of Mr. Asquith, and therefore out of touch, if not with Mr. Lloyd George himself, at any rate, with his associates. Yet he goes to Washington with the entire approval of all parties in Britain—Liberal, Labor and Tory, and so sweeps aside all political and personal predilections.

In the most peaceful times the British Foreign Office is enough to break the strongest man. Lord Grey entered the place in 1905 with a magnificent constitution, based on habits at once regular and athletic, for he held the championship at tennis and wrote authoritative books on fishing. He had no children and the first great tragedy of his life came when his wife to whom he was devotedly attached, was killed outright in an outdoor accident. From that time onward Lord Grey became a recluse, fulfilling his public duties but otherwise at home only to his pet squirrels and other friends of the forest. But already the shades were closing in, on the horizon loomed larger and larger the German menace. Grey fought the war cloud bravely till it burst. When he retired his nerves were shaken. His sight was dimmed. He had such difficulty in taking food that graver fears were entertained. However, save for his eyes, he is now himself again. The American people cannot fail by their hospitable sympathy, to help a statesman who at this terrible time has in part sacrificed God's greatest gift of vision, like many a soldier, to the common cause.

Born in 1862, Grey is fifty-seven years old, which for a British statesman is the prime. His school is Winchester, smaller than Eton, but as famous. At Oxford his college was Balliol—Balliol under the worldly wise mastership of Jowett—and he began his career as private secretary to his cousin, who afterward became Earl of Cromer, the organizer of modern Egypt.

Grey was destined to be much more than a private secretary. He had a fair fortune, an estate and family, in days when family still counted. Also

he was Gladstone's most favored young man. What Gladstone said is often misquoted but it was, to be quite accurate, "Ah, Grey—there you have the Parliamentary manner." It is not eloquent. The sentences are conversational and sometimes ragged. He often repeats a phrase to gain time. But the quality of his style is repose. Of all the public men I have known and watched, I should say that no one better illustrated the principle—character tells. Grey has had to outgrow some prejudices. When Roseberry and his Liberal League opposed Bannerman, Grey stood in with them and only joined Bannerman's Cabinet at all because of the persuasions of his friend Arthur Ackland. He had supported the South African war, and at first did not at all like Lloyd George's famous budget, with its land clauses. In the Parliament of 1906, with its overwhelming Radical sentiment, I have seen him, over and over again, allay raging opposition by the sheer force of a cool voice, a steady eye and obvious sincerity. He seemed capable of error but never of a mean motive. Labor detected his Russian Entente, but even labor discovered that he was at heart a democratic person—curiously enough more democratic in the Cabinet than on the platform, where ap-



The Prince Enjoys a Quiet Chat at Sudbury, Ont.

plause was to be won. Usually with our statesmen, it is the other way. Against the pretensions of the peers he was as adamant. For Womans Suffrage he fought harder perhaps, than any of them, however radical they might claim to be. And if he added a peerage to his baronetcy it was, as in the case of Viscount Bryce, because he could not help it. He was too busy to watch over a constituency. Yet he had to stay in Parliament. A seat in the House of Lords was the only solution. They pressed on him at once an earldom, but he would only accept the lower rank. Yet so eminent had been his services that even as Sir Edward Grey, a commoner, they made him a Knight of the Garter, an honor reserved for kings and dukes and other heads of great houses, except in the one case of Palmerston. No one

is more utterly against the right to legislate because you happen to be your father's son than the British Ambassador. His family has, of course, played a big part in British history. Earl Grey who passed the Reform Bill of 1832 belonged to it, so did the later Earl Grey who was Governor-General of Canada. But the ambassador is one who, while himself belonging to the governing classes, recognizes that the masses have now ascended the throne of power.

(Continued on Page 7)

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