

It is very interesting to watch these little fellows running about on their various duties, while a meeting of the House is going on. Another duty of the sergeant-at-arms is to walk in front of the speaker on the proper occasions, carrying the mace, the symbol of the House's authority.

3. The Speech from the Throne.

Parliament must meet at least once a year. The governor-general who, as always, follows in this matter the advice of the leader of the government, sets the day for parliament to assemble. When the day comes, he himself or some person representing him, generally the Chief Justice of Canada, goes in great state to the parliament buildings, accompanied by a bodyguard of soldiers. He takes his seat on a throne in the chamber where the Senate meets, and then sends a message to the members of the House of Commons to leave their own chamber and come to the Senate.

When they arrive, he reads a short address in English and French which mentions what business the government is going to ask parliament