

Summary

这篇文章主要介绍了下议院的基本概况。在建筑布局上,下议院占据威斯敏斯特宫殿的北面,使用的部分包括数百个房间,其中最重要的是下议院辩论厅,通常被称为“议院”,这其中大约有 370 个席位。众议院的形状和布局具有重要的政治意义。它是长方形的,议长的椅子在一端,有五排笔直的长凳沿着两边,一侧坐着政府的支持党派,另一面坐着反对党。

接下来文章介绍了一个阶段的议会的完整流程:每一次新的会议都以全新的记录开始,接着会举办一个盛大的仪式场合“议会开幕”,通常由皇家马车游行开始,接下来女王登上王位进行“女王的演讲”。每一个议会日包括“提问时间”和“主辩论”,提问时间是英国下议院最广为人知的程序设置,议员可向部长提出问题,部长通常予以回答,所有的问答都很简短。接下来一天的主要辩论开始,这通常从下午 3 点 45 分持续到晚上 10 点。持续一年的会议中开会大约有 160 天,开会内容包括政府的开支请求、税收问题、女王的演讲、本年度计划以及“私人议员”选择的话题。

在辩论的现场,辩论由部长或反对派发言人主持,发言人在政府前面的长椅上发言,这是“公文箱”对面的地方。之后特定的时间议员们可以发表演讲,大约有 15 名成员能够发言。发言不是随意的,需要一位接着一位起立,希望被议长召集。对于议事的规则,正式议事规则依赖于常设命令,每一场辩论都必须涉及一项具体的提案或“动议”。众议院对此进行辩论,投票,或是“修正”该动议,如果对该动议的修正案得到接受,那么就会得以实现。

还有一件有意思的事:陌生人也能参观议会,陌生人可以通过买票或者网站申请来获得一个下议院的旁听席,通常都是一票难求。

This article mainly introduces the general situation of the House of Commons. In architectural layout, the House of Commons occupies the north side of the Palace of Westminster, and the part used consists of hundreds of rooms, the most important of which is the Debating Chamber of the House of Commons, often referred to as "the House", which has about 370 seats. The shape and layout of the House of Representatives is politically significant. It was rectangular, with the Speaker's chair at one end and five straight rows of benches along the sides, with the government's supporting parties on one side and the opposition on the other.

Each new session begins with a new record, followed by a grand ceremonial occasion called the State Opening of Parliament, which usually begins with a procession of royal carriages and is followed by the Queen's accession to the throne for the Queen's Speech. Each Parliamentary day consists of "Question time" and the "main debate". Question time is the most well-known procedure in the House of Commons, in which MPS can put questions to ministers, who usually answer them, all of which are brief. The next day's main debate begins, which usually lasts from 3.45pm to 10pm. There are about 160 days of meetings over the course of a year, covering the government's spending requests, tax issues, the Queen's Speech, plans for the year and topics chosen by "private members". On the ground, debates are moderated by ministers or opposition spokesmen who speak from benches in front of the government, which is opposite the "dispatch box". Then there are specific times when MPS can make speeches, and about 15 members can speak. Speeches are not random, and one after another must rise in the hope of being summoned by the Speaker. For the rules of procedure, formal rules of procedure rely on standing orders, and each debate must involve a specific proposal or "motion". The House of Representatives debates, votes on, or "amends" the motion, and if an amendment to the motion is accepted, then it happens.

Another interesting thing is that parliament can also be visited by strangers, who can buy a ticket or apply online to get a seat in the Commons, which is often hard to get.