

were rarely discussed in Parliamentary debate, until the aftermath of the first World War brought home to the Canadian people and to Parliament the important interconnection between domestic and foreign affairs.

a decade or two later, in the late 1930's, the former Prime Minister, R.B. Bennett, clearly enunciated this point of view, which applied even more truly in the earlier period of this survey:

Parliament never makes foreign policy. His Majesty's advisers make the foreign policy of the country and parliament approves or disapproves. Parliament says yea or nay. This is the old constitutional practice, a practice as old as the hills themselves. Ever since our institutions have developed to what they are now we have provided that his majesty's government, always with a majority in the commons, shall initiate and formulate policies - foreign policies. It is not given to me nor to any private member of this house to indicate the foreign policy of Canada. You can express your views, as I am expressing mine, you can offer your criticisms, as I am, but the declaration of external policy in this country must come from his majesty's advisers, the government, the Crown in reality. You will find the matter much discussed in the speeches that took place in the time of Palmerston. It is the Crown's policy. The Crown no longer speaks as the sovereign; the Crown speaks on the advice of the ministers of the Crown, and the policy is the policy of the government of the day. (1)

It follows from the foregoing that if Parliament had only a small part in foreign policy-making, and only a somewhat academic interest in international affairs, there would be little interest by the public or by Parliament in the necessity of

(1) H. of C. Debates, May 24, 1938, p.3196.