

as in the ancient Greek-city agora, has a tendency to by-pass Parliament, the authentic, elected legislative and voting body, except only where "supply" must be voted by Parliament.

Another substitute for Parliament is possibly found in the Assemblies and Councils of the former League of Nations or the present United Nations; at these conferences Canadian spokesmen declare to the world, and to their own people listening at home, Canadian foreign policy often more fully than is declared on the floor of the House of Commons. Such platforms in some measure take the place of the Parliament in Ottawa. Often Parliament is subsequently informed by ministerial statements.

#### The Role of Cabinet

This review would seem to show the usurpation of the executive over the role theoretically belonging to the people's forum, Parliament. But this could be attributed, not only to the inadequacies of Parliament itself, and deficiencies of interest or knowledge, among its members, but also to the general trend toward delegation of power to the more competent executive branch, the Cabinet. This tendency, in a highly specialized and intricate field and in an era of specialized division of labour, was inevitable. Max Beloff, for example, refers to "the general tendency of all modern political societies to centralize power in the executive", and adds, with respect to the United States that "What executive officers are always hoping for is that Congress should enact general principles and