

THE NEW ROLE OF THE TREASURY BOARD
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The Secretary of the Treasury Board has reviewed the Glassco proposals with emphasis on the key management recommendations of Volume I and he has described the new concepts that underlie the management process in the Public Service. In this second speech, it is logical to indicate how the Treasury Board Secretariat has been reorganized in response to the Glassco recommendations, how the staff is now functioning, and what has been done about the proposals on financial management and paperwork management. Mr. Irwin will continue this logical sequence with his talk on financial management in the Department of External Affairs.

Treasury Board Secretariat

In January 1964, the Prime Minister announced the reorganization of Government responsibilities and indicated the intention to create the position of President of the Treasury Board. Mr. McIlraith, who was at that time President of the Privy Council, was asked to assume the position of Vice-Chairman of the Treasury Board and in effect he became a de facto chairman. This move went a long way toward compliance with a major recommendation of the Glassco Commission that the Treasury Board be regarded as a separate department with its own Minister, and that this Minister have no departmental responsibilities. Subsequently, Mr. Benson was asked to assume the role of Vice-Chairman of the Treasury Board. Unlike Mr. McIlraith, he has other responsibilities in his capacity as Minister of National Revenue. However, he does serve as the de facto Chairman of the Treasury Board, except on the rare occasions when the Minister of Finance appears at the Board on some matter of particular interest and broad financial policy.

In May 1964, Dr. Davidson was appointed Secretary of the Treasury Board. On the occasion of his appointment, the Prime Minister reiterated that the Treasury Board would be a separate department with its own Minister. A draft bill has been prepared for this purpose. Although legislation has not been passed to give statutory effect to these changes, it is still the Government's publicly stated intention to do so, and for all practical purposes the Treasury Board is operating on this basis.