

British Cabinet Papers, 1880-1916

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE CLASS CAB 37

PART: ONE (Volumes 1-81)
PART : TWO (Volumes 82-162)

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BRITISH CABINET PAPERS, 1880 - 1916

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE CLASS CAB 37

PART 1, 1880 - 1905 (Volumes 1-81)

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The PRO class included in Part I are held in the Public Record Office, Kew, London and they have been filmed in England the Public Record Office

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NOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MATERIAL

Attention should be drawn to the nature of the original material and an explanation given of the Public Record Office warning on the PRO flashers which appear at the beginning of each volume and which say:-

"This is a film of photographic prints of varying quality."

Before the formation of the Cabinet Secretariat in December 1916 no systematic attempt was made to keep a complete set of the printed memoranda which Cabinet Ministers thought it worth while to circulate to their colleagues for the purpose of giving them information or for securing their assent to some course of action.

Public Record Office class CAB 1 (Cabinet Office, Miscellaneous Records) consists of only 800 papers which has been returned to the Cabinet Office by former ministers or their executors. A far greater number survived only in private collections.

In November 1962 the Public Record Office approached the owners and custodians of such collections and traced, including those in the PRO and the Foreign Office, nearly 5,000 papers. Photocopies of these papers were then made and brought together in CAB 37.

This unique collection has been taken from the following sources: The Royal Archives at Windsor, Lloyd George Papers, Chamberlain Papers, Asquith Papers, Bryce Papers, Dodson Papers, Goschen Papers, Beveridge Papers, Braithwaite Papers, Courtenay Papers, Markham Papers, Balfour Papers, Campbell-Bannerman Papers, Dilke Papers, Arnold-Foster Papers, H.G. Gladstone Papers, W.E. Gladstone Papers, Churchill Papers, Hardinge Papers, Haldane Papers, Childers Papers, Papers of the 3rd Marquess of Salisbury, Curzon Papers, Lothian Papers, and the Crewe Papers.

The documents included in this collection originated from many sources and vary in condition and print quality. The subsequent photocopying by several machines (- in 1962 photocopiers offered a less effective and flexible capacity -) increased this disparity. Beyond this, the quality often varied within each document and even single pages sometimes combine very heavy ink with extremely faded copy. These characteristics at times have presented difficulties of image and contrast which stringent tests, camera alterations and grading changes did not entirely overcome. While most of the materials is very legible there are pages which are best read at the higher magnification available on all good microfilm readers. Some documents will not

reproduce a good print-out and some pages are extremely poor. Conscious of these difficulties Harvester Microform have produced the best image possible and would like to thank the camera operators and technicians at the Public Records Office and the staff at Micromedia Ltd for their great care and patience in reproducing this important collection.

BRITISH CABINET PAPERS, 1880 - 1916

(Public Record Office Class CAB 37)

The full printed Public Record Office List accompanies this microfilm edition.

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BRITISH CABINET PAPERS, 1880 - 1916

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The full printed Public Record Office List accompanies this microfilm edition.

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