

American body, there is no analogy whatever. The Senate of the United States has entrusted to it under the constitution much larger powers than are enjoyed by an upper chamber in the British parliamentary system. Though bills raising revenue can originate in the House of Representatives only, yet the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as in other bills; a privilege which the English or Canadian House of Commons will not concede to the Lords or Senate. The American Senate has the right to control the President in his nominations to public offices, and to review the treaties that he may make with foreign nations. The system of electing Senators by the legislature of each State has worked admirably, since it has sent to Congress so far a body of men, for the most part of intellectual power and high character. The Canadian Senate, on the other hand, is simply the House of Lords without the prestige that attaches to a body composed of hereditary legislators. It is ambitious, however, to claim a comparison in every way it can with the House of Lords, by basing its procedure upon that of its illustrious prototype, and by constituting itself a court for the trial of Divorce cases; the last being a proceeding not based on any legal right that the Senate has under the constitution, but one tacitly recognised as the most convenient method of dealing with a matter placed under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Parliament. The nomination of Senators by the Crown has certainly some advantages from a political point of view, since it enables a Ministry which has been in power for a long term of years to prevent any unpleasantness or inconvenience in the Senate, by filling up vacancies so as to make it a mere re-echo of its own political views. Very few bills originate in the Senate, and for weeks honourable gentlemen are obliged to adjourn until the Commons condescend to send them something to do. The fact is the Senate, like the Lords, has its difficulties. If it exercises its undoubted constitutional functions, and interferes with important legislation of the Lower House, if it rejects measures on which the popular chamber has strong opinions, there is at once a vehement outburst of indignation that it is setting itself up in opposition to the people's will, and that the time has arrived either for sweeping it away as an obstructive body, or for making some organic change in its