

for speedy decision, and for decision when the legislature is not in session, throws new duties on the chief executive. National power is more easily symbolized in a man than in a chamber. Press and radio reveal or build up colourful figures. There has been little formal amendment of executive powers. In Great Britain the growth of the power of the Cabinet and the increasing recognition of the prime minister as the leader of the administration have come about without deliberate planning or legal recognition, merely as the result of the pressure of necessity, the growth of executive tasks, and the speeding up of business. Gone are the late nineteenth-century days when a British foreign secretary could discharge his duties by coming up from the country to the Foreign Office once or twice a week. On this continent also the change has come about by the more vigorous use of existing powers, the influence exerted over the legislature by the assumption of party leadership, and the skilful focusing of public opinion. (1)

This seems rather a shift of attitude from Dr. Skelton's views expressed in 1922 in favour of greater Parliamentary control and effectiveness, (quoted on page 10).

(1) O.D. Skelton: Our Generation, Its Gains and Losses. pp.76-78.