

does not try to do much work beyond accepting after more or less discussion and amendment the bills already passed by the House of Commons. Later we shall learn why it is that the Senate is not a more important parliamentary body.

5. The House of Commons.

The laws are really made in the House of Commons. The leader of the government is nearly always a member of this House and guides it in its work. If he should happen to be a member of the Senate, he must have some one recognized as the leader of the House of Commons in his place. But such an arrangement is not a safe one in our parliament. Besides the leader of the government, most of the members of his cabinet, that is, those who are directly associated with him in the government of the country, have seats in the House of Commons. We usually speak of the leader and his cabinet as the "government." They must either have the support of a majority of the members of the House of Commons, or give up their places to those who are able to obtain a majority.