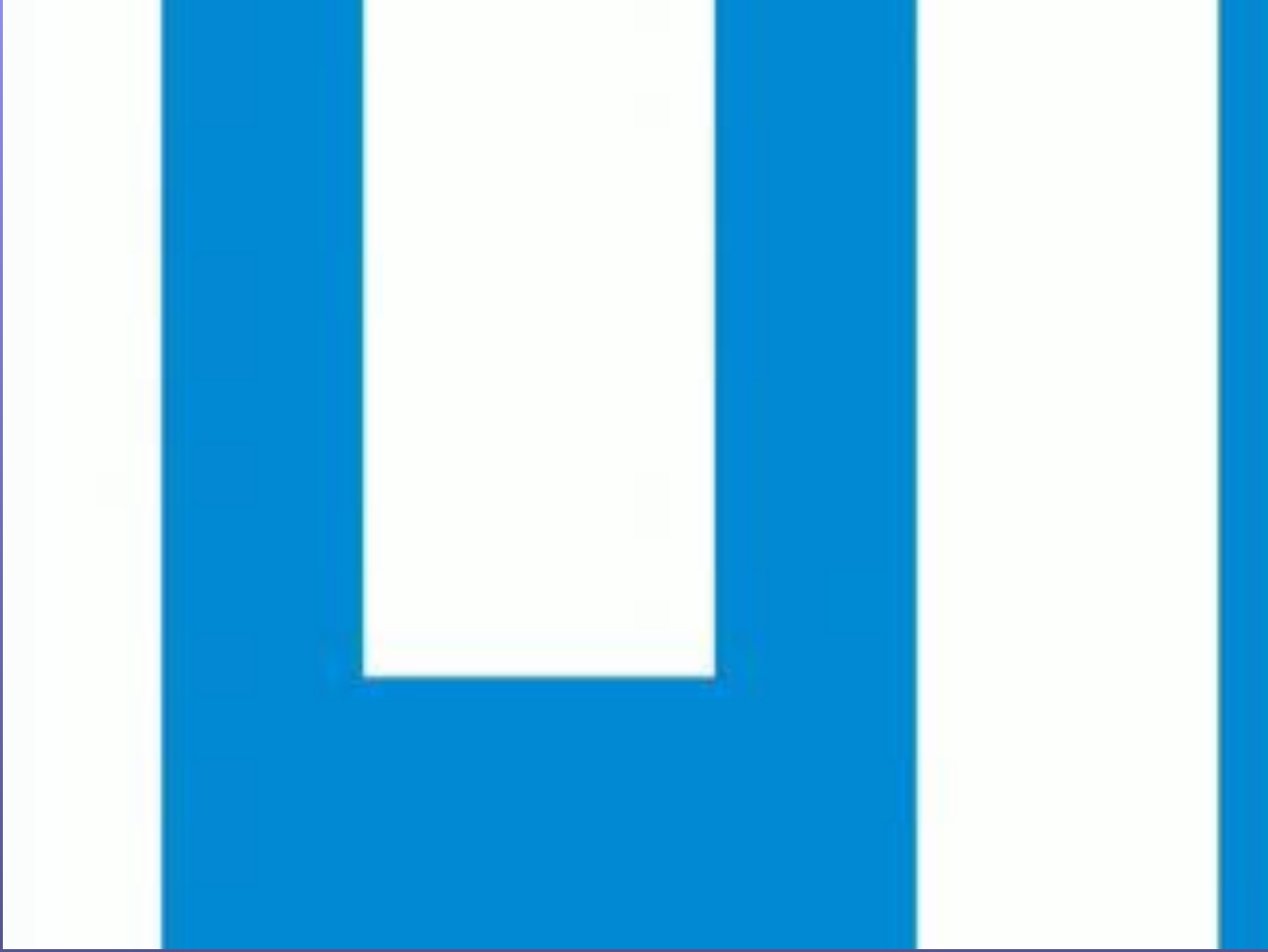




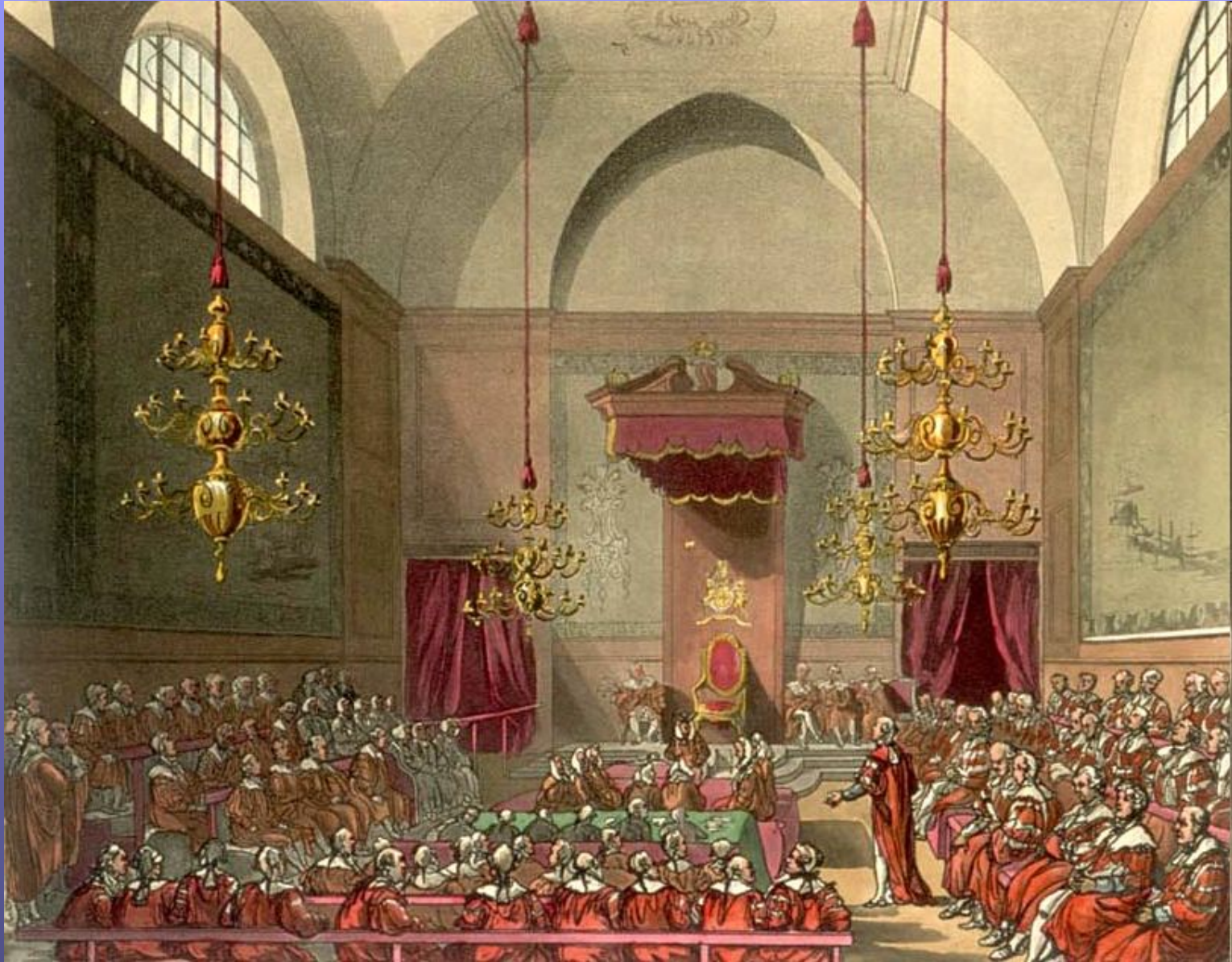
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Parliamentary monarchy

Часть=2.

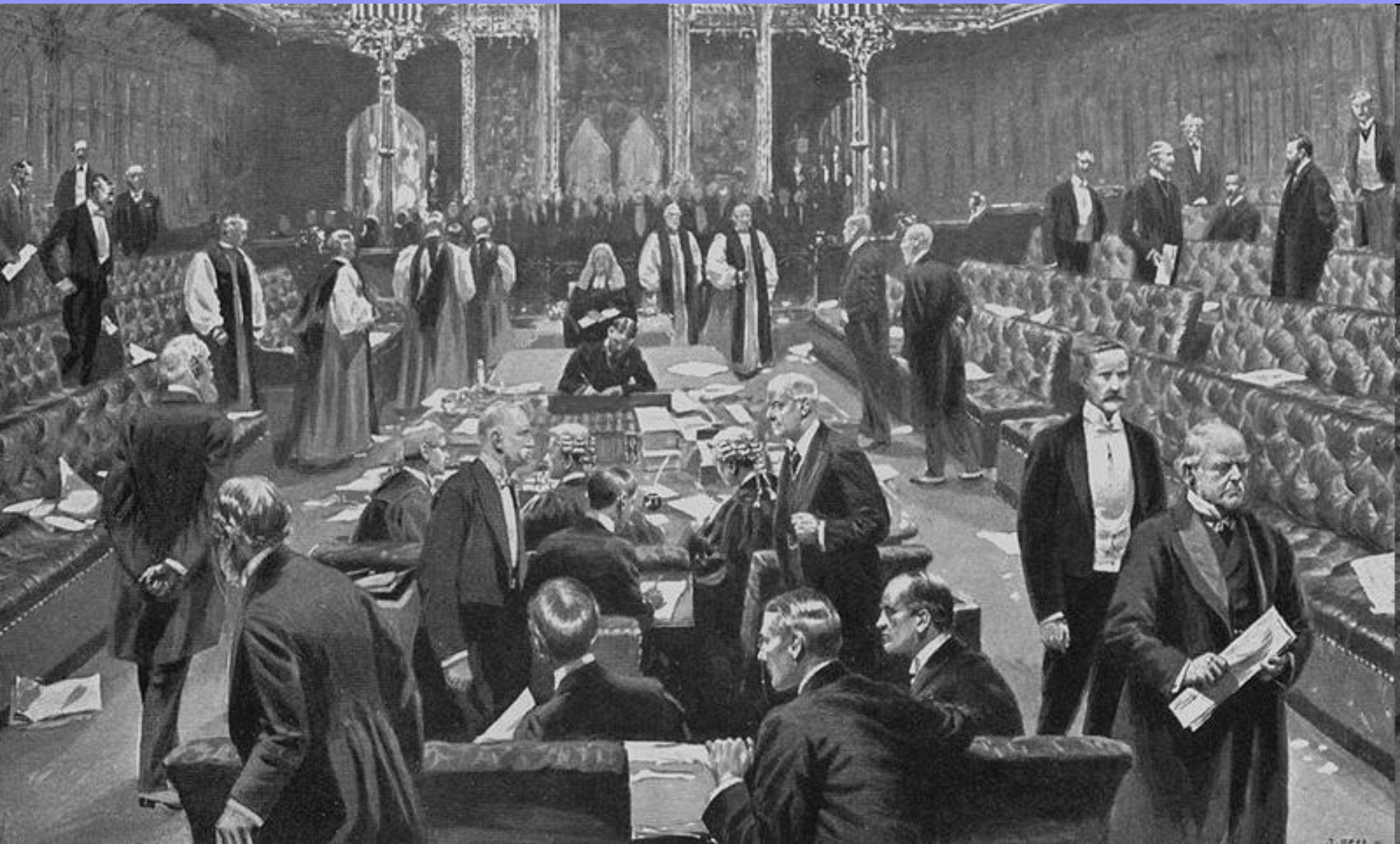


The House of Lords, 1808-1811



The House of Lords doesn't have now as much power in the country, as it used to.

An important vote: the House of Lords voting for the Parliament Act, 1911.



Under the Parliament Act 1911, the Lords' power to reject most legislative bills was reduced to a delaying power.



Governments in recent years have used the Upper House as a variant of the Select Committee process to finalize legislation before presentation for Royal Assent.



**Lord Chancellor, the
presiding officer
(Speaker) of the House
of Lords. (19th century)**

**For several centuries
Lord Chancellor used
to be the presiding
officer (Speaker) of
the House of Lords.**



In May 2006, the position of Speaker in the House of Lords was separated from the office of Lord Chancellor as part of the reforms under the Constitutional Reform Act 2005.

Baroness Helene Valerie Hayman, Lord Speaker of the House of Lords in Parliament of the United Kingdom.



Baroness Helene Valerie Hayman was one of nine candidates for the new role of Lord Speaker. In July 2006 she became the first ever Lord Speaker. The Lord Speaker is to resign party membership and outside interests to concentrate on being an impartial presiding officer.

Baroness Helen Hayman (left) with Russian First Lady Svetlana Medvedeva (right) in London, April 1, 2009



The Lord Speaker and other Members of the Lords represent the House of Lords at a range of events, sharing their expertise to broaden understanding about the House.



Members of the Lords play a vital role in keeping an eye on the decisions and actions of the Government.

The House of Lords Library



Bringing years of knowledge, they apply an experienced perspective to examining legislation and public policy.

Big Ben and The House Of Commons



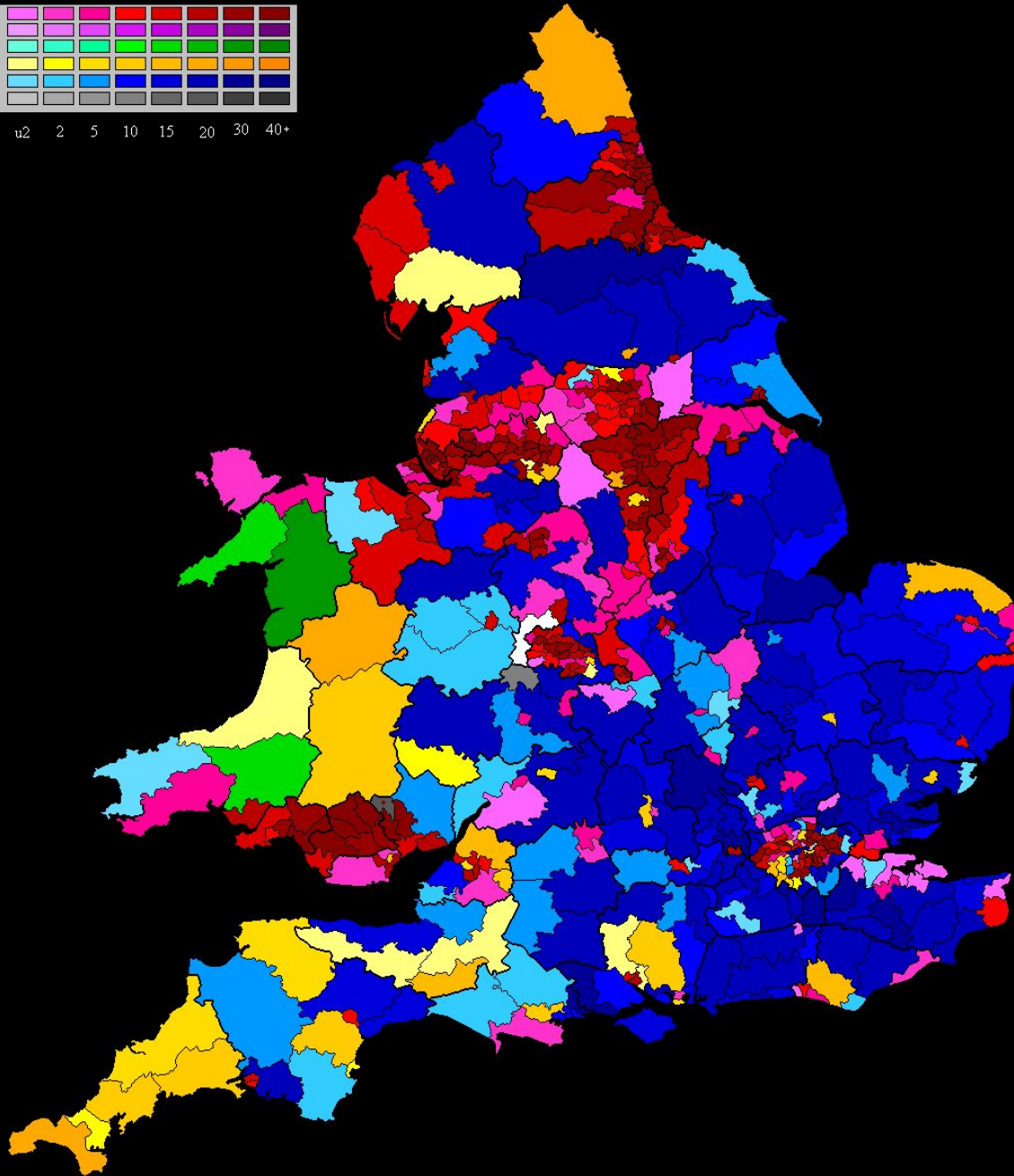
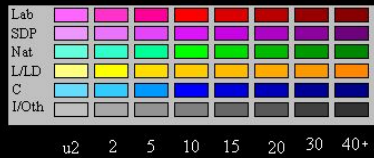
In the left wing of the building, closer to Big Ben the House of Commons meets.

The House Of Commons Chamber



The House of Commons, the lower Chamber of Parliament, is a democratically elected body, consisting of 650 Members of Parliament (MPs), who are elected.

Electoral Map of Britain



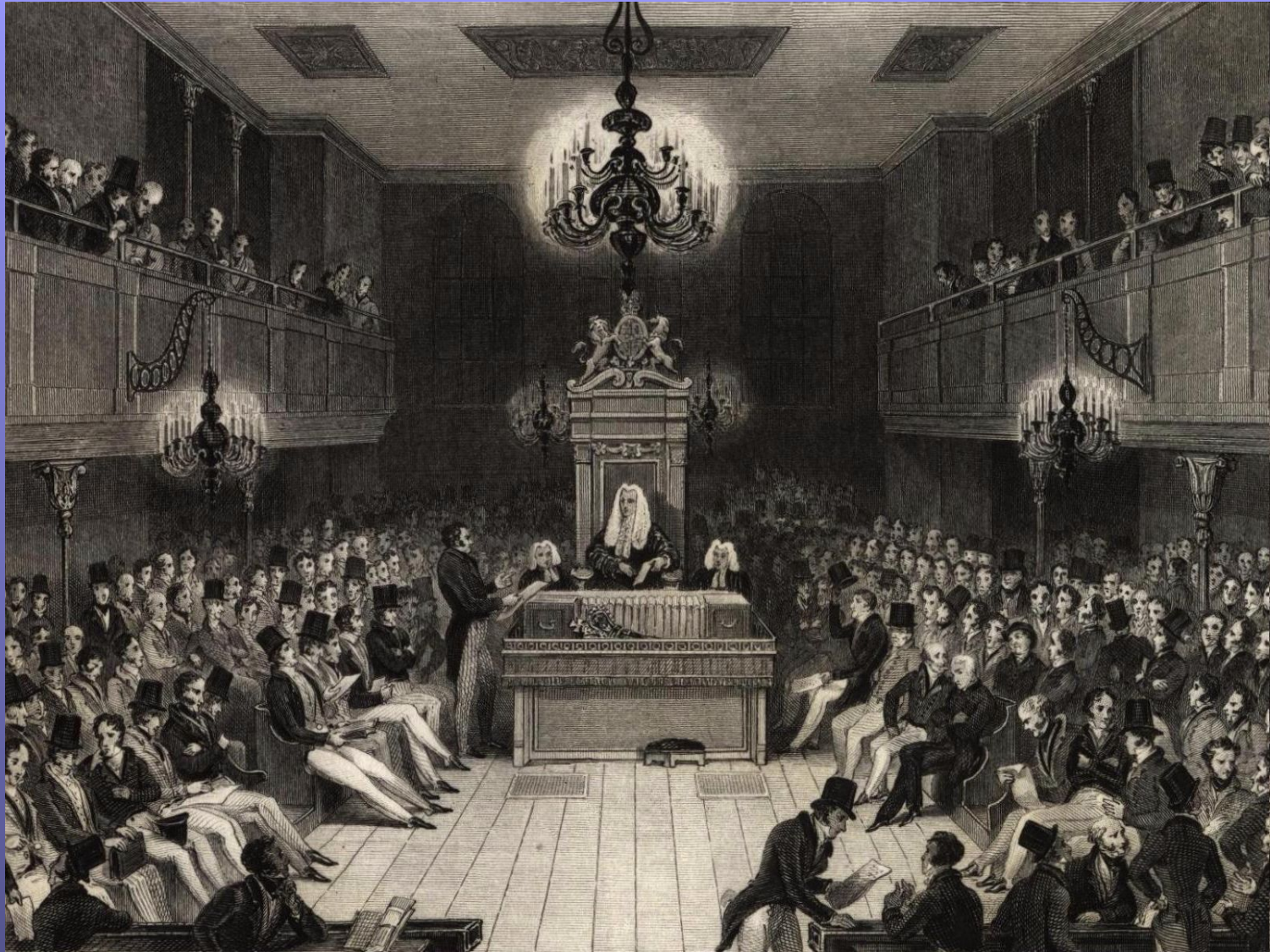
The UK is split into constituencies, and each constituency votes for an MP (Member of Parliament) to represent them.

The House of Commons at the beginning of the 19th century



The full, formal style and title of the House of Commons is *The Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.*

The Speaker presides over debates in the British House of Commons, 1834



The House of Commons was originally far less powerful than the House of Lords, but today its legislative powers greatly exceed those of the Lords.



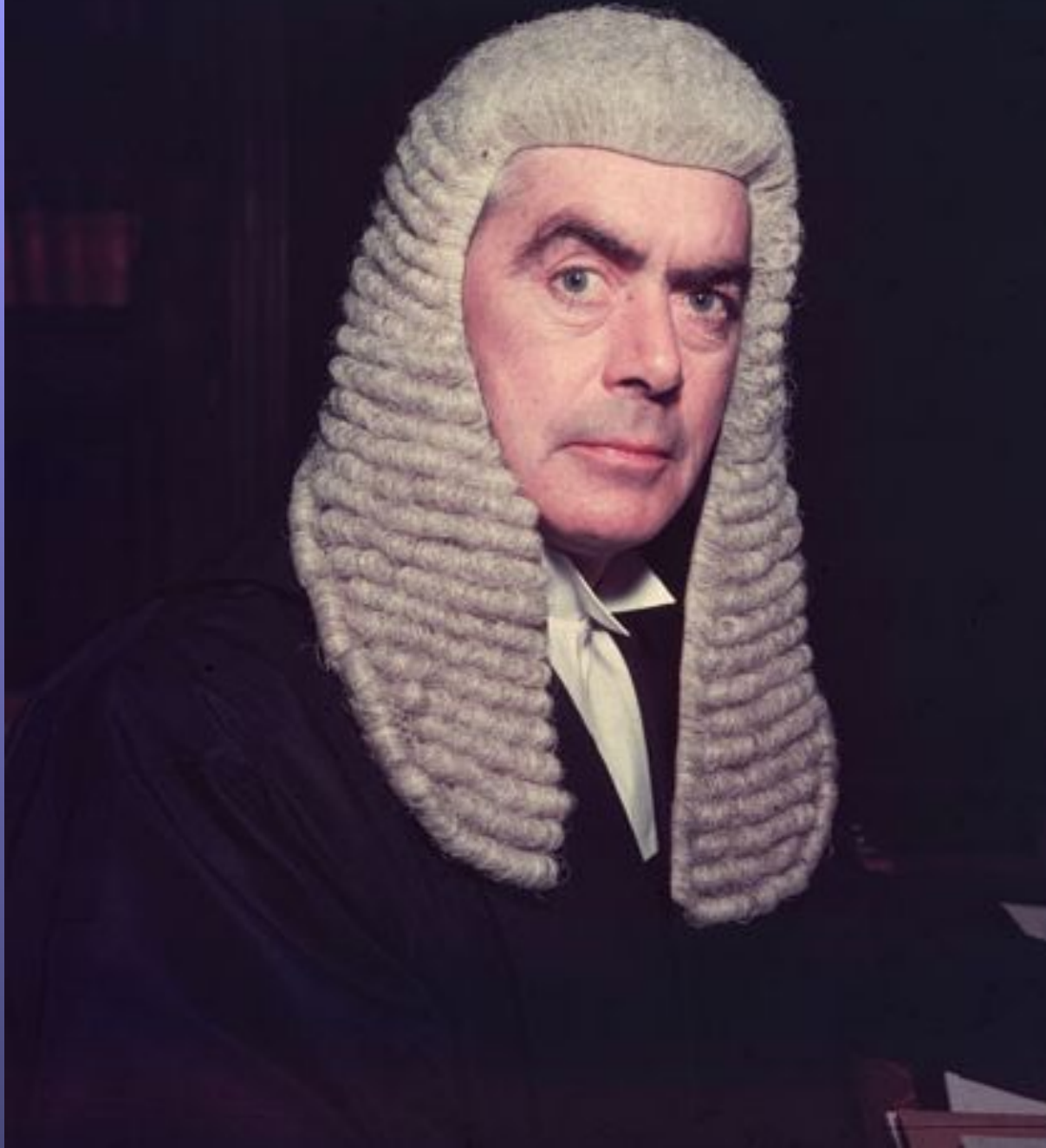
The main functions of the House are: to originate laws; to provide (by voting) taxation; to scrutinize government policy and administration; to debate the major issues of the day.

House of Commons Chamber: Speaker's table



The Speaker of the House of Commons is the chief officer and highest authority of the House of Commons.

**House of Commons
speaker, 1955**



**The holder of this
office is an MP who
has been elected to
be Speaker by other
Members of
Parliament.**

The former Britain's Speaker of the House of Commons, Michael Martin, speaking to the House of Commons



The Speaker chairs debates in the Commons chamber. During debates he keeps order and calls MPs to speak. He must remain politically impartial at all times.

John Bercow current Speaker of the House of Commons



**The current Speaker of the House of Commons
John Bercow was elected on 22 June 2009.**



**John Bercow - current
Speaker of the House of
Commons**

**He was returned as a
MP in the 2010
general election and
was re-elected as
Speaker when the
House sat at the start
of the new Parliament
on May 18, 2010.**



The Mace in the House of Commons has become the symbol of privileges and authority of the House.

Paul Rainer, Oliver Cromwell in the House of Commons in 1653.



In medieval times, maces were weapons of war. For many centuries a mace has been a staff of office in Parliament.

The Sergeant at Arms, Jill Pay, places the mace on the Table to signal that the House is sitting. May 18, 2010



The mace is carried in and out of the Commons and Lords Chambers in a procession by the Serjeant at Arms at the beginning and end of each day.



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Without the mace in position, the House cannot sit and debate.



Each MP is a member of one of the political parties, or an independent candidate. They hold their seats until Parliament is dissolved (a maximum of five years after the preceding election). At the end of the term the Queen dissolves the Parliament, which is also a traditional procedure.



**Dissolution of British Parliament Procedure
announced by the Prime Minister Tony Blair**