

Likewise, many years later, Mr. L.B. Pearson, while Leader of the Opposition, in referring to government defence policy, declared in the House of Commons:

The sole responsibility for the policy decision in this matter, as in defence policy generally, remains in the hands of the government. That is the tradition of British parliamentary government and we on this side do not wish, as we did not wish when we were in office, to depart from it in favour of making policies through parliamentary committees.

Nevertheless, decisions made by the government have to be submitted to parliament for approval or disapproval. Every member has his own responsibility in this regard and, not least, members of the Opposition.⁽¹⁾ We of the House of Commons cannot take that responsibility even if we desired to do so. . .

It may be noted that a year before Mr. Bennett's exposition, his principal adviser, Dr. Skelton, had already expounded that view, in an address to Westminster College at Fulton, Missouri, in 1937:

The movement toward concentration of power in the executive and in the head of the executive, while at its maximum in dictator countries, is marked also in the democratic countries. Increased state intervention in industry has meant increased activity by the executive rather than the legislative branch. State control is essentially executive control. The legislature may lay down broad lines of power and policy, but the actual operation, the daily contact, the determination of the margins of activity, fall to the administrative agency. And in some cases, though not in all, the trend to concentration has given the head of the administration a more outstanding position. The growing need

(1) Ibid. January 19, 1959, p.47.