

Research Report

Fictional Committee

1 | Reconstructing the ministry of magic after the Battle of Hogwarts

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
Definition of Key Terms	4
Current State of Affairs	6
Stances of Characters	7
Possible Solutions	8
Questions to Consider	9
Bibliography	10

Introduction

The Ministry of Magic or M.o.M. was the primary governing body representative of the magical community in Harry Potter. Their main goal was the preservation of law regarding magic. Furthermore, the Ministry of Magic keeps Muggles from finding out about the culture of magical folk. Essentially, the Ministry is a complicated and highly inefficient bureaucracy. Their headquarters are in London and are made up of various Departments, Boards, Committees, and Offices, all of whom enforce the regulations and rules of laws.

The Ministry tackles different aspects such as commerce, transportation, magical creatures, sport, and international relations. Within the ministry, there are numerous law enforcement agencies. Their roles are to maintain order, impose laws and rules, manage security breaches, and operate Azkaban (prison for magical criminals). Besides this, the Ministry also maintains groups of Hit-police who protect the wizarding world and deal with criminals. The Wizengamot, High Wizard Court, is a governing body that serves as the ultimate judge of justice for the wizarding world.

The ministry unites the British government to the world of witchcraft. Every prime minister of Britain is visited by the Minister for Magic. During the peak of Lord Voldemort's power, the Minister for Magic worked with the muggle Prime Minister to ensure protection for muggles in the muggle world. In 2019, Hermione Granger became the Minister for Magic.

The Ministry of Magic was formed as a replacement for the Wizards' Council in 1707. It was involved, to some extent before its formation, in the International Confederation of Wizards' decision to ratify the Statute of Secrecy in 1692. This statute took responsibility in enforcing the law in the UK. Laws against underage magic use and wand use by muggles were imposed by the Ministry, mainly to maintain the secrecy of the wizarding world.

Countries such as Norway, France, Bulgaria, Germany, etc., had their own versions of Ministries of Magic. The USA was an exception given that they had their own governing magical body called the Magical Congress (MACUSA).

Definition of Key Terms

Apparate: the immediately transport oneself to any destination. Due to the difficulty and dangerous aspect, Apparition requires a license from the Department of Magical Transportation.

Azkaban: a prison fortress where criminals are sent. It is guarded 24/7 by Dementors who drain hope and peace from any human in their vicinity.

Beauxbatons Academy of Magic: a school of witchcraft and wizardry in Europe.

The Daily Prophet: a national wizarding newspaper

Death Eaters: Witches and Wizards who are known to be loyal to Lord Voldemort

Decree: a law made by someone with power and authority.

Floo Network: a magical network that witches and wizards can use to travel long distances between fireplaces or that can be used to communicate through.

Forbidden Forest: the dark forest surrounding Hogwarts. Students are forbidden to enter unless accompanied by a teacher or given permission.

Fountain of Magical Brethren: a group of golden statues consisting of a witch, wizard, centaur, house-elf, and goblin, that stands as a water fountain in a round pool in the Atrium (Ministry of Magic).

Half-breed: a person or creatures of mixed race such as a merperson or someone who was taken over by another breed such as a werewolf.

Healer: a person equivalent to that of a Muggle doctor.

Hit Wizards: Wizarding police from the Magical Law Enforcement Squad, trained to deal with magically powerful lawbreakers.

Interdepartmental memos: letters sent from and between employees of the Ministry of Magic.

Magical Law Enforcement Squad: wizard or hit police who are trained to deal with criminals.

Ministry of Magic: a government agency that aims to keep witches and wizards a secret from Muggles.

Mudblood: a term used to describe someone who has non-magical or Muggle parents (used as an insult).

Muggle: someone who does not have magical powers and lives in ignorance of the wizarding world.

Portkey: any enchanted object can be used as a Portkey to move witches and wizards away to a predetermined destination the second they touch it. The use of such a key should only be authorized by individuals from the Ministry of Magic.

Wizengamot: the Wizard High Court; consists of roughly 50 wizards and witches who conduct disciplinary hearings and debate high-profile cases.

Current State of Affairs

The Fall of the Ministry of Magic refers to Voldemort's coup of the M.o.M during the Second Wizarding War. Voldemort managed to take over the M.o.M by installing Pius Thicknesse in place of Minister for Magic Rufus Scrimgeour, who was assassinated. The coup resulted in Voldemort's control of the Daily Prophet, giving him command over the information shared with the public. Using these tools, Voldemort spread propaganda against Harry Potter and disseminated hate speech against Muggle-Borns. With Thicknesse acting as Voldemort's puppet, many of the Ministry's actions revolved around the Death Eater ideology. Most notably by creating the Muggle-Born Registration Commission to detain innocent Muggle-borns in Azkaban. This was created under the claim that Muggle-Borns must have stolen magic from "real" wizards and witches and, therefore, would need to register with the Commission.

After the Battle of Hogwarts, the outcome of which was the downfall of Voldemort's regime, the Ministry of Magic was taken back. Delores Umbridge and other government officials were arrested, cross-examined, and jailed for crimes against muggle-borns. Kingsley Shacklebolt was made permanent Minister for Magic and started getting rid of the Ministry for corruption and discrimination. He took on the dangerous job of withdrawing dementors from Azkaban and replacing them with Aurors. He made Harry Potter the head of the Auror Department, Ron Weasley an Auror, and Percy Weasley a high-ranking official. He changed the aim of the Ministry to focus on repairing the wizarding world after the Battle of Hogwarts. Changing the way the Ministry worked, and with help from Hermione Granger, Shacklebolt eliminated the pro-pureblood laws.

Currently, the M.o.M is undergoing the process of reformation as multiple notable individuals such as Hermione Granger and Harry Potter attempt to create a new, unbiased governmental system. *“Harry and Ron utterly revolutionized the Auror Department at the Ministry of Magic. They are now the experts. It doesn’t matter how old they are or what else they’ve done,”* Rowling said. Furthermore, she implied that Hermione’s *“brainpower and her knowledge of how the Dark Arts operate would really give her a sound grounding.”*

Stances of Characters

Character #1: Harry Potter

As a critical character in the Battle of Hogwarts, Harry Potter is extremely invested in the Ministry of Magic. Through his job, Potter works on improving the Auror department. His focus is on the security of the Ministry of Magic. Harry Potter's job was crucial in protecting the wizarding world from threats, both internal and external. While security and protection of the wizarding world were his primary goal, Potter took an interest in helping Hermione Granger, Ron Weasley, Kingsley Shacklebolt erase prejudicial laws and create more inclusive orders for the M.o.M to enact.

Character #2: Hermione Granger

After going back to Hogwarts to take her N.E.W.T. exams, Hermione started working for the M.o.M. *"Hermione began her post-Hogwarts career at the Department for the Regulation and Control of Magical Creatures where she was instrumental in greatly improving life for house-elves and their ilk. She then moved to the Department of Magical Law Enforcement where she was a progressive voice who ensured the eradication of oppressive...laws,"* claimed Rowling. Having endured racist comments about her origins throughout her life, Granger spent a majority of her time working at the M.o.M as Minister of Magic, focusing on eliminating pro-pureblood laws and targeting racist regulations about the treatment of non-human creatures.

Character #3: Draco Malfoy

A controversial character from the start, Draco Malfoy managed to avoid jail due to his last-minute change in allegiance during the Battle of Hogwarts. After the victory, Malfoy's entire belief system as a young student changed drastically. He refused to believe in the old, superiority of the pure-blood faith. Initially, despite his extreme change in attitude, Malfoy focused most of his time on alchemical manuscripts. However, he later decides to become a

better individual and get a job working for the M.o.M. Working directly under Hermione Granger, Draco Malfoy takes an active role in shaping the M.o.M into a more diverse, inclusive government system.

Possible Solutions

1. Change the type of government system followed by the M.o.M. Hire centaurs, goblins, or other non-human staff and place them in positions of power. Change the oligarchical norm into a democracy.
2. Security: Expanding and specializing in the Department of Security. This would provide less expertly trained Aurors an opportunity to set up smaller departments in local regions and help bring the crime rate down. Furthermore, by giving well-trained Aurors more time, they can specialize their focus on magic of a higher caliber and create emergency plans should they be necessary for the future.
3. Create new departments and laws that address the prejudice and discrimination against magical creatures.
 - a. Review pre-existing, archaic laws regarding the classification system, especially considering Voldemort's genocidal purge against mudbloods.
 - b. Laws such as protection laws and reforms for these beings can be looked at.
 - c. Spread awareness and hold those who justify prejudice accountable through punishments. Create a propaganda campaign to change the public view of the suffering, from vampirism to lycanthropy, to a sympathetic tone.
4. Eliminate pro-pureblood laws and address the following:
 - a. Consider certain concepts such as racism, equality, biases, etc.
5. Utilize different means to bring in tax income. The money can be used to pay living wages, subsidize research and development, public works, and hire more teachers at Hogwarts.
6. Implement a new education system at Hogwarts

- a. Teach muggle subjects—although they don't require wands, they are necessary for preparing wizards and witches for the rigors of life after Hogwarts.
- b. Have M.o.M officials visit Hogwarts yearly with the understanding that Hogwarts is out of their jurisdiction—solely to ensure the students are being taught safe magic

Questions to Consider

1. What is the best way to recreate and rebrand the Ministry of Magic?
2. How can your character use the tools and equipment available to best address this issue?
3. What is your character's stance on the topic? How best can the delegate implement their character's point of view in their resolution?
4. To what extent did corruption affect the organization and management of the M.o.M?
5. What specific areas should the delegate address to improve the M.o.M?
6. Which characters are more inclined to work together to approach this situation?
7. Who are some of the best characters to be placed in a power position regarding decision-making for the M.o.M? Why so?

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