

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

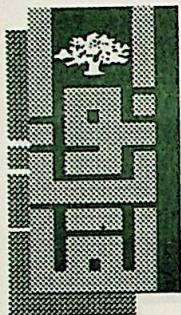
IN THE

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

1934

L.J. 1/6/34

Birzeit University

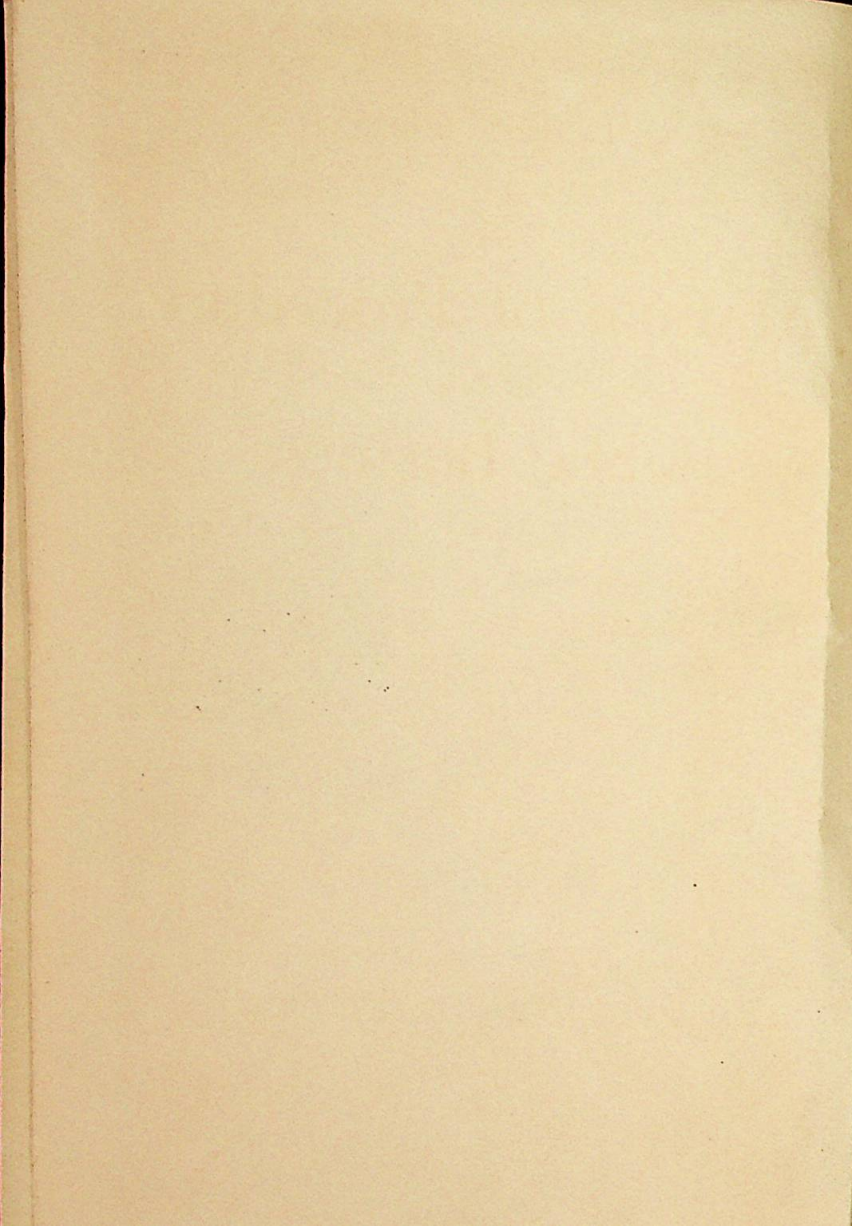


LAW CENTER
Library

Donated by:

JUDGE IBRAHIM
SALIBA SABA

4



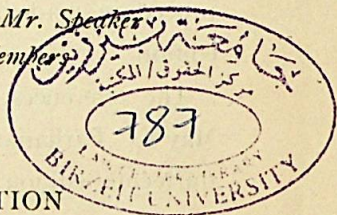
HOUSE OF COMMONS

194155

Manual of Procedure in the Public Business

*Laid on the Table by Mr. Speaker
for the use of Members*

KD
4354
.A3
1934



SIXTH EDITION

LONDON

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from
H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2 ; 120, George Street, Edinburgh 2 ;
York Street, Manchester 1 ; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff ;
80, Chichester Street, Belfast ;
or through any Bookseller

1934

Price 6s. net

Copyright. All rights reserved

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE.

Prefatory Note.

This work was prepared by the late Sir Courtenay Ilbert, G.C.B., Clerk of the House of Commons, for the use of members. The present edition embodies the alterations in procedure made since the date of the fifth edition.

The references in the text to Sir Erskine May's "Parliamentary Practice" are to the thirteenth edition, published in 1924.

H. C. D.

January, 1934.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT.

NO.		PAGE
1.	Summoning of parliament	1
2.	Adjournment of Houses of Parliament	2
3.	Power of Crown to require meeting of parliament notwithstanding adjournment	3
4.	Prorogation of parliament	3
5.	Dissolution of parliament	5
6.	Effect of demise of Crown on parliament	5
7.	Proceedings at beginning of new parliament	6
8.	Proceedings at beginning of session	7

CHAPTER II.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

9.	Duty of each member to take oath or make affirmation	12
10.	Mode and time of taking oath or making affirmation	13
11.	Form of oath	14
12.	Mode of taking oath	15
13.	Power to substitute affirmation for oath	16
14.	Issue of new writ during session	16
15.	Issue of new writ during recess in cases of death, accession to peerage, or acceptance of disqualifying office	18

NO.		PAGE
16.	Issue of new writ during recess in case of bankruptcy	21
17.	Issue of new writ in case of lunacy	21
18.	Provisions for issue of new writs in case of Speaker's absence	22

Sessional Orders and Resolutions.

19.	Members returned for two or more places, double returns and questions as to elections ...	23
20.	Peers not to vote	23
21.	Persons returned by bribery to be proceeded against	24

CHAPTER III.

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES.

The Speaker.

22.	Election and term of office of Speaker	25
23.	Duties and powers of Speaker	25

Chairman of Ways and Means, Deputy-Chairman, and Temporary Chairmen.

24.	Chairman of ways and means	26
25.	Deputy-chairman	27
26.	Temporary chairmen of committees	29
27.	Powers of chairman of ways and means and deputy-chairman as Deputy-Speaker ...	29

CHAPTER IV.

THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.

NO.		PAGE
28.	The clerk of the House	31
29.	The clerks assistant	31
30.	The serjeant-at-arms	32

CHAPTER V.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND
ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS.

31.	Ordinary sittings	34
32.	Friday sittings	34
33.	Adjournment over Saturday	34
34.	Interruption of business	35
35.	Exempted business	36
36.	Motion for exemption from interruption ...	37
37.	Effect of interruption	38
38.	Adjournment of the House at 11.30 and on Fridays	40
39.	Business outstanding at end of sitting	41
40.	Notices of motions and orders of the day ...	42
41.	Precedence of business	43
42.	Arrangement of government business	47
43.	Relative precedence of private members' bills ...	47
44.	Relative precedence of private members' motions	49
45.	Precedence of privilege motions	50
46.	Order of proceedings	51
47.	Reading of orders of the day	54

CHAPTER VI.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT
COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.*Private Business.*

NO.		PAGE
48.	Time and mode of dealing with private business at sittings of the House	55

Public Petitions.

49.	Form of petitions	59
50.	Restrictions on petitions relating to public money	61
51.	Presentation of petitions	62
52.	Reference of petitions to committee on public petitions	64

Questions to Ministers and other Members.

53.	Notice of questions	65
54.	Time for asking questions	66
55.	Oral and printed answers	67
56.	Mode of asking questions	67
57.	Rules as to form and contents of questions ...	69

Motions for Adjournment for Purposes of Debate.

58.	Motion for adjournment for purposes of debate	72
-----	---	----

*Matters taken at the Commencement of Public
Business.*

59.	Matters which may be taken at commencement of public business	75
-----	---	----

CHAPTER VII.
COMMITTEES.

NO.	<i>Committees of the whole House.</i>	PAGE
60.	Resolution of House into committee	77
61.	Procedure on reading order of day for a committee	78
62.	Procedure on Speaker leaving the chair ...	78
63.	Chairman of committee	79
64.	Procedure in committee of whole House ...	79
65.	Effect of message from House of Lords ...	80
66.	Report from committee on interruption of business	80
67.	Discontinuance of proceedings by order to report progress or order that chairman leave chair	81
68.	Report from committee on completion of business	81
69.	Procedure on consideration of report of resolu- tions from committee	82
<i>Standing Committees.</i>		
70.	Appointment of standing committees	83
71.	Constitution of standing committees	83
72.	Chairmen of standing committees	85
73.	Committal of bill to standing committee ...	86
74.	Reference of amendments to standing committee	87
75.	Time for sitting of committee	87
76.	Quorum of committee	88
77.	Procedure in standing committee	88
78.	Admission of strangers to standing committees...	89
<i>Select Committees.</i>		
79.	Object of select committee	89
80.	Number of select committee	90

NO.		PAGE
81.	Nomination of members of select committee...	91
82.	Nomination of select committee at commencement of public business	92
83.	Scope of inquiry by select committee	93
84.	Lists of members serving on select committees	94
85.	Sittings of select committee	94
86.	Adjournment of select committee	94
87.	Quorum of select committee	95
88.	Chairman of select committee	95
89.	Vote of chairman	95
90.	Powers of select committee with respect to persons, papers and records	96
91.	Leave required to hear counsel, or appoint sub-committees	97
92.	Presence of strangers during sitting of select committee	97
93.	Record of proceedings of committee	98
94.	Preparation and discussion of report	98
95.	Power to report opinion and make special report	100
96.	Presentation of report to House	101
97.	Consideration of report	101

Joint Committees.

98.	Constitution of joint committee	102
99.	Appointment of joint committee	103
100.	Procedure in joint committee	104

Sessional Committees.

101.	Sessional committees	104
102.	Committee of public accounts	105
103.	Select committee on standing orders	105
104.	Committee of selection	106

CONTENTS.

ix

NO.		PAGE
105.	Committee of privileges	107
106.	Committee on public petitions	108
107.	Select committee on estimates	108
108.	Select committee on publications and debates reports	109
109.	Select committee on kitchen and refreshment rooms (House of Commons)	109

CHAPTER VIII.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE.

Quorum of the House.

110.	Quorum	110
111.	Procedure for counting the House	110
112.	No count between 8.15 p.m. and 9.15 p.m. ...	111
113.	Adjournment of House for failure of quorum...	112
114.	Counting out (Fridays)	113
115.	Quorum not required for proceedings on message for attendance in House of Lords...	113

Motions and Questions for Decision.

116.	Motions and questions	113
117.	Motions requiring notice	114
118.	Notices to be given at table	116
119.	Limit on time for which notices of motions may be given	116
120.	Oral notice of motions	117
121.	Power to amend notice of motion	118
122.	Power to postpone motion	118
123.	Irregular or improper notices	119
124.	Motions requiring a seconder	119
125.	Terms of motion to be handed to chair ...	119

NO.		PAGE
126.	Motions by way of repetition	120
127.	Rule against anticipation	120
128.	Proposal of question for decision	121
129.	Withdrawal of motion	122
130.	Modes of amending a question	122
131.	Rules as to amendments	123
132.	Mode of putting amendments	124
133.	Putting of question on conclusion of debate ...	125
134.	Previous question	126

Closure.

135.	Closure	127
------	----------------	-----

Selection of Amendments.

136.	Selection of amendments	130
------	--------------------------------	-----

Divisions.

137.	Mode of taking division	131
138.	Voting of members	133
139.	Mode of raising point of order during division	133
140.	Errors in division	134
141.	Procedure in case of equality of votes ...	134
142.	Division lists	135
143.	Divisions unnecessarily claimed	135
144.	Disqualification for voting on ground of pecuniary interest	136

Rules of Debate.

145.	Mode of addressing the House	137
146.	Members called by Speaker	137
147.	Relevancy of debate	138
148.	Personal explanations	138

CONTENTS.

xi

NO.	PAGE
149. Rule against speaking twice	139
150. Right of speech after formal motion	140
151. Rule as to motions for adjournment, &c. ...	140
152. Rights of mover of adjournment of debate ...	141
153. Rule against reading	141
154. Papers quoted to be laid on the table	142
155. Rules to be observed by members speaking ...	142
156. No speech after question fully put	145
157. Rules to be observed by members whilst present at a debate	145
158. Procedure when Speaker or chairman rises ...	147
159. Right to seat	147
160. Taking down of words	148

Provisions for Maintenance of Order.

161. Provision against irrelevance or repetition ...	149
162. Provision against abuse of dilatory motion ...	150
163. Power to order withdrawal of disorderly member	150
164. Suspension of member for disorderly conduct...	151
165. Power of Speaker to adjourn House or suspend sitting	154

CHAPTER IX.

PUBLIC BILLS.

Distinction between Public and Private Bills.

166. Public and private bills	155
167. Hybrid bills	156

Introduction and First Reading.

168. Introduction of bills	156
169. Motions at commencement of public business for leave to introduce bills	158

NO.		PAGE
170.	Bills which must originate in committee ...	159
171.	First reading and printing of bill ...	160
172.	Explanatory memorandum ...	161
173.	Reference to examiners of bill appearing to be hybrid ...	161

Second Reading.

174.	Second reading ...	163
175.	Notices of amendments ...	165

Committal of Bill and Procedure in Committee.

176.	Committal of bill ...	165
177.	Resolution of House into committee on bill ...	167
178.	General powers of committee on bill ...	167
179.	Special instructions to committee on bill ...	168
180.	Consideration of clauses ...	169
181.	Mode of proposing amendments ...	170
182.	Arrangement of amendments on notice paper...	171
183.	Order of amendments ...	171
184.	Rules as to amendments ...	173
185.	Withdrawal of amendments ...	174
186.	Postponement of clauses ...	174
187.	New clauses ...	174
188.	Schedules ...	175
189.	Preamble ...	175
190.	Conclusion of proceedings in committee ...	176
191.	Report of progress ...	176
192.	Resumption of progress ...	177
193.	Reprinting of bill whilst in committee ...	177
194.	Procedure in standing committees ...	178

Proceedings consequent on Report.

NO.		PAGE
195.	Proceedings when bill is not amended by committee of whole House	178
196.	Proceedings when bill is amended by committee of whole House	179
197.	Consideration of bill as amended by committee of whole House	179
198.	Procedure on bill reported from standing committee	180
199.	Procedure on bill reported from select committee or joint committee	180
200.	Order of proceedings at report stage	180
201.	Restrictions on clauses and amendments	181
202.	Procedure on amendments	182
203.	Recommittal of bill	182

Third Reading.

204.	Appointment of third reading after consideration of amendments	184
205.	Third reading	184
206.	Amendments on third reading	185
207.	Amendment of title after third reading	185
208.	Motion that bill do pass not made	186

Sending of Bill to House of Lords, and consideration of Lords' Amendments.

209.	Sending of bill to House of Lords	186
210.	Messages from House of Lords to House of Commons as to bills brought from Commons	187
211.	Appointment of time for consideration of Lords' amendments	187
212.	Procedure on consideration of Lords' amendments	188

NO.		PAGE
213.	Procedure consequential on disagreement to Lords' amendments	189
	<i>Bills originating in the House of Lords.</i>	
214.	Procedure on bills originating in House of Lords	190
	<i>Bills of an urgent nature.</i>	
215.	Procedure in cases of special urgency	191
	<i>Provisions requiring Royal Consent.</i>	
216.	Provisions requiring royal consent	192
	<i>Royal Assent to Bill.</i>	
217.	Procedure for giving royal assent to a bill ...	192
	<i>Withdrawal of Bill.</i>	
218.	Withdrawal of bill	193
	<i>Temporary Laws.</i>	
219.	Temporary laws	194

CHAPTER X.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS.

General Rules.

220.	Exclusive right of House of Commons to grant money	195
221.	Money not granted except on recommendation of Crown	195
222.	Money not granted except in committee of whole House	197

NO.		PAGE
223.	Proposal to impose charge must be adjourned and referred to committee	197

Procedure for obtaining Supply.

224.	Request from Crown for supply	198
225.	Presentation of estimates	199
226.	Form of ordinary annual estimates	199
227.	Other estimates	200
228.	Votes on account	200
229.	Supplementary or additional grants	201
230.	Excess grants	202
231.	Votes of credit	203
232.	Exceptional grants	203
233.	Appointment of committees of supply and ways and means	204
234.	Days for which committees of supply and ways and means may be fixed	205
235.	Procedure on going into committee of supply	206
236.	Days allotted for supply	208
237.	Procedure in committee of supply	213
238.	Restrictions on motions in committee of supply	214
239.	Report of supply	215
240.	Appropriation of supply	215

Ways and Means.

241.	Functions of committee of ways and means ...	216
242.	Resolutions to authorise grants	216
243.	Resolutions for taxation	217
244.	Procedure in committee of ways and means ...	218
245.	Report of ways and means	219

NO.		PAGE
246.	Proceedings consequent on report	219
247.	Legislation consequent on ways and means resolutions	220
248.	Consolidated Fund Acts	220
249.	Appropriation Act	221
250.	Finance Act	223

CHAPTER XI.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
HOUSES.

251.	Privileges of House of Commons with respect to charges on the people	224
252.	Procedure in case of financial provisions originating in House of Lords	228
253.	Waiver of privileges with respect to penalties, fees, and forfeitures	229
254.	Waiver of privileges with respect to tolls and charges in private bills	230
255.	Communications between the two Houses ...	231

CHAPTER XII.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CROWN
AND THE HOUSE.

256.	Mode of making communications from Crown to House	232
257.	Message from Crown	232
258.	Communications through ministers of the Crown	234
259.	Communications through privy councillors ...	234
260.	Addresses from the House	235

CHAPTER XIII.

WITNESSES.

NO.		PAGE
261.	Power of House to summon witness	236
262.	Power of committee to summon witness	236
263.	Warrant for production of prisoner as witness...	237
264.	Punishment for failure to attend as witness ...	237
265.	Request for attendance of member as witness...	238
266.	Request for attendance of peer or officer of the House of Lords as witness	238
267.	Power to administer oaths to witnesses	238
268.	Persons authorised to administer oaths	239
269.	Protection of witnesses	239
270.	Evidence of proceedings in House not to be given without leave	240

CHAPTER XIV.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS.

271.	Authority for presenting accounts and papers...	241
------	---	-----

CHAPTER XV.

RECORDS OF THE HOUSE.

272.	" Votes and Proceedings "	245
273.	Journal of the House	245

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Attendance of Members.

274.	Duty of member to attend	247
275.	Salaries	248

*Duties of Members as to Professional Advocacy
for Reward.*

NO.		PAGE
276.	Member not to advocate cause for pecuniary consideration	248

Admission of Strangers.

277.	Rules as to admission of strangers	249
278.	Power to order withdrawal of strangers	250
279.	Duties and powers of serjeant-at-arms with respect to strangers	250

... .. CHAPTER XVII.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Parliamentary Agents.

280.	Parliamentary agents	253
------	-----------------------------	-----

Stages in Proceedings on Private Bills.

281.	Stages in proceedings	253
282.	Postponement in case of opposition	262

Provisional Order Bills.

283.	Procedure on provisional order bills	263
------	---	-----

Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland).

284.	Special procedure under Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Acts	263
------	--	-----

Committees on Private Bills.

285.	Constitution of and procedure in committees on private bills	265
------	---	-----

CHAPTER XVIII.

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT.

NO.		PAGE
286.	Powers of House of Lords as to money bills ...	268
287.	Restriction of the powers of the House of Lords as to bills other than money bills	270
288.	Certificate of Speaker	272
289.	Enacting words	273
290.	Provisional order bills excluded	273
291.	Saving for existing rights and privileges of the House of Commons	274

APPENDIX:—

PART I.	Standing orders relative to public business	277
PART II.	Sessional orders and resolutions ...	341

INDEX	345
--------------	-----

CHAPTER VIII

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

171	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
172	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
173	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
174	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
175	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
176	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
177	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
178	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
179	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
180	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

181	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
182	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
183	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
184	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
185	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
186	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
187	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
188	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
189	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
190	THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MANUAL OF PROCEDURE.

CHAPTER I.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT.

1. A new parliament is called together by means of writs of summons, which are issued from the Crown Office, in pursuance of a royal proclamation and order in council, and which summon peers, direct the election of members of the House of Commons, and fix the day on which the parliament is to meet. Summoning of parliament.

The same proclamation dissolves one parliament and calls another.

The time appointed for the first meeting of a new parliament may be at any time not less than 20 clear days after the date of the proclamation (7 and 8 Geo. 5, c. 64, s. 21 (3)). The meeting may be postponed by proclamation under 30 and 31 Vict., c. 81.

The form of the writ of election is regulated by the Ballot Act, 1872 (35 and 36 Vict., c. 33, 1

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

s. 28, Schedule II.). Each writ is addressed to the proper returning officer, and must (except in the case of writs addressed to the sheriffs of London and Middlesex) be delivered by the messenger of the great seal or his deputy to the General Post Office, and must be sent free of charge by post (53 Geo. 3, c. 89). In certain cases the telegraph may be used (7 and 8 Geo. 5, c. 64, s. 21 (2)).

Adjourn-
ment of
Houses of
Parliament.

2. The sittings of either House of Parliament may be adjourned from time to time by order of that House.

See May, 58. The orders of adjournment may be either general, embodied in standing or sessional orders, or special, relating to particular sittings, or to the sittings during a particular period. The House does not, like the House of Lords, adjourn during pleasure, but sittings are sometimes informally suspended. *See* May, 221. As to abnormally long sittings and the effect of one sitting extending over the time at which the next sitting would ordinarily commence, *see* May, 181, note 2. The House in adjourning to a day fixed has empowered the Speaker to call it together on an earlier day, if, after consultation with His Majesty's ministers, such a course seemed desirable. *See* May, 221, note 8. *See also* the notices given by Mr. Speaker for the meeting of the House on the 30th September, 1924, instead of the 28th October, the day to which it had adjourned, 179 C. J., 378 ; on the 8th September, 1931, instead of the 20th October, 186 C. J., 403 ;

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

and on the 18th October, 1932, instead of the 27th October, 187 C. J., 301.

3. When both Houses of Parliament stand adjourned, the Crown may by proclamation require both Houses to meet on a day not earlier than six days from the date of the proclamation.

Power of Crown to require meeting of parliament notwithstanding adjournment.

See 39 and 40 Geo. 3, c. 14, s. 1, as amended by 33 and 34 Vict., c. 81, s. 2. The latter Act substitutes six days for fourteen. The Acts apply to cases where both Houses stand adjourned for more than six (formerly fourteen) days from the date of the proclamation. *See* May, 59.

4. A session of parliament is terminated by prorogation. Parliament is prorogued by exercise of the royal prerogative. The prorogation is effected at the close of a session by an announcement made in the House of Lords by the King in person, or by commissioners appointed by him for that purpose.

Prorogation of parliament.

The prorogation is to a specified date. The date so specified may be either postponed or advanced by royal proclamation, issued with the advice of the Privy Council.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

Since 1854 the prorogation has always been by commissioners. Under this procedure a message is sent from the lords commissioners to the House of Commons requesting their attendance. The same message may request attendance to hear announcement of prorogation and the royal assent given to the last bills of the session (*see* § 217). After this assent has been given, and before the prorogation is announced, the Lord Chancellor reads to both Houses a speech from the throne, reviewing the proceedings of the session. The Speaker, followed by the Members of the House of Commons who have attended in the House of Lords, then returns to the Commons without the mace, takes his seat in the chair usually occupied by the clerk of the House, and again reads the speech from the throne. *See* May, 55, 206.

The power to accelerate the meeting of parliament after prorogation now depends on 37 Geo. 3, c. 127, s. 1, as amended by 33 and 34 Vict., c. 81. The advanced date must be not earlier than six days from the date of the proclamation. *See* May, 56.

The power to postpone the meeting of parliament by royal proclamation now depends on 30 and 31 Vict., c. 81, and the date to which the meeting is so postponed must be not earlier than 14 days from the date of the proclamation. *See* proclamation of the 10th November, 1924, proroguing parliament from the 18th November, the day for which it had originally been summoned, till the 2nd December, 180 C. J.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

5. Parliament is dissolved by exercise of the royal prerogative, and by means of a royal proclamation issued with the advice of the Privy Council.

Dissolution of parliament.

Under the Septennial Act (1 Geo. 1, sess. 2, c. 28) as amended by the Parliament Act, 1911 (1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 7) parliament expires by effluxion of time at the end of five years. The parliament sitting during the war which began in 1914 was prolonged beyond the statutory period, but in other cases it has always been dissolved before the expiration of that period.

If parliament is sitting when dissolution is contemplated, it is usually first prorogued and immediately afterwards dissolved. *See* May, 60. But if dissolution is determined on during the recess, as in 1900 and 1905, and on other occasions, a considerable interval may elapse between prorogation and dissolution. The same proclamation that dissolves one parliament calls another. *See* § 1.

In 1922 the House of Commons adjourned on the 4th August till the 14th November, but parliament was dissolved by a proclamation of the 26th October, and the new parliament was summoned for the 20th November, 177 C. J., 330.

6. A demise of the Crown does not terminate the existence of a parliament.

Effect of demise of Crown on parliament.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

If there is a parliament at the time of a demise of the Crown, and it is not then sitting, it must immediately meet.

The first of these rules is laid down by s. 51 of the Representation of the People Act, 1867 (30 and 31 Vict., c. 102); the second by 6 Anne, c. 41, s. 5. For the procedure when parliament meets on the demise of the Crown during a recess, *see* May, 170, note 2.

For the contingency of a demise of the Crown whilst a general election is pending provision is made by 37 Geo. 3, c. 127, *see* May, 54.

Proceedings
at beginning
of new
parliament.

7. On the first day of the meeting of a new parliament, the clerk of the Crown delivers to the clerk of the House of Commons a book containing a list of the names of the members returned to serve in that parliament, and the members present in the House of Commons go to the House of Lords to receive directions for the election of a Speaker.

The next proceedings are the election of a Speaker, and, after his approval by the Crown on a subsequent day, the taking of the oath by members. When these formali-

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

ties have been completed, the proceedings are the same as those at the beginning of an ordinary session.

See May, 151, 154, 158, 168.

As to the procedure for the election of a Speaker, *see* § 22.

As to the procedure for the taking of the oath by members, *see* §§ 10-13.

At the beginning of a new parliament, the Speaker takes the oath first, immediately after he has reported the royal approval of his election, and then the oath is taken (or affirmation made) by other members. The same course is followed when parliament meets on the demise of the Crown.

8. On the first day of a session the House usually meets shortly before noon.¹

Proceedings
at beginning
of session.

Prayers having been read, the House awaits the summons to the House of Lords.²

On receipt of the summons the Speaker goes to the House of Lords, followed by as many members of the House of Commons as can find room at the bar of the House of Lords. As the accommodation immediately

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

behind the bar is very limited, members can, if they wish, by means of tickets secured beforehand, stand on the right and left of the bar, where there is room for one hundred and ninety members. They can take up their places there before the Speaker's procession goes up to the House of Lords. There are also about one hundred and fifty seats provided in the galleries, for which a ballot is usually taken beforehand by the Speaker's secretary. The Speaker stands at the bar whilst the speech from the throne is being read.

When the speech has been read, he returns to the House of Commons, passes through it without taking the chair, and usually does not resume the chair until 3 p.m.

He then informs the House of the issue of new writs during the recess, and of other matters which it may be necessary to communicate.

At this point motions for new writs can be made, members elected since the last meeting of parliament can take their seats,

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

and other business of a formal or non-contentious nature can be transacted.

Then follow the usual sessional orders and resolutions as to (1) double elections, (2) inability of peers to vote, (3) bribery, (4) tampering with witnesses, (5) false evidence, (6) clearing of approaches to the House, (7) printing of "Votes and Proceedings," and (8) appointment of committee of privileges.³

A bill is then read formally the first time. This is done by the clerk at the table reading the short title ("Outlawries Bill"), after which the Speaker announces that the bill is ordered to be read a second time.⁴

The usual sessional resolutions as to the printing of the journal and index are then passed.⁵

After these proceedings the Speaker reports in customary form that the House has been in the House of Lords to hear the King's speech read, and reads a copy of the speech to the House.

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

Thereupon a motion is made that an address be presented to the Crown, expressing thanks for the speech, and on that question amendments may be moved.⁶

¹ If the beginning of the session is also the beginning of a new parliament, these proceedings are preceded by the election of the Speaker, and the swearing in of at least some of the new members. See §§ 9, 10.

² If the King opens parliament in person, he commands the attendance of the Commons. If parliament is opened by commission, the message takes the form of a request. See 155 C. J., 3, 185 C. J., 16, and May, 170-172.

³ See p. 344, and § 105.

⁴ Before the King's speech is read in the House of Commons, the House, in pursuance of ancient custom, and in order to assert its right of deliberating without reference to the immediate cause of summons, reads some bill the first time *pro formâ*. See May, 172.

⁵ See p. 344.

⁶ The address in reply to the speech used to echo the speech paragraph by paragraph, but, as now moved, is confined to a simple expression of thanks. See May, 173.

The mover and seconder of the address usually appear in levée dress. The amendments to the

MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENT—CHAP. I. *continued.*

address propose additions raising questions of public policy. Notices of amendments are not received at the table until the question for the address has been proposed from the chair. As to the presentation of the address, *see* § 260.

The committees of supply and of ways and means cannot be set up until the motion for the address has been disposed of. *See* S. O. No. 13 and § 233. But other public business may be transacted in the meantime. *See* May, 173 .

Notices of government bills are generally given after the passing of the usual sessional resolutions.

CHAPTER II.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

Members of the House of Commons are elected in pursuance of writs issued from the Crown Office, and addressed to the proper returning officers. A return to each writ for an election is made to the Crown Office, and supplies the proper evidence of an election made in pursuance of the writ. After a general election, a list of the members elected is copied into a book which is delivered by the clerk of the Crown to the clerk of the House of Commons. After each by-election the clerk of the Crown sends to the clerk of the House of Commons, at the public bill office, a certificate of the return received in the Crown Office, and the member elected must, before attending at the table to take the oath, obtain from the public bill office a certificate stating that the certificate from the Crown Office has been duly received.

Duty of each member to take oath or make affirmation.

9. Every member elected to a seat in the House of Commons must, before taking his seat, take the oath or make the affirmation required by law.

The taking of the oath, or making of the

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

affirmation, is a statutory duty imposed by the Parliamentary Oaths Act, 1866 (29 and 30 Vict., c. 19, s. 3). If, after the Speaker has been chosen, a member votes as such, or sits during any debate, without having taken the oath or made the affirmation, he is liable to a fine not exceeding £500 for each offence, and his seat is vacated as if he were dead (29 and 30 Vict., c. 19, s. 5). As to the oath, *see* May, 159-169.

10.—(1) By statute, the oath must be taken, or the affirmation made, by a member, at the table of the House, whilst a full House of Commons is there duly sitting with their Speaker in the chair, at such hours and according to such regulations as the House may by its standing orders direct.

Mode and
time of taking
oath or
making
affirmation.

(2) Under the existing standing orders a member may take the oath or make the affirmation at any time during the sitting of the House before the orders of the day and notices of motions have been entered upon, or after they have been disposed of, but no debate or business may be interrupted for that purpose.

The statutory rule is laid down by s. 3 of the

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

Parliamentary Oaths Act, 1866 (29 and 30 Vict., c. 19). The standing order applicable to the case is S. O. No. 83.

At the beginning of a new parliament, the Speaker, after his election has been approved, takes the oath, standing on the steps of his chair. *See* May, 159. After this the several members come to the table, the oath or affirmation is administered to them by the clerks at the table, and they severally sign the roll of members. The return book delivered by the clerk of the Crown is the evidence of each member's return.

When a member is elected to fill a vacancy which occurs after a general election, the usual time for his introduction is immediately after questions. He then, in response to an invitation from the Speaker advances from the bar to the table, accompanied by two members (*see* May, 169), presents a certificate, which he must previously have obtained from the public bill office, showing that he has been duly returned (*see* May, 168, and page 12 above), and takes the oath or makes the affirmation in the form in which it is administered to him by the clerk at the table. He then signs the roll and is presented to the Speaker by the clerk.

Form of oath. 11. The form of the oath is as follows: "I swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

George, his heirs and successors, according to law, so help me God.”

The form is prescribed by s. 2 of the Promissory Oaths Act, 1868 (31 and 32 Vict., c. 72), as amended by s. 2 of the Oaths Act, 1909 (9 Edw. 7, c. 39), and is by s. 8 of the former Act substituted for the form prescribed by the Parliamentary Oaths Act, 1866 (29 and 30 Vict., c. 19). As to the substitution of King George for Queen Victoria, *see* 31 and 32 Vict., c. 72, s. 10.

12. The member who takes the oath usually holds in his uplifted hand a New Testament (or if a Jew an Old Testament), which is presented to him for this purpose by the clerk.

Mode of
taking oath.

But if he so desires he may take the oath in the old form and then kiss the Testament, and if he desires to swear with uplifted hand in the form and manner in which an oath is usually administered in Scotland, he must be permitted to do so, and the oath must be administered to him in that form and manner without further question.

The power to adopt the Scottish mode of taking

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

an oath is given by s. 5 of the Oaths Act, 1888 (51 and 52 Vict., c. 46).

Power to substitute affirmation for oath.

13.—(1) If a member claims to be a person for the time being by law permitted to make a solemn affirmation or declaration instead of taking an oath, he may, without question, make a solemn affirmation instead of taking the oath.

(2) The affirmation is in the same form as the oath, except that the words "solemnly, sincerely, and truly declare and affirm" are substituted for the word "swear," and the words "so help me God" are omitted.

See s. 11 of the Promissory Oaths Act, 1868 (31 and 32 Vict., c. 72), s. 1 of the Oaths Act, 1888 (51 and 52 Vict., c. 46), and S. O. No. 84.

Issue of new writ during session.

14. If the seat of a member becomes vacant during the session, the House may, on motion made, order that the Speaker do issue his warrant for a new writ to fill the vacancy, and a warrant and writ are issued accordingly.

As to the issue of new writs, *see* May, 630.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

A vacancy may arise from (1) death, (2) accession to the peerage, *see* May, 38, 632-635, (3) acceptance of a disqualifying office, *see* May, 32, 38, 635, (4) acceptance of a government contract, *see* May, 34, (5) bankruptcy, *see* May, 35, (6) lunacy, *see* May, 31, (7) the determination of an election court declaring an election void, *see* May, 645, (8) conviction of treason or felony, *see* May, 37, (9) expulsion from the House, *see* May, 66, or, (10) sitting or voting without having taken the oath, *see* May, 167. As regards (3), under the provisions of the Re-election of Ministers Act (1919) Amendment Act, 1926, the acceptance of a "political" office no longer creates a vacancy. No express provision is made by law for a member resigning his seat. If he wishes to resign, he applies for the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds or one of the other sinecure offices the acceptance of which vacates a seat. *See* May, 45.

The issue of a new writ is usually but not necessarily moved by one of the whips for the party to which the member whose seat is vacant belonged. *See* Mr. Speaker's remarks, 26th July, 1917. 96 H. C. Deb., 5. s., 1451.

In ordinary cases the motion may be made without notice, has the priority given to matters of privilege (*see* § 45), and is usually made immediately after prayers or after private business or questions. *See* May, 265, 633. When the vacancy has been caused by the decision of an election court, the House usually makes an order

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

requiring notice of the motion, which is set down for consideration at the commencement of public business, and cannot be taken as unopposed business. *Ibid.* This order expires with the session. See debate of 14th February, 1907. As to suspension of issue of writ, see May, 646.

Issue of new writ during recess in cases of death, accession to peerage, or acceptance of disqualifying office.

15. If, during a recess of the House of Commons, whether by prorogation or by adjournment, two members of the House certify to the Speaker—

- (a) that a member of the House is dead, or
- (b) that a member of the House has become a peer of Great Britain, and that a writ of summons has been issued summoning him to parliament as a peer, or
- (c) that a member of the House has, since the adjournment or prorogation, accepted an office whereby he has vacated his seat,

and apply to the Speaker to issue a warrant for a new writ to supply the vacancy thus caused, the Speaker, subject to the restric-

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

tions and conditions hereinafter contained, issues his warrant accordingly.

These restrictions and conditions are as follows:—

- (i) The warrant must not be issued until six days after the insertion in the London Gazette of the notice prescribed by the statute ;
- (ii) The return of the late member must have been lodged in the Crown Office not less than 15 days before the end of the last sitting of the House ;
- (iii) The application to the Speaker must be made in sufficient time to allow the new writ to be issued before the next meeting of the House ;
- (iv) The warrant must not be issued if a petition against the election or return of the late member was pending at the time of the last prorogation or adjournment ;
- (v) In the case of a vacancy caused by an acceptance of office, the application

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

must be accompanied by a copy of the Gazette notifying the appointment, and by a notice from the member signifying that he has accepted the office ;

- (vi) The provisions as to acceptance of office do not apply to any of the following offices, namely, the office of steward or bailiff of His Majesty's three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough, and Burnham, or of the Manor of East Hendred, or of the Manor of Northstead, or of the Manor of Hempholme.

These statutory provisions are contained in the Recess Elections Act, 1784 (24 Geo. 3, sess. 2, c. 26), and the Election of Members during Recess Act, 1858 (21 and 22 Vict., c. 110), as amended by the Elections in Recess Act, 1863 (26 and 27 Vict., c. 20), which substituted a period of six days for the period of fourteen days mentioned in the Acts of 1784 and 1858. *See* May, 634, 635. In the Act of 1858 Burnham is spelt Boneham or Bonenham (the editions vary). The escheatorship of Munster is abolished.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

16. If, during a recess of the House, whether by prorogation or by adjournment, the Speaker receives a certificate showing that the seat of a member has become vacant through bankruptcy, or by sequestration or a decree of *cessio bonorum* in Scotland, he must forthwith cause notice of the certificate to be published in the London Gazette, and must, after the expiration of six days from the publication (unless the House has met before that day, or will meet on the day of the issue), issue his warrant for a new writ to supply the vacancy.

Issue of new writ during recess in case of bankruptcy.

See 46 and 47 Vict., c. 52, s. 33 (England); 47 and 48 Vict., c. 16, s. 6 (Scotland); and 35 and 36 Vict., c. 58, ss. 43, 44 (Ireland). May, 636.

17. Provision is made by the Lunacy (Vacating of Seats) Act, 1886, for the issue of a new writ to fill a vacancy caused by the lunacy of a member.

Issue of new writ in case of lunacy.

The provisions of this Act (49 and 50 Vict., c. 16), are too detailed to be set out here. By

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

6 and 7 Geo. 5, c. 31, s. 11, the Board of Control are substituted in it for the Commissioners of Lunacy. *See* May, 31, 636.

Provisions for issue of new writs in case of Speaker's absence.

18. At the beginning of each parliament the Speaker is required to appoint not more than seven and not less than three members of the House of Commons to perform his duties with respect to the issue of new writs, in the event of his death, or of his seat becoming vacant, or of his absence from the realm.

The powers of each member so appointed continue during the parliament if he continues to be a member.

If the number is reduced below three, the Speaker must make a new appointment.

This provision is made by ss. 5-9 of the Recess Elections Act, 1784 (24 Geo. 3, sess. 2, c. 26), which are applied to cases of acceptance of disqualifying office by 21 and 22 Vict., c. 110, s. 5, and to cases of bankruptcy by 46 and 47 Vict., c. 52, s. 33. *See* May, 636.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
*continued.**Sessional Orders and Resolutions.*

19. All members returned for two or more places in any part of the United Kingdom are to make their election for which of the places they will serve, within one week after it shall appear that there is no question upon the return for that place.

Members returned for two or more places, double returns and questions as to elections.

If anything shall come in question touching the return or election of any member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate ; and all members returned upon double returns are to withdraw till their returns are determined.

See p. 341, and May, 638.

20. No peer of the realm, except such peers of Ireland as shall for the time being be actually elected, and shall not have declined to serve, for any county, city, or borough of Great Britain, hath any right to give his vote in the election of any member to serve in parliament.

Peers not to vote.

See p. 341, May, 640, note.

ELECTION AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS—CHAP. II.
continued.

Persons
returned by
bribery to
be proceeded
against.

21. If it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a member of the House, or endeavoured so to be, by bribery or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

See p. 342.

As to corrupt practices at elections, *see* May, 646.

The three last foregoing orders or resolutions are, in accordance with ancient custom, passed by the House of Commons at the commencement of each session.

CHAPTER III.

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN
OF COMMITTEES.*The Speaker.*

22. At the beginning of each new parliament a Speaker is elected for that parliament by the House of Commons subject to the approval of the Crown.

Election and
term of
office of
Speaker.

If a vacancy occurs in the office during the continuance of that parliament, the House, on being acquainted by a minister of the Crown that the King gives leave to the House to proceed forthwith to the choice of a new Speaker, proceeds to the election of a Speaker accordingly.

See May, 154-159.

23. The Speaker is (1) the spokesman and representative, and (2) the chairman, of the House.

Duties and
powers of
Speaker.

In the first capacity the Speaker demands the

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES—
 CHAP. III. *continued.*

privileges of the House at the beginning of a new parliament, communicates its resolutions, thanks, censures, and admonitions; and issues, by its order, warrants for the commitment of offenders against its privileges, for the issue of writs to fill vacancies among its members, for the attendance of witnesses, or for bringing prisoners to the bar. In the second capacity he presides over the deliberations of the House, maintains order in its debates, decides questions arising on points of order, puts the question for decision, and declares the decision. He does not, however, act as chairman when the House is in committee. The mace is the symbol of the Speaker's authority from the Crown. *See* May, 156, &c. As to the continuance of his office on a dissolution, *see* 2 and 3 Will. 4, c. 105; 9 and 10 Vict., c. 77; May, 193. Under the House of Commons (Speaker) Act, 1832 (2 and 3 Will. 4, c. 105), as amended by the House of Commons Offices Act, 1834 (4 and 5 Will. 4, c. 70), he has an official salary charged on the consolidated fund.

The library, vote office and fees office are under the direct control of the Speaker.

*Chairman of Ways and Means, Deputy-
 Chairman, and temporary Chairmen.*

Chairman
 of ways and
 means.

24. The chairman of ways and means is appointed at the commencement of each

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES—
CHAP. III. *continued.*

parliament and is the chairman of the committees of supply and of ways and means, and of other committees of the whole House, during the continuance of that parliament.

See May, 446, &c. The chairman of the committee of ways and means is usually described by the shorter title of "chairman of ways and means." The motion for his appointment is made from the treasury bench, and is rarely opposed. If it is opposed, the question is decided with the Speaker in the chair. *See* May, 446. The motion used to be made at the first meeting of the committee of supply, but has recently been made in the House at the beginning of the session immediately after the passing of the usual sessional orders and resolutions. *See* § 8. As to filling a vacancy caused by retirement, *see* proceedings of October 25, 1911, and September 8, 1931.

The chairman of ways and means not only is, under a usage which began in 1841, the chairman of committees of the whole House, but also performs important duties with respect to private bill legislation. *See* May, 447, &c. For instance, he is *ex officio* chairman of the court of referees, of the committee on unopposed bills, and of the select committee on standing orders. He has an official salary, voted in committee of supply.

25. At the commencement of every parliament or from time to time, as necessity may

Deputy-
chairman.

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES—
CHAP. III. *continued.*

arise, the House may appoint a deputy-chairman, who is entitled to exercise all the powers vested in the chairman of ways and means, including his powers as Deputy-Speaker.

This power is given by S. O. No. 80 (2). The practice of the House in relation to this standing order, which is reinforced by a private ruling of Mr. Speaker in December, 1912, places the deputy-chairman on an exact equality with the chairman of ways and means in committee only. If it should be necessary for him to exercise the full powers of Deputy-Speaker, then an announcement of the unavoidable absence both of the Speaker and the chairman must be made by the clerk at the table. If such an announcement is made, the deputy-chairman can perform the duties and exercise the authority of the Speaker under the provisions of the Deputy-Speaker Act, 1855, and subject to the restrictions of S. O. No. 80 (1). As to the power of the deputy-chairman with regard to closure, *see* § 135 (5), and with regard to selection of amendments, *see* § 136. The deputy-chairman has an official salary, voted in committee of supply. The appointment used to be moved from the treasury bench at some early meeting of the committee of supply, but has recently been moved at the beginning of the session, at the same time as the appointment of the chairman. As to filling a casual vacancy, *see* proceedings of October 26, 1911, and September 8, 1931. The deputy-chairman, like the chairman of ways and means, is

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES—
 CHAP. III. *continued.*

also concerned with the conduct of private bills. He is an *ex officio* member of the court of referees, the committee on unopposed bills, and the select committee on standing orders.

26. The Speaker nominates, at the commencement of every session, a panel of not more than five members to act as temporary chairmen of committees when requested by the chairman of ways and means.

Temporary
 chairmen of
 committees.

See S. O. No. 80 (3), and § 63. A temporary chairman cannot accept a motion for the closure, (*see* S. O. No. 26), nor can he select the amendments to be proposed (*see* S. O. No. 28).

27.—(1) Whenever the House is informed by the clerk at the table of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker, the chairman of ways and means, or in the event of the announcement by the clerk of the unavoidable absence of the chairman of ways and means also, the deputy-chairman, performs the duties and exercises the powers of the Speaker in relation to all proceedings of the House as Deputy-Speaker until the next meeting of the House, and so on from day

Powers of
 chairman of
 ways and
 means and
 deputy-
 chairman as
 Deputy-
 Speaker.

THE SPEAKER AND CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES—
 CHAP. III. *continued.*

to day, on the like information, until the House otherwise orders ; except that if the House adjourns for more than 24 hours, his powers continue only for 24 hours after the adjournment.

S. O. No. 80. May, 193. As to closure, *see* § 135 (5), and as to selection of amendments, *see* § 136.

(2) The chairman of ways and means or deputy-chairman may take the chair as Deputy-Speaker, when requested to do so by the Speaker, without any formal communication to the House.

S. O. No. 80 (3). May, 195. As to closure, *see* § 135 (5), and as to selection of amendments, *see* § 136.

(3) Acts done by the Deputy-Speaker when acting as such, in pursuance of any general or special order of the House, have the same validity as if done by the Speaker, except that the Deputy-Speaker has not power to appoint to any office for a period longer than that during which he continues to be Deputy-Speaker.

18 and 19 Vict., c. 84.

CHAPTER IV.

THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.

28. The clerk of the House of Commons is appointed by the Crown, for life, by letters patent. The clerk of the House.

The clerk of the House of Commons is the chief officer of the House. He attends the sittings of the House when the Speaker is in the chair, *i.e.*, when the House is not in committee, and reads the orders of the day, and whatever else is required to be read from the table. He signs orders of the House, and their addresses and votes of thanks, endorses bills sent or returned to the House of Lords and is responsible for the appointment and control of the clerks in his department, which consists of the public bill office, the journal office and "Votes and Proceedings" office, and the committee and private bill office. *See* May, 197.

The remuneration of the clerk of the House, serjeant-at-arms, and other officers of the House, is regulated by the commissioners for regulating the offices of the House of Commons under the House of Commons (Offices) Act, 1812 (52 Geo. 3, c. 11).

29. There are two clerks assistant, each of whom is appointed by the Crown under the The clerks assistant.

THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE—CHAP. IV. *continued.*

sign-manual on the recommendation of the Speaker, and is removable only on an address of the House of Commons.

The appointment and tenure of the clerks assistant is regulated by the House of Commons Offices Act, 1856 (19 and 20 Vict., c. 1).

The clerks assistant sit at the table on the left hand of the clerk of the House and, together with him, are commonly described as the clerks at the table. They prepare the minutes which are afterwards converted into the "Votes and Proceedings," and subsequently into the Journal. See §§ 272, 273. They receive notices of questions, of amendments, and of other motions or matters which have to be entered on the notice paper, and prepare the notice paper which shows the agenda for each day. When the House is in committee, and the chair of the clerk of the House is occupied by the chairman, the clerk assistant acts as clerk of the committee. See May, 448.

The serjeant-at-arms.

30. The serjeant-at-arms is appointed by the Crown under a warrant from the lord chamberlain, and by letters patent under the great seal which direct him "to attend upon His Majesty's person when there is no parliament; and at the time of every parliament, to attend upon the Speaker of the House of

THE OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE—CHAP. IV. *continued.*

Commons'' ; but after his appointment he is the servant of the House, and may be removed for misconduct.

See May, 198. The serjeant-at-arms is also by statute (52 Geo. 3, c. 11) housekeeper of the House of Commons. He is assisted by a deputy-serjeant and an assistant-serjeant. He sees to the maintenance of order in the lobbies and passages of, and approaches to, the House, and may be treated as representing the executive authority of the House.

CHAPTER V.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND
ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS.

Ordinary
sittings.

31. Unless the House otherwise orders, the House, whilst in session, meets every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at a quarter to three o'clock.

See S. O. No. 1.

Friday
sittings.

32. Unless the House otherwise orders, the House, whilst in session, meets every Friday at eleven o'clock.

See S. O. No. 2.

Adjourn-
ment over
Saturday.

33. The House, when it meets on Fridays, stands adjourned at its rising until the following Monday, without any question being put, unless the House otherwise orders.

See S. O. No. 23 ; May, 181. In the event of the House meeting on Saturday, the hour of meeting would be eleven. The order of proceedings is the same as at a Friday sitting, except that there

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

is no limit to the duration of the sitting. See May, 213. A motion for adjournment until Saturday (instead of Monday) may be made without notice (*see* adjournment of 17th December, 1920).

34. At eleven on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, except in the case of exempted business, and at four on Friday, the proceedings on any business then under consideration are interrupted. Interruption of business.

If, however, at the time for interruption, the closure is moved, or proceedings under the closure are in progress, the Speaker or chairman does not leave the chair until the proceedings under the closure and on any such further motion as is specified in the standing order as to closure have been completed.

See S. O's. Nos. 1 and 2 and, as to closure, S. O. No. 26 and § 135.

In practice the rule as to interruption does not prevent the House from completing the proceedings on which a division is in process of being taken at the time for interruption. If a division is in progress at the time appointed for interrup-

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

tion of business, the interruption takes place after the declaration of numbers from the chair. If the division is on an amendment, or on an amendment to an amendment, the Speaker or chairman proceeds to put in proper sequence all the questions which have already been proposed from the chair. But if any member offers to speak upon them, or objects to further proceedings, the chairman must interrupt the business, and on that interruption closure may be moved. If the closure is carried, the further motions authorised by S. O. No. 26 as to closure may then be made. See § 135, and May, 214, &c.

Exempted
business.

35. The exempted business includes—

- (1) proceedings on a bill originating in committee of ways and means ;
- (2) proceedings made in pursuance of any Act of Parliament (including the Army and Air Force (Annual) Bill) ;
- (3) proceedings on the reports of the committee of ways and means (*see* § 245), and of committees authorising the expenditure of public money (except the committee of supply) ; and
- (4) proceedings exempted in pursuance of

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

an order made on notice by a minister of the Crown as provided by S. O. No. 1 (8) (*see* § 36).

See S. O. No. 1 (6), and May, 215. Proceedings made in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, include some, but not all, of the schemes, statutory rules and orders, and other documents which are required by provisions of sundry Acts of Parliament to be laid on the table of the House for a specified period, in order to give the House an opportunity for signifying its approval or disapproval. Where the Act under which any such scheme or set of rules or orders is laid gives a particular effect to the expression of the approval or disapproval of the House the discussion can be treated as "exempted business"; otherwise not. A list of the documents so laid, showing the date at which each document was laid and the period for which it is required to be laid, is prepared each week, and may be obtained at the vote office. The Speaker directed (13 April, 1900) that "when a statute provides that any document shall lie on the table of the House for a certain number of days, it shall not be deemed to have been laid on the table until a complete copy thereof has been laid thereon."

36. A motion may be made by a minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, to be decided without amendment

Motion for exemption from interruption.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

or debate, to the following effect: "That the proceedings on any specified business be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the standing order 'Sittings of the House,' " and, if such a motion be agreed to, the business so specified is not to be interrupted if it is under discussion at eleven o'clock that night, may be entered upon at any time although opposed, and, if under discussion when the business is postponed, under the provisions of any standing order, may be resumed and proceeded with, though opposed, after the interruption of business.

See S. O. No. 1 (8). This rule applies only to a motion for exempting specified business at a particular sitting. A motion for exempting specified business during more than one sitting, or for exempting specified business from the interruption at 4 on Friday, is debateable. As to the postponement of business, *see* S. O. No. 3 (1) (c), and §§ 41, 48.

Effect of
interrup-
tion.

37. At the time for interruption of business—

(a) if the Speaker is in the chair, he declares that the debate or proceedings stand adjourned ;

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

- (b) if the House is in committee, the chairman leaves the chair and makes his report to the House ; and
- (c) if any dilatory motion is pending, it lapses without question put.

By the expression " dilatory motion " is meant a motion for the adjournment of the House or of the debate, or in committee that the chairman do report progress or do leave the chair.

After the business under consideration at eleven has been disposed of, no opposed business can be taken, unless it is exempted business.

After the business under consideration at four on Friday has been disposed of, no opposed business can be taken.

See S. O. No. 1. But under S. O. No. 46 (1) a motion for committing a bill after second reading to a committee of the whole House, or to some committee other than a standing committee, or a motion affirming the expediency of committing a bill to a joint committee, may be made after the expiration of the time for opposed business.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

After the interruption at 11 the remaining orders are read, and, if they are disposed of before 11.30, the adjournment of the House is moved from the treasury bench. As to the procedure on Fridays, *see* next paragraph. Certain questions of a formal and consequential kind (*see* May, 214) are not treated as opposed business for the purpose of this standing order.

Adjournment of the House at 11.30 and on Fridays.

38. If the House is sitting at half-past eleven p.m., the Speaker adjourns the House without question put, unless exempted business is then under consideration.

On Friday, when all the business appointed for the sitting has been disposed of, or at half-past four o'clock, if the House is still sitting, the Speaker adjourns the House without question put.

See S. O's. Nos. 1 and 2. The adjournment of the House is usually moved from the treasury bench as soon after 11 p.m. as the orders of the day have been read and disposed of, *i.e.*, before the arrival of the time for adjournment under this rule. On this motion the question is proposed, and statements or comments may be made or questions asked until the time for automatic adjournment. But no division can take place on that question, for a division would make the proceedings "opposed business."

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

The rule as to adjournment, like the rule as to interruption, does not prevent the completion of proceedings on which a division is in process of being taken when the time for adjournment arrives.

If exempted business is under consideration at 11.30 p.m. the remaining orders are read when the exempted business has been disposed of, but they cannot be taken if opposed. *See* S. O. No. 1 (9).

39. All business appointed for any sitting, and not disposed of before the termination of the sitting, stands over until the next sitting, or until such other sitting on any day on which the House ordinarily sits as the member in charge of the business may appoint. Business outstanding at end of sitting.

See S. O. No. 1. Business appointed for any sitting, and not disposed of at the time of interruption, is called in its order, either by the clerk reading its description among the orders of the day, or by the Speaker calling upon the member who has given notice of a motion. If it is unopposed or "exempted," it can be taken. In any other case the member in charge names the day on which it is to be taken, and it is then set down in the order book as an order of the day, or notice of motion, as the case may be. It is in the discretion of the member in charge of the

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

business to fix the day, and no debate can arise on the point. Notice is sometimes given beforehand to a clerk at the table of the day to which an order of the day is to stand over, and then the clerk names that day when the order is called. Previous to, but not on the same day as, the day for which an order of the day is set down, notice can be given to a clerk at the table, postponing the order from the day so fixed to a later day, and an entry to that effect appears in the "Votes and Proceedings": but an order of the day cannot be advanced to a day earlier than that originally fixed. An order which is dropped from the list may be restored on application at the table. Saturday is not "a day on which the House ordinarily sits."

Notices of motions and orders of the day.

40. The ordinary public business of each day is classified as consisting of notices of motions and orders of the day.

A notice of motion is a motion of which notice has been previously given.

An order of the day is a matter which has been set down for a particular day in pursuance of an order of the House.

The classification of public business as notices of motions and orders of the day is ancient, and is not easily intelligible to persons who are not

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

familiar with the procedure of the House. A motion may be either (a) substantive and independent, or (b) relating to and arising out of an order of the day, *e.g.*, a motion to put off a stage of a bill, or to amend a bill. A motion becomes an order of the day as soon as the debate on it has been adjourned by order of the House to a particular day.

41. Unless the House otherwise directs— Precedence
of business.

- (1) (a) until Easter government business has precedence at every sitting except the sitting on Wednesday and the sitting on Friday. At the sitting on Wednesday notices of motions and public bills, other than government bills, have precedence of government business, and notices of motions have precedence of orders of the day ;
- (b) after Easter, government business has precedence at all sittings, except the sittings on the first, second, third and fourth Fridays after Easter day, and the sittings on the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Fridays after Whit Sunday ;
- (c) at the sittings on Wednesday, when

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

government business has not precedence, Mr. Speaker at half-past seven of the clock, if the first motion (other than a motion for the adjournment of the House made after the commencement of public business) has not been disposed of, proceeds to interrupt the proceedings thereon, and such business is disposed of as if it were business interrupted at eleven o'clock under Standing Order No. 1 ;

(d) At the sittings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the House first proceeds with unopposed private business, petitions, motions for unopposed returns, and leave of absence to members, and ballots for notices of motions.

(2) In the case of a session beginning between Easter and Christmas the following modifications of paragraph (1) have effect—

(a) government business has precedence on as many Wednesdays immediately

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

before Good Friday as the number of Wednesdays before Christmas on which it has not had precedence, and on as many Fridays immediately before Good Friday as the number of Fridays (reduced by three) on which it had not precedence before Christmas ;

- (b) after Easter government business has precedence at all sittings except the sittings on the second, third, fourth and fifth Fridays after Easter Day ;
- (c) Standing Order No. 4 comes into force and has effect after Easter instead of after Whitsuntide.

See S. O. No. 3. The first part of this order, dealing with a session beginning between Christmas and Easter, was made in 1927, when the arrangement of "private members' time" was altered. The effect is, first, that private members' motions have priority of any other business on all Wednesdays until Easter ; secondly, that bills other than government bills (*i.e.*, "private members' bills") have priority on every Friday before Good Friday, and on the first four Fridays after Easter, and on the third, fourth, and fifth and sixth Fridays after Whitsuntide. On Wed-

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

nesdays two or more motions are taken, proceedings on the first being interrupted at 7.30 if it has not been disposed of by that time.

The second part of this order, made in 1929, deals with "private members' time" during a session beginning between Easter and Christmas, in which case private members' motions have precedence on all Wednesdays before Good Friday less the number of Wednesdays on which such business had precedence before Christmas, the government taking that number of Wednesdays *immediately* before Good Friday.

The same arrangement applies to Fridays, when private members' bills have priority, except that the government take three *fewer* Fridays immediately before Good Friday than in the case of Wednesdays; besides which, private members have at their disposal the second, third, fourth and fifth Fridays after Easter for bills.

For example, if a session begins in November and there are *five* available Wednesdays before Christmas, private members would take all the Wednesdays* from the beginning of the session up to Good Friday, except the *five* immediately preceding Good Friday; and all the Fridays* up to Good Friday except the two (*i.e.*, *five less three*) immediately preceding Good Friday, with four after Easter in addition.

*In practice the first Wednesday and Friday of a session, owing to the exigencies of the ballot, are not included for this purpose.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

S. O. No. 3 (2) (c) applies S. O. No. 4 (q.v.) to a session beginning before Christmas.

42. On days on which government business has precedence, the government may arrange that business, whether it consists of orders of the day or of notices of motions, in such order as they think fit.

Arrange-
ment of
govern-
ment
business.

See S. O. No. 12. If the government think it desirable to grant special facilities for the discussion of a private member's bill or notice of motion, they can give it the same precedence as they can to their own business.

In printing the notice paper a * is prefixed to each item of government business.

43. The relative precedence of bills, other than government bills, is determined in the first instance by ballot.

Relative
precedence
of private
members'
bills.

After Whitsuntide or after Easter, where the session begins between Easter and Christmas, bills other than government bills are arranged on the order book so as to give priority to the bills most advanced, that is to say, in the following order:—

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

Consideration of lords' amendments to
public bills ;

Third readings ;

Consideration of bills on report (those
not already entered upon having pre-
cedence) ;

Bills in progress in committee ;

Bills appointed for committee ;

Second readings.

The arrangements for determining by ballot which members are entitled to priority in the selection of the days to be fixed for the second reading of their bills are made under a sessional order which is usually passed for that purpose at the beginning of each session.

The arrangements under this order are as follows: On either of the first two days of the session a member who desires to ballot for a day may have his name entered, once only, on a numbered list which is kept for that purpose in one of the lobbies. If he enters the name of another member he may not enter his own. On the third day the ballot is held in a committee room, usually in the presence of the chairman of ways and means or the deputy-chairman, lots are drawn, and the result is published. If a member is successful in the ballot he elects whether he will

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

give notice of a motion or present a bill. In either case he must, to secure precedence, hand in at the table his notice of the motion or of the bill, as the case may be, during the sitting of the House on the third day. Members who have not been successful may also give notice of a motion or of intention to present bills, taking their chance. On the fourth day of the session bills are presented in the order secured by the ballot, and members select days for second reading accordingly. A list of bills to be presented on any day appears on the notice paper for that day.

The directions as to the relative priority of private members' bills after Easter and after Whitsuntide are given by S. O.'s Nos. 3 and 4.

44. The relative precedence of notices of motions, made otherwise than by a minister of the Crown, is determined by ballot.

Relative precedence of private members' motions.

The priority of notices of motions for the first two motion days of the session is determined by a ballot taken at the same time and in the same mode as the ballot for bills, the same list being used for both purposes, and a successful member being entitled to choose between bill and motion. Subsequently a ballot is taken, by one of the clerks at the table, after questions, and usually on Wednesday in each week during that part of the session in which private members have precedence on that day. As soon as the committee

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

of supply has been set up, a ballot is also taken for the motions which may be made on first going into committee on the various classes of estimates. See § 235. In the case of a session beginning between Easter and Christmas, this is usually postponed until after Christmas. A member desiring to give notice enters his name on a numbered list kept for that purpose in one of the lobbies, and papers with numbers corresponding to those on the list are placed in a box. In the House a clerk at the table takes out, at hazard, from the box one of the papers, and calls its number, and the Speaker calls from the list the corresponding name. The member whose name is called, or some one authorised by him, must then, if he wishes to secure precedence, give oral notice of a motion on a specified subject for a specified day. Other members besides those whose names are drawn may at the same time give notice on the chance of their finding an opportunity. See May, 233. The oral notice must, for the purpose of obtaining precedence, be followed by a written notice on the same day. See § 120.

The notice of a motion must not be given for a day later than the second day on which such notices of motion have precedence. See S. O. No. 5 and § 119.

Precedence
of privilege
motions.

45. A motion on a question of privilege suddenly arising is entitled to immediate precedence over all other business.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

A motion on a question of privilege may be made before the commencement of public business, although the question does not suddenly arise, but any such motion should be made on the earliest opportunity.

A motion on a question of privilege does not require notice, but notice sometimes may be and is conveniently given.

See May, 264-269. The rule giving precedence to privilege motions is strictly construed: "It has been the practice of the House to restrain privilege under great limitations and conditions." Mr. Speaker Peel, 22 February, 1887; 311, H. D., 3 s., 286. When a question of privilege has been referred to a select committee, priority cannot be claimed on the ground of privilege for a motion either to dissent from or to affirm the decision of the committee.

As to privilege generally, *see* May, chapters iii., iv., v., vi.

As to the committee of privileges, *see* § 105.

46.—(1) At the meeting of the House on each sitting day prayers are read immediately after the entry of the Speaker into the House. Order of proceedings.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

(2) Business is then usually taken in the following order:—

1. Presentation of public petitions, if presented orally:
2. Private business:
3. Questions:
4. Request for leave to make any motion for adjournment under S. O. No. 8:
5. Matters taken at the commencement of public business:
6. Orders of the day and notices of motions.

A notice paper known as the "blue paper," showing the agenda for the day, is issued on the morning after each sitting day, with the "Votes and Proceedings" of the previous day, including the notices given on that day. A reprint, known as the "white paper," is issued shortly before the commencement of the sitting.

There is also circulated each day a print entitled "The Order Book of the House of Commons," showing the orders of the day and notices of motions set down for any day of the session, and the notices of motions for which no particular day has yet been fixed. The latter notices include

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

notices of motion for reduction of votes in committee of supply.

Every Monday there is circulated a list of the public bills introduced during the session into the House of Commons, showing the member by whom each bill was brought in and the stage which each bill has reached. In this list, as well as on the daily notice papers, government bills are distinguished by an asterisk.

Under the existing practice the oral presentation of petitions does not occupy any appreciable part of the public time of the House. *See* § 51.

After the conclusion of private business and before the commencement of questions, and after their conclusion, motions for unopposed returns and other classes of non-contentious business, of which notice is not required, are occasionally taken. To these classes belong motions to set up "money committees" (*see* §§ 222, 170), and the consideration of lords' amendments involving no question of principle (*see* § 211). If time cannot be found for them then, they may be taken after eleven o'clock.

A motion for a new writ is usually made at the beginning of the sitting.

The introduction of a new member usually takes place immediately after questions. *See* S. O. No. 83.

The time for asking leave to move the adjourn-

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND ARRANGEMENT OF
BUSINESS—CHAP. V. *continued.*

ment of the House " for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance " is after questions and before the commencement of public business. See § 58.

If any of the private business set down on the notice paper is opposed, it is postponed. See § 48.

Reading of
orders of the
day.

47.—(1) As soon as the business which has precedence of the orders of the day is disposed of, the Speaker directs the clerk at the table to read the orders of the day, without any question being put.

(2) Orders of the day are taken in the order in which they are set down.

See S. O's. Nos. 11 and 12, and May, 253, &c.

CHAPTER VI.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT
COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC
BUSINESS.

It seems convenient to group under this head the matters which are usually dealt with before the regular business of the day is begun.

Private Business.

48. Private business is taken at the commencement of a sitting.

Time and mode of dealing with private business at sittings of the House.

Private business not set down by order of the House has precedence of business so set down.

No private business may be considered after three o'clock on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and any business not reached stands over to the next sitting. Private business entered upon, but not disposed of by that time, is postponed until such time as the chairman of ways and means may determine.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

Opposed private business may not be taken at a Friday sitting.

Opposed private business, if so directed by the chairman of ways and means—

- (a) is taken on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, at 7.30, or as soon thereafter as any motion for the adjournment of the House standing over from the earlier part of the sitting has been disposed of ; and
- (b) is distributed as near as may be proportionately between the sittings on which government business has precedence and the other sittings.

No opposed private business other than that then under consideration can be taken after 9.30 p.m.

See S. O. No. 6, and S. O's. (private business) 223 and 243. The private business to which the foregoing rule refers consists of those stages of private bills, of provisional order confirmation bills, and of bills for confirming orders under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Acts, 1899 and 1933 (62 and 63 Vict., c. 47, and 23 and

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

24 Geo. 5, c. 37), for which proceedings in the House are required. It includes also any motion relating to private business or for amendment or suspension of the standing orders relating to that business.

The stages of a private bill for which proceedings in the House are required are:—

- (1) Second reading ;
- (2) Consideration of a bill ordered to lie upon the table of the House ;
- (3) Third reading ;
- (4) Consideration of lords' amendments.

As to what bills are ordered to lie upon the table, *see* S. O. (private business) 230 and § 281 (17).

Private bills set down for the same sitting are arranged in such order as to give precedence to those which are most advanced, *i.e.*, in the inverse order to that stated above. *See* S. O. (private business) 243.

Instructions to the committee on a private bill (*see* May, 711-725) are usually moved after the second reading of the bill (*see* § 281 (16)), but may be moved at any time before the bill is reported from the committee.

When the King's consent is required for a private bill that consent must be signified by a privy councillor. A copy of the bill, endorsed

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

with a note by the proper department of the government to the effect that there is no objection to the King's consent being given, is also given to the clerk at the table.

The list of the private business to be taken on any day is prepared by the officials of the committee and private bill office, in accordance with the notices given under the standing orders by parliamentary agents. *See* May, 227.

S. O. (private business) 223 directs that in cases where the second or third reading of a private bill, or the consideration of a bill, as amended by the committee, or any proposed clause or amendment, or any motion relating to a private bill, is opposed, it must be postponed either until some future day at the time at which private business is taken, or until half-past seven of the clock on any day not being a Friday. *See* § 282. At such a sitting contingent motions may also be taken.

The effect of S. O. No. 6 is that about ten minutes are allowed for getting through the private business set down for a sitting on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

The business which, under S. O. No. 14 (4), must not be taken before eleven on an allotted day does not include private business. Consequently opposed private business may be postponed to 7.30 on an "allotted day."

As to the stages in proceedings on private bills, *see* ch. xvii.

Public Petitions.

Public petitions must be distinguished from the petitions for or relating to private bills, which are regulated by the standing orders on private bills. The presentation of petitions to the House of Commons used at one time to be the most convenient mode of directing attention to and discussing subjects of public importance, but since the right of raising a debate on a petition has been taken away, petitions no longer occupy any appreciable part of the time of the House.

49. The form of public petitions is governed Form of petitions.
by the following rules:—

- (i) A petition must be addressed to the House of Commons ;
- (ii) A petition must be written ; it must not be printed, lithographed, or typewritten ;
- (iii) A petition must be in the English language, or accompanied by an English translation, certified as correct by the member who presents it ;
- (iv) A petition must be free from interlineations or erasures ;

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

- (v) A petition must conclude with a prayer ;
- (vi) A petition must be signed by the parties whose names are appended thereto, and by no one else, except in case of incapacity by sickness. Every person signing a petition must write his address after his signature, or his signature will not be counted. If signatures are affixed to more than one sheet, the prayer of the petition must be repeated at the head of each sheet ; but on every sheet after the first the prayer may be reproduced in print or by other mechanical process. Signatures upon sheets not so headed are not counted. The prayer signifies that part of the petition which expresses the object of the petitioners, as distinguished from formal parts ;
- (vii) No letter, affidavit, appendix, or other document must be annexed to a petition ;

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

- (viii) A petition must not refer to a debate in parliament, nor to any intended motion, unless a notice of the motion appears on the notice paper ;
- (ix) A petition must be respectful, decorous, and temperate in its language ;
- (x) The member by whom a petition is presented is responsible for seeing that it is in conformity with the rules and orders of the House.

See May, 608. A copy of the rules as to petitions is sent to every member at the beginning of each session. If a petition is irregular, or is a duplicate of one already presented in the same session, it is returned to the member by whom it was presented.

50.—(1) A petition for any sum relating to public service, or for a charge upon the revenues of India, is not received without the recommendation of the Crown.

Restrictions on petitions relating to public money.

(2) A petition for compounding any debt to the Crown is not received without a certificate from the proper officer or officers, stat-

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

ing the debt, what proceedings have been taken for its recovery, and how much the petitioner and his security are able to satisfy thereof.

See S. O.'s Nos. 63, 65, 67 ; § 221, and May, 510.

Presentation
of
petitions.

51.—(1) A public petition can only be presented by a member of the House,¹ except in the case of a petition formally presented at the bar of the House by the lord mayor or sheriffs of the city of London.²

(2) A public petition must show on its face the name of the member by whom it is presented.³

(3) A member must not present a petition from himself.⁴

(4) A petition can be presented at any time during the sitting of the House by being placed in the bag kept for that purpose at the back of the Speaker's chair.⁵

(5) If a member rises in his place to present

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

a petition, he must confine himself to a brief statement of the persons from whom the petition comes, of the number of signatures attached thereto, and of the material allegations contained in it, and to the reading of the prayer of the petition,⁶ but the petition may be read by the clerk at the table, if required.⁷

(6) On the presentation of a petition, no debate on or in relation to the petition is allowed, unless the petition complains of some present personal grievance, for which there may be an urgent necessity for providing an immediate remedy.⁸

¹ As to the presentation of petitions, *see* May, 608, &c.

² *See* May, 614.

³ *See* May, 614.

⁴ *See* May, 615. In practice this rule is not construed as preventing a member from presenting a petition signed by himself as chairman of a county council or in some similar representative capacity.

⁵ This is the ordinary mode of presenting petitions. Petitions presented before 4 p.m. on any day are entered on the votes of that day.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

Petitions presented after 4 p.m. are entered on the votes of the next day. Petitions cannot be presented on the first day of a session, or, in a new parliament, until a Speaker has been elected and approved.

⁶ See May, 617, and S. O. No. 75. If a member wishes to avail himself of this mode of presenting a petition he must do so at the beginning of the sitting. See § 46 (2).

⁷ See S. O. No. 76.

⁸ See S. O.s Nos. 78, 79. The cases in which the exception has been allowed are very rare. See May, 617. As to petitions raising questions of privilege, see May, 618.

Reference
of petitions
to committee
on public
petitions.

52.—(1) Public petitions, when presented to the House, are ordered to lie on the table, and are referred to the committee on public petitions.¹

(2) The committee cause the petitions so referred to be classified, analysed, and, if necessary, printed at length, and report this classification and analysis periodically to the House.²

(3) If the committee do not cause a petition to be printed, and the petition relates to a

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

subject with respect to which the member presenting it has given notice of a motion, he may, after notice given, move that it be printed with the votes.³

¹ See S. O. No. 78, and May, 619. There is an exception in the case of petitions raising a question of privilege, and petitions "complaining of some present personal grievance," &c., within the meaning of the last rule. As to the committee on public petitions, see § 106, and May, 619.

² See May, 619.

³ See S. O. No. 78 ; May, 619.

Questions to Ministers and other Members.

53. Notice of a question intended to be addressed to a minister of the Crown, or to another member of the House, must be given by a member in writing to the clerk at the table, unless the consent of the Speaker to any particular question has been previously obtained.

Notice of questions.

See S. O. No. 7 (1) ; May, 238.

Notice of a question to the Speaker will not be received. See May, 240.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

The copy of the question handed in at the table should state the name of the member asking the question and the day on which an answer is desired. If an oral answer is desired, the question should be distinguished by an asterisk.

A question of which notice is so given usually appears on the notice paper of the following day.

Time for
asking
questions.

54. Questions are taken on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, after private business has been disposed of, and begin not later than three p.m.

No questions are taken after a quarter before four, except—

- (a) any question which has not been answered in consequence of the absence of the minister to whom it is addressed ; and
- (b) questions which have not appeared on the notice paper, but which are of an urgent character, and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of business.

See S. O. No..7 (2), (3).

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

55. Any member who desires an oral answer to his question may distinguish it by an asterisk, but notice of any such question must appear at latest on the notice paper circulated on the day before that on which an answer is desired.

Oral and
printed
answers.

In the following cases—

- (a) if a member does not distinguish his question by an asterisk ;
- (b) if he or any other member deputed by him is not present to ask it ; or
- (c) if it is not reached by a quarter before four—

the minister to whom the question is addressed causes an answer to be printed in the official report of the parliamentary debates, unless the member has, before questions are disposed of, signified his desire to postpone the question.

See S. O. No. 7 (4), (5).

56. When the time for asking questions arrives, the Speaker calls successively each

Mode of
asking
questions.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

member in whose name a question appears on the notice paper.

The member so called rises in his place and asks the question by reference to its number on the notice paper.

A question must be asked by the member in whose name it stands, except that where a question requires a prompt reply by reason of its containing a statement which affects personal character or conduct, it may be asked by any member.

When all the questions for which an oral answer is desired have been called, the Speaker, if time permits, calls again any question which has not been asked by reason of the absence of the member in whose name it stands ; in which case a member can ask a question for another member, if deputed by him to do so. The Speaker also calls again any question which has not been answered by reason of the absence of the minister to whom it is addressed.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

A minister may, on the ground of public interest, or some other ground, decline to answer a question. A minister has also been allowed, on the ground of public interest, to answer a question appearing on the notice paper, but not asked. *See* May, 240, 244.

57. The proper object of a question is to obtain information on a matter of fact within the special cognisance of the member to whom it is addressed.

Rules as to form and contents of questions.

The right to ask questions is governed by the following rules:—

- (1) A question addressed to a minister of the Crown must relate to the public affairs with which he is officially connected, or to a matter of administration for which he is responsible:
- (2) A question must not publish any name or statement not strictly necessary to make the question intelligible:
- (3) If a question contains a statement, the member asking it must make himself responsible for the accuracy of the statement:

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

- (4) A question must not contain any argument, inference, imputation, epithet, or ironical expression:
- (5) A question must not refer to any debate that has occurred, or answer that has been given, in the current session:
- (6) A question must not be asked about proceedings in a committee which have not been placed before the House by a report from the committee:
- (7) A question must not ask for an expression of opinion, or for the solution of an abstract legal question, or of a hypothetical proposition:
- (8) A question may not be asked as to the character or conduct of any person except in his official or public capacity:
- (9) A question reflecting on the character or conduct of any person whose con-

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

duct can only be challenged on a substantive motion may not be asked:¹

- (10) A question making or implying a charge of a personal character may be disallowed:
- (11) A question fully answered must not be asked again:
- (12) A question addressed to an unofficial member must relate to some bill, motion, or other matter connected with the business of the House for which the member is responsible.

See May, 240-243. The Speaker is the judge of the propriety or admissibility of a question, and disallows a question when in his opinion it is an abuse of the right of questioning. For instance, a question may be disallowed on the ground of unreasonable length, impropriety of expression, or the like. Not more than three questions for oral answer may be placed on the paper by the same member for the same day.

¹ *See* § 155, note 8.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.**Motions for Adjournment for Purposes of
Debate.*

Motion for
adjourn-
ment for
purposes of
debate.

58.—(1) Leave to make a motion for the adjournment of the House, if made for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, must be asked on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday after questions, and before the orders of the day or notices of motions have been entered upon.¹

(2) If a member desires to make such a motion, he rises in his place, says that he asks leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance,² and states the matter.

(3) He then hands a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed to the Speaker, who, if he thinks it in order, reads it out, and asks whether the member has the leave of the House. If the leave of the House is not signified, the Speaker requests those

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

members who support the motion to rise in their places, and if more than forty members rise accordingly, the motion stands over until 7.30.

(4) If less than forty, but not less than ten, members rise in their places, the question whether the member has leave to move the adjournment of the House may be put forthwith, and determined, if necessary, by a division.

(5) Except with the requisite leave or support, the motion cannot be made.

(6) If the requisite leave or support is obtained, the motion stands over until 7.30 on the same day.³

(7) The right to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance is subject to the following restrictions:⁴—

- (i) Not more than one such motion can be made at the same sitting ;

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

- (ii) Not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion ;
- (iii) The motion must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same session ;⁵
- (iv) The motion must not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration by the House or with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given ;⁶
- (v) The motion must not raise a question of privilege ;
- (vi) The discussion on the motion must not raise any question which, according to the rules of the House, can only be debated on a distinct motion after notice, or for the discussion of which an opportunity would arise in the ordinary course, during the same or a subsequent sitting.⁷

⁵ See S. O's. Nos. 8 and 9 ; May, 246-248.

⁶ See S. O. No. 8. Formerly a motion for the

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

adjournment for purposes of debate might be made without leave or conditions at any time before the orders of the day were called on. The standing order has limited this class of motion, but does not affect such motions for immediate adjournment as have occasionally to be made by ministers of the Crown.

' The Speaker does not allow the motion to be made if in his opinion it is not definite, or the matter is not important or not urgent.

' At 7.30 it takes precedence of other matters. See § 48 and S. O. No. 6.

' These restrictions have been enforced by rulings from the chair.

' See § 126.

' See § 127 and S. O. No. 9.

' *e.g.*, personal charges and questions as to the conduct of certain high officials. See May, 249, 271, and § 155, note 8.

*Matters taken at the Commencement of
Public Business.*

59. The matters which may be taken at the commencement of public business include—

Matters which may be taken at commencement of public business.

MATTERS TAKEN BEFORE AND AT COMMENCEMENT
OF PUBLIC BUSINESS—CHAP. VI. *continued.*

- (1) presentation of bills without a previous order of the House (§ 168) ;
- (2) motions for leave to bring in bills and for the nomination of select committees (§ § 169, 82) ;
- (3) motions by a minister of the Crown relating to the business of the House.

In the notice paper a separate heading is given to matters which can be taken "At the commencement of Public Business." This heading marks a distinct group of matters the disposal of which immediately precedes the reading of the orders of the day, or the Speaker's call upon a member in whose name a motion stands at the head of the orders of the day. *See* § 47.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMITTEES.

The committees appointed by the House include (1) committees of the whole House ; (2) standing committees ; (3) the select committees which are appointed from time to time to consider bills or other matters ; and (4) certain sessional committees.

Committees of the whole House.

60. A committee of the whole House is appointed in pursuance of a resolution that the House will, either immediately or at a specified future time, resolve itself into a committee for a stated purpose.

Resolution
of House
into com-
mittee.

The most important committees of the whole House are (1) the committees on the ordinary financial arrangements of the year, known as the committees of supply and of ways and means, and (2) committees on public bills.

The House also resolves itself into committee from time to time on the resolutions which must precede bills or clauses imposing a charge upon the public revenues (*see* § 170) and on messages from the Crown involving similar charges.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Procedure
on reading
order of
day for a
committee.

61. Whenever an order of the day is read for the House to resolve itself into a committee the Speaker leaves the chair without question put, and the House thereupon resolves itself into the committee, unless notice of an instruction to such committee has been given, when such instruction is first disposed of, or unless on first going into committee of supply on the navy, army, air or civil estimates respectively, or on any vote of credit, an amendment is moved or question raised relating to the estimates which it is proposed to take in supply.

See S. O. No. 16, and § 177.

As to instructions, *see § 179.*

As to the committee of supply, *see § 235.*

Procedure
on Speaker
leaving the
chair.

62. As soon as the Speaker leaves the chair the serjeant-at-arms places the mace under the table, and the chairman of the committee takes the chair which is ordinarily occupied by the clerk of the House.

The presence of the mace on the table is the sign of the Speaker, or the Deputy-Speaker, being

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

in the chair. When he is absent, and the House is in committee, the mace is placed on rests affixed to the end of the table.

63. The chairman of ways and means ordinarily takes the chair of a committee of the whole House. Chairman
of com-
mittee.

In his absence the chair is ordinarily taken either by the deputy-chairman or by one of the temporary chairmen, but is occasionally taken by some other member.

As to the chairman of ways and means, *see* § 24. As to the deputy-chairman, *see* § 25. As to the temporary chairmen, *see* § 26. As to the chairman's casting vote, *see* § 141.

If neither the chairman nor the deputy-chairman, nor any of the temporary chairmen, is present, some other member usually takes the chair on a suggestion from the treasury bench, or otherwise. The chairman sometimes invites another member to take his place temporarily. *See* May, 446, 447.

64. The rules as to procedure in committee of the whole House are those which apply to procedure when the Speaker is in the chair except that— Procedure in
committee
of whole
House.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

- (i) a motion need not be seconded ;
- (ii) the previous question cannot be moved ;
- (iii) a member may speak more than once on the same question.

In committee the motion for closure cannot be put, and the power of selecting amendments cannot be exercised, unless either the chairman of ways and means, or the deputy-chairman, is in the chair.

As to order in committee of the whole House, see § § 161-164 ; as to closure, see S. O. No. 26, and § 135 (5) ; as to selection of amendments, see S. O. No. 28 and § 136.

Effect of message from House of Lords.

65. If, while the House is in committee, a message is brought requesting the attendance of the House in the House of Lords, the chairman leaves his chair and the Speaker returns.

Report from committee on interruption of business.

66. If the business appointed for consideration by a committee of the whole House is not completed at the time for interruption of business, the chairman leaves the chair and makes his report to the House.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

The chairman makes his report by addressing the Speaker, reporting that progress has been made, or that the committee have come to certain resolutions, and asking leave to sit again. The member in charge of the business before the committee then names the day for its resumption and for the report stage of any resolutions passed. If the proceedings are terminated by a "count," without a report, any resolutions already agreed to can be reported after the next sitting of the committee.

67. The proceedings in a committee of the whole House may at any time be discontinued by an order to report progress, or by an order that the chairman do leave the chair.

Discontin-
uance of
proceedings
by order to
report pro-
gress or
order that
chairman
leave chair.

An order to report progress is the usual mode of suspending proceedings in a committee. An order that the chairman do leave the chair makes the committee a "dropped order." May, 455. As to the effect of a count in committee of supply, *see* § 236, note on page 211.

If the chairman thinks that a motion to report progress, or that the chairman do leave the chair, is an abuse of the rules of the House, he may deal with it under S. O. No. 22. *See* § 162.

68. When a committee of the whole House has completed the consideration of the matters referred to it, and has passed resolu-

Report
from com-
mittee on
completion
of business.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

tions thereon, the chairman puts the question that he do report the resolutions to the House, and on the order for his so reporting being made, he leaves the chair without question put.

See S. O. No. 51. This is the procedure where the matter referred to a committee is the subject of resolutions. As to the procedure on bills, *see* § 190.

The chairman reports the resolutions by addressing the Speaker and informing him that the committee have come to certain resolutions. A time is then appointed for considering the report of the resolutions.

Procedure
on considera-
tion of report
of resolutions
from
committee.

69. On the order being read for considering resolutions reported from a committee of the whole House the clerk at the table reads each resolution for the information of the House, and the Speaker afterwards proposes the question that the House do agree with the committee in the said resolution. The time for moving an amendment on any resolution is when it has been so read, and before the question that the House do agree has been proposed. After this question has been pro-

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

posed no amendment can be moved on the resolution. If the resolution is amended, the question proposed is that the House do agree with the committee in the said resolution as amended.

The consideration of a resolution may be postponed, and, under special circumstances, resolutions have been recommitted.

See May, 456. As to recommitment of resolutions of supply, see note on § 239.

Standing Committees.

70. In each session not more than five standing committees are appointed for the consideration of all bills and other business referred to them. Appointment of standing committees.

See S. O. No. 47 ; May, 457.

71.—(1) One of the standing committees is appointed for the consideration of all public bills relating exclusively to Scotland and committed to a standing committee. It consists of all the members representing Constitution of standing committees.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Scottish constituencies together with not less than ten nor more than fifteen other members nominated in respect of any bill by the committee of selection, who are to have regard in such nomination to the approximation of the balance of parties in the committee to that in the whole House.

(2) Each of the other standing committees consists of not less than thirty nor more than fifty members, who are nominated by the committee of selection.

(3) In nominating the members of the standing committees, other than the committee on Scottish bills, the committee of selection are to have regard to the composition of the House.

Provided that for the consideration of bills relating exclusively to Wales and Monmouthshire, the standing committee must be so constituted as to comprise all members sitting for constituencies in Wales and Monmouthshire.

(4) The committee of selection may discharge members for non-attendance or at their own request from attendance on any

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

of the standing committees and appoint others in substitution for those discharged.

(5) The committee of selection may also, in the case of any standing committee other than the committee on Scottish bills, add not less than ten nor more than thirty-five members to the committee in respect of any bill committed to it, to serve on the committee during the consideration of the bill, and in adding such members shall have regard to their qualifications.

See S. O.'s Nos. 47, 48 ; May 457. As to the committee of selection, see § 104.

72.—(1) The committee of selection nominate a chairmen's panel, consisting of not less than eight nor more than twelve members, of whom three are a quorum. Chairmen
of standing
committees.

(2) The chairmen's panel appoint from among themselves the chairman of each standing committee, and may change the chairman so appointed.

See S. O. No. 49 ; May, 459.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Committal
of bill to
standing
committee.

73.—(1) When a bill has been read a second time it stands committed to one of the standing committees, unless the House, on motion decided without amendment or debate, otherwise order. Such a motion does not require notice, must be made immediately after the bill is read a second time, may be made by any member, and may, though opposed, be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business. But this rule does not apply to bills for imposing taxes, or consolidated fund or appropriation bills, or bills for confirming provisional orders.

(2) Provided that the House may, on motion made by the member in charge of a bill, commit the bill to a standing committee in respect of some of its provisions, and to a committee of the whole House in respect of other provisions, and that, if such a motion is opposed, the Speaker after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who makes and from a member who opposes the motion, must, without further debate, put the question thereon.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

(3) The bills committed to a standing committee, other than those relating, in the opinion of the Speaker, exclusively to Scotland, are distributed among the committees by the Speaker.

(4) In all but one of the standing committees government bills have precedence.

See S. O.'s Nos. 46, 47, and § 176. The procedure under the proviso, par. (2), corresponds to that under S. O. No. 10.

An instruction to a standing committee must not be mandatory. *See* § 179.

74. When a bill has been committed to a standing committee, any notice given by a member of any amendment to a clause in the bill stands referred to the committee.

Reference of amendments to standing committee.

See S. O. No. 47 ; May, 463. An amendment so referred is not proposed unless moved by some member of the committee.

75.—(1) A standing committee may sit during the sitting of the House, and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, on any day on which the House has sat.

Time for sitting of committee.

(2) On a division being called in the House,

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

the chairman of a standing committee must suspend the proceedings in the committee for such time as will, in his opinion, enable members to vote in the division.

See S. O's. Nos. 52 and 47.

Quorum of committee.

76. The quorum of each standing committee is twenty.

See S. O. No. 47 ; May, 461.

Procedure in standing committee.

77.—(1) The procedure in a standing committee is, unless the House otherwise orders, the same as in a select committee.

(2) S. O. No. 18 (as to irrelevance and repetition) and S. O.'s Nos. 26 and 27 (as to closure) apply to standing committees, with the substitution in S. O. No. 26 of the chairman of the committee for the chair, and in S. O. No. 27 of 20 for 100 as the number necessary to make the majority effective for the closure. The chairman of a standing committee has not the power of selecting amendments given by S. O. No. 28, but has the like powers as the chairman of a committee

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

of the whole House has under S. O. No. 22 (as to dilatory motions).

See S. O. No. 47 ; May, 460, 462. As to the standing orders referred to, see § § 161, 135, 162.

A division in a standing committee is taken by the clerk, who calls out the names of members. The doors of the committee room are locked during the division.

Standing committees are empowered by S. O. No. 47 (6) to print and circulate their minutes and amended clauses.

The direction as to the procedure in standing committees dates from the time when standing committees were first set up but procedure has become assimilated as far as possible to that of a committee of the whole House on a bill.

78. Strangers are admitted to a sitting of a standing committee, except when the committee order them to withdraw.

Admission of strangers to standing committees.

See S. O. No. 47 ; May, 461.

Select Committees.

79. A select committee is a committee composed of a certain number of members appointed by the House to consider and, if so

Object of select committee.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

permitted, to take evidence upon some bill or matter, or to perform any other functions with which the House may see fit to entrust it. A select committee on a matter has no power to report its opinions or observations thereon unless it has either received power for that purpose from the House or been given power to send for persons, papers and records. If a select committee on a bill, in addition to reporting the bill with or without amendment, desires to express its views on the matters dealt with in the bill, it must make a special report to the House.

See May, 468. As to the committal of a public bill to a select committee, *see* § 176. Committees on private bills are governed by special regulations which are embodied in the standing orders of the House relating to private business, and which differ in many respects (*e.g.*, adjournment, casting vote of chairman, &c.) from the regulations applying to select committees on public bills or on other public matters. *See* § 285.

Number of
select com-
mittee.

80. A select committee must not, without the leave of the House, consist of more than fifteen members.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

A motion for such leave requires notice.

See S. O. No. 53 ; May, 471.

81. Every member who intends to move for the appointment of a select committee must—

Nomination
of members
of select
committee.

- (1) endeavour to ascertain previously whether each member proposed to be named by him on the committee will give his attendance thereon ; and
- (2) on or before the day next before the nomination of the committee place on the notice paper the names of the members intended to be proposed by him as members of the committee.

An amendment proposing a new name cannot be moved without notice at any stage.

See S.O.'s Nos. 53, 54, 55 ; May, 470. The rule as to notice does not apply to a committee on a matter of privilege suddenly arising, or to a committee appointed to draw up reasons for disagreeing with lords' amendments. These committees may be appointed and nominated without notice.
See § 212 and May, 471.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

The appointment of the committee, and the nomination of its members, are distinct stages.

The nomination, wholly or partially, of members of select committees is sometimes left to the committee of selection. The members of select committees on hybrid bills are almost always partially nominated by the committee of selection, and select committees are sometimes specially constituted in the same or in a similar manner for the consideration of private bills. See May, 472, and § § 167, 176.

Nomination
of select
committee at
commence-
ment of
public
business.

82. A motion for the nomination of a select committee may be made at the commencement of public business on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and, if set down by the government, on Mondays and Thursdays also.

If the motion is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may without further debate put the question thereon or the question that the debate be now adjourned.

See S. O. No. 10. The motion for the orders empowering a select committee to send for persons,

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

papers, and records, and fixing its quorum, may be made at the same time with the motion for nomination.

As an amendment to substitute another name for one of those proposed would involve more speeches than are allowed by the standing order, such an amendment cannot be moved under the order. All that can be done on the occasion is to negative a proposed name.

83.—(1) The scope of an inquiry by a select committee is defined by the terms of the order under which it is appointed, but when a bill is committed to a select committee, the bill itself is the order of reference, and the committee must report it, with or without amendment, to the House. The order of reference may, however, be enlarged or restricted by an instruction from the House.

Scope of inquiry by select committee.

(2) An instruction to a select committee may be either permissive or mandatory.

The first paragraph of this rule is a general principle which applies to all committees. *See* May, 468.

As to instructions, *see* § 179 ; May, 401, 468.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

84. Lists of the members serving on each select committee are fixed in some conspicuous place in the committee and private bill office and in the lobby of the House.

See S. O. No. 56.

85. A select committee may sit whilst the House is sitting, and notwithstanding any adjournment of the House during the sitting of the committee on any day on which the House has sat.

A select committee may not, except by special order of the House, sit on a day when the House is not sitting.

See S. O. No. 52.

86. A select committee may adjourn its sitting from time to time. A select committee usually sits in one of the committee rooms of the House of Commons, but may occasionally find it convenient to hold a sitting outside the precincts, in order to do which the leave of the House must be obtained.

Lists of members serving on select committees.

Sittings of select committee.

Adjournment of select committee.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

See May, 479. As to the adjournment of committees on private bills, *see* § 285 (3).

87. The quorum of a select committee is fixed by the House. Quorum of select committee.

If at any time during the sitting of a select committee the quorum so fixed is not present, the clerk of the committee must call the attention of the chairman to this fact, and the chairman must thereupon either suspend the proceedings of the committee until a quorum is present, or adjourn the committee to some future day.

See S. O. No. 60 ; May, 473. The quorum is usually fixed either when the committee is appointed, or when its members are nominated. If the House does not fix a quorum, all the members must attend. As to the number usually fixed as a quorum, *see* May, 473.

88. The chairman of a select committee is appointed by the committee. Chairman of select committee.

The first proceeding of a select committee is to choose its chairman. *See* May, 478.

89. The chairman of a select committee has no vote unless there is an equality of voices. Vote of chairman.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

But this rule does not apply to an ordinary private bill committee.

See May, 478. A division is taken by the clerk calling the names of the members. The doors of the committee room are locked, or deemed to be, while a division is being taken. As to the chairman's vote in a private bill committee, *see* § 285 (2).

Powers of select committee with respect to persons, papers, and records.

90. A select committee has no power to require the attendance of persons or the production of papers or records unless so empowered by order of the House.

If a committee is so empowered, a witness may be summoned by an order signed by the chairman, and must produce such documents as are required for the use of the committee.

If a witness fails to comply with any such order, his non-compliance is reported to the House, and he is liable to be dealt with as for a contempt of the House.

See May, 474. If it is intended that a select committee shall take evidence, power to send for persons, papers and records is usually given to it when it is appointed.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

As to the limitations on the power to send for papers, *see* May, 474.

As to the mode of summoning and examining witness, *see* § § 261-268.

As to the cases in which a request must be substituted for an order to attend, *see* § § 265, 266.

91. A select committee may not, without the leave of the House, hear counsel or appoint sub-committees. Leave required to hear counsel, or appoint sub-committees.

See May, 481, 473.

92. The presence of strangers is usually permitted during the sitting of a select committee, except when the committee are deliberating. Presence of strangers during sitting of select committee.

See May, 475. The practice is to allow the presence of strangers during the examination of witnesses, but to require their withdrawal when the committee proceeds to deliberate. The committee of public accounts and the select committee on estimates, however, sit in private throughout their proceedings. Members of the House have the right to be present during the deliberation of select committees, but, as a matter of courtesy, they usually withdraw. As to secret committees, *see* May, 477.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Record of
proceed-
ings of
committee.

93.—(1) To every question asked of a witness under examination in the proceedings of any select committee, there must be prefixed in the minutes of the evidence the name of the member asking the question.

(2) The names of the members present each day on the sitting of any select committee, and in the event of any division taking place, the question proposed, the name of the proposer, and the respective votes thereon of the members present, must be entered on the minutes of the proceedings of the committee and such minutes of proceedings must be reported to the House.

(3) The names of members present each day at the sitting of any select committee must be entered on the minutes of evidence, if any.

See S. O.'s Nos. 57, 58, 59. It is the duty of the committee clerk to see to the observance of these rules.

Preparation
and dis-
cussion of
report.

94. The chairman of a select committee usually prepares a draft report and submits it for the consideration of the committee.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

An alternative draft may be submitted for consideration by any other member of the committee.

The draft adopted for consideration is read paragraph by paragraph, and may be amended.

See May, 483.

The draft report is formally read the first time, and is recorded in the minutes as having been so read. If there is more than one draft report, each is recorded *in extenso* in the minutes. The chairman then proposes the question that the draft report proposed by him be read a second time paragraph by paragraph. To this question an amendment may be moved with the object of adopting a draft report prepared by another member.

On consideration of the draft adopted, amendments are proposed and decided in accordance with the ordinary practice (*see* §§ 131-133), and the question is put with respect to each paragraph that this paragraph [*or* that this paragraph as amended] stand part of the report ; and new paragraphs may be inserted or added by way of amendment.

The last question put is " That this report [*or* that this report as amended] be the report of the committee to the House."

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Individual members of a select committee who disagree to certain paragraphs in the report, or to the entire report, can record their disapproval by dividing the committee against the proposals to which they object, but may not issue a minority report.

Power to report opinion and make special report.

95. A select committee having power to send for persons, papers and records may, without previously obtaining leave from the House (a) report the minutes of any evidence taken before it to the House, (b) make a special report of any matters which it may think fit to bring to the notice of the House, and (c) in the case of a select committee on a matter, report its opinions and observations upon such matter to the House. Special reports are made when a committee desires to make a report to the House relating to any circumstance beside the immediate order of reference or when a select committee on a bill desires to express its views on the matters dealt with in the bill.

See S. O. No. 61, and May, 485.

Ordinarily the evidence is not reported until the inquiry has been completed, and the report thereon

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

is ready to be presented. But if an intermediate publication of the evidence, or more than one report, is thought necessary, the House will, on the application of the chairman of the committee, grant leave to the committee to report their opinion or observations from time to time or to report minutes of evidence only from time to time. *See* May, 485. The power to report from time to time is sometimes given to a committee at the time of its appointment and is conferred on the committee of public accounts by S. O. No. 74.

When a committee have not been able to complete their enquiry before the end of the session they usually make a report to that effect, and recommend that a committee be reappointed in the next session of parliament. This report may be accompanied by the minutes of any evidence taken. *See* May, 486.

96. The chairman of a select committee presents the report of the committee to the House. The report is then ordered to lie upon the table and to be printed. Presenta-
tion of
report to
House.

The orders for lying on the table and for printing are made as orders of course.

97. If the House appoints a time for the consideration of a report from a select com- Consideration of
report.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

mittee, motions may be made expressing the agreement or disagreement of the House therewith, or founded upon or confirming the resolutions of the committee.

Motions may also be made that the report be recommitted or recommitted with minutes of proceedings, so far as they relate to a particular paragraph, or recommitted and the order of reference amended.

See May, 488. Motions of this kind are rare, except on a bill reported from a select committee, as to which, *see* § § 199, 203. *See*, however, the report from the committee of privileges, 30 July, 1930. In this case, a resolution was carried in the House on 31 July, agreeing with the report of the committee. 185 C. J., 495, 503.

Joint Committees.

98. A bill may be committed, or any other matter may be referred, to a joint committee of both Houses, consisting of an equal number of members from each House.

A joint committee consists of two select committees, one appointed by each House, which sit together under a chairman appointed from the members of the committee.

Constitution
of joint
committee.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

See May, 488. Public bills, hybrid bills (*see* § 167), and private bills have been committed to a joint committee. If a public or hybrid bill is committed to a joint committee it must subsequently pass through a committee of the whole House, as in the case of bills committed to a select committee. *See* § 199.

99. When it is desired to commit a bill or refer a matter to a joint committee, the House of Commons usually passes a resolution affirming the expediency of that course of procedure, and sends a message to the House of Lords to inform them of the resolution and desire their concurrence.

Appoint-
ment of
joint com-
mittee.

If the House of Lords concurs in the resolution the bill is committed to a joint committee, or a joint committee is appointed on the matter, and the House of Commons members of the committee are nominated, a quorum is fixed, and such powers as may be considered necessary are conferred.

See May, 489. In the case of a joint committee originating with the House of Lords, the converse procedure is adopted.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

Procedure
in joint
committee.

100. The time and place of meeting of a joint committee are proposed by the House of Lords.

The procedure in a joint committee follows generally the practice of the House of Lords as to select committees.

The chairman has a single vote, and if the votes are equal the question is decided in the negative.

See May, 491.

Sessional Committees.

Sessional
committees.

101. Select committees are nominated, or appointed and nominated in the course of each session for the consideration during that session of certain matters relating to the business of the House.

The following committees are appointed in pursuance of standing orders:—

- the committee of public accounts ;
- the select committee on standing orders ;
- the committee of selection.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

tions, compliance with standing or sessional orders may be dispensed with in the case of private or hybrid bills, and to perform certain other duties in relation to such bills.

The committee consists of the chairman of ways and means (who, when present, is *ex officio* chairman of the committee), the deputy-chairman, and not less than two members from time to time selected by the chairman of ways and means from a panel appointed by the committee of selection at the commencement of every session. Three are the quorum, and the committee has the assistance of the counsel to Mr. Speaker.

The constitution and duties of this committee are regulated by S. O.'s (private business) 98-104. See May, 696.

104. The functions of the committee of selection are—

- (1) to form opposed private bills into groups, to appoint the chairmen and members of the committees on such groups of bills, to fix the time for hold-

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

- ing the first sitting of every such committee, and to name the bill or bills to be considered on the first day ;
- (2) To refer unopposed private bills to the committee on unopposed bills ;
- (3) to nominate members of standing committees and of such panels and other committees as they are ordered to by standing orders, or by the House.

The committee consists of eleven members who are nominated early in the session, at the time of private business, and of whom three are a quorum.

See May, 725. The appointment of the committee of selection and their duties with respect to private bills are regulated by S. O.'s (private business) 105-116. As to their duty with respect to standing committees, *see* § § 71, 72. A portion of the select committee on any hybrid bill is almost always nominated by the committee of selection. *See* § 176.

105. A committee of privileges is appointed at the beginning of every session, and the members are nominated shortly afterwards. Committee
of privi-
leges.

Complaints of breach of privilege are referred to the committee as the occasion

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

arises. The committee of recent years has consisted of ten members of whom five are a quorum.

See May, 97. As to privilege, see § 45.

Committee
on public
petitions.

106. The committee on public petitions examines all public petitions after they have been presented, and makes frequent reports to the House. The committee usually consists of fifteen members, with a quorum of three.

See May, 619 ; and S. O. No. 78.

Select
committee on
estimates.

107. The function of the select committee on estimates is to examine such of the estimates as may seem fit to the committee and to suggest economies consistent with their policy. The committee consists of twenty-eight members of whom seven are a quorum, and is given power to appoint two or more sub-committees each having the powers of the undivided committee, and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

COMMITTEES—CHAP. VII. *continued.*

108. The select committee on publications and debates reports is appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in the arrangements for the report of debates, and to inquire into the expenditure on printing and stationery for the House and the public service. The committee consists of eleven members of whom three are a quorum.

Select committee on publications and debates reports.

109. The select committee on kitchen and refreshment rooms (House of Commons) is appointed to control the arrangements for the kitchen and refreshment rooms of the House. The committee consists of seventeen members of whom three are a quorum.

Select committee on kitchen and refreshment rooms (House of Commons).

CHAPTER VIII.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE.

Quorum of the House.

Quorum.

110. The quorum of the House, and of a committee of the whole House, is forty members.

See May, .222. The Speaker, or the chairman, is included in the quorum.

Procedure
for counting
the House.

111. If, while the House, or a committee of the whole House, is sitting, notice is taken by a member that forty members are not present, the Speaker, or, in committee, the chairman, unless satisfied that forty members are present, directs strangers to withdraw, and members are summoned as for a division, the outer doors of the House being kept open. At the expiration of two minutes from this direction, the Speaker, or the chairman, counts the members present.

If the chairman ascertains from a count, or from the report of tellers on a division,

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

that forty members are not present, the House resumes, the chairman reports the facts to the Speaker, and the Speaker again counts the House. If forty members are then present, the House again resolves itself into the committee.

These provisions are, however, subject to the exception in the next rule, as to the period between 8.15 and 9.15 p.m.

See May, 222-224. Electric bells are sounded to warn members ; in the case of a count, they ring once only, in the case of a division, four times.
See § 137.

112. The House may not be counted between a quarter-past 8 and a quarter-past 9 o'clock p.m., but if, on a division taken on any business between a quarter-past 8 and a quarter-past 9 o'clock, it appears that forty members are not present, the business under consideration stands over until the next sitting of the House, and the next business is taken.

No count
between 8.15
and 9.15 p.m.

See S. O. No. 25. A division in which less than

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

forty members, including the tellers, take part, is invalid. The Speaker or chairman is also included in this number.

113. Subject to the last foregoing rule, if at or after 4 o'clock the Speaker ascertains from a count of the House, or from a report of tellers of a division taken while he is in the chair, that forty members are not present, he adjourns the House without question put, and the House then stands adjourned until the next day appointed for the sitting of the House.

See May, 222-224. Thus, if the House is counted out on Monday, it is adjourned till Tuesday, or, if on Friday, till the following Monday. A formal adjournment of the House (as distinguished from such an informal suspension of proceedings as may occasionally take place) means an adjournment over the day. For reasons explained by May (pp. 211, 223, 224), the House cannot be adjourned for want of a quorum until 4 p.m. or after. If it appears before that hour, from a count, or from a division, that forty members are not present, the Speaker retires from the chair, and does not return until 4 p.m. unless previously informed that forty members are present. If, on returning at 4 he ascertains, by counting, that forty members are not present, he adjourns the House.

Adjourn-
ment of
House
for failure
of quorum.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

114. On Fridays the House stands adjourned, if at any time after 1 o'clock, on the House being counted, it appears that forty members are not present. If the absence of a quorum is discovered before that hour, the same procedure is followed as laid down in the note to the preceding paragraph, with the substitution of 1 p.m. for 4 p.m.

See S. O. No. 24.

115. The presence of forty members is not required for enabling the House to receive a message from the King or his lords commissioners for the attendance of the House in the House of Lords. On returning from the House of Lords the Speaker can report to the House, and the House can proceed with business until notice is taken of the absence of a quorum.

Quorum not required for proceedings on message for attendance in House of Lords.

See May, 225.

Motions and Questions for Decision.

116. A matter requiring the decision of the House or of a committee is decided by means

Motions and questions.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

of a question put from the chair on a motion made by a member.

See May, 270.

117. As a general rule every motion proposed in the House requires notice, unless it falls within one of the following excepted cases—

- (1) A motion by way of amendment¹ to a question already proposed from the chair, other than an amendment to the question of the Speaker's leaving the chair on first going into committee of supply on the annual estimates ;²
- (2) A motion for the adjournment of the House or of the debate ;
- (3) A motion raising a question of privilege ;³
- (4) A motion for the appointment of a committee to prepare reasons for disagreeing with a lords' amendment ;⁴
- (5) A motion for discharging a member from attendance on a select committee,

Motions
requiring
notice.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

when made in pursuance of a report from the committee ;

- (6) Certain motions of a formal or uncontentious character ;⁵
- (7) Motions where notice is dispensed with by the general concurrence of the House.⁶

¹ Notice of amendments to be moved in the House and in committee, and of new clauses in committee, is obviously convenient but is not obligatory. Notice must be given of a new clause to be moved on consideration of a bill, as amended. S. O. No. 37. As to notice with respect to proceedings in committee of supply and resolutions moved in committee of ways and means, *see* note on § 234.

² *See* §§ 61, 235.

³ *See* § 45.

⁴ *See* §§ 81 (note) and 212.

⁵ To this class belong motions (*a*) for the first reading of a bill from the House of Lords, (*b*) for the consideration of lords' amendments forthwith or on a future day, (*c*) for the postponement, discharge, or revival of an order of the day, (*d*) for an appointment of a committee of the

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

whole House on a future day, and (e) by a minister for the immediate presentation of papers.

^c See May, 236, 237.

Notices to
be given at
table.

118. Where notice is required of any intended motion or other future proceeding it must be given in writing at the table during the sitting of the House.

Every notice of motion so given is printed and circulated with the "Votes and Proceedings" and also appears on the paper on every day for which the notice is fixed.

See May, 230, 234, 235. Notices which are not obligatory, such as notices of amendments or new clauses in committee of the whole House, are given in the same way.

Limit on
time for
which notices
of motions
may be
given.

119. A notice of motion cannot be given by an unofficial member for any date beyond the second subsequent day on which notices of motion have precedence.

See S. O. No. 5. Notices of motions have precedence on certain Wednesdays as provided by S. O. No. 3. See § 41. The ballot for notices of motions for the first two available Wednes-

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

days is taken at the same time as the ballot for bills. *See* § 44. Subsequently, a ballot is taken, usually on Wednesdays, for notices of motions for the following Wednesday week. It is customary to allow four notices to be given for each Wednesday.

120. The proper time for giving oral notice of an intended motion is before the commencement of public business. ^{Oral notice of motions.}

An oral notice may, unless it contains a personal charge, be given in general terms.

Where a ballot is taken, and a member, on being called in pursuance of the ballot, gives oral notice of a motion, he must, if he wishes to secure precedence, give at the table subsequently on the same day a written notice stating the matter with respect to which he intends to move a resolution, and specifying the name of the mover, and the day fixed for bringing on the motion. The terms of the resolution must be handed in at the table at least a day before the resolution is to be moved, and must be within the scope of the oral notice.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See May, 231. A member may give oral notice, or the required written notice, on behalf of another member if the latter is absent. A government motion may be moved by any member of the government. An unopposed return or a motion for leave of absence may be moved by one member on behalf of another. Subject to these exceptions a motion requiring notice must be made by the member in whose name it stands. *See* May, 255.

Power to
amend notice
of motion.

121. If a member desires to vary the terms of a motion of which notice appears in the notice paper, he may do so by giving at the table an amended notice.

But if the amended motion materially departs from the terms of the notice originally set down, it will lose any precedence given to that notice. The amended notice must be given, at latest, during a sitting of the House preceding the day appointed for the motion.

See May, 234.

Power to
postpone
motion.

122. A member may postpone to a later day a motion of which he has given notice, but cannot fix it for an earlier day.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See May, 235. This power is subject to the time limit fixed by S. O. No. 5, *see* § 119.

123. If a notice is irregular or improper, it may, by the authority of the Speaker, be corrected or withdrawn from the notice paper.

Irregular or improper notices.

See May, 235.

124. A motion in committee or an order of the day does not require a seconder. In every other case, a motion, unless it is of a merely formal character, must be seconded by another member before it is put from the chair.

Motions requiring a seconder.

See May, 270. In case, however, of a motion from the "front bench" or by a privy councillor, a seconder is usually dispensed with. A motion for an unopposed return is treated as a mere formal motion for the purposes of this rule. If a motion which requires a seconder is not seconded, it is not entered on the proceedings.

125. The terms of a motion, unless appearing on the notice paper, must be handed to the Speaker or the chairman.

Terms of motion to be handed to chair.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See May, 270. The object is that the Speaker or chairman should put the question in the terms in which it is proposed, unless in his opinion the motion is irregular.

Motions by way of repetition.

126. A motion must not raise a question substantially identical with one on which the House has given a decision in the same session.

See May, 271, 292.

Rule against anticipation.

127. Debate on the subject of a bill of which there is notice for a future day, whether specified or not, or which appears on the order paper, must not be anticipated by previous debate on the same subject, otherwise than on a bill.

Debate on the subject of a motion of which there is notice for a future day, whether specified or not, must not be anticipated by previous debate on the same subject, on an amendment to a motion or to the address in reply to the King's speech, or on a motion for adjournment, whether under S. O. No. 8 or otherwise.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

The effect of notice is determined by the following rules:—

- (a) An oral notice remains in force throughout the sitting at which it is given ;
- (b) A printed notice remains in force until it is withdrawn ;
- (c) A notice cannot be withdrawn on any day for which it appears on the notice paper.

See May, 272. The reference of a matter to a select committee does not preclude its consideration by the House.

As to the origin and abuse of blocking motions, *see* the report of the select committee of 1907 on anticipatory motions (H. C. paper No. 264, session 1907) as a result of which certain discretionary powers were given to the Speaker by S. O. No. 9.

128. When a motion has been made, and, if necessary, seconded, the Speaker or the chairman proposes the question for the consideration, and puts it for the decision of the House or the committee. If a motion embodies two or more separate propositions,

Proposal of
question for
decision.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

those propositions may be proposed by the Speaker or chairman as separate questions.

See May, 273.

With-
drawal
of motion.

129. At any time after a question on a motion has been proposed from the chair and before the voices both of the ayes and of the noes have been collected, the motion may, with the leave of the House or committee, but not otherwise, be withdrawn by the member who proposed it.

But if an amendment has been proposed to a question, the original motion cannot be withdrawn until the amendment has been disposed of.

See May, 273. If a member proposes to withdraw a motion, the Speaker or chairman asks the House or committee, "Is it your pleasure that the motion [*or* amendment] be withdrawn?" and if there is no dissentient voice he declares it withdrawn accordingly. A motion which has been withdrawn, or which for want of a seconder has not been put, can be moved again.

Modes of
amending a
question.

130. A question, when proposed from the chair, may be amended:—

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

- (a) by leaving out certain words in order to insert or add other words ; or
- (b) by leaving out certain words ; or
- (c) by inserting or adding other words.

See May, 282, &c. An amendment proposing to omit certain words in order to insert other words is given precedence over an amendment proposing simply to omit the same words. When it is proposed to leave out from [*a certain word*] to [*a certain other word*] the words defining the limit should not include any word which it is proposed to leave out.

131.—(1) An amendment must be relevant to the question to which it is proposed.¹ Rules as to amendments.

(2) An amendment must not raise any question which, by the rules of the House, can only be raised by a distinct motion after notice.²

(3) After a decision has been given on an amendment to any part of a question an earlier part cannot be amended.³

(4) In like manner, where an amendment of any part of a question has been proposed

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

from the chair, an earlier part cannot be amended, unless the amendment so proposed is withdrawn.³

(5) An amendment on a question must not be inconsistent with a previous decision on the same question given at the same stage of any bill or matter.

(6) To an amendment, when proposed from the chair, an amendment may be moved.⁴

¹ See May, 285.

² For instance, the conduct of the Speaker, the chairman of ways and means, or certain high officials cannot be questioned, and a charge of a personal character cannot be raised, by means of an amendment. See May, 271, and § 155 (note 8).

³ See May, 286.

⁴ See May, 288.

Mode of
putting
amend-
ments.

132.—(1) If the amendment is to leave out certain words in order to insert or add others, the Speaker or chairman, after stating the amendment, first proposes the question "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question," and if that

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

question is put and negatived, proposes the question that the words proposed by the amendment be there inserted [*or* added].

(2) If the amendment is to leave out certain words, the Speaker or chairman, after stating the amendment, proposes the question that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question.

(3) If the amendment is to insert or add words, the Speaker or chairman, after stating the amendment, proposes the question that the proposed words be there inserted [*or* added].

(4) If an amendment is moved to a proposed amendment, the last-mentioned amendment is dealt with as if it were the original question until all amendments of it have been disposed of.

See May, 283-285.

133. On the conclusion of the debate on a question, the Speaker or chairman states the question either in its original or in its

Putting of
question on
conclusion of
debate.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

amended form, as the case requires, and puts the question by asking those who are of that opinion to say "Aye," and then those who are of the contrary opinion to say "No."

When the Speaker or chairman has thus collected the voices of the House or the committee, he declares whether in his opinion the ayes or the noes have it, and if his opinion so declared is challenged, the question is decided by a division.

See May, 279. The Speaker or chairman declares his opinion by saying, "I think the Ayes [*or* Noes] have it." His opinion is challenged by saying, "The Noes [*or* Ayes] have it." As to the mode of taking a division, *see* § 137.

Previous
question.

134. The object of moving the previous question is to provide a means by which the House can avoid a direct decision on a subject submitted to it by a preliminary decision on the question, whether the question before the House be then determined. The form of the motion for the previous question is "That that question" (*i.e.*, the question proposed

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

from the chair) "be not now put." If the motion for the previous question is affirmed, the subject can be raised on a later day. If it is negatived, the question must be put at once.

The previous question cannot be moved—

- (1) in any committee ; or
- (2) on any amendment ; or
- (3) on a motion relating to the transaction of public business or the meeting of the House.

See May, 275, 276. Before 1888 the question used to be put in the positive form "That that question be now put." In that form the question was identical with that for the closure, and on 20 March, 1888, the Speaker gave his reasons for proposing the previous question in a new way, 323 H. D., 3 s., 1861. The previous question was last moved on 8 March, 1905.

Closure.

135.—(1) After a question has been proposed, a member rising in his place may claim to move, "That the question be now Closure.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

put," and unless it appears to the chair that the motion is an abuse of the rules of the House, or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the question, "That the question be now put," must be put forthwith.

(2) When the motion, "That the question be now put," has been carried, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any further motion may be made (the assent of the chair as aforesaid not having been withheld) which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the chair.

(3) When a clause is under consideration a motion may be made (the assent of the chair as aforesaid not having been withheld) that the question that certain words of the clause defined in the motion stand part of the clause, or that the clause stand part of or be added to the bill, be now put.

(4) Every motion made under this rule must be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

- (5) A motion under this rule cannot be made—
- (a) in the House, unless the Speaker or (after an announcement of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker) the chairman of ways and means, or (after an announcement of the unavoidable absence of the chairman of ways and means also) the deputy-chairman is in the chair ; or
 - (b) in committee of the whole House, unless the chairman of ways and means or the deputy-chairman is in the chair.
- (6) A motion under this rule is not carried in the House, or in a committee of the whole House, if it appears on a division that less than one hundred members voted in support of the motion.
- (7) A motion under this rule may be made in a standing committee, but is not carried if it appears on a division that less than twenty members voted in support of the motion.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See S. O.'s Nos. 26, 27, 47 ; May, 342-347 ; and as to the powers of the Deputy-Speaker and the deputy-chairman, see S. O. No. 80, and § § 25, 27.

The question which authorises the putting of the question that certain words stand part of the clause, or that a clause stand part of or be added to the bill, may be put—

- (1) to the exclusion of amendments of which notice has been given ; and
- (2) although no amendments have been proposed to the clause ; and
- (3) although closure has not been moved on the question last proposed from the chair ; and
- (4) when a bill is under consideration on report as well as in committee of the whole House.

The standing order as to closure does not apply to proceedings in a select committee.

As to the effect of " interruption " on closure, see § 34. There is no " interruption " in a standing committee.

Selection of Amendments.

136. In respect of any motion or in respect of any bill under consideration either in committee of the whole House or on report, the

Selection
of amend-
ments.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

Speaker, or in committee the chairman of ways and means, and the deputy-chairman, have power to select the new clauses or amendments to be proposed, and each of them may, if he thinks fit, call upon any member who has given notice of an amendment to give such explanation of the object of the amendment as may enable him to form a judgment upon it.

See S. O. No. 28.

In the House, the power of selecting amendments is vested in the Speaker, except, after an announcement of his unavoidable absence, when it may be exercised by the chairman of ways and means, or after an announcement of the latter's unavoidable absence also, by the deputy-chairman.

Divisions.

137.—(1) If the opinion of the Speaker or of the chairman of a committee of the whole House as to the decision of a question is challenged, he directs that the lobby be cleared.¹ Mode of taking divisions.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

(2) After the lapse of two minutes from this direction he puts the question a second time and declares whether in his opinion the ayes or the noes have it.

(3) If the opinion so declared is again challenged, he directs the ayes to go into the right lobby and the noes into the left lobby, and announces the names of two tellers for the ayes and two tellers for the noes.²

(4) Thereupon the members proceed into their respective lobbies, their names are taken down by the division clerks as they pass through the lobbies, and they are counted by the tellers as they pass out of the lobby door.

(5) After the lapse of six minutes from the direction to clear the lobby, the Speaker or chairman directs that the doors giving access to the division lobbies be locked.

(6) When the members voting in the division have been counted, the tellers come to the table and give the figures to the clerk, who writes them on a form provided for that

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

purpose. The clerk gives the form to the senior teller of the majority, who then reports the numbers to the Speaker or chairman, and he declares them to the House or committee.

See S. O. No. 29. As to practice before this order, *see* May, 355 ; as to present practice, *see* May, 357.

¹ During the two minutes' interval electric bells are sounded four times to warn members that a division is about to take place.

² If two tellers cannot be found for one side the division cannot take place, and the decision is declared to be in favour of the other side. A member must not tell on a question affecting his own conduct.

138.—(1) A member may vote in a division although he did not hear the question put. Voting of members.

(2) A member is not obliged to vote.

See S. O. No. 30 and May, 360. Members are allowed to remain in the House whilst a division is proceeding without being required to take part in the division.

139. Whilst a division is proceeding a member may speak on a point of order arising out of or during the division, but a Mode of raising point of order during division.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

if he does so he must speak sitting and covered.

See May, 303.

Errors in
division.

140.—(1) If a member, by mistake, goes into the wrong lobby, and passes the tellers, his vote is reckoned as given in that lobby.

(2) If the numbers on a division are incorrectly reported, the error may be corrected with the concurrence of the tellers. If the error is reported by the tellers on the same day, it is corrected in the "Votes and Proceedings" by the direction of the Speaker or chairman. If it is reported on a subsequent day, the Speaker directs the clerk to correct the numbers in the journal accordingly.

(3) If any error or confusion concerning the numbers reported cannot be otherwise corrected, a second division must be taken.

See May, 358, 375.

Procedure
in case of
equality
of votes.

141. If the votes on a division are equal, the Speaker or chairman gives his vote.

If he gives the reasons for his vote, those reasons are entered in the journal.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See May, 361. When the Speaker or chairman gives his vote he usually does so, if possible, in such a manner as to leave the House another opportunity of deciding the same question.

142. The names of the members who have voted as ayes or as noes in any division are printed in alphabetical order, and delivered to members with the "Votes and Proceedings." ^{Division lists.}

See May, 366. A copy of the names is also printed in the official report.

143. After the lapse of two minutes from the direction to clear the lobby, the Speaker or chairman, if in his opinion the division is unnecessarily claimed, may take the votes of the House or committee by calling successively on the members who support and on the members who challenge his decision to rise in their places, and may thereupon, as he thinks fit, either declare the determination of the House or committee or name tellers for a division. ^{Divisions unnecessarily claimed.}

See S. O. No. 31, which was amended to its present form in February, 1919.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

Disquali-
fication for
voting on
ground of
pecuniary
interest.

144. A member may not vote on any question in which he has a direct pecuniary interest. If he votes on such a question his vote may, on motion, be disallowed.

See May, 369-374, and the report of the Select Committee of 1896 on Members of Parliament (Personal Interest). The rule was explained by Mr. Speaker Abbot in 1811 as follows: "The interest must be a direct pecuniary interest, and separately belonging to the persons whose votes were questioned, and not in common with the rest of His Majesty's subjects, or on a matter of state policy." *See also* subsequent rulings on this subject, 13 July, 1898, 61 H. C. Deb., 4 s., 826; 3 February, 1932, 261 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 193.

The objection to a vote on the ground of personal interest must be taken by a substantive motion, should be taken at once, and cannot be raised as a point of order. (*See* May, 373.) The member whose vote is questioned by such a motion may rise in his place to explain his position, but should then withdraw before the question is put on the motion. The disability to vote does not prevent a member from proposing a motion or moving an amendment. (*See* May, 374.) The standing orders on private business exclude members who are personally, or whose constituents are locally, interested from serving

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

on committees on opposed private bills, and from voting in committees on unopposed private bills. See S. O.'s (private business) 117, 118, 145, and § 285 (5).

Rules of Debate.

145. A member who desires to speak must rise in his place uncovered and address himself to the Speaker, or, in committee, to the chairman. ^{Mode of addressing the House.}

But members disabled by sickness or infirmity are by the special indulgence of the House or committee usually permitted to speak sitting.

See May, 303. There is an exception to this rule when a member speaks on a point of order during a division. See § 139. A member must not speak from a place below the bar.

146. When a member rises to speak, his name is called by the Speaker or chairman. ^{Members called by Speaker.}

If more members than one rise at the same time, the member whose name is so called is entitled to speak.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

See May, 304. As a matter of courtesy, a new member who has not yet spoken in the House is usually called upon in preference to other members rising at the same time.

Relevancy
of debate.

147. Debate must be relevant to the matter or question before the House or the committee and, where more than one question has been proposed from the chair, the debate must be relevant to the last question so proposed, until it has been disposed of.

But this rule does not prevent a member from rising to speak on a point of order, or on a question of privilege suddenly arising.

See May, 306 and 315.

Personal
explanations.

148. By the indulgence of the House, a member may make a personal explanation, although there is no question before the House, but in this case no debateable matter may be brought forward, and no debate can arise.

See May, 312.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

149.—(1) Except in committee, or in the exercise of a right of reply, a member may not speak more than once to the same question. Rule against speaking twice.

(2) Where a bill has been committed to a standing committee, or has been so committed in respect of any provision, at the report stage of the bill or provision, the rule against speaking more than once does not apply to the member in charge of the bill, or to the mover of any amendment or new clause in respect of that amendment or clause.

(3) The right of reply is only allowed to a member who has moved a substantive motion. For instance no reply is allowed to a member who has moved an order of the day, an amendment, the previous question, an adjournment during a debate, a motion on the consideration of lords' amendments, or an instruction to a committee.

See May, 312-314. The relaxation of the rule against speaking twice at the report stage of a

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

bill reported from a standing committee is made by S. O. No. 46 (3).

Right of
speech after
formal
motion.

150. If a member, when an order of the day is read, moves the order by raising his hat, or in any other formal manner without rising to address the chair, or if a member seconds a substantive motion in a similar manner, he may speak on the main question during a subsequent period of the debate.

See May, 314. By a substantive motion is meant a motion not incidental to a proceeding before the House. This privilege does not apply to a member who moves an amendment or an adjournment, because in that case he must rise in his place, nor does it apply to the seconder of such a motion.

Rule as to
motions for
adjourn-
ment, &c.

151. When a motion is made during a debate for the adjournment of the debate or of the House, and when a motion is made in committee that the chairman do report progress or do leave the chair, the debate thereon must be confined to the matter of the motion.

A member who has moved or seconded

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

any such motion may not move or second a similar motion during the same debate.

See S. O. No. 21 ; May, 308. The seconder forfeits his right with respect to a similar motion in the course of the same debate even if he seconds by merely raising his hat. As to the power of the Speaker or chairman to declare a dilatory motion an abuse of the rules of the House, see § 162 ; S. O. No. 22, and May, 308.

152. When a motion for the adjournment of a debate is agreed to, the mover of the adjournment is, if he has confined his speech to reasons for the adjournment, and claims the privilege, allowed precedence in addressing the House when the debate is resumed, or may, if he prefers it, take part in the debate at a later period.

Rights of mover of adjournment of debate.

See May, 305.

153. A member may not read his speech, but may refresh his memory by reference to notes.

Rule against reading.

See May, 303, 317.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

Papers
quoted to
be laid on
the table.

154. If a minister of the Crown quotes in the House a despatch or other state paper which has not been presented to the House, he ought to lay it on the table. This rule is analogous to the rule observed in courts of law against quoting documents which are not produced in evidence. It cannot be applied to private documents, or to documents which are alleged by the minister to be of such a nature that their production would be inconsistent with the public interest.

See May, 328.

Rules to be
observed by
members
speaking.

155. A member while speaking on a question must not—

- (i) refer to any debate of the same session on any question not then under discussion ;¹ nor
- (ii) speak against or reflect on any determination of the House except on a motion for rescinding it ;² nor
- (iii) refer to any debate of the same session in the House of Lords ;³ nor

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

- (iv) refer to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending ; ⁴ nor
- (v) refer to any other member by his name ; ⁵ nor
- (vi) make a personal charge against any member ; ⁶ nor
- (vii) use offensive expressions about the conduct or proceedings of either House or parliament ; ⁷ nor
- (viii) reflect upon the conduct of the King or of certain persons in high authority ; ⁸ nor
- (ix) use the King's name for the purpose of influencing the debate ; ⁹ nor
- (x) utter treasonable or seditious words or use the King's name irreverently¹⁰ ; nor
- (xi) use his right of speech for the purpose of obstructing the business of the House.¹¹

See May, 316. Considerable latitude and discretion are necessarily allowed to the Speaker and chairman in interpreting or applying these rules.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

¹ This rule is not always strictly enforced. *See* May, 316.

² *See* May, 316.

³ It is not always easy to enforce this rule. *See* May, 316, 318. Speaker's ruling, 16 August, 1907.

⁴ *See* May, 323.

⁵ *See* May, 324. It is usual to describe a member by reference to the constituency which he represents, or in some other indirect fashion.

⁶ *See* May, 325, where examples of unparliamentary expressions are given.

⁷ *See* May, 322.

⁸ Unless the discussion is based on a substantive motion drawn in proper terms. *See* May, 271, 323, where the authorities mentioned include the heir to the throne, the viceroy of India, the governors-general of the Dominions, the lord chancellor, the Speaker, the chairman of ways and means, members of either House of Parliament, and judges of the superior courts of the United Kingdom, including persons holding the position of a judge, such as a judge in a court of bankruptcy or a county court judge. By a ruling of the Speaker on 29 November, 1926, the restriction was extended to courts of summary jurisdiction, presided over by justices of the peace, 200 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 855. The rule also applies

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

to sovereigns of friendly foreign states. As to judges, *see also* Walpole's Todd, i., 195.

⁹ See May, 316, 320.

¹⁰ See May, 316, 320.

¹¹ See May, 316, 330.

156. A member may not speak on a question after the Speaker or chairman has collected the voices both of the ayes and of the noes on that question. No speech after question fully put.

See May, 304. A question is said to be "fully put" when the voices have been so collected.

157. A member whilst present in the House during a debate— Rules to be observed by members whilst present at a debate.

(i) must keep his place ; ¹

(ii) must enter and leave the House with decorum ; ²

(iii) must not cross the House irregularly ; ³

(iv) must not read any book, newspaper,

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

or letter except in connection with the business of the debate ; ⁴

(v) must maintain silence ; ⁵

(vi) must not interrupt any member while speaking by disorderly expression or noises or in any other disorderly manner. ⁶

See May, 333. Some of these rules are rules of etiquette. All of them admit of considerable latitude and require much discretion in their application.

¹ This rule is of course not strictly enforced. Its object is to prevent sauntering or standing within the bar. *See* May, 333.

² Under this rule a member must be uncovered whilst entering or leaving the House, and should make an obeisance to the chair when passing to or from his place. *See* May, 333.

³ A member must not cross between the chair and a member who is speaking from either of the two benches nearest to the floor, nor between the chair and the table, nor between the chair and the mace when the mace is taken off the table by the serjeant-at-arms. *See* May, 334.

⁴ *See* May, 334.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

‘ This means that members must not talk loud.
See May, 334.

‘ It is of course for the Speaker or chairman to interpret and apply this rule. Much will depend on the character, object, degree, and duration of the interruption. See May, 334.

158. Whenever the Speaker or the chairman rises during a debate, any member who is then speaking, or offering to speak, must sit down, and the House must be silent, so that the Speaker or chairman may be heard without interruption.

Procedure when Speaker or chairman rises.

See May, 339.

159. In order to retain a seat during a sitting of the House, a member may, at any time after 8 a.m., obtain from the attendant in the chamber a white card, which he places on a seat, to signify his intention of being present at prayers. He attends at prayers, and then puts the card into the slot behind the seat, and by this means secures a right to the seat throughout that sitting. If he

Right to seat.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

is not present at prayers, he forfeits any right to the seat.

A member, serving on a select or departmental committee, a private bill committee, or a standing committee which is meeting in the afternoon, can obtain a pink card after 8 a.m. and at once place it in the slot behind the seat, the right to which he thus secures during that sitting, without his attendance at prayers being necessary. A member cannot secure a seat for another member.

See S. O.'s Nos. 81, 82, and May, 176, also the resolutions of 23 March, 1888, and 4 July, 1927. There have also been various instructions by the Speaker as to the application of these resolutions.

As to the seats which are reserved by usage or courtesy, *see May, 176.*

Taking down
of words.

160. If a member objects to words used in debate, and desires that they be taken down, he must repeat the words immediately after they have been uttered, stating them exactly as he conceives them to have been spoken. Thereupon the Speaker or the chairman, if

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

in his opinion the words are disorderly, and if he ascertains that the sense of the House or of the committee is in accordance with the demand, directs the clerk at the table to take down the words. If the words are taken down in committee, they must be reported forthwith to the House.

See May, 327. This procedure is not often adopted in modern practice.

Provisions for Maintenance of Order.

161. The Speaker, or the chairman of a committee of the whole House, or the chairman of a standing committee, after having called the attention of the House, or of the committee, to the conduct of a member who persists in irrelevance, or in tedious repetition either of his own arguments, or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech.

Provision
against
irrelevance or
repetition.

See S. O.'s Nos. 18, 47 (5), and May, 308.

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

Provision
against abuse
of dilatory
motion.

162. If the Speaker, or the chairman of a committee of the whole House, or the chairman of a standing committee, is of opinion that a motion for the adjournment of a debate, or of the House during any debate, or of a standing committee, or that the chairman do report progress, or do leave the chair, is an abuse of the rules of the House, he may either forthwith put the question thereupon from the chair, or decline to propose that question.

See S. O.'s Nos. 22, 47 (5), and May, 308.

Power to
order with-
drawal of
disorderly
member.

163.—(1) The Speaker, or the chairman of a committee of the whole House, may order any member whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House.

(2) The serjeant-at-arms is required to act on such orders as he may receive from the chair in pursuance of this rule.

(3) A member ordered to withdraw under this rule must do so forthwith, and must,

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

during the remainder of the day's sitting, absent himself from the precincts of the House, except for the purpose of serving on any committee on a private bill.

(4) If the Speaker or chairman deems that his powers under this rule are inadequate, he may either name the member in pursuance of the standing order as to order in debate,¹ or call upon the House to adjudge on the member's conduct.

See S. O. No. 19, and May, 332.

¹ This is the order embodied in the next paragraph.

164.—(1) If a member is named by the Speaker, or by a chairman of a committee of the whole House, immediately after the commission of the offence of disregarding the authority of the chair, or of abusing the rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business of the House, then—

Suspension of member for disorderly conduct.

(i) If the offence has been committed by

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

a member in the House, the Speaker forthwith puts the question, on a motion being made, no amendment, adjournment, or debate being allowed, that the member (naming him) be suspended from the service of the House ; and

- (ii) If the offence has been committed, in a committee of the whole House, the chairman forthwith suspends the proceedings of the committee and reports the circumstances to the House, and the Speaker, on a motion being made thereupon, puts the same question, without amendment, adjournment, or debate, as if the offence had been committed in the House itself.

- (2) The suspension of a member on the first occasion continues until the fifth day, and on the second occasion until the twentieth day on which the House sits after the day on which he was suspended, but

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

on any subsequent occasion it continues until the House resolves that such suspension be terminated. A member suspended under this rule must forthwith quit the precincts of the House.

(3) Suspension of a member under this rule does not exempt him from serving on any committee for the consideration of a private bill to which he has been appointed, but, except for the purpose of so serving, he must absent himself from the precincts of the House during the period of his suspension.

(4) Not more than one member may be named at the same time under this rule, unless several members, present together, have jointly disregarded the authority of the chair.

(5) If any member or members acting jointly, who have been suspended, refuse to obey the direction of the Speaker when severally summoned under the Speaker's orders by the serjeant-at-arms to obey the direction, the Speaker calls the attention of

GENERAL RULES OF PROCEDURE—CHAP. VIII.
continued.

the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary to compel obedience to his direction, and the member or members named by him as having so refused are thereupon, without further question put, suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of the session.

(6) Nothing in this rule deprives the House of the power of proceeding against any member according to ancient usages.

See S. O. No. 17 ; May, 67, 68, 331, 332. The order of suspension is signed by the clerk of the House and given to the serjeant-at-arms. If resort to force is necessary, the sitting may be suspended during the removal of the member.

Power of
Speaker to
adjourn House
or suspend
sitting.

165. In the case of grave disorder arising in the House the Speaker may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the House, without question put, or suspend any sitting for a time to be named by him.

See S. O. No. 20, and May, 220.

CHAPTER IX.

PUBLIC BILLS.

Distinction between Public and Private Bills.

166. The object of a public bill is to alter ^{Public and} the general law. _{private bills.}

The object of a private bill is to alter the law relating to some particular locality, or to confer rights on or relieve from liability some particular person or body of persons.

The boundary line between public and private bills is narrow, and has varied at different times. Where it is clear that a private bill should have been introduced as a public bill, the Speaker has advised the House to that effect, and the bill has been withdrawn. The House has also refused to give a private bill a second reading on the ground that it should have been introduced as a public bill. *See* May, 657, &c.

The subjects ordinarily dealt with by private bills appear from the headings given in the first of the standing orders relative to private business.

The procedure on public and on private bills differs in many respects. The procedure on private bills is mainly regulated by the standing

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

orders relating to private business, and is summarised in chapter xvii.

Hybrid bills.

167. If a public bill affects private interests in such a way that, if it were a private bill, it would, under the standing orders, require preliminary notices before its introduction, it is subject partly to the rules of procedure which govern private bills, and is usually called a hybrid bill.

As to procedure on hybrid bills, *see* § § 173, 176, and May, 387, 658, 690*n*, 798*n*, 875.

Introduction and First Reading.

Introduction
of bills.

168. A bill may be introduced by a member either

- (a) in pursuance of an order of the House made on a motion for leave to bring in the bill, or
- (b) by being presented at the table without an order of the House.

Notice is required either of a motion for leave to bring in a bill, or of the intention to present a bill.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

See S. O. No. 32. The mode of presenting a bill without a previous order follows the practice of the House of Lords, and was introduced by the amendment made in S. O. No. 32 on 17 February, 1902. It has not been applied to bills which must originate in committee of the whole House. As to those bills, see § 170.

If a member wishes to introduce a bill, whether under or without a previous order of the House, he obtains from the public bill office what is called a "dummy bill," inscribed with the title of the bill, and with the name or names of the member or members by whom it is to be prepared and brought in or presented and supported. This is the document which he hands to the clerk at the table. The bill itself is handed in afterwards at the public bill office, in order that it may be printed and circulated for the House. The short title inscribed on the dummy must be identical with the "short title" in the notice.

If, under the old practice, paragraph (a), a member obtains leave to introduce a bill, the Speaker asks who will prepare and bring in the bill. The member who has obtained leave answers this question by stating the names of the members, then goes from his place to the bar of the House and, being called upon by the Speaker, brings the bill up thence to the table, and names a day for the second reading. See May, 384. The motion must, unless made at the commencement of public business under the next following rule, be made at the time available for other motions on notice.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

If a bill is presented by a member without an order of leave, it is described on the "dummy" as "presented" by that member, and "supported" by any other members who wish their names to appear on the back of the bill. The member who presents the bill brings it up to the table when called. The title is read by the clerk, and the bill is then deemed to have been read the first time, and a day is named for the second reading. The time for presenting a bill without an order of leave is at the commencement of public business. See § 59.

The names on the back of a bill must not exceed twelve, including the member who presents or introduces the bill.

Motions at commencement of public business for leave to introduce bills.

169. A motion for leave to bring in a bill may be made at the commencement of public business on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and, if set down by the government, on Mondays and Thursdays also.

If the motion is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may, without further debate, put the question thereon, or the question that the debate be now adjourned.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

See S. O. No. 10 ; May, 250. A member may oppose without dividing.

170. If the main object of a bill is to impose a charge upon the public revenues of the United Kingdom, or upon the people, or to appropriate any money so charged, or to release or compound a sum of money due to the Crown, its introduction must be preceded and authorised by a resolution of a committee of the whole House. This resolution must be recommended by the Crown, and must be agreed to by the House before the bill is introduced.

Bills which
must originate
in committee.

Under the provisions of S. O. No. 69, if notice is given of a resolution authorising expenditure in connection with a bill, the House may, if the recommendation of the Crown is signified thereto, at any time after the notice appears on the paper, resolve itself into committee to consider the resolution.

See S. O.'s Nos. 63-70 ; §§ 221, 222 ; May, 382, 505, 598.

If the creation of the charge or the release of the debt is merely a subsidiary feature of the

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

bill, it may be introduced like other bills, and it is sufficient if the requisite resolution is agreed to by the House, before the clause to which it relates is reached by the committee on the bill. Clauses requiring such resolutions are printed in italics.

First reading
and printing
of bill.

171. When a bill has been read the first time it is printed.

See May, 384 ; S. O. No. 32. First reading and the order for printing are now in practice formal stages.

A bill need not be printed immediately after its introduction, and a considerable interval sometimes elapses between the introduction and the printing of a bill. But the second reading of a bill is liable to be opposed on the ground that the bill has not been in the hands of members a reasonable time before that stage.

When a bill has once been printed by order of the House, it cannot be altered without the consent of the House.

If the bill as printed contains an error or inaccuracy, a corrected print may be substituted on the application of the member who introduced it.

But if it is desired to make any alteration in substance before the second reading or committee stage, the bill must be withdrawn and a fresh bill

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

must be introduced. In that case the new bill must not be set down for a date earlier than that fixed for the withdrawn bill. The contents of a bill must not go beyond the description given of the bill in its title at the time of its introduction, but any objection on this ground should be taken before the bill is read a second time. *See* May, 383.

As to bills brought down from the House of Lords, *see* § 214.

172. A short explanatory memorandum may, if the member in charge of a bill so desires, be prefixed to the bill as printed for the House, but this memorandum must not be argumentative. Explanatory
memo-
randum.

See May, 386.

173. A public bill appearing to affect private interests must, after first reading, be referred to the examiners of petitions for private bills for the purpose of ascertaining whether the standing orders relative to private bills apply and, if so, have been complied with in the case of the bill. This reference does not prevent the order for the second reading. Reference to
examiners of
bill appearing
to be hybrid.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

from appearing on the notice paper or on the orders of the day, but the bill cannot be read a second time until the report of the examiners has been received.

If the examiners report that the standing orders apply but have not been complied with, their report is referred to the select committee on standing orders.

If the examiners report that the standing orders do not apply, or that they apply and have been complied with, or when a report from the examiners has been referred to them, the select committee on standing orders report that the bill may be proceeded with notwithstanding non-compliance, the bill may be read a second time ; but otherwise the order for second reading must be discharged.

See S. O. (private business) 216, and May, 387, 658. As to what are hybrid bills, see § 167. It is the duty of the public bill office to see whether a public bill affects private rights, and, if it does, to communicate with the member in charge of the bill. The words “ (to be reported upon by the examiners) ” appear against the bill on the order paper, until the examiners have reported. If the examiners report that the standing orders

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

do not apply, the bill usually proceeds like an ordinary public bill. A hybrid bill is usually committed, after second reading, to a select committee, specially constituted. *See* § 176. As to the committee on standing orders, *see* § 103. As to a hybrid bill, which originates in the House of Lords, *see* S. O. (private business) 216.

Second Reading.

174. When the order of the day for the second reading of a bill is read, a motion may be made "That the bill be now read a second time," and that question is proposed accordingly from the chair.

^{Second reading.}

Motions may be made to amend the question either—

- (i) by leaving out the word "now" and adding at the end of the question "upon this day three months," or "upon this day six months," or
- (ii) by leaving out all or some of the words after "that," and substituting words which state some special reason against the second reading of the bill.

If on an amendment to the question that

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

a bill be now read a second time it is decided that the word "now," or any words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question, the Speaker must forthwith declare the bill to be read a second time.

See S. O. No. 33.

The last paragraph of the rule was added by a new standing order made in 1919.

The second reading of the bill appears as an order of the day on the day fixed for that purpose by the member in charge of the bill and on any subsequent day to which the second reading is postponed.

The second reading stage of a bill is the proper stage for discussing the principle of the bill, as distinguished from its details, and an argument which at this stage enters into the details of a bill further than is necessary to explain its principle will be stopped as irregular. *See May, 389.*

An amendment merely negating a motion for second reading would be out of order. There are said to be two reasons for preferring an amendment which substitutes a later date for the second reading: one, that the House has already ordered the second reading, and this form of amendment is a more courteous mode of dismissal; and the other that a mere negative does not preclude the motion for second reading from being repeated on

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

any subsequent day. The date mentioned in a time amendment is one later than the time for which the session is expected to last, but in any case the carrying of such an amendment is regarded as tantamount to the rejection of the bill. See May, 390.

As to the kind of resolution which may be substituted for a motion to read a bill a second time, see May, 390. The carrying of such a resolution does not necessarily prevent a motion for second reading from being made at a subsequent date. See May, 392.

175. Notices of amendments to a bill are not received until after the second reading of the bill. ^{Notices of amendments.}

Notices of amendments should be handed in at the table during the sitting of the House.

*Committal of Bill and Procedure in
Committee.*

176. When a bill has been read a second time it stands committed to one of the standing committees, unless the House, on motion decided without amendment or debate, otherwise orders, or the bill belongs to one of the ^{Committal of bill.}

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

classes of bills excepted from the operation of S. O. No. 46.

See S. O. No. 46, § 73. A bill may be committed either to a standing committee, a committee of the whole House, a select committee, or a joint committee. Bills for imposing taxes, consolidated fund bills, appropriation bills, and bills for confirming provisional orders, are expressly excepted from the operation of S. O. No. 46. As to hybrid bills, *see* below. In other cases a motion for committing a bill to any committee other than a standing committee (including a motion affirming the expediency of committing a bill to a joint committee) must be made immediately after the second reading of the bill, may be made by any member, and may, though opposed, be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business.

If a bill is committed to a committee of the whole House, the member in charge of the bill names the day for the committee.

The object of sending a bill to a select committee is usually to provide for the taking of evidence.

The practice is to send a hybrid bill (*see* §§ 167, 173) to a select committee nominated partly by the House and partly by the committee of selection. *See* May, 387, 658. It may be sent to a joint committee of the two Houses, as in the case of the Metropolis Water Bill, 1902, the Port of

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

London Bill, 1903, and the London Passenger Transport Bill, 1930-31. In these cases the portion of the committee representing the House of Commons was nominated wholly by the committee of selection.

As to the different kinds of committees, *see* chap. vii.

177. On the order of the day being read for the committee on a bill the Speaker leaves the chair without putting any question, and the House thereupon resolves itself into the committee, unless notice of an instruction to such committee has been given, when such instruction shall be first disposed of.

Resolution of House into committee on bill.

See S. O. No. 16, and § 61. The time for moving an instruction to a committee of the whole House is when the order for the committee is first read, except instructions authorising charges which are given when the resolutions, on which they are founded, have been agreed to by the House. Instructions to a standing or select committee may be moved immediately after the committal of the bill, or subsequently as an independent motion. For instructions to a private bill committee, *see* § 281 (16).

178. It is a general instruction to all committees to which bills may be committed that

General powers of committee on bill.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

they have power to make such amendments therein as they think fit provided that they are relevant to the subject-matter of the bill, but that if any such amendments are not within the title of the bill they amend the title accordingly and report the matter specially to the House.

This general instruction is given by S. O. No. 34. See May, 398.

Special
instructions
to committee
on bill.

179. The object of an instruction to a committee on a bill is to enable the committee to do what they cannot do under their general powers.

An instruction either to a committee of the whole House or to a standing committee on a public bill must not be mandatory, and must not be such as to alter the character of the bill. An instruction to a select or private bill committee may be mandatory.

See May, 398, 898. "The principles which guide and limit the system of instructions on going into committee may be thus stated: First, an instruction must empower the committee to do something which the committee is not other-

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

wise empowered to do. Secondly, the purpose of the instruction must be supplementary and ancillary to the purpose of the bill, and must fall within the general scope and framework of the bill. Thirdly, it is irregular to introduce into a bill, by an instruction to the committee, a subject which should properly form the substance of a distinct measure, having regard to usage and the general practice of enacting distinct statutes for distinct branches of law." See 12 H. C. Deb., 4 s., 205 (5th May, 1893); and illustrations, May, 398, &c. As to instructions to a select committee, see § 83, and to a private bill committee, see § 281 (16).

Notice must be given of any instruction, and also of any amendment to the instruction which either extends its scope or materially alters its character. Restrictive amendments have been allowed without notice. See May, 401.

180. When a bill is under consideration in committee the chairman calls the several clauses in order, by reading the number of each clause. Consideration of clauses.

If it is proposed to move any amendments on a clause when called, he puts them in their proper order.

If the clause is not amended, he puts the

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

question, "That this clause stand part of the bill."

If the clause is amended, he puts the question, "That this clause, as amended, stand part of the bill."

In the case of uncontested clauses, the question is sometimes put, not on each clause separately, but on a group of clauses.

Until an amendment is moved on a clause, or the question is put "That this clause [*or* "This clause as amended"] stand part of the bill," there is no question before the committee.

As to postponement of a clause, *see* § 186.

Mode of proposing amendments.

181. The chairman calls on the member who has given notice of or expressed his desire to move the amendment, and after the amendment has been moved, proposes the question by stating the line and the words which it is proposed to leave out or insert.

Notice of an amendment to a clause is not obligatory. But, as a rule, notice should be given of every important amendment, as the moving of such amendments without notice causes obvious difficulties and inconveniences. A mem-

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

ber is not bound to move an amendment standing in his name, but if he does not move it, it can, unless out of order, be moved by another member.

182. Amendments of which notice has been given are, as soon as practicable, arranged on the notice paper in the order in which they ought to be called. In arranging amendments raising the same question at the same point of a clause, precedence is given to an amendment moved by the member in charge of the bill. Subject as aforesaid amendments are arranged in the order in which notice of them is received.

Arrange-
ment of
amendments
on notice
paper.

See also the rule as to precedence of certain amendment in § 130, note.

183. When the committee has given a decision on any amendment, no amendment which arises at an earlier point of the clause can be moved.

Order of
amend-
ments.

184.—(1) An amendment must be relevant to the subject-matter of the bill, and to the subject-matter of the clause to which it relates.

Rules as to
amend-
ments.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

(2) An amendment must not be inconsistent with any previous decision of the committee.

(3) An amendment must not be such as to make the clause which it proposes to amend unintelligible or ungrammatical.

(4) If an amendment refers to, or is not intelligible without, a subsequent amendment or schedule, notice of the subsequent amendment or schedule ought to be given before the first amendment is moved, so as to make the series of amendments intelligible as a whole. In order to save time and repetition of arguments, a single discussion is often allowed to cover a series of interdependent amendments.

(5) An amendment which proposes to omit the whole substance of a clause for the purpose of inserting different provisions is, as a general rule, irregular. The proper course is to negative the clause and propose a new clause in its place.

A departure from this rule has been occasionally allowed. It may be more convenient to

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

recast a clause than to negative it and bring up a new clause at a later stage.

(6) The chairman has power to determine the place in which an amendment ought to be moved. The power of selecting amendments is specifically conferred by S. O. No. 28 on the chairman of ways and means and the deputy-chairman. *See* § 136.

(7) The chairman may refuse to propose an amendment which is, in his opinion, frivolous or meaningless.

(8) An amendment may be proposed to an amendment which has already been proposed from the chair. *See* §§ 131 (6) and 132 (4).

185. An amendment moved may, by leave of the committee, but not otherwise, be withdrawn, on the request of the member moving it, before the chairman has collected the voices. But if an amendment has been proposed to an amendment, the original amendment cannot be withdrawn until the amendment proposed to it has been disposed of.

Withdrawal
of amend-
ments.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

Postpone-
ment of
clauses.

186. The consideration of a clause may, on motion made, be postponed, but the motion may not be made if the clause has been amended.

A postponed clause is, in the absence of an order to the contrary, considered after the other clauses of the bill have been disposed of and before new clauses, if any, are brought up.

See May, 409.

New clauses.

187. New clauses are considered after the clauses in the bill as printed have been disposed of and before the consideration of the schedules, if any. The chairman calls on the member who has given notice of or expressed a desire to move a new clause, and, if that member moves, the clerk at the table reads the marginal note of the clause, and it is then taken to have been read the first time.¹

The question is then put, "That the clause be read a second time." If this is agreed to amendments may be moved, and after these (if any) have been disposed of, the question

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

is put, "That the clause, [*or* "That the clause as amended "] be added to the bill."

¹ See S. O. No. 37. A new clause should always have a marginal note in order to enable the chairman to propose the clause.

188. The consideration of the schedule or Schedules. schedules, if any, follows the consideration of clauses. Schedules are put from the chair, and may be amended, in the same manner as clauses, and the consideration of new schedules follows the consideration of the original schedules. The question is then put "That this be the schedule [*or* "That this schedule, as amended, be the schedule "] to the bill."

See May, 411.

189. If there is a preamble to the bill, it Preamble. stands postponed without question put until the clauses and schedules (including new clauses and new schedules) have been disposed of. The question then put is "That this be the preamble of the bill."

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

See S. O. No. 35. Preambles are now unusual, and, as a rule, unnecessary in the case of public bills.

Conclusion
of proceedings
in committee.

190. The final stage in the consideration of a bill in committee of the whole House is to amend the title if that has been rendered necessary by the amendments made to the bill, after which the chairman puts the question that he report the bill, or the bill, as amended, to the House, and on this question being agreed to he leaves the chair without question put and makes his report to the House. Every such report is brought up without question put.

See S. O.'s Nos. 38 and 51.

Report of
progress.

191. If the consideration of a bill in committee of the whole House is not completed at the conclusion of the time for opposed business, the chairman reports progress and asks leave to sit again.

The chairman may also, on motion made, be ordered to report progress at any previous time.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

“Progress” is the term technically applied to the stage occupied by the consideration of a bill in committee.

At the time for the interruption of business the chairman leaves the chair without question put. A motion to report progress is the ordinary mode of stopping or discontinuing proceedings on a bill in committee. But other modes are occasionally adopted. See § 67, and May, 413.

The chairman reports progress by addressing the Speaker and informing him that the committee on the bill have made progress, and asking leave to sit again. In reply to a question from the Speaker, the member in charge of the bill then names the day on which the proceedings in committee are to be resumed.

The chairman may also be ordered to leave the chair. If this order is made it converts the order on the bill into a “dropped order.” See May, 414, 455.

192. On the order of the day being read ^{Resumption} for committee on a bill on which progress ^{of progress.} has been reported, the Speaker forthwith leaves the chair without question put.

See S. O. No. 16.

193. Whilst a bill is under consideration ^{Reprinting} in committee, the clauses considered, or par- ^{of bill whilst} in committee.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

tially considered, may be printed from time to time, so as to show the amendments made.

See May, 415. The adoption of this course is often convenient when the discussion of a bill is protracted. A similar course is adopted in the case of bills before a standing committee.

194. Standing order No. 47 (1) provides that the procedure in standing committees shall be the same as in a select committee, unless the House otherwise order; but the procedure has become assimilated as far as possible to that of a committee of the whole House on a bill.

Proceedings consequent on Report.

195. Where a bill is reported from a committee of the whole House without amendment, it may, on motion made, be read the third time forthwith or third reading may be appointed for some subsequent day.

See May, 415. If a bill has not been amended in committee it is usual to take the third reading stage immediately after the report of the committee. The third reading of a bill originating in committee in accordance with § 170 cannot be

Procedure
in standing
committees.

Proceedings
when bill is
not amended
by committee
of whole
House.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

taken forthwith unless it is a consolidated fund bill or appropriation bill. See S. O. No. 70, and §§ 204 (note), 215.

196. When a bill is reported from a committee of the whole House with amendments, the bill is usually set down for consideration as amended for a subsequent day named by the member in charge of the bill, and the House, if necessary, orders that the bill be reprinted.

Proceedings when bill is amended by committee of whole House.

See S. O. No. 38. The effect is that the amendment of a bill in committee of the whole House involves an additional stage, the report stage. In some cases a bill so reported is considered forthwith and then read the third time.

Every bill, which has been materially amended, in committee, is reprinted.

197. On the order of the day being read for the consideration of a bill as amended by a committee of the whole House, the House proceeds to that consideration without question put, unless the member in charge of the bill desires to postpone its consideration, or a motion is made to recommit the bill.

Consideration of bill as amended by committee of whole House.

See S. O. No. 39. As to recommitment, see § 203.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

Procedure on bill reported from standing committee.

198. When a bill is reported from one of the standing committees, whether with or without amendment, it is set down for the report stage, and at that stage amendments may be moved. The bill is considered on report without question put, unless the member in charge desires to postpone its consideration, or a motion is made to recommit the bill. The proceedings are the same as on the consideration of a bill reported with amendments from a committee of the whole House.

See S. O.'s Nos. 50 and 46 (3), § 202, note ; May, 466.

Procedure on bill reported from select committee or joint committee.

199. A bill reported from a select committee, including a joint committee of both Houses, is recommitted to a committee of the whole House.

See May, 485.

Order of proceedings at report stage.

200. On the consideration of a bill as amended new clauses are taken before amendments.

See May, 416.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

201. On the consideration of a bill as amended

Restrictions on clauses and amendments.

- (a) a new clause may not be moved without notice ;¹
- (b) an amendment may not be moved if it could not have been moved in committee without an instruction from the House ;²
- (c) a clause or amendment creating a charge on the public revenue, or imposing any tax, rate, or other burden on the people, may not be moved.³

¹ See S. O. No. 37, and May, 416. The clause must be moved by the member in whose name the notice stands.

² See S. O. No. 41.

³ See May, 418, 507. A clause or amendment varying the incidence of any charge or burden falls within this principle. If it is desired to move any such clause or amendment, the proper course is to move the recommittal of the bill. But it is competent to move the omission or reduction of any such charge or burden.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

Procedure on amendments.

202. On the consideration of a bill as amended the clauses are not put severally, but the bill is dealt with as a whole, and amendments are moved by reference to the page and line to which they relate. If it is desired to leave out a clause, the question put is that the clause stand part of the bill. This question cannot be put after the House has given a decision on that or on any part of that or any subsequent clause. A clause cannot be postponed.

See May, 416-418. Subject to the differences noted above, the procedure with respect to amendments is the same as in committee, except that there are restrictions on the right to speak more than once. *See* § 149. These restrictions are relaxed in the case of a bill which has been considered by a standing committee. *See* S. O. No. 46 (3).

Recommittal of bill.

203. When a bill stands for consideration on report it may, on motion made, be recommitted to a committee of the whole House, or to a standing committee, or to a select committee, either

(a) generally, or

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

(b) with respect to any particular provisions or proposed provisions of the bill.

If a motion to recommit a bill is opposed, the Speaker permits a brief explanatory statement of the reasons for such recommittal from the member who moves and from a member who opposes any such motion respectively, and, without further debate, puts the question thereon.¹

If a bill is recommitted for a limited purpose, the proceedings in committee must be limited to that purpose.²

Subject to any such limitation, the proceedings consequent on any such recommittal are the same as those consequent on the original committal.

A bill may also be similarly recommitted on third reading.³

¹ See S. O. No. 40. This rule, however, does not apply to a motion for limited recommittal. (176 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 1562, 1598. 24 July, 1924.)

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

² See May, 418. Recommittal may be necessary for the purpose of creating a charge or imposing a burden, and may be expedient in other cases. See §§ 201, 221-223.

³ See § 205.

Third Reading.

Appoint-
ment of third
reading after
considera-
tion of amend-
ments.

204. When a bill has been considered as amended it may, on motion made, be read the third time, either forthwith or at some subsequent sitting then appointed.

As to a bill reported without amendment, *see* § 195. The third reading of a bill originating in committee in accordance with § 170 cannot be taken forthwith unless it is a consolidated fund bill or appropriation bill. *See* §§ 195, 215.

Third reading.

205. On the order of the day being read and motion made for the third reading of a bill, the question proposed is "That the bill be now read the third time," and to this question the like amendments may be moved as on the question for the second reading.¹

To this question an amendment may also

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

be moved that the bill be recommitted, either generally or for a limited purpose.²

If on an amendment to the question that a bill be now read the third time it is decided that the word "now," or any words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question, the Speaker must forthwith declare the bill to be read the third time.³

¹ See § 174.

² See § 203. The restrictions on speeches imposed by S. O. No. 40 in regard to a motion for recommitment do not apply to an amendment for recommitment on third reading. See May, 419.

³ See S. O. No. 33.

206. On the third reading of a bill only verbal amendments may be made. Amendments on third reading.

See S. O. No. 42.

207. After the third reading of a bill the title of the bill may, if necessary, be amended for the purpose of making it conform to the contents of the bill. Amendment of title after third reading.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

Motion that
bill do pass
not made.

208. After the third reading of a bill no question is put to the House that the bill do pass.

This question is still put in the House of Lords.

*Sending of Bill to House of Lords, and
consideration of Lords' Amendments.*

Sending of
bill to House
of Lords.

209. When a bill originating in the House of Commons has been passed by the House an order is made that the clerk of the House do carry the bill to the lords and desire their concurrence.

This order is entered, as of course, in the journal. The words *Soit baillé aux seigneurs* are written on the bill as passed, and the clerk of the House then signs the bill, and takes it, with the appropriate message, to the House of Lords. See May, 424, 429, 430.

If the bill is a money bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act, 1911, it must have endorsed on it, when sent up, a certificate by the Speaker that it is a money bill. 1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 1 (3).

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

210. When a bill originating in the House of Commons is agreed to by the House of Lords without amendment, the lords send a message to the House of Commons accordingly.

Messages from House of Lords to House of Commons as to bills brought from Commons.

If such a bill is agreed to by the House of Lords with amendments, the lords return the bill to the House of Commons with a message that the lords have agreed to the bill with some amendments to which they desire the concurrence of the House of Commons.

As to the nature of the amendments which may be made by the lords, *see* §§ 251-254.

211. Amendments made by the House of Lords in a bill sent from the House of Commons are, on the application of the member in charge, set down for consideration on some future day, unless the House orders them to be considered forthwith.

Appointment of time for consideration of lords' amendments.

See S. O. No. 43. If the Speaker is satisfied that the amendments are not substantial and not contentious, a motion for their immediate consideration may, with his consent, be made without notice before the commencement or at the close

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

of public business. Otherwise the consideration of the amendments is set down as an order of the day on a day fixed by the member in charge of the bill.

Procedure on
consideration of
lords' amend-
ments.

212. On the order being read for the consideration of lords' amendments, a motion may be made that the consideration of them be put off for three or six months, or that the bill be laid aside.

Unless an order is made that the consideration of the amendment be put off, or that the bill be laid aside, the clerk at the table reads the amendments, one by one, and unless an amendment be moved a motion is made "That this House doth agree [*or disagree*] with the lords in the said amendment."

When considering lords' amendments an amendment cannot be moved to the bill unless it is consequential upon, or proposed as an alternative to, a lords' amendment.

When the House disagrees to a lords' amendment, a committee is appointed to draw up reasons to be assigned to the lords for the

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

disagreement, and a message communicating the reasons is sent accordingly.

See May, 425. If the lords' amendments are substantial they are printed for the convenience of the House. The position of a lords' amendment is always described with reference to the bill as passed by the House of Commons and first printed by order of the House of Lords.

213. If the House disagrees to any lords' amendment, the lords may return the bill with further amendments consequential on the rejection of their first amendments, or with amendments proposed as alternative to the amendments disagreed to.

Procedure consequential on disagreement to lords' amendments.

If the lords return the bill with a message that they insist on an amendment to which the House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign a reason, the House may:—

- (a) agree with or without amendment to the amendment to which it had previously disagreed, or
- (b) make, if necessary, a consequential amendment to the bill, or
- (c) make an alternative amendment, or

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

- (d) postpone the consideration of the lords' reason for three or six months, or
- (e) discharge the order for the consideration of the lords' reason, and withdraw the bill, or
- (f) order that the lords' amendments be laid aside.

See May, 426-429. As to messages and conferences, *see* § 255.

Bills originating in the House of Lords.

Procedure on bills originating in House of Lords.

214. When a bill originating in the House of Lords is sent down to the House of Commons, it is, on the application of the member who proposes to take charge of it in the House of Commons, read the first time and printed in pursuance of a formal order for that purpose, and is set down for second reading at a time fixed by him.

The subsequent proceedings on the bill correspond to those on a bill originating in the House of Commons.

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

A lords' bill, when brought down, appears at once in the weekly list of public bills, but is not set down for second reading until an application for that purpose is made at the table.

If the lords disagree with an amendment made by the commons in a lords' bill, a message is sent accordingly, and a question may then be proposed to the commons that the House do, or do not, insist on that amendment, or an amendment may be proposed to the amendment to which the lords have disagreed.

Bills of an urgent nature.

215. In cases of special urgency, bills have been passed through several or all of their stages on the same day.

Procedure in cases of special urgency.

But, by usage, the several stages of a bill required to originate in committee must be taken on different days.

See May, 421, 439, 508. The class of bills required to originate in committee is described in § 170. As a general rule the successive stages of a bill are set down for different days, but, as has been observed above, §§ 195, 204, it is not unusual to take the third reading of a bill immediately after the report stage, or, if the bill has not been amended, the committee stage; and,

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

under S. O. No. 70, this may be done in the case of consolidated fund and appropriation bills although they originate in committee.

Provisions requiring Royal Consent.

Provisions
requiring
royal consent.

216. Where any provisions of a bill affect the prerogative of the Crown, or the hereditary revenues of the Crown, or any personal property or interests of the Crown or of the duchy of Cornwall, the consent of the Crown, or, if the case so requires, of the duke of Cornwall, must be signified by a privy councillor before the bill is read the third time, or a minister of the Crown must signify before that stage that the Crown places its interests at the disposal of parliament.

See §§ 259, 281 (18) note, and May, 598, 600.

Royal Assent to Bill.

Procedure for
giving royal
assent to a
bill.

217. The royal assent to a bill may be given by the King in person, but is usually given by commission. In either case the House of

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

Commons is summoned to attend in the House of Lords for the purpose of hearing the royal assent there signified.

See May, 430-435. If a bill is a money bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act, 1911, it must, when presented for the royal assent, have endorsed on it a certificate by the Speaker that it is a money bill. 1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 1 (3). If a bill is presented for the royal assent in pursuance of the provisions of section 2 of the Parliament Act, 1911, it must, when so presented, have endorsed on it a certificate of the Speaker that the provisions of that section have been duly complied with. 1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 2 (2).

Withdrawal of Bill.

218. On the order of the day being read for any stage of a bill, an order may, on the motion of a member in charge of the bill, be made that the order be discharged and the bill be withdrawn. ^{Withdrawal of bill.}

A bill may also be withdrawn by notice given at the table before the day on which the bill stands as an order of the day.

If a bill is not either passed or withdrawn in the course of a session, it lapses at the end of

PUBLIC BILLS—CHAP. IX. *continued.*

the session. Occasionally proceedings on a hybrid bill have been suspended by order of the House, and been continued in the next session. See 186 C. J., 444 ; 187 C. J., 322. See also May, 302.

Temporary Laws.

Temporary laws.

219. The precise duration of every temporary law must be expressed in a distinct clause at the end of the bill.

See S. O. No. 45.

CHAPTER X.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS.

General Rules.

220. The right of granting money in parliament belongs exclusively to the House of Commons. Exclusive right of House of Commons to grant money.

See resolutions of 3 July, 1678, and 6 July, 1860, and § 251.

"The Crown demands money, the commons grant it, and the lords assent to the grant; but the commons do not vote money unless it be required by the Crown; nor do they impose or augment taxes unless such taxation be necessary for the public service as declared by the Crown through its constitutional advisers." *See* May, 493.

See also the Parliament Act, 1911 (1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13), and chap. xviii.

221. The House does not—

(a) receive a petition for any sum relating to the public service, or

(b) proceed upon any motion for a grant

Money not granted except on recommendation of Crown.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of money to be provided by parliament, or

- (c) receive any petition, or proceed upon any motion, for a charge upon the revenue of India ;

except upon the recommendation of the Crown.

These are the rules laid down by S. O.'s Nos. 63 and 67. *See* May, 510, and Walpole's Todd, 2, 187, &c. As to their effect on bills and clauses dealing with public money, *see* § 170. It follows from the principle embodied in these standing orders that the House cannot increase a sum demanded on behalf of the Crown for the service of the state. As to the apparent qualifications of this rule, *see* May, 513-517.

The recommendation of the Crown is signified by a cabinet minister.

As to charges which do not require the recommendation of the Crown, *see* May, 513, &c.

As to the mode of proposing a grant for a memorial to a deceased statesman, *see* May, 517. As to the cases in which the introduction of a bill involving public expenditure, or the making of a motion advocating public expenditure or the

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

imposition of a charge, is possible without the previous recommendation of the Crown, *see* May, 518.

222. The House does not proceed upon—
- (a) any petition, motion, or bill, for granting any money, or for releasing or compounding any sum of money owing to the Crown ; or
- (b) any motion for an address to the Crown praying that any money may be issued, or that any expense may be incurred ;

Money not granted except in committee of whole House.

except in a committee of the whole House.

These are the rules laid down by S. O.'s Nos. 64 and 66. As to their effect on bills and clauses dealing with public money, *see* § 170.

223. If any motion is made in the House for any aid, grant, or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of money to be provided by parliament, or for any charge upon the people, the consideration and debate thereof must not be presently entered upon, but must

Proposal to impose charge must be adjourned and referred to committee.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

be adjourned until such further day as the House thinks fit to appoint, and then must be referred to a committee of the whole House before any resolution or vote passes thereon.

This is the rule laid down by S. O. No. 68. *See* May, 505. The standing order does not apply to charges which do not require the recommendation of the Crown. *See* May, 513. S. O. No. 69, which was passed on 20 February, 1919, and amended in its present form on 21 June, 1922, prescribes the method now generally used in place of the old procedure under S. O. No. 68 ; but it has never been employed in the case of private bills, which require a money resolution. *See* § 170, and also § 232 for the case of exceptional grants.

Procedure for obtaining Supply.

Request from
Crown for
supply.

224. The demand by the Crown for grants of money for the service of each financial year is made in the speech from the throne at the beginning of the session. The King, addressing the commons, demands the annual supply for the public service, and acquaints them that estimates will be laid before them of the amount that will be required.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

See May, 493. The financial year begins on the 1st of April.

225. As soon as practicable after the commencement of the session estimates are presented to the House, showing the amount which will be required for the public service during the next financial year. Supplementary and additional estimates for the current financial year are also, if necessary, presented.

Presentation
of estimates.

See May, 494.

226. The ordinary annual estimates are presented in four parts or divisions, comprising respectively the navy, the army, the air and the civil and revenue departments estimates.

Form of
ordinary
annual
estimates.

Each vote contains, first, a statement of the total grant thereby demanded, and then a statement of the detailed expenditure under each grant, divided into subheads or items.

The treasury are responsible for the form of the estimates. Substantial alterations would probably require the previous approval of the House or a

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

recommendation from the estimates committee, in which the public accounts committee concur. *See* May, 494. The estimates, when presented, are referred to the committee of supply.

Other
estimates.

227. Besides the ordinary annual estimates there may be presented estimates for—

- (1) votes on account ;
- (2) supplementary and additional grants ;
- (3) excess grants ;
- (4) votes of credit ; and
- (5) exceptional grants.

See May, 495-503. May mentions also (p. 503) the incidental charges necessary to carry on the public service (but not of the nature of the annual supplies voted every session), upon a recommendation signified by a minister of the Crown, and which are usually for salaries and other expenses caused by the legislation of the session. These would, if necessary, be met by supplementary or additional grants.

Votes on
account.

228. A vote on account is a grant in advance for the estimated departmental expenditure of the year before complete and detailed sanction has been given to that expenditure.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

See May, 495. It is customary to obtain, before the 31st of March in each year, the grant for the pay and wages of the men in the navy, army, and air force for the ensuing financial year, and to use the money so granted for the general maintenance of the navy, army, and air services respectively, until the grants for those services are completed. No similar arrangement applies to the civil departments, and consequently votes on account are always required to maintain these services during the first part of each financial year. According to established usage, demands for votes on account are restricted to such services as have received the sanction of parliament. Votes on account may also be made necessary by a dissolution of parliament. See May, 498. Under a provision inserted in the Annual Appropriation Act the Admiralty, War Office, and Air Ministry can, with the sanction of the treasury, and subject to confirmation by a provision in a subsequent Appropriation Act, make a temporary application of a surplus on a vote to some other purpose of the department. The latter provision is based upon a resolution passed in committee and agreed to by the House before the committee stage of the Appropriation Bill.

229. An estimate must be presented for a Supplementary or additional grant when—

- (1) the amount named in the ordinary estimates for a particular service is

Supplementary or additional grants.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

found to be insufficient for the purposes of the current year ; or

- (2) a need arises during the current year for expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the ordinary estimates for that year.

See May, 500. These grants include the " estimates supplementary to those of a previous session," " votes for supplementary or additional estimates presented by the government for war expenditure," and " votes for any new service not included in the ordinary estimates for the year," referred to in S. O. No. 14. *See* § 236. As to the limits of discussion on a supplementary estimate, *see* May, 536.

Excess grants.

230. An excess grant is needed when a department has, by means of advances from the civil contingencies fund or the treasury chest fund, or out of funds derived from " extra receipts," or otherwise, spent money on any service during any financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service and for that year.

See May, 501.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

A proposal for an excess grant must be first brought before the committee of public accounts, and then presented to the committee of supply in the form of a resolution which includes all the excess expenditure on the branch of the public service to which the resolution applies. As a rule the grants should be voted, and the money made available, before the end of the current financial year, so that the irregularity may be set right at the earliest possible moment. *See* May, 501.

231. An unexpected demand upon the ^{Votes of credit.} resources of the United Kingdom, *e.g.*, for the defence of the empire, or for a military service, when, on account of the magnitude or indefinite character of the service, the demand cannot be stated with the details given in an ordinary estimate, may be laid before parliament by an application based on an estimate of the total sum required for a vote of credit.

See May, 502. There were several votes of credit during the recent war.

232. An exceptional grant may be ^{Exceptional grants.} required—

- (1) to meet the cost of an imperial under-

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

taking which forms no part of the current service of the year ; or

- (2) for the maintenance of the dignity and well-being of the Crown ; or
- (3) for the reward of men who have rendered distinguished service to the Crown.

See May, 502. The grants for the abolition of slavery, and for the purchase of the Suez Canal shares, belong to the first of these classes. Grants of the second and third class are made in pursuance of a message from the Crown. *See* § 257. A proposal for an exceptional grant is made by a resolution proposed in a committee of the whole House appointed to sit on a future day (*see* § 223) or by reference of the message to the committee of supply, or by the presentation of an estimate. An exceptional grant may be voted either by the committee of the whole House appointed to consider the matter, or wholly or partially by the committee of supply. If the grant is voted in the committee of supply, it is included in the Appropriation Act (*see* § 249) ; if in a special committee, it is authorised by a special Act. *See* May, 502-3.

Appoint-
ment of
committees
of supply
and ways
and means.

233. The committees of supply and ways and means are appointed by the House at the commencement of the session, as soon as

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

an address has been agreed to in answer to the King's speech.

See S. O. No. 13 ; May, 520.

As to re-opening the committee of supply, after it has been closed, see 165 C. J., 302, 18 November, 1910, and 186 C. J., 420, 17 September, 1931. As to re-opening the committee of ways and means, *see* 186 C. J., 407, 8 September, 1931.

These committees are committees of the whole House appointed for the transaction of financial business.

The committee of supply controls the public expenditure by considering the grants of money that will be required for the navy, army, air force, and civil departments for the year, upon the estimates of expenditure presented by the ministers of the Crown.

The committee of ways and means provides the public income raised by the imposition of annual taxation, and votes the resolutions which authorise the issue out of the consolidated fund of the sums required to meet the grants voted by the committee of supply. *See* May, 521.

234. The committees of supply and ways and means may be fixed for any day on which the House meets for despatch of business.

Days for which committees of supply and ways and means may be fixed.

See S. O. No. 15.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

Supply cannot be taken unless "effective notice" has been given, *i.e.*, unless notice of the votes intended to be submitted to the committee appears upon the paper. *See* May, 529. But votes of which public notice has been given have been allowed to be taken although omitted from the paper. When it is intended to take ways and means, notice that resolutions will be moved appears on the paper.

Procedure on
committee
of supply.

235. Whenever the committee of supply stands as an order of the day, the Speaker, on the order being read, leaves the chair, without question put, unless on first going into supply on the navy, army, air, or civil estimates respectively, or on any vote of credit, an amendment is moved or question raised relating to the estimates proposed to be taken in committee of supply.

See S. O. No. 16. The effect of this order is to stop the general discussions which used to take place on the question formerly put whenever supply was an order of the day, that the Speaker do now leave the chair. The only occasions on which such a question can now be put, and therefore on which a debate can now arise, are when the annual estimates of any one of the several classes are first set down for consideration, or

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

when a vote of credit is to be moved, and on these occasions the debate must be confined to the class of estimates of which notice has been given. *See* May, 525.

A motion made on going into committee of supply is technically an amendment to the question that the Speaker do now leave the chair, proposing to leave out certain words from that motion, and substitute others. When the question that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question has been decided in the affirmative, no further amendment can be moved, but discussion can be continued on the main question, *i.e.*, that the Speaker leave the chair. Therefore the subsequent amendments, if any, standing on the paper merely indicate topics of discussion. A member who has given notice of an amendment rises to move when the opportunity occurs. The precedence of such notices is determined by the ballot for notices of motion on going into committee of supply, *see* § 44, and May, 526. On the question that the Speaker leave the chair it is not proper to discuss in detail particular votes to be taken in committee of supply. On 10 April, 1923, the main question was negatived, 178 C. J., 87. A motion that the House would to-morrow resolve itself into the committee of supply was moved on the following day (178 C. J., 88), and the Speaker then ruled that, the first amendment having been disposed of, he would call the second amendment, if it were moved. *See* 162 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 1171-1282.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

Days allotted
for supply.

236.—(1) Twenty days and no more, except as provided below, being days before the 5th of August, must be allotted for the consideration of the annual navy, army, air, and civil estimates, including votes on account.¹ The days allotted do not include any day on which the question has to be put that the Speaker do leave the chair,² or any day on which the business of supply does not stand as first order.

(2) The days occupied by the consideration of estimates supplementary to those of a previous session³ or of any vote of credit,⁴ or of votes for supplementary or additional estimates⁵ presented by the government for war expenditure, or for any new service⁶ not included in the ordinary estimates for the year, may not be included in the computation of the twenty days aforesaid.

(3) On motion made after notice, to be decided without amendment or debate, additional time, not exceeding three days, may be allotted for the purposes aforesaid, either before or after the 5th of August.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

(4) On a day so allotted, no business other than the business of supply⁷ can be taken before eleven,⁸ and no business in committee or proceedings on report of supply can be taken after eleven, whether a general order exempting business from interruption under the standing order (Sittings of the House) is in force or not, unless the House otherwise order on the motion of a minister of the Crown, moved at the commencement of public business, to be decided without amendment or debate.⁹

(5) Of the days so allotted, not more than one day in committee may be allotted to any vote on account, and not more than one day to the report of that vote. At eleven on the close of the day on which the committee on that vote is taken, and of the day on which the report of that vote is taken, the chairman or the Speaker, as the case may be, must forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the vote or the report.

(6) At ten of the clock on the last day but one of the days so allotted the chairman must

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the vote then under consideration, and must then forthwith put the question with respect to each class of the civil estimates, that the total amount of the votes outstanding in that class be granted for the services defined in the class, and must in like manner put severally the questions that the total amounts of the votes outstanding in the navy, the army, the air, and the revenue departments estimates be granted for the services defined in those estimates.

(7) At ten of the clock on the last (not being earlier than the twentieth) of the allotted days, the Speaker must forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the report of the resolution then under consideration and must then forthwith put, with respect to each class of the civil estimates, the question that the House doth agree with the committee in all the outstanding resolutions reported in respect of that class, and must then put a like question with respect to all the resolutions outstanding in the navy, the army, the air,

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

the revenue departments estimates, and other outstanding resolutions¹⁰ severally.

(8) On the days appointed for concluding the business of supply, the consideration of that business may not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment, and no dilatory motion may be moved on proceedings for that business, and the business is not interrupted under any standing order.

(9) Any additional estimate for any new matter not included in the original estimates for the year must be submitted for consideration in the committee of supply on some day not later than two days before the committee is closed.

(10) For the purposes of this order two Fridays are deemed equivalent to a single sitting on any other day.

See S. O. No. 14.

As to procedure where the proceedings in committee of supply are unexpectedly terminated, *see* May, 529.

¹ *See* § 228.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

² See § 235.

³ As to supplementary estimates, see § 229.

⁴ See § 231.

⁵ See § 229.

⁶ This phrase seems to be equivalent to the phrase "new matter" in paragraph (9) of this order. It would apparently include the exceptional grants referred to, May, 502, and some of the supplementary grants referred to, May, 500. See §§ 229, 232.

⁷ "Business of supply" includes, not only the report of supply, but also the business in committee of ways and means and on the report from that committee which is necessary to complete and render effective the grants made in committee of supply. "Business in committee or proceedings on report of supply" means business in committee of supply and proceedings on report of supply, but does not include business in committee of ways and means.

⁸ This prohibition does not exclude private business or a motion for adjournment under S. O. No. 8, or such matters as are dealt with in the ordinary course before the first order of the day is called.

⁹ A motion allowing other business to be taken before eleven on the last of the allotted days, is now considered to be unnecessary.

¹⁰ This would include the exceptional grants referred to, May, 502. See § 232.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

237.—(1) When a motion is made in committee of supply to omit or reduce any item of a vote, a question is proposed from the chair for omitting or reducing that item accordingly, and members must speak to that question only, until it has been disposed of.

Procedure in committee of supply.

(2) When several motions are offered, they must be taken in the order in which the items to which they relate appear in the printed estimates.

(3) After a question has been proposed from the chair for omitting or reducing any items, no motion may be made, or debate allowed, upon any preceding item.

(4) When it has been proposed to omit or reduce items in a vote, the question is afterwards put upon the original vote, or upon the reduced vote, as the case may be.

(5) After a question has been proposed from the chair for a reduction of the whole vote, no motion may be made for omitting or reducing any item.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

These are the rules laid down by the resolutions of 9 February, 1858, and 28 April, 1868. *See* May, 533. As to the notice of the votes to be taken in committee of supply, *see* note on § 234.

When a proposal is made for reducing a grant, the question proposed from the chair is that the smaller sum, to which the proposal would reduce the grant, be granted. But when the proposal is to reduce an item, the question proposed is that the item be reduced by a particular amount. *See* May, 533.

Items of a grant must be dealt with separately, and an amendment including more than one item must be moved as a reduction of the whole grant. *See* May, 534.

The rule (3) prohibiting return in debate to prior items remains in force although the motion on which the question was proposed is withdrawn, and prohibits renewal of discussion on a particular item under cover of discussion of the whole grant. *See* May, 534.

Restrictions
on motions
in committee
of supply.

238. In committee of supply a motion cannot be made—

(a) to increase a grant asked for ; or

(b) to alter the destination of a grant.

See May, 531, 532. The sole function of the committee of supply is to grant, reduce, or refuse the supplies set forth in the estimates. If it is neces-

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

sary to increase a grant, either the estimate for the grant must be withdrawn and a revised estimate presented, or a supplemental or additional estimate must be presented.

The committee of supply can reduce estimates of expenditure, *i.e.*, can refuse to grant as much as the Crown asks for, but cannot reduce or discuss the application of appropriations in aid, these not being sums demanded by the Crown, but sums, actual or estimated, received from other sources.

239. When a resolution passed by the committee of supply is reported to the House, consideration of the report must be set down for a future day. Report of supply.

On the consideration of the report a motion to increase the amount mentioned in the resolution cannot be made.

See May, 547. These rules follow from the principles embodied in S. O.'s Nos. 64 and 66. *See* § 222. A resolution, when reported, has sometimes been recommitted, at the instance of a minister of the Crown. *See* May, 548. As to the procedure on reading the order of the day for consideration of the report, *see* § 69.

240. All money granted in any session for the service of the Crown must, during that session, be appropriated by Act of Parliament Appropriation of supply.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

to some distinct use, to take effect either wholly or partly in the financial year in which the Act is passed.

See May, 503, 542, and the ruling of Mr. Speaker Peel on 24 June, 1890 ; 345 H. D., 3 s., 1802. This is an important constitutional principle, to which effect is given by the annual Appropriation Act. *See* §§ 248, 249. The votes are taken "for services coming in course of payment during the year."

Ways and Means.

Functions
of committee
of ways and
means.

241. The functions of the committee of ways and means are—

- (1) to authorise grants out of the consolidated fund ;
- (2) to consider and vote the taxes necessary for the supplies of the year.

See May, 521, 539-544. The proceeds of all taxes must, unless some statute otherwise provides, be paid into the consolidated fund.

Resolutions
to authorise
grants.

242. For the purpose of authorising grants out of the consolidated fund, a minister of the Crown, in committee of ways and means,

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

moves resolutions in the following form:
“That towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty for the service of the year ending on the 31st of March, 193 , the sum of £ be granted out of the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom.”

See May, 545. The draft on the consolidated fund authorised by any such resolution must not exceed the amount of supply which has been previously granted for the service of the year, and it is the duty of the public bill office, acting on behalf of the Speaker, to ensure compliance with this rule.

243. When the chancellor of the exchequer ^{Resolutions for taxation.} has made his annual financial statement, he moves, in committee of ways and means, the resolutions required for continuing, imposing, or increasing taxes, or otherwise regulating the collection of the revenue.

These resolutions require confirmation by Act of Parliament, but anticipatory effect may be given to such resolutions under the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act, 1913 (3 & 4 Geo. 5, c. 3).

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

See May, 539, 540. The annual financial statement, commonly called "the budget," is generally made in the committee of ways and means.

The consequent resolutions are handed in to the chairman of ways and means before the opening of the budget statement, and one at least of them is usually passed on the same day. This, however, is not necessary except for the purpose of imposing a new tax which has to come into immediate operation.

The legislative authority required to give complete effect to the resolutions is given by the Finance Act of the year. *See* §§ 247, 250. If a resolution to which anticipatory effect has been given is subsequently modified in the progress of the Finance Bill, it may become necessary to make readjustments, and the money collected may have to be returned. *See* 3 and 4 Geo. 5, c. 3, s. 2.

Procedure in
committee of
ways and
means.

244.—(1) The procedure as to amendments in committee of ways and means corresponds to the procedure in ordinary committees of the whole House, and not to the procedure in committee of supply.

(2) In committee of ways and means a proposal to increase the amount proposed to be raised by taxes cannot be made except by a minister of the Crown.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

See May, 543. This follows from the principle that a demand for public money must proceed from the Crown.

245. On the consideration of a resolution reported from the committee of ways and means, no motion involving an increase of taxation can be made, whether by a minister of the Crown or otherwise. If there is to be an increase, there must be a fresh resolution.

See § 223. May, 547.

The proceedings on the report of the committee of ways and means may be entered upon after eleven of the clock though opposed, and are not interrupted under the provisions of S. O. No. 1.

See S. O. No. 1 (6).

246. Resolutions authorising the issue of money out of the consolidated fund reported from the committee of ways and means may be considered forthwith by the House, and the consideration on report and third reading of a bill ordered to be brought in upon such a resolution may be taken forthwith as soon

Proceedings consequent on report.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

as the bill has been reported from the committee of the whole House.

See S. O. No. 70.

Legislation consequent on ways and means resolutions.

247. Resolutions passed by the committee of ways and means, when agreed to by the House, require confirmation by Act of Parliament.

The resolutions authorising grants out of the consolidated fund are confirmed by one or more Consolidated Fund Acts and by the annual Appropriation Act.

The resolutions as to taxes are confirmed by the annual Finance Act.

See May, 550. The introduction of the bills for these purposes is ordered by the House when it has agreed to the necessary resolutions.

Consolidated Fund Acts.

248. The object of a Consolidated Fund Act is to empower the Treasury to receive out of the consolidated fund for the service of the departments for whose use money has been granted such sums as may be required

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

in anticipation of the final sanction given by the Appropriation Act.

See May, 503; the Exchequer and Audit Departments Act, 1866 (29 and 30 Vict., c. 39); and s. 2 of the Public Accounts and Charges Act, 1891 (54 and 55 Vict., c. 24).

In order to meet the financial exigencies of each year the first Consolidated Fund Act must be passed in time to receive the royal assent and to allow of the necessary issues being made before the 1st of April.

Other Consolidated Fund Acts are passed, if and when necessary, during the course of the session.

Each of these Acts, besides authorising grants from the Consolidated Fund, authorises the Banks of England and Ireland, on application of the treasury, to advance to the amount authorised by the Act the sums required for the public service in respect of any services for which grants have been voted during the same session, and authorises the treasury to borrow on treasury bills. *See* May, 553.

249. When all the supply grants necessary for the service of the year have been voted by the committee of supply, a resolution is moved in the committee of ways and means for authorising a grant out of the consolidated ^{Appropriation Act.}

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

fund to provide the balance of money required for the purpose of those grants.

When this resolution has been agreed to on report, the Appropriation Bill for the session is brought in on an order of the House.

This bill

- (1) authorises the issue out of the consolidated fund of the remaining sums necessary for the service of the year ;
- (2) enacts that each grant voted during the session shall be expended upon the service to which it is thereby appropriated in accordance with the terms prescribed by the resolutions voted in the committee of supply ;
and
- (3) ratifies the application of surpluses on votes for the navy, army or air force grants.

See May, 552. The debate on the several stages of the Appropriation Bill (and of any Consolidated Fund Bill) is confined to the official conduct or actions of the persons who receive or administer

FINANCIAL BUSINESS—CHAP. X. *continued.*

the grants specified in the bill. *See* May, 553. Amendments cannot be moved to reduce the amount or alter the destination of any grant. *See* May, 554. As to the ratification of the application of surpluses of navy, army and air force grants, *see* § 228.

250. The legislative provisions required to Finance Act. give effect to the resolutions as to taxation for any financial year are now usually embodied in a single act, called the Finance Act of the year in which it is passed.

This Act now usually contains all the provisions incidental to the financial arrangements for the year. Successive stages of the bill must be taken on separate days. At the report stage no increase of taxation can be proposed, but if it is desired to insert any provision imposing an additional charge on the people, the bill may be recommitted for this purpose. At no stage can any increase of taxation be proposed except by a minister of the Crown.

CHAPTER XI.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
HOUSES.

Privileges of
House of
Commons
with respect
to charges
on the
people.

251. It was resolved by the House of Commons on 3 July, 1678:—

That all aids and supplies to His Majesty are the sole gift of the Commons ;

That all bills for the granting of such aids and supplies ought to begin with the Commons ; and

That it is the undoubted and sole right of the Commons to direct, limit, and appoint in such bills, the ends, purposes, considerations, conditions, limitations, and qualifications of such grants, which ought not to be changed or altered by the House of Lords.

It was resolved by the House of Commons on 6 July, 1860:—

That the right of granting aids and supplies to the Crown is in the

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

Commons alone, as an essential part of their constitution, and the limitation of all such grants, as to the matter, manner, measure, and time ;

That although the Lords have exercised the power of rejecting bills of several descriptions relative to taxation by negating the whole, yet the exercise of that power by them has not been frequent and is justly regarded by this House with peculiar jealousy, as affecting the right of the Commons to grant the supplies and to provide the ways and means for the service of the year ;

That, to guard for the future against an undue exercise of that power by the Lords, and to secure to the Commons their rightful control over taxation and supply, the House has in its own hands the power so to impose and remit taxes, and to frame bills of supply, that the right of the Commons

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

as to the matter, manner, measure, and time may be maintained inviolate.

The practice which has grown up under the resolution of 1678, as emphasised by the resolutions of 1860, is described in May, 564-566. Any infraction of the principles affirmed by that practice is liable to be treated by the Commons as a breach of their privileges.

The main conclusions to be drawn from the course of practice may be stated as follows:—

(1) The Lords ought not to initiate any legislative proposal, embodied in a public bill, and imposing a charge on the people, whether by way of taxes, rates, or otherwise, or regulating the administration or application of money raised by such a charge. *See* the Speaker's ruling on 8 July, 1931, with regard to the Local Government Clerks Bill [*Lords*]. 254 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 2233.

(2) The Lords ought not to amend any such legislative proposal by altering the amount of a charge, or its incidence, duration, mode of assessment, levy, or collection, or the administration or application of money raised by such a charge.

(3) The Lords may, subject to the provisions of the Parliament Act, 1911, reject the whole of a bill embodying any such legislative proposal, or may reject the whole of a set of provisions embodying any such legislative proposal, and

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

forming part of a bill which they are otherwise entitled to amend, when the set of provisions so rejected forms a distinct and separate subject.

(4) Where the Commons assert their privileges in respect of a bill originating in the House of Lords, they resolve that the bill be laid aside, or be postponed for six months or some other period.

(5) When the Commons assert their privileges in respect of an amendment made by the Lords in a bill originating in the Commons, they disagree with the amendment, and send a message to the Lords stating that the amendment would interfere with the public revenue, or affect the levy and application of rates, or alter the area of taxation, or otherwise infringe the privileges of the House, and that the Commons consider it unnecessary on their part to offer any further reason, hoping this reason may be deemed sufficient.

(6) The Commons have, by standing order, waived their privileges in certain classes of cases. *See* §§ 253, 254.

(7) The Commons sometimes waive their privileges in particular cases where the House has not considered it advisable to insist upon them. *See* May, 566. In such cases the Commons justify their action by means of a "special entry" in the journal made by the direction of the Speaker, and explaining the reason for the course adopted.

(8) The Lords have occasionally, after making

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

an amendment which would throw a burden on public funds, qualified the amendment by a proviso that it should not have that effect. Such a proviso prevents the question of privilege being directly raised, but makes the amendment nugatory, and is intended as an invitation to the Commons to strike it out and thus make the imposition of the burden their own act. This course was adopted in the case of the Local Government (Ireland) Bill, 1898, and the Education Bill, 1902. This course was also followed with the Land Drainage (No. 2) Bill, 1930, which originated in the Lords. This bill was to "amend and consolidate the enactments relating to the drainage of land, &c.," and admittedly involved increased expenditure. The Lords inserted in the short title clause a sub-section, "Nothing in this Act shall impose any charge, &c.," with a note that these words were inserted by them to avoid questions of privilege. This sub-section was struck out in the Commons.

(9) The powers of the House of Lords with respect to taxation and supply have now been restricted by s. 1 of the Parliament Act, 1911 (1 & 2 Geo. 5, c. 13), but the Act contains a declaration (s. 6) that "nothing in this Act shall diminish or qualify the existing rights or privileges of the House of Commons."

Procedure
in case of
financial

252. When the Lords wish to indicate that certain financial provisions are required to

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

give effect to legislative proposals made by them, those provisions are printed in special type in the bill sent down by them, but are not supposed to form part of the bill so sent down. They operate merely as suggestions, and must, if adopted by the House of Commons, be voted and passed as proposals originating in that House.

provisions,
originating
in House of
Lords.

It should be noted that in a bill to confirm an agreement, originating in the Lords, where the agreement, set out in the schedule, contains financial provisions, such provisions are printed in ordinary type, and are not regarded as matters involving privilege. See *Bethlem Hospital (Amendment) Bill [Lords], 1931.*

253. With respect to bills brought to the House of Commons from the House of Lords, or returned by the House of Lords to the House of Commons, with amendments, whereby any pecuniary penalty, forfeiture, or fee is authorised, imposed, appropriated, regulated, varied, or extinguished, the House of Commons does not insist on its ancient and undoubted privileges in the following cases:—

Waiver of
privileges with
respect to
penalties,
fees, and
forfeitures.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

- (1) When the object of the pecuniary penalty or forfeiture is to secure the execution of the Act, or the punishment or prevention of offences ;
- (2) Where the fees are imposed in respect of benefit taken or service rendered under the Act, and in order to the execution of the Act, and are not made payable into the Treasury or Exchequer, or in aid of the public revenue, and do not form the ground of public accounting by the parties receiving the same, either in respect of deficit or surplus ;
- (3) When a bill is a private bill for a local or personal Act.

See S. O. No. 44.

Waiver of
privileges with
respect to
tolls and
charges in
private bills.

254. The House of Commons does not insist on its privileges with regard to any clause in private bills, or in bills to conform any provisional orders or provisional certificates, sent down from the House of Lords,

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES—
CHAP. XI. *continued.*

which refer to tolls and charges for services performed, and are not in the nature of a tax, or which refer to rates assessed and levied by local authorities for local purposes.

See S. O. (private business) 245, and May, 690.

255. Communications between the two Houses are ordinarily made by messages, which are usually conveyed by the clerk of the House. Communications between the two Houses.

See May, 587, 588. The commonest form of message is for the purpose of conveying a bill from one House to another. Messages are also sent for requesting the attendance of witnesses, for the interchange of reports and other documents, for the appointment of a joint committee (*see* § 99), and for communicating other matters of an ordinary description which occur in the course of parliamentary proceedings. The practice of sending messages by clerks of the House was introduced by resolution of 24 May, 1855. *See* May, 587. The old practice of holding formal conferences, the procedure at which is described in May, 588, has fallen into desuetude.

CHAPTER XII.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE
CROWN AND THE HOUSE.

Mode of
making com-
munications
from Crown
to House.

256. Communications from the Crown to the House are made—

In the House of Lords, to both Houses—

- (1) by a speech from the throne, delivered either by the King, or by the lord chancellor on his behalf, at the beginning or end of the session ;
- (2) by lords commissioners under the great seal, at any time.

In the House of Commons—

- (1) by a message, under the sign-manual or otherwise ;
- (2) through a minister of the Crown ;
- (3) through a privy councillor.

See May, 596 ; and §§ 4, 7, 8, 217.

Message from
Crown.

257. A message under the sign-manual may be sent for the purpose of announcing

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CROWN AND THE HOUSE—CHAP. XII. *continued.*

some important public event which requires the attention of parliament, or to inform parliament of an emergency which occasions the calling out for service of the territorial and reserve forces, or to request provision for the royal family, or a grant for the reward of persons who have done distinguished service to the empire. The message is brought by a member of the House who is a minister of the Crown. He appears at the bar, informs the Speaker that he has a message from the King to the House, signed by the King himself, and then, on being so desired by the Speaker, brings the message up to the chair and delivers it to the Speaker, who then reads it to the House. Whilst the message is being read members remain uncovered.

Messages not under the sign-manual, and of a less important character, such as replies to ordinary addresses, are brought by a member of the royal household (being a member of the House), who appears at the

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CROWN AND THE HOUSE—CHAP. XII. *continued.*

bar for this purpose, and on being called by the Speaker reads the message at the table.

See May, 503, 596-598, 600.

Communica-
tions through
ministers of
the Crown.

258. Communications of a less formal nature may be made to the House by a minister of the Crown acting on behalf of the Crown.

Thus a minister of the Crown indicates the amount required for the public service by presenting estimates (*see* May, 494) ; signifies the recommendation from the Crown of a motion creating a charge upon the public revenues (May, 505, 509, 516) ; signifies that the Crown places its interest in particular rights or property at the disposal of parliament (May, 600) ; and signifies the permission of the Crown to take proceeding for the election of a Speaker if a vacancy in that office occurs during the continuance of a parliament (May, 157, 598).

Communica-
tions through
privy coun-
cillors.

259. When the consent of the Crown, or of the Duke of Cornwall, is required to any provision of a bill, the consent may be signified by a privy councillor.

See May, 598 ; and §§ 216, 231 (18) note.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE CROWN AND THE HOUSE—CHAP. XII. *continued.*

260. Formal communications from the House to the Crown are made by means of an address to the Crown. ^{Addresses from the House.}

See May, 601. An address may be in reply to a speech from the throne (May, 173), or to a message from the Crown (May, 601), or may originate with the House. The subjects to which addresses may relate are of great variety (May, 603). They may be of a formal or ceremonial character, such as addresses conveying expressions of congratulation or condolence, or may support, recommend, approve, or condemn particular action by the executive. An address praying that money may be issued, or that any expenses may be incurred, must be based on a resolution in committee. *See* S. O. No. 66, and § 222. An address may be presented by the two Houses jointly, but is more often presented by one of the two Houses separately. As to the mode of presenting an address, *see* May, 605. An address from the House of Commons may be presented by the House itself, or by members of the House being privy councillors, or being members of the royal household, or by nominated members, as the House may order. Besides the presentation of an address, other less formal modes of making communications to the Crown are occasionally adopted. *See* May, 606.

CHAPTER XIII.

WITNESSES.

Power of House to summon witness.

261. The House can, by order, require the attendance of a person as a witness, either at the bar of the House or before a select committee.

An order of the House for this purpose is signed by the clerk of the House.

See May, 577, &c. The attendance of a witness at the bar of the House for examination either by the House or by a committee of the whole House is now very rare, and the power of the House to order the attendance of a witness is usually exercised to secure the attendance of a witness who has failed to attend a select committee. Most witnesses attend voluntarily, but a witness often requires a formal order for attendance as a justification for absenting himself from the performance of duties, public or private.

Power of committee to summon witness.

262. When a committee is, by order of the House, invested with power to send for persons, papers, and records, they can summon a witness by an order signed by the chairman of the committee.

WITNESSES—CHAP. XIII. *continued.*

If the witness does not attend in pursuance of the order, the committee report the fact to the House.

See May, 577-578. Committees on private bills are not usually invested with this power, and therefore have to seek the intervention of the House if they cannot otherwise obtain the attendance of a witness.

263. If a person whose attendance is required as a witness is in prison, the Speaker can, in pursuance of an order of the House, issue his warrant to the keeper of the prison, requiring him to bring the prisoner in safe custody in order to his being examined.

Warrant for production of prisoner as witness.

See May, 578.

264. If a person summoned as a witness by the House, or by a committee having power to require the attendance of witnesses, fails to obey the summons, he is liable to the punishment attached to a breach of the privileges of the House.

Punishment for failure to attend as witness.

See May, 577.

WITNESSES—CHAP. XIII. *continued.*

Request for attendance of member as witness.

265. If a select committee desire the attendance of a member as a witness, the chairman of the committee writes and requests him to attend.

See May, 578.

Request for attendance of peer or officer of the House of Lords as witness.

266. If a select committee desire the attendance, as a witness, of a peer or of an officer of the House of Lords, the House, at the request of the committee, sends a message to the House of Lords requesting that leave be given for his attendance.

See May, 579.

Power to administer oaths to witnesses.

267. The House may administer an oath to any witness examined at the bar of the House.

A committee of the House may administer an oath to any witness examined before the committee.

If any person so examined wilfully give false evidence he is liable to the penalties for perjury.

WITNESSES—CHAP. XIII. *continued.*

A person to be so examined may substitute an affirmation for an oath.

An oath or affirmation for the purpose of the examination may be administered by the Speaker, or by a person appointed for that purpose either by him or by any standing order of the House.

These provisions are made by s. 1 of the Parliamentary Witnesses Oaths Act, 1871 (34 and 35 Vict., c. 83). The penalty for perjury is imposed by the Perjury Act, 1911 (1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 6).

268. Any oath taken or affirmation made by a witness before the House, or a committee of the whole House, may be administered by the clerk at the table. Persons authorised to administer oaths.

Any oath taken or affirmation made by a witness before a select committee may be administered by the chairman or by the clerk attending the committee.

These provisions are made by S. O.'s Nos. 85 and 86.

269. If any person threatens or in any way punishes, damnifies, or injures, or Protection of witnesses.

WITNESSES—CHAP. XIII. *continued.*

attempts to punish, damnify, or injure, any person for having given evidence upon any inquiry by any committee of the House, or on account of the evidence which he has given upon any such inquiry, he is liable to fine or imprisonment under the Witnesses (Public Inquiries) Protection Act, 1892.

See 55 and 56 Vict., c. 64. *See also* the usual sessional order as to witnesses, p. 342.

Evidence of proceedings in House not to be given without leave

270. No clerk or officer of the House, or shorthand writer employed to take minutes of evidence before the House or a committee thereof, may give evidence elsewhere in respect of any proceedings or examination held at the bar or before any committee of the House, without the special leave of the House.

See the resolution of 26 May, 1818, and May, 583. Leave is obtained by a petition to the House. Leave may also be given, during a recess by the Speaker, and during a dissolution by the clerk of the House.

CHAPTER XIV.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS.

271. Accounts and papers are presented to the House in pursuance of—

Authority
for presenting
accounts and
papers.

- (1) provisions of an Act of Parliament,
or
- (2) an order of the House, or
- (3) an address to the Crown, or
- (4) the command of the Crown.

These are the usual modes. But there are other modes also, *e.g.*, under some of the standing orders relating to private business.

The papers presented in pursuance of Acts of Parliament are mostly rules and orders, reports, accounts, and other documents, which, under numerous statutory provisions, are required to be laid before parliament.

The House, by means of orders, or of addresses to the Crown, obtains returns supplying information on matters of public interest. If the return relates to a matter connected with the exercise of the royal prerogative, it is obtained by means of an address to the Crown; if not, it is obtained by an order of the House. The general rule is that

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS—CHAP. XIV. *continued.*

information to be obtained from or through any of the revenue departments, any department under the treasury, or any department constituted or regulated by statute, is obtained by means of an order, whilst information to be obtained from or through a secretary of state or the privy council is obtained by means of an address. *See* May, 620, 622. The information sought must relate to a matter of public importance and be obtainable through a public authority. A motion for a return may be opposed on grounds of public policy, such as that the disclosure of the information sought is not in the public interest, or that its supply would involve unreasonable labour or expense. *See* May, 622. If a motion for a return is opposed it must be made at the time set apart for notices of motions. If it is unopposed it may be made either then or at any time before the commencement or after the conclusion of public business, and either by or on behalf of the member in whose name it stands. A return will not be treated as unopposed except on evidence of consent by the department responsible for supplying the information sought.

Papers are frequently presented to parliament by command of the Crown, without any application from either House. Command papers, except estimates, are presented to both Houses.

Papers are usually presented to the House without any formality, by being "laid on the table," that is, in most cases, by being sent to the "Votes and Proceedings" office. Under S. O. No. 93, papers

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS—CHAP. XIV. *continued.*

presented by command may, during the recess, be presented by delivery to the librarian.

Papers presented in pursuance of a statute, or of an order of the House, or of an address to the Crown, are, if of sufficient importance, printed by order of the House, and in accordance with directions given by the Speaker. The order is usually treated as an order of course. For the convenience of members papers which are to be printed should be presented in duplicate.

Many other papers, which are presented in pursuance of a statute, are not printed as parliamentary papers, but as statutory rules and orders, under the direction of the department concerned.

Papers presented by command are printed under the directions of the department from which they issue. There is an exception in the case of the estimates, which are printed by order of the House.

Every paper printed by order of the House bears a distinctive number, and shows on its face the date on which it was ordered to be printed.

Command papers, which show the month in which they were presented, are numbered separately in sequences from 1 to 9999. All papers show the price at which they may be purchased by the public.

The printed accounts and papers are distributed to members of parliament and certain other specified persons and authorities in accordance with

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS—CHAP. XIV. *continued.*

regulations made on the recommendations in a report dated 20 June, 1894, from a select committee appointed to superintend the form and to regulate the distribution of parliamentary papers. The vote office is charged with the distribution of parliamentary papers to members of the House.

The accounts and papers of each session are arranged in volumes after the end of the session, and an index of the whole of the sessional volumes is made. There is also a general index to the accounts and papers for each of the two periods 1801 to 1852, and 1852 to 1899, and for the decades 1900 to 1909, 1910 to 1919, and 1920 to 1928-29.

Papers presented but not printed remain in the custody of the librarian.

A contract requiring confirmation by parliament must be laid on the table and confirmed by a public act. See S. O.'s Nos. 71-73.

For the rule regarding quotations made in the House from a despatch or other state paper by a minister of the Crown, see § 154.

CHAPTER XV.

RECORDS OF THE HOUSE.

272. A short record of the proceedings of the House each day on which it sits is compiled from the notes taken by the clerks at the table, is distributed in a printed form next morning, and is known as the "Votes and Proceedings." ^{"Votes and Proceedings."}

See May, 199, 225.

273. The journal of the House is made up from the "Votes and Proceedings," and is printed at the end of each session. ^{Journal of the House.}

An index, called the sessional index, is appended to the journal of each session, and another index, called the general index, is compiled at intervals of about ten years.

See May, 199. The journals of the House of Commons go back to the first year of Edward VI., 1547. The "Votes and Proceedings" have been printed, with some interruptions since 1680. A King's printer's copy of the journal is admissible as evidence under 8 and 9 Vict., c. 113, s. 3.

RECORDS OF THE HOUSE—CHAP. XV. *continued.*

The printing of the "Votes and Proceedings," the journal and the index, is provided for by a sessional order. See § 8, and pp. 343, 344.

On the journal and index see the memorandum of the librarian, printed as an appendix to the report of the select committee on Publications and Debates, 1915, Q. 321.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Attendance of Members.

274. It is the duty of every member of the House of Commons to attend the service of the House. ^{Duty of member to attend.}

See May, 176.

This duty is declared by two Acts (5 Ric. 2, st. 2, c. 4; 6 Hen. 8, c. 16), which are still unrepealed, and was formerly enforced by forfeiture of wages, call of the House, and in other modes. *See* May, 177. But the wages formerly paid to members ceased in the 17th century, and a call of the House has not been enforced since 1836. Motions for a call of the House have been made on various subsequent occasions, but the order has always been negatived, or, if made, discharged. *See* May, 178.

The duty to attend is recognised by the orders which are occasionally made for granting leave of absence to a member on the ground of illness, domestic affliction, or for some similar reason. *See* May, 179. These orders are made on motion, after notice, and usually before the commencement or after the conclusion of public business. *See* May, 230, 238.

MISCELLANEOUS—CHAP. XVI. *continued.*

Attendance upon the service of parliament includes the obligation to fulfil the duties imposed upon members by the orders and regulations of the House. And, unless leave of absence has been obtained, a member cannot excuse himself from attending a committee when his attendance, as in the case of a private bill committee, is made compulsory by standing or other orders. *See* May, 180.

Salaries.

275. Salaries are now paid to all members, except to the Speaker, the chairman of ways and means, the deputy-chairman, and ministers of the Crown (including under secretaries) who receive official salaries. A member's salary runs from the date of his return, but is not payable until he has taken the oath or made the affirmation required by law. *See* Speaker's ruling of 13 March, 1924. 170 H. C. Deb., 5 s., 2555.

*Duties of Members as to Professional
Advocacy for Reward.*

276. It was resolved by the House on 26 February, 1830, that—It is contrary to the law and usage of parliament, that any

Member not
to advocate
cause for
pecuniary
considera-
tion.

MISCELLANEOUS—CHAP. XVI. *continued.*

member of this House should be permitted to engage, either by himself or any partner, in the management of private bills before this or the other House of Parliament, for pecuniary reward. (85 C. J., 107.)

It was resolved by the House on 22 June, 1858, that—It is contrary to the usage, and derogatory to the dignity of this House, that any of its members should bring forward, promote, or advocate in this House any proceeding or measure in which he may have acted or been concerned, for or in consideration of any pecuniary fee or reward. (113 C. J., 247.)

As to the effect of these resolutions, *see* May, 94, 693, and the debates of 22 June, 1858 (151 H. D. 3 s. 176), and 10 February, 1893 (8 H. C. Deb., 4 s., 1052).



Admission of Strangers.

277. The admission of strangers, during the sittings of the House, to those portions of the House which are not reserved for the

Rules as to
admission
of strangers.

MISCELLANEOUS—CHAP. XVI. *continued.*

exclusive use of members, is in accordance with regulations made by the Speaker.

See May, 202 ; S. O. No. 88 ; and the reports of the select committees of 1888 and 1893 on the House of Commons (Admission of Strangers), and of 1924 on House of Commons (Gallery Accommodation).

Power to order withdrawal of strangers.

278. If at any sitting of the House, or in committee, any member takes notice that strangers are present, the Speaker or the chairman of the committee, as the case may be, must forthwith put the question, "That strangers be ordered to withdraw," without permitting any debate or amendment ; provided that the Speaker or the chairman may, whenever he thinks fit, order the withdrawal of strangers from any part of the House.

This is the rule laid down by S. O. No. 89, which was passed 7 March, 1888. The standing order does not apply to members of the House of Lords. As to the previous practice, *see* May, 203.

Duties and powers of serjeant-at-

279. It is the duty of the serjeant-at-arms to see that strangers do not enter or remain

MISCELLANEOUS—CHAP. XVI. *continued.*

in parts of the House appropriated for the exclusive use of members, do not misconduct themselves in parts of the House to which they are admitted, and withdraw when so ordered ; and he is armed with the requisite powers for this purpose.

arms with
respect to
strangers.

See S. O. No. 87 ; May, 203, and § 30.

CHAPTER XVII.

PRIVATE BILLS.

This manual deals mainly with what is known as the public business of the House, and only incidentally, as in §§ 46, 48, with the procedure on private bills, the distinction between which and public bills has been explained above, § 166. As to the time and mode of dealing with those stages of the proceedings on private bills, including provisional order bills, which have to be taken in the House, *see* § 48. The procedure on private bills is regulated by a separate set of standing orders, forming a special code, and embodying minute and detailed provisions, which cannot conveniently be summarized here. For a full account, *see* May, chapters xxvi-xxxiv. All that is attempted here is to indicate briefly—

- (1) the main stages in the proceedings which precede and follow the introduction of a private bill ;
- (2) the procedure on provisional order bills ;
and
- (3) the main differences between ordinary committees on private bills and select committees on public bills.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.**Parliamentary Agents.*

280. The actual promotion of a private bill, and the conducting of it through its successive stages, is, in practice, almost invariably carried out by parliamentary agents who are said to be the "agents for the bill" or "agents for the promoters." Parliamentary agents.

Stages in Proceedings on Private Bills.

281. The following are the main stages in the proceedings on an ordinary private bill. Stages in proceedings.

(1) Not later than 11th of December certain notices relating to the objects of the bill must be advertised. Preliminary advertisements.

See S. O.'s (private business) 3-12.

(2) On or before the 20th of November plans, sections, and books of reference must, in certain cases, be deposited in the committee and private bill office, with certain local authorities and in other specified places. Deposit of plans, &c.

See S. O.'s (private business) 26-37 and 49-66.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

Notices to
owners, &c.

(3) On or before the 5th of December certain notices must, in most cases, be given to owners and occupiers of lands.

See S. O.'s (private business) 13-25. In certain cases (S. O.'s (private business) 19-21) there are notices which must be given before 11 December.

Deposit of
petition and
bill in private
bill office.

(4) On or before the 27th of November a petition for the bill, with a printed copy of the bill, must be deposited in the committee and private bill office.

See S. O. (private business) 38. Printed copies of certain bills must be deposited in other specified places not later than 4 December.

S. O.'s (private business) 39-41.

Deposit of
estimates, &c.

(5) On or before the 4th of December certain estimates and other particulars must be deposited in the committee and private bill office and in other specified places.

See S. O.'s (private business) 42-47. Certain statements relating to working-class houses must be deposited on or before 11 December (S. O. (private business) 48), and certain money deposits must be made on or before 14 December. S. O. (private business) 68.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

(6) On the 18th of December the examiners of petitions for private bills commence their sittings for the purpose of seeing whether such of the standing orders as are applicable have been complied with in the case of the petitions for the several bills deposited. They certify by endorsement on the petition for each bill whether there has been compliance or not.

Examination of bills with reference to standing orders.

See S. O.'s (private business) 77-86. One of the two examiners of petitions for private bills is appointed by the Speaker, the other by the House of Lords. *See* S. O. (private business) 2 ; and May, 679. Each of them acts for both Houses. The time for presenting memorials alleging non-compliance with standing orders is limited by S. O.'s (private business) 249-251 ; May, 681-687.

(7) If the examiners report non-compliance, their report is referred to the select committee on standing orders (*see* § 103), who report whether compliance should be dispensed with, and, if so, on what conditions.

Reference to select committee on standing orders.

See S. O.'s (private business) 210, 214, 98-104.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

Distribution
of bills
between the
two Houses.

(8) On or before the 8th of January the chairman of committees in the House of Lords, or his counsel, and the chairman of ways and means, or the counsel to Mr. Speaker, meet and determine in which House of Parliament the several private bills are to be first considered.

See S. O. (private business) 87 ; May, 687, 690. Usually both chairmen with their respective counsel attend this meeting.

Deposit of
private bill.

(9) Each bill which is to be introduced in the House of Commons is deposited in the committee and private bill office, and is laid by a clerk of that office on the table of the House.

See S. O. (private business) 209 ; May, 696. The deposit must be made on the day before that fixed for the bill being laid on the table, as to which, *see* next rule.

Presentation
of bill.

(10) If the examiner has endorsed the petition for the bill "standing orders complied with," the bill must be presented by being laid on the table of the House not later than one clear day after the endorsement,

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

or if when it is endorsed the House is not sitting, then not later than one clear day after the first sitting thereof subsequent to the endorsement, and if the House is not sitting on the latest day on which the bill ought to be laid on the table of the House, then the bill must be so laid on the first day on which the House again sits.

If the examiner has reported with respect to the bill that the standing orders have not been complied with, and the report has been referred to the select committee on standing orders, and that committee have reported that the standing orders ought to be dispensed with, the bill must be presented by being laid on the table of the House not later than one clear day after the House has given leave to the parties to proceed with the bill.

See S. O. (private business) 210.

(11) The bill when laid on the table of the House is deemed to have been read the first time on the day on which it is so laid and ordered to be read a second time, and is

First reading
of bill.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

recorded in the " Votes and Proceedings " as having been so read the first time.

See S. O. (private business) 211 ; May, 704. For reference of bills to the examiners after first reading, see S. O.'s (private business) 73, 74, 76, 80, and 206.

Petitions
against bill.

(12) On or before the 30th January, or in certain cases within ten days after a bill has been read the first time, petitions against it, or praying for its amendment, may be presented. If the *locus standi* of any petitioner, *i.e.*, his right to be heard on his petition, is questioned, the question is determined by the court of referees.

As to the mode of and time for presenting petitions against bills, see S. O. (private business) 129 ; May, 737. For the rules as to the form of petitions and as to *locus standi*, see S. O.'s (private business) 128 and 130-142 ; May, 738, 763. As to the court of referees, see S. O.'s (private business) 95-97 ; May, 739-762, 785. A bill is not treated as opposed unless, either a petition against it has been duly presented within the time limited by S. O. (private business) 129 (*see* May, 738), or the chairman of ways and means has reported that it ought to be so treated. S. O.'s (private business) 91, 109, and 226 ; May, 766.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

(13) A private bill is first set down for second reading, and for all subsequent stages in the House, on the day for which notice has been given by the agent in the committee and private bill office.

Notices of stages in the House.

The interval of time between the first reading of a bill and the day on which the bill is first set down for second reading is regulated by S. O. (private business) 220 ; May, 708.

(14) On the day on which a bill is set down for a second reading, a motion is made that the bill be now read a second time.

Second reading of bill.

This motion, as well as the other motions required for subsequent stages of a bill, is in ordinary practice made either by the chairman of ways and means or by the deputy-chairman. Where the second reading of a bill is opposed, *see* § 282. For reference of bills to the examiners after second reading, *see* S. O.'s (private business) 71, 72, 75, and May, 704, 715. For private bills requiring a money resolution *see* S. O. No. 68 and § 223, note.

(15) A private bill, when read a second time and committed, stands referred to the committee of selection which refers unopposed bills to the committee on unopposed bills, and opposed bills to the committees by which

Committal of bill.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

they are to be considered, grouping bills which in its opinion ought to go to the same committee.

See S. O.'s (private business) 224, 105-116.

The interval between the second reading and committee stage of an opposed bill is regulated by S. O. (private business) 228 ; May, 729.

Instructions.

(16) Instructions (*see* § 179), which may be either mandatory or permissive, may be moved in the House to the committee which has to consider the bill, either immediately after the committal of the bill or at any time before the bill has been reported by the committee. (*See* May, 711.) If such instructions are opposed, *see* § 282. An instruction must appear on the notice paper and must be personally moved by one of the members in whose name it stands.

An instruction may be considered independently of the motion for second reading. *See* 184 C. J., 146.

Consideration of bill after committee stage.

(17) If a bill is amended in committee, it is taken into consideration on the day for which such notice has been given by the agents.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

If a bill is not amended in committee, it is set down for third reading.

See S. O. (private business) 230 ; May, 805. As to the interval between report and consideration, see S. O. (private business) 232 ; May, 806. When a bill set down for consideration is reached, if there is no opposition or amendment, it is at once ordered for third reading. In the event of the bill being opposed and being set down for consideration by the chairman of ways and means for 7.30 (see § 282), a debate may arise upon the question "That the bill be now considered," or a motion for recommittal may be made ; May, 804-807. When the bill is taken into consideration amendments and new clauses may be moved, subject to the conditions required by S. O.'s (private business) 93, 233, 234, 261 ; May, 807.

(18) On the day on which a bill is set down Third reading. for third reading a motion is made that the bill be now read the third time.

The procedure is substantially the same as on second reading (*q.v.*), and in cases where the bill is opposed, see § 282. Only verbal amendments can be made on the third reading, but a motion may be made to recommit. See S. O. (private business) 236 ; May, 808. As to provisions requiring the consent of the Crown, and the mode of signifying that consent, see §§ 216, 259.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

Intervals
between
stages.

(19) A private bill must not pass through two stages on the same day without the special leave of the House.

See S. O. (private business) 240 ; May, 810. This order does not apply to provisional order bills. See § 283.

Postpone-
ment in
case of
opposition.

282. If the second or third reading of a private bill or any motion contingent thereon (including an instruction), or the consideration of a private bill as amended in committee, or any proposed clause or amendment, or any motion relating to a private bill, is opposed, it stands postponed either until some future day at the usual time of private business, or until 7.30 on any day not being a Friday, at the discretion of the chairman of ways and means.

Where any such opposed private business is set down by direction of the chairman of ways and means and is disposed of, any motion contingent directly or otherwise thereon may, with the assent of the chair, be considered and disposed of at the same sitting.

See S. O. (private business) 223 ; May, 228, 711.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.**Provisional Order Bills.*

283. Bills to confirm provisional orders are introduced like public bills, but their introduction and subsequent stages in the House take place at the time of private business. After second reading they stand referred to the committee of selection, and are subject to the standing orders which regulate the proceedings on private bills so far as those standing orders are applicable.

See S. O.'s (private business) 159, 225, and May, 229, and chapter xxxi. The regulations of the private business standing orders as to the intervals between successive stages in the House after second reading do not apply to provisional order bills.

Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland).

284. In the case of bills to confirm orders made provisionally under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Acts, 1899 and 1933, an abbreviated procedure is authorised by that Act. Under s. 7 of the Act of

Procedure on
provisional
order bills.

Special pro-
cedure under
Private
Legislation
Procedure
(Scotland)
Acts.

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

1899, in the case of an unopposed order which has not been made the subject of a local inquiry, the confirming bill, after introduction, is deemed to have passed through all its stages up to and including committee, and is ordered to be considered in either House as if reported from a committee.

Under s. 9 of the Act of 1899, in the case of an order, whether opposed or unopposed, which has been made the subject of a local inquiry, a petition may be presented against the order within seven days after the first introduction of the confirming bill into parliament, and notice may then be given in the House in which the confirming bill originated, of a motion to refer the bill to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament. This motion may be made immediately after the second reading of the bill. If the motion is carried, the bill stands referred to a joint committee whose report is laid before both Houses. If, however, such a motion is either not made or not carried in the House in which the confirming bill originated, the bill is deemed

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

to have passed the stage of committee in that House and is ordered to be considered there.

As to procedure in the second House, *see* May, 868, 870 ; and, generally, *see* May, chapter xxxii., 62 and 63 Vict., c. 47 ; 23 and 24 Geo. 5, c. 37, and S. O.'s (private business) 269-279.

Committees on Private Bills.

285. The main differences between ordinary committees on private bills and select committees¹ are:—

Constitution of and procedure in committees on private bills.

- (1) The committee on each opposed bill, or group of opposed bills is constituted by the committee of selection, and consists, in the absence of a special order of the House, of a chairman and three other members.²

Constitution of committee.

The committee on unopposed bills consists of five members, namely, the chairman of ways and means (who, when present is *ex officio* chairman), the deputy-chairman, and three members from time to time selected by the chairman of ways and means from a

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

panel appointed by the committee of selection at the commencement of every session, and the committee has, in addition, the assistance of the counsel to the Speaker. The quorum is three.³

¹ As to select committees, *see* §§ 79, &c.

² *See* S. O.'s (private business) 106, 110, 117 and 119 ; May, 726.

³ *See* S. O. (private business) 111 ; May, 727, 767.

Casting vote.

(2) The chairman of an ordinary committee on a private bill has a vote on every question, and, if the votes are equal, a second or casting vote.

S. O. (private business) 125, and May, 768.

Sittings.

(3) A committee on an opposed private bill must report specially to the House the cause of any adjournment over any day on which the House sits.

See S. O. (private business) 127 ; May, 801.

Attendance.

(4) Every member of a committee on an

PRIVATE BILLS—CHAP. XVII. *continued.*

opposed private bill must attend the sittings of the committee. If he absents himself he may be reported to the House.

S. O.'s (private business) 120 and 123, and *see* § 274, and May, 180, 728.

- (5) Every member of a committee on an ^{Declaration} opposed private bill must, before ^{denying} attending, sign a declaration that his ^{interest.} constituents have no local interest, and that he has no personal interest, in the bill.

S. O. (private business) 118 ; May, 727. On an unopposed private bill, no member of the committee who is locally or otherwise interested may vote. *See* S. O. (private business) 145 ; May, 727. As to committees specially constituted (like the committees on hybrid bills) for the consideration of particular private bills, *see* § 81 ; May, 729.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT
ACT.

Powers of
House of
Lords as to
money bills.

286.—(1) If a money bill, having been passed by the House of Commons, and sent up to the House of Lords at least one month before the end of the session, is not passed by the House of Lords without amendment within one month after it is so sent up to that House, the bill shall, unless the House of Commons direct to the contrary, be presented to His Majesty and become an act of parliament on the royal assent being signified, notwithstanding that the House of Lords have not consented to the bill.

(2) A money bill means a public bill which in the opinion of the Speaker of the House of Commons contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following subjects, namely, the imposition, repeal, remission, alteration, or regulation of taxation ; the imposition for the payment of debt or other

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

financial purposes of charges on the consolidated fund, or on money provided by parliament, or the variation or repeal of any such charges ; supply ; the appropriation, receipt, custody, issue or audit of accounts of public money ; the raising or guarantee of any loan or the repayment thereof ; or subordinate matters incidental to those subjects or any of them. In this sub-section the expression "taxation," "public money," and "loan" respectively do not include any taxation, money, or loan raised by local authorities or bodies for local purposes.

(3) There shall be endorsed on every money bill when it is sent up to the House of Lords and when it is presented to His Majesty for assent the certificate of the Speaker of the House of Commons signed by him that it is a money bill. Before giving his certificate, the Speaker shall consult, if practicable, two members to be appointed from the chairmen's panel at the beginning of each session by the committee of selection.

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

Restriction
of the powers
of the House
of Lords as
to bills other
than money
bills.

287.—(1) If any public bill (other than a money bill or a bill containing any provision to extend the maximum duration of parliament beyond five years) is passed by the House of Commons in three successive sessions (whether of the same parliament or not), and, having been sent up to the House of Lords at least one month before the end of the session, is rejected by the House of Lords in each of those sessions, that bill shall, on its rejection for the third time by the House of Lords, unless the House of Commons direct to the contrary, be presented to His Majesty and become an act of parliament on the royal assent being signified thereto, notwithstanding that the House of Lords have not consented to the bill: Provided that this provision shall not take effect unless two years have elapsed between the date of the second reading in the first of those sessions of the bill in the House of Commons and the date on which it passes the House of Commons in the third of those sessions.

(2) When a bill is presented to His Majesty

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

for assent in pursuance of the provisions of this section, there shall be endorsed on the bill the certificate of the Speaker of the House of Commons signed by him that the provisions of this section have been duly complied with.

(3) A bill shall be deemed to be rejected by the House of Lords if it is not passed by the House of Lords either without amendment or with such amendments only as may be agreed to by both Houses.

(4) A bill shall be deemed to be the same bill as a former bill sent up to the House of Lords in the preceding session if, when it is sent up to the House of Lords, it is identical with the former bill or contains only such alterations as are certified by the Speaker of the House of Commons to be necessary owing to the time which has elapsed since the date of the former bill, or to represent any amendments which have been made by the House of Lords in the former bill in the preceding session, and any amendments which are

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

certified by the Speaker to have been made by the House of Lords in the third session and agreed to by the House of Commons shall be inserted in the bill as presented for royal assent in pursuance of this section:

Provided that the House of Commons may, if they think fit, on the passage of such a bill through the House in the second or third session, suggest any further amendments without inserting the amendments in the bill, and any such suggested amendments shall be considered by the House of Lords, and, if agreed to by that House, shall be treated as amendments made by the House of Lords and agreed to by the House of Commons; but the exercise of this power by the House of Commons shall not affect the operation of this section in the event of the bill being rejected by the House of Lords.

1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 2.

Certificate
of Speaker.

288. Any certificate of the Speaker of the House of Commons given under the Parliament Act, 1911, is conclusive for all purposes,

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

and is not to be questioned in any court of law.

1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 3.

289.—(1) In every bill presented to His Majesty under the Parliament Act, 1911, the words of enactment are to be as follows, that is to say:—

Enacting words.

“ Be it enacted by the King’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Commons in this present parliament assembled, in accordance with the provisions of the Parliament Act, 1911, and by authority of the same, as follows.”

(2) Any alteration of a bill necessary to give effect to this section is not to be deemed to be an amendment of the bill.

1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 4.

290. In the Parliament Act, 1911, the expression “ public bill ” does not include any bill for confirming a provisional order.

Provisional order bills excluded.

1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 5.

PROCEDURE UNDER PARLIAMENT ACT—

CHAP. XVIII. *continued.*

Saving for
existing rights
and privileges
of the House
of Commons.

291. Nothing in the Parliament Act, 1911,
is to diminish or qualify the existing rights
and privileges of the House of Commons.

1 and 2 Geo. 5, c. 13, s. 6. *See* § 251.

As to the effect of the Parliament Act on the
duration of parliament, *see* note to § 5.

APPENDIX.

PART I.

STANDING ORDERS RELATIVE TO PUBLIC BUSINESS.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

					PAGE
<i>Sittings of the House.</i>					
NO.					
1.	Sittings of the House	...	...	...	290
2.	Friday sittings	...	...	...	293
<i>Arrangement of Public Business.</i>					
3.	Precedence of business at different sittings	...			294
4.	Precedence of bills after Whitsuntide	...			296
5.	Period for which notices of motion may be given	...	...	...	296
<i>Private Business.</i>					
6.	Time for taking private business	...	...		297
<i>Questions.</i>					
7.	Questions to members	...	...	...	298
<i>Adjournment on Matter of Public Importance.</i>					
8.	Motion for adjournment on matter of urgent public importance	...	...	...	299
<i>Anticipation.</i>					
9.	Anticipation	...	...	...	300

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

NO.	<i>Bringing in Bills and Nominating Select Committees at Commencement of Public Business.</i>	PAGE
10.	Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business	301
<i>Orders of the Day.</i>		
11.	Orders of the day to be read without question put	301
12.	Order of disposing of orders of the day	302
<i>Supply and Ways and Means.</i>		
13.	Appointment of committees	302
14.	Business of supply	302
15.	Days for committees of supply and ways and means	306
<i>Orders of the Day for Committee.</i>		
16.	When chair to be left without question put	306
<i>Order in the House.</i>		
17.	Order in debate	307
18.	Irrelevance or repetition	309
19.	Disorderly conduct	309
20.	Power of Mr. Speaker to adjourn House or suspend sitting	310
<i>Adjournment and Counting Out.</i>		
21.	Debate on motion for adjournment	310
22.	Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House	311
23.	Adjournment from Friday to Monday	311
24.	Counting out (Fridays)	311
25.	Counting out	312

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

NO.	<i>Closure of Debate.</i>	PAGE
26.	Closure of debate	312
27.	Majority for closure	313

Selection of Amendments.

28.	Selection of amendments	314
-----	--------------------------------	-----

Divisions.

29.	Procedure on divisions	314
30.	Voting of members	315
31.	Division unnecessarily claimed	315

Public Bills.

32.	Presentation or introduction and first reading ...	315
33.	Second and third readings	316
34.	Amendments in committee	316
35.	Postponement of preamble	317
36.	Questions not to be put on blanks	317
37.	Procedure on offer of new clause	317
38.	Report of bill	317
39.	Consideration of bill as amended	318
40.	Recommittal of bill	318
41.	Amendments on report	318
42.	Amendments on third reading	318
43.	Lords' amendments	319
44.	Pecuniary penalties	319
45.	Temporary laws	320

Standing Committees.

46.	Committal of bills	320
47.	Constitution of standing committees	321
48.	Nomination of standing committees	323

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

NO.		PAGE
49.	Chairmen of standing committees	324
50.	Report of bills committed to standing committees	325
<i>Committees of the whole House.</i>		
51.	When chairman leaves chair without question put	325
<i>Sittings of Committees.</i>		
52.	Sittings of committees	325
<i>Select Committees.</i>		
53.	Number	326
54.	Consent of members	326
55.	Notice of names of members	326
56.	Lists of serving members	327
57.	Entry of questions asked	327
58.	Entry on the minutes of proceedings of a committee	327
59.	Entry on the minutes of evidence	327
60.	Quorum	327
61.	Power to report opinion and observations	328
62.	Notice of prayers	328
<i>Public Money.</i>		
63.	Recommendation from Crown when required on application relating to public money	328
64.	Certain proceedings relating to public money to be initiated in committee	329
65.	Restriction on receipt of petitions relating to public money	329
66.	Procedure on address to Crown for issue of public money	329

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

NO.	PAGE
67. Procedure on application for charge on revenues of India	330
68. Procedure on motion for charge on public revenue	330
69. Money committees	330
70. Consolidated fund issues	330
<i>Packet and Telegraphic Contracts.</i>	
71. Contracts to be approved by resolution ...	331
72. Contracts to be laid on table	331
73. Contracts to be confirmed by public act ...	332
<i>Public Accounts.</i>	
74. Committee of public accounts	332
<i>Public Petitions.</i>	
75. Presentation of petitions	333
76. No debate on presentation	333
77. Petition as to present personal grievance ...	333
78. Reference of petitions to committee on public petitions	334
79. Petitions against imposition of a tax	334
<i>Speaker and Deputy-Speaker.</i>	
80. Deputy Speaker and deputy chairman	334
<i>Members.</i>	
81. Seats not to be taken before prayers	336
82. Seats secured at prayers	336
83. Time for taking the oath	336
84. Affirmation in lieu of oath	336

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

NO.	<i>Witnesses.</i>	PAGE
85.	Administration of oath in House	337
86.	Administration of oath in select committee ...	337
<i>Strangers.</i>		
87.	Power of serjeant-at-arms with respect to strangers	337
88.	Places to which strangers are not admitted ...	338
89.	Withdrawal of strangers from House	338
<i>Letters.</i>		
90.	Custody of letters addressed to members ...	339
91.	Directions to officers in charge of letters ...	339
92.	Mode of dealing with letters directed to House...	339
<i>Parliamentary Papers.</i>		
93.	Presentation of command papers	340

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

TABLE SHOWING DATES AT WHICH STANDING ORDERS WERE PASSED AND AMENDED.

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
1	24 February 1888, 2 May 1902, 2 and 3 April 1906, 20 February 1919, 21 December 1927, and 14 November 1933.
2	25 June 1852, 8 April 1902, 3 April 1906, 21 December 1927, and 14 November 1933.
3	21 December 1927, 24 July 1929, and 14 November 1933.
4	29 February 1888 and 14 November 1933.
5	5 August 1853 and 14 November 1933.
6	1 May 1902, 3 April 1906, 21 December 1927, and 14 November 1933.
7	7 March 1888, 29 April 1902, 3 April 1906, 28 September 1915, and 14 November 1933.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
8	27 November 1882, 29 April 1902, 3 April 1906, and 21 December 1927.
9	5 May 1914.
10	7 March 1888 and 2 May 1902.
11	5 August 1853.
12	5 August 1853, 28 February 1888, 7 March 1888, and 14 November 1933.
13	28 July 1870 and 14 November 1933.
14	28 April 1902, 3 April 1906, 13 February 1918, and 14 November 1933.
15	3 May 1861, 2 May 1902, and 14 November 1933.
16	14 November 1933.
17	28 February 1880, 22 November 1882, 7 March 1901, 17 February 1902, and 30 March 1926.
18	27 November 1882 and 28 February 1888.
19	28 February 1888.
20	17 February 1902.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
21	27 November 1882.
22	27 November 1882 and 28 February 1888.
23	3 May 1861 and 14 November 1933.
24	21 December 1927.
25	1 May 1902 and 3 April 1906.
26	18 March 1887, 7 March 1888, 28 July 1909, 20 February 1919, and 14 November 1933.
27	28 February 1888, 28 July 1909, and 20 February 1919.
28	20 February 1919.
29	12 December 1906.
30	12 December 1906.
31	29 February 1888 and 19 February 1919.
32	5 August 1853 and 17 February 1902.
33	20 February 1919.
34	19 July 1854.
35	27 November 1882 and 14 November 1933.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
36	19 July 1854.
37	19 July 1854.
38	5 August 1853.
39	27 November 1882.
40	19 February 1919.
41	28 February 1888.
42	21 July 1856.
43	19 July 1854.
44	24 July 1849.
45	24 July 1849.
46	16 April 1907.
47	7 March 1888, 1 May 1902, 9 April 1906, 16 April 1907, 19 February 1919, 23 February 1926, and 14 November 1933.
48	7 March 1888, 16 April 1907, 19 February 1919, 23 February 1926, and 14 November 1933.
49	7 March 1888, 16 April 1907, and 19 February 1919.
50	7 March 1888 and 2 April 1901.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
51	19 July 1854, 27 November 1882, and 14 November 1933.
52	21 July 1856, 7 March 1888, and 14 November 1933.
53	25 June 1852.
54	25 June 1852.
55	25 June 1852.
56	25 June 1852.
57	25 June 1852.
58	14 November 1933.
59	14 November 1933.
60	25 June 1852.
61	9 August 1875.
62	25 June 1852, 21 July 1856, and 14 November 1933.
63	11 June 1713, 25 June 1852, and 20 March 1866.
64	29 March 1707.
65	25 March 1715.
66	22 February 1821.
67	21 July 1856.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
68	20 March 1866.
69	20 February 1919 and 21 June 1922.
70	20 February 1919.
71	13 July 1869.
72	13 July 1869.
73	13 July 1869.
74	3 April 1862, 28 March 1870, and 14 November 1933.
75	14 April 1842 and 5 August 1853.
76	14 April 1842 and 5 August 1853.
77	14 April 1842 and 5 August 1853.
78	14 April 1842, 5 August 1853, and 14 November 1933.
79	14 April 1842 and 5 August 1853.
80	20 July 1855, 11 February 1902, 28 July 1909, and 14 November 1933.
81	6 April 1835.
82	29 April 1858.
83	30 April 1866.
84	1 July 1880.
85	20 February 1872.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*TABLE SHOWING DATES, &C.—*continued.*

Number of Standing Order.	Dates at which each Standing Order was passed and amended.
86	20 February 1872.
87	5 February 1845 and 14 November 1933.
88	5 February 1845.
89	7 March 1888 and 28 January 1918.
90	25 June 1852 and 14 November 1933.
91	25 June 1852 and 14 November 1933.
92	25 June 1852.
93	14 August 1896.

STANDING ORDERS RELATIVE TO
PUBLIC BUSINESS.*Sittings of the House.*Sittings of
the House.

1.—(1) Unless the House otherwise order, the House shall meet every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at a quarter to three of the clock.

(2) At half-past eleven of the clock Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the House without question put, unless proceedings exempted as hereinafter provided from the operation of this standing order be then under consideration.

(3) At eleven of the clock on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, except as aforesaid, the proceedings on any business then under consideration shall be interrupted ; and, if the House be in committee, the chairman shall leave the chair, and make his report to the House ; and if a motion has been proposed for the adjournment of the House, or of the debate, or in committee that the chairman do report

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

progress, or do leave the chair, every such dilatory motion shall lapse without question put.

(4) Provided always, that on the interruption of business the closure may be moved ; and if moved, or if proceedings under the closure rule be then in progress, Mr. Speaker or the chairman shall not leave the chair until the questions consequent thereon and on any further motion, as provided in the rule " Closure of debate," have been decided.

(5) After the business under consideration at eleven has been disposed of, no opposed business except proceedings exempted as hereinafter provided from the operation of this standing order shall be taken.

(6) The proceedings on a bill originating in committee of ways and means, proceedings made in pursuance of any act of parliament (including proceedings on the Army and Air Force (Annual) Bill), or proceedings in pursuance of any standing order, the proceedings on the reports of the committee of ways and means and of committees authorising the expenditure of public money, except the committee of supply, may be entered upon

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

after eleven of the clock though opposed, shall not be interrupted under the provisions of this standing order, and if under discussion when the business is postponed under the provisions of any standing order may be resumed and proceeded with, though opposed, after the interruption of business.

(7) All business appointed for any sitting, and not disposed of before the termination of the sitting, shall stand over until the next sitting, or until such other sitting on any day on which the House ordinarily sits as the member in charge of the business may appoint.

(8) A motion may be made by a minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, to be decided without amendment or debate to the following effect: " That the proceedings on any specified business be exempted at this day's sitting from the provisions of the standing order ' sittings of the House, ' " and, if such a motion be agreed to, the business so specified shall not be interrupted if it is under discussion at eleven of the clock that night, may be entered upon at any hour although opposed, and, if under

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

discussion when the business is postponed under the provisions of any standing order, may be resumed and proceeded with, though opposed, after the interruption of business.

(9) Provided always, that after any business exempted from the operation of this order is disposed of, the remaining business of the sitting shall be dealt with according to the provisions applicable to business taken after eleven of the clock.

2. The House shall meet every Friday, at eleven of the clock for private business, petitions, orders of the day, and notices of motions. Standing order No. 1 (3) (4) and (7) shall apply to the sittings on Fridays with the substitution of four of the clock for eleven of the clock, and the House shall continue to sit until half-past four of the clock, unless previously adjourned. After the business under consideration at four has been disposed of, no opposed business shall be taken. At the conclusion of business, or at half-past four of the clock precisely, notwithstanding there may be business under discussion, Mr. Speaker shall adjourn the House without putting any question.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Arrangement of Public Business.*

Precedence
of business
at different
sittings.

- 3.—(1) Unless the House otherwise direct—
- (a) Until Easter government business shall have precedence at every sitting except the sitting on Wednesday and the sitting on Friday ; and at the sitting on Wednesday notices of motions and public bills, other than government bills, shall have precedence of government business, and notices of motions shall have precedence of the orders of the day ;
 - (b) After Easter government business shall have precedence at all sittings, except the sittings on the first, second, third and fourth Fridays after Easter Day and the sittings on the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Fridays after Whit Sunday ;
 - (c) At the sittings on Wednesday, when government business has not precedence, Mr. Speaker shall at half-past seven of the clock, if the first motion (other than a motion for the adjournment of the House made after the

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

commencement of public business) has not been disposed of, proceed to interrupt the proceedings thereon, and such business shall be disposed of as if it were business interrupted at eleven of the clock under Standing Order No. 1 ;

- (d) At the sittings on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the House will first proceed with unopposed private business, petitions, motions for unopposed returns, and leave of absence to members, and ballots for notices of motions.

(2) In the case of a session beginning between Easter and Christmas the following modifications of paragraph (1) of this standing order shall have effect:—

- (a) Government business shall have precedence on as many Wednesdays immediately before Good Friday as the number of Wednesdays before Christmas on which it has not had precedence, and on as many Fridays immediately before Good Friday as the number of Fridays (reduced by

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

three) on which it had not precedence before Christmas ;

- (b) After Easter government business shall have precedence at all sittings except the sittings on the second, third, fourth, and fifth Fridays after Easter Day ;
- (c) Standing Order No. 4 shall come into force and have effect after Easter, instead of after Whitsuntide.

Precedence of bills after Whitsuntide.

4. After Whitsuntide, public bills, other than government bills, shall be arranged on the order book so as to give priority to the bills most advanced, and lords' amendments to public bills appointed to be considered shall be placed first, to be followed by third readings, considerations of report not already entered upon, bills in progress in committee, bills appointed for committee, and second readings.

Period for which notices of motion may be given.

5. No notice of motion for a date on which notices are entitled to precedence shall be given for any date beyond the second day on which such notices are entitled to precedence.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Private Business.*

6.—(1) No opposed private business shall be set down for the sittings on Friday.

Time for
taking
private
business.

(2) No private business shall be considered after three of the clock upon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and any business not reached shall stand over to the next sitting.

(3) Any private business entered upon and not disposed of by the time referred to in paragraph (2) of this order, shall be postponed until such time as the chairman of ways and means may determine.

(4) Private business, if so directed by the chairman of ways and means, shall be taken at half-past seven of the clock on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, or as soon thereafter as any motion for the adjournment of the House standing over has been disposed of, provided that such business shall be distributed as near as may be proportionately between the sittings on which government business has precedence and the other sittings.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(5) No opposed private business other than that under consideration shall be taken after half-past nine of the clock.

Questions.

Questions to
members.

7.—(1) Notices of questions shall be given by members in writing to the clerk at the table without reading them *vivâ voce* in the House, unless the consent of Mr. Speaker to any particular question has been previously obtained.

(2) Questions shall be taken on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, after private business has been disposed of, and not later than three of the clock.

(3) No question shall be taken after a quarter before four of the clock, except questions which have not been answered in consequence of the absence of the minister to whom they are addressed, and questions which have not appeared on the paper, but which are of an urgent character, and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of business.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(4) Any member who desires an oral answer to his question may distinguish it by an asterisk, but notice of any such question must appear at latest on the notice paper circulated on the day before that on which an answer is desired.

(5) If any member does not distinguish his question by an asterisk, or if he or any other member deputed by him is not present to ask it, or if it is not reached by a quarter before four of the clock, the minister to whom it is addressed shall cause an answer to be printed in the Official Report of the Parliamentary Debates, unless the member has before questions are disposed of signified his desire to postpone the question.

Adjournment on Matter of Public Importance.

8. No motion for the adjournment of the House shall be made until all the questions asked at the commencement of business on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday have been disposed of, and no such motion shall be made before the orders of the day or

Motion for adjournment on matter of urgent public importance.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

notices of motion have been entered upon, except by leave of the House, unless a member rising in his place shall propose to move the adjournment for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, and not less than forty members shall thereupon rise in their places to support the motion, or unless, if fewer than forty members and not less than ten shall thereupon rise in their places, the House shall, on a division, upon question put forthwith, determine whether such motion shall be made. If the motion is so supported, or the House so determines that it shall be made, it shall stand over until half-past seven on the same day.

*Anticipation.***Anticipation.**

9. In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of *anticipation*, regard shall be had by Mr. Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Bringing in Bills and Nominating Select Committees at Commencement of Public Business.*

10. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and, if set down by the government, on Mondays and Thursdays, motions for leave to bring in bills, and for the nomination of select committees, may be set down for consideration at the commencement of public business. If such motions be opposed, Mr. Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from the member who opposes any such motion respectively, may, without further debate, put the question thereon, or the question, that the debate be now adjourned.

Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business.

Orders of the Day.

11. At the time fixed for the commencement of public business, on days on which orders have precedence of notices of motions, and after the notices of motions have been disposed of, on all other days, Mr. Speaker shall direct the clerk at the table to read the orders of the day, without any question being put.

Orders of the day to be read without question put.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

Order of disposing of orders of the day.

12. The orders of the day shall be disposed of in the order in which they stand upon the paper ; the right being reserved to His Majesty's ministers of arranging government business, whether orders of the day or notices of motions in such order as they may think fit, subject to precedence of private members' business on those days on which such business has precedence.

Supply and Ways and Means.

Appointment of committees.

13. The committees of supply and ways and means shall be appointed by the House at the commencement of every session, so soon as an address has been agreed to, in answer to His Majesty's speech.

Business of supply.

14.—(1) Twenty days and no more (unless as hereinafter provided) being days before the 5th of August, shall be allotted for the consideration of the annual navy, army, air, and civil estimates, including votes on account. The days allotted shall not include any day on which the question has to be put that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair, or any day on

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

which the business of supply does not stand as first order.

(2) Provided that the days occupied by the consideration of estimates supplementary to those of a previous session or of any vote of credit, or of votes for supplementary or additional estimates presented by the government for war expenditure, or for any new service not included in the ordinary estimates for the year, shall not be included in the computation of the twenty days aforesaid.

(3) Provided also that on motion made after notice, to be decided without amendment or debate, additional time, not exceeding three days, may be allotted for the purposes aforesaid, either before or after the 5th of August.

(4) On a day so allotted, no business other than the business of supply shall be taken before eleven, and no business in committee or proceedings on report of supply shall be taken after eleven, whether a general order exempting business from interruption under the standing order (Sittings of the House) is in force or not, unless the House otherwise order on the motion of a minister of the Crown, moved at the commencement of public

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

business, to be decided without amendment or debate.

(5) Of the days so allotted, not more than one day in committee shall be allotted to any vote on account, and not more than one day to the report of that vote. At eleven on the close of the day on which the committee on that vote is taken, and of the day on which the report of that vote is taken, the chairman or Mr. Speaker, as the case may be, shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the vote or the report.

(6) At ten of the clock on the last day but one of the days so allotted the chairman shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the vote then under consideration, and shall then forthwith put the question with respect to each class of the civil estimates that the total amount of the votes outstanding in that class be granted for the services defined in the class, and shall in like manner put severally the questions that the total amounts of the votes outstanding in the navy, the army, the air, and the revenue departments estimates be granted for the services defined in those estimates.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(7) At ten of the clock on the last, not being earlier than the twentieth, of the allotted days, Mr. Speaker shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the report of the resolution then under consideration, and shall then forthwith put, with respect to each class of the civil estimates, the question, that the House doth agree with the committee in all the outstanding resolutions reported in respect of that class, and shall then put a like question with respect to all the resolutions outstanding in the navy, the army, the air, the revenue departments estimates, and other outstanding resolutions severally.

(8) On the days appointed for concluding the business of supply, the consideration of that business shall not be anticipated by a motion of adjournment, and no dilatory motion shall be moved on proceedings for that business and the business shall not be interrupted under any standing order.

(9) Any additional estimate for any new matter not included in the original estimates for the year shall be submitted for consideration in the committee of supply on some day

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

not later than two days before the committee is closed.

(10) For the purposes of this order two Fridays shall be deemed equivalent to a single sitting on any other day.

Days for committees of supply and ways and means.

15. The committees of supply and ways and means may be fixed for any day on which the House shall meet for despatch of business.

Orders of the day for Committee.

When chair to be left without question put.

16. Whenever an order of the day is read for the House to resolve itself into committee Mr. Speaker shall leave the chair without putting any question, and the House shall thereupon resolve itself into such committee, unless notice of an instruction to such committee has been given (when such instruction shall be first disposed of), or unless on first going into committee of supply on the navy, army, air or civil estimates respectively, or on any vote of credit, an amendment be moved or question raised relating to the estimates proposed to be taken in supply.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Order in the House.*

17.—(1) Whenever any member shall have been named by Mr. Speaker, or by the chairman immediately after the commission of the offence of disregarding the authority of the chair, or of abusing the rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business of the House, or otherwise, then, if the offence has been committed by such member in the House, Mr. Speaker shall forthwith put the question, on a motion being made, no amendment, adjournment, or debate being allowed, "That such member be suspended from the service of the House;" and, if the offence has been committed in a committee of the whole House, the chairman shall forthwith suspend the proceedings of the committee and report the circumstance to the House; and Mr. Speaker shall on a motion being made thereupon put the same question, without amendment, adjournment, or debate, as if the offence had been committed in the House itself.

(2) If any member be suspended under this order, his suspension on the first occasion shall

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

continue until the fifth day, and on the second occasion until the twentieth day, on which the House shall sit after the day on which he was suspended, but on any subsequent occasion until the House shall resolve that the suspension of such member do terminate.

(3) Provided always, that suspension from the service of the House shall not exempt the member so suspended from serving on any committee for the consideration of a private bill to which he may have been appointed before his suspension.

(4) Provided also, that not more than one member shall be named at the same time, unless several members, present together, have jointly disregarded the authority of the chair.

(5) Provided also, that if any member, or members acting jointly, who have been suspended under this order from the service of the House, shall refuse to obey the direction of Mr. Speaker, when severally summoned under Mr. Speaker's orders by the serjeant-at-arms to obey such direction, Mr. Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to com-

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

pel obedience to his direction, and the member or members named by him as having refused to obey his direction shall thereupon and without further question put, be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of the session.

(6) Provided always, that nothing in this resolution shall be taken to deprive the House of the power of proceeding against any member according to ancient usages.

18. Mr. Speaker or the chairman, after having called the attention of the House, or of the committee, to the conduct of a member, who persists in irrelevance, or tedious repetition either of his own arguments, or of the arguments used by other members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech.

Irrelevance
or repetition.

19.—(1) Mr. Speaker or the chairman shall order members whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House during the remainder of that day's sitting ; and the serjeant-at-arms shall act on such orders as he may receive from the chair in pursuance of this resolution. But if, on any occasion, Mr. Speaker or the chairman

Disorderly
conduct

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

deems that his powers under this standing order are inadequate, he may name such member or members in pursuance of the standing order "Order in debate," or he may call upon the House to adjudge upon the conduct of such member or members.

(2) Provided always, that members who are ordered to withdraw under this standing order, or who are suspended from the service of the House under the standing order "Order in debate," shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House, subject, however, in the case of such suspended members, to the proviso in that standing order regarding their service on private bill committees.

Power of Mr. Speaker to adjourn House or suspend sitting.

20. In the case of grave disorder arising in the House Mr. Speaker may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the House without question put, or suspend any sitting for a time to be named by him.

Adjournment and Counting Out.

21. When a motion is made for the adjournment of a debate, or of the House during any

Debate on motion for adjournment.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

debate, or that the chairman do report progress, or do leave the chair, the debate thereupon shall be confined to the matter of such motion ; and no member, having moved or seconded any such motion, shall be entitled to move, or second, any similar motion during the same debate.

22. If Mr. Speaker, or the chairman, shall be of opinion that a motion for the adjournment of a debate, or of the House, during any debate, or that the chairman do report progress, or do leave the chair, is an abuse of the rules of the House, he may forthwith put the question thereupon from the chair, or he may decline to propose the question thereupon to the House.

Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House.

23. The House, when it meets on Friday, shall, at its rising, stand adjourned until the following Monday without any question being put, unless the House shall otherwise resolve.

Adjournment from Friday to Monday.

24. On Fridays the House shall stand adjourned if at any time after one of the clock on the House being counted it shall appear that forty members are not present.

Counting out (Fridays).

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

Counting out. 25. The House shall not be counted between a quarter-past eight and a quarter-past nine of the clock, but if on a division taken on any business between a quarter-past eight and a quarter-past nine of the clock it appears that forty members are not present, the business shall stand over until the next sitting of the House, and the next business shall be taken.

Closure of Debate.

Closure of
debate.

26.—(1) After a question has been proposed a member rising in his place may claim to move, "That the question be now put," and, unless it shall appear to the chair that such motion is an abuse of the rules of the House, or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the question, "That the question be now put," shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate.

(2) When the motion "That the question be now put" has been carried, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, any further motion may be made (the assent of the chair, as aforesaid, not having been withheld) which may be requisite to bring

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

to a decision any question already proposed from the chair.

(3) When a clause is under consideration, a motion may be made (the assent of the chair, as aforesaid, not having been withheld), that the question, that certain words of the clause defined in a motion stand part of the clause, or that the clause stand part of, or be added to, the bill, be now put.

(4) Such motions shall be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate.

(5) Provided always that this rule shall be put in force only when Mr. Speaker or, in committee, the chairman of ways and means or deputy chairman is in the chair.

27. Questions for the closure of debate under standing order "Closure of debate" shall be decided in the affirmative, if, when a division be taken, it appears by the numbers declared from the chair, that not less than one hundred members voted in the majority in support of the motion. ^{Majority for closure.}

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Selection of Amendments.*

Selection of
amend-
ments.

28. In respect of any motion, or in respect of any bill under consideration either in committee of the whole House or on report, Mr. Speaker, or in committee the chairman of ways and means, and the deputy-chairman, shall have power to select the new clauses or amendments to be proposed, and may, if he thinks fit, call upon any member who has given notice of an amendment to give such explanation of the object of the amendment as may enable him to form a judgment upon it.

Divisions.

Procedure
on divisions.

29.—(1) If the opinion of Mr. Speaker or the chairman as to the decision of a question is challenged he shall direct that the lobby be cleared.

(2) After the lapse of two minutes from this direction he shall put the question again, and, if his opinion is again challenged, he shall announce the names of tellers.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(3) After the lapse of six minutes from this direction he shall direct that the doors giving access to the division lobbies be locked.

30.—(1) A member may vote in a division although he did not hear the question put. Voting of members.

(2) A member is not obliged to vote.

31. Mr. Speaker or the chairman may, after the lapse of two minutes, if in his opinion the division is unnecessarily claimed, take the vote of the House, or committee, by calling upon the members who support, and who challenge his decision, successively to rise in their places ; and he shall thereupon, as he thinks fit, either declare the determination of the House or committee, or name tellers for a division. Division unnecessarily claimed.

Public Bills.

32.—(1) When any bill shall be presented by a member, in pursuance of an order of this House, or shall be brought from the Lords, the questions " That this bill be now read a first time," and " That this bill be printed," Presentation or introduction and first reading.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

shall be decided without amendment or debate.

(2) A member may, if he thinks fit, after notice, present a bill without an order of the House for its introduction ; and when a bill is so presented, the title of the bill shall be read by the clerk at the table, and the bill shall then be deemed to have been read a first time, and shall be printed.

Second and
third readings.

33. If on an amendment to the question that a bill be now read a second time or the third time it is decided that the word " now " or any words proposed to be left out stand part of the question, Mr. Speaker shall forthwith declare the bill to be read a second or the third time as the case may be.

Amend-
ments in
committee.

34. It shall be an instruction to all committees to which bills may be committed, that they have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided they be relevant to the subject matter of the bill ; but that if any such amendment shall not be within the title of the bill, they do amend the title accordingly, and do report the same specially to the House.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

35. In committee on a bill, the preamble shall stand postponed without question put until after the consideration of the clauses and schedules, if any. Postponement of preamble.

36. In going through a bill no questions shall be put for the filling up words already printed in *italics*, and commonly called blanks, unless exception be taken thereto ; and if no alterations have been made in the words so printed in *italics*, the bill shall be reported without amendment, unless other amendments have been made thereto. Questions not to be put on blanks.

37. On a clause being offered in the committee on the bill, or on the consideration of report of a bill, Mr. Speaker or the chairman shall desire the member to bring up the same, whereupon it shall be read a first time without question put, but no clause shall be offered on consideration of report without notice. Procedure on offer of new clause.

38. At the close of the proceedings of a committee of the whole House on a bill, the chairman shall report the bill forthwith to the House, and when amendments shall have been made thereto, the same shall be received, Report of bill.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

without debate, and a time appointed for taking the same into consideration.

Consideration of bill as amended.

39. When the order of the day for the consideration of a bill, as amended in the committee of the whole House, has been read, the House shall proceed to consider the same without question put, unless the member in charge thereof shall desire to postpone its consideration, or a motion shall be made to recommit the bill.

Recommittal of bill.

40. If a motion to recommit a bill be opposed, Mr. Speaker shall permit a brief explanatory statement of the reasons for such recommittal from the member who moves and from a member who opposes any such motion respectively, and shall without further debate put the question thereon.

Amendments on report.

41. Upon the report stage of any bill no amendment which could not have been proposed in committee without an instruction from the House may be proposed.

Amendments on third reading.

42. No amendments, not being merely verbal, shall be made to any bill on the third reading.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

43. Lords' amendments to public bills shall be appointed to be considered on a future day, unless the House shall order them to be considered forthwith. Lords' amendments.

44. With respect to any bill brought to this House from the House of Lords, or returned by the House of Lords to this House, with amendments, whereby any pecuniary penalty, forfeiture, or fee shall be authorised, imposed, appropriated, regulated, varied, or extinguished, this House will not insist on its ancient and undoubted privileges in the following cases:— Pecuniary penalties.

- (1) When the object of such pecuniary penalty or forfeiture is to secure the execution of the act, or the punishment or prevention of offences.
- (2) Where such fees are imposed in respect of benefit taken or service rendered under the act, and in order to the execution of the act, and are not made payable into the treasury or exchequer, or in aid of the public revenue, and do not form the ground of public accounting by the parties receiving

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

the same, either in respect of deficit or surplus.

- (3) When such bill shall be a private bill for a local or personal act.

Temporary laws.

45. The precise duration of every temporary law shall be expressed in a distinct clause at the end of the bill.

Standing Committees.

Committal of bills.

46.—(1) When a bill has been read a second time it shall stand committed to one of the standing committees, unless the House, on motion to be decided without amendment or debate, otherwise order ; and such a motion shall not require notice, must be made immediately after the bill is read a second time, may be made by any member, and may, though opposed, be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business. But this order shall not apply to—

- (a) bills for imposing taxes or consolidated fund or appropriation bills ;
or
(b) bills for confirming provisional orders.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(2) Provided that the House may, on motion made by the member in charge of a bill, commit the bill to a standing committee in respect of some of its provisions, and to a committee of the whole House in respect to other provisions, and that if such a motion is opposed Mr. Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who makes and from the member who opposes the motion, shall without further debate put the question thereon.

(3) Where a bill has been committed to a standing committee, or has been so committed in respect of any provision, then, at the report stage of the bill or provision, the rule against speaking more than once shall not apply to the member in charge of the bill or to the mover of any amendment or new clause in respect of that amendment or clause.

47.—(1) Not more than five standing committees shall be appointed for the consideration of bills or other business referred to a standing committee, and the procedure in those committees shall be the same as in a select committee unless the House otherwise order. On a division being called in the

Constitution
of standing
committees.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

House, the chairman of a standing committee shall suspend the proceedings in the committee for such time as will, in his opinion, enable members to vote in the division. Any notice of amendment to a bill which has been committed to a standing committee shall stand referred to the standing committee. The quorum of a standing committee shall be twenty. Strangers shall be admitted to a standing committee except when the committee shall order them to withdraw.

(2) One of the standing committees shall be appointed for the consideration of all public bills relating exclusively to Scotland and committed to a standing committee, and shall consist of all the members representing Scottish constituencies, together with not less than ten nor more than fifteen other members to be nominated in respect of any bill by the committee of selection, who shall have regard in such nomination to the approximation of the balance of parties in the committee to that in the whole House, and shall have power from time to time to discharge, for non-attendance or at their own request, the members so nominated by them, and to appoint others in substitution for those discharged.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

(3) Subject as aforesaid the bills committed to a standing committee shall be distributed among the committees by Mr. Speaker.

(4) In all but one of the standing committees government bills shall have precedence.

(5) Standing order No. 18 (as to irrelevance and repetition) and standing orders Nos. 26 (1), (2), (3) and (4) and 27 (as to closure) shall apply to standing committees, with the substitution in standing order No. 26 of the chairman of the committee for the chair, and, in standing order No. 27 of 20 for 100 as the number necessary to render the majority effective for the closure, and the chairman of a standing committee shall have the like powers as the chairman has under standing order No. 22 (as to dilatory motions).

(6) All standing committees shall have leave to print and circulate with the "Votes" the minutes of their proceedings and any amended clauses of bills committed to them.

48. Each of the said standing committees shall consist of not less than thirty nor more than fifty members, to be nominated by the

Nomination
of standing
committees.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

committee of selection, who shall have regard to the composition of the House ; and shall have power to discharge members from time to time, for non-attendance or at their own request, and to appoint others in substitution for those discharged. Provided that, for the consideration of all public bills relating exclusively to Wales and Monmouthshire, the committee shall be so constituted as to comprise all members sitting for constituencies in Wales and Monmouthshire. The committee of selection shall also have power to add not less than ten nor more than thirty-five members to a standing committee in respect of any bill referred to it, to serve on the committee during the consideration of such bill, and in adding such members shall have regard to their qualifications. Provided that this order shall not apply to the standing committee on Scottish bills.

Chairmen of
standing
committees.

49. The committee of selection shall nominate a chairmen's panel to consist of not less than eight nor more than twelve members, of whom three shall be a quorum ; and the chairmen's panel shall appoint from among themselves the chairman of each standing

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

committee, and may change the chairman so appointed from time to time.

50. All bills which shall have been committed to one of the said standing committees shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a committee of the whole House: Provided only that all bills reported from a standing committee, whether amended or not, shall be considered on report by the House without question put, unless the member in charge thereof desire to postpone its consideration, or a motion be made to recommit the bill.

Report of bills committed to standing committees.

Committees of the Whole House.

51. When the chairman has been ordered to make a report to the House, he shall leave the chair without question put. Every such report shall be brought up without question put.

When chairman leaves chair without question put.

Sittings of Committees.

52. All committees shall have leave to sit, during the sitting of the House and notwith-

Sittings of committees.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

standing any adjournment of the House on any day on which the House has sat.

Select Committees.

Number.

53. No select committee shall, without leave of the House, consist of more than fifteen members ; such leave shall not be moved for without notice ; and in the case of members proposed to be added or substituted, after the first appointment of the committee, the notice shall include the names of the members proposed to be added or substituted.

Consent of members.

54. Every member intending to move for the appointment of a select committee shall endeavour to ascertain previously whether each member proposed to be named by him on such committee will give his attendance thereupon.

Notice of names of members.

55. Every member intending to move for the appointment of a select committee shall, one day next before the nomination of such committee, place on the notices the names of the members intended to be proposed by him to be members of such committee.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

56. Lists shall be affixed in some conspicuous place in the committee office and in the lobby of the House of all members serving on each select committee. Lists of serving members.

57. To every question asked of a witness under examination in the proceedings of any select committee there shall be prefixed in the minutes of the evidence the name of the member asking such question. Entry of questions asked.

58. The names of the members present each day at the sitting of any select committee, and in the event of any division taking place, the question proposed, the name of the proposer and the respective votes thereupon of the members present, shall be entered on the minutes of the proceedings of the committee, and such minutes of proceedings shall be reported to the House. Entry on the minutes of proceedings of a committee.

59. The names of members present each day at the sitting of any select committee shall be entered on the minutes of evidence, if any. Entry on the minutes of evidence.

60. If, at any time during the sitting of a select committee of this House the quorum of members fixed by the House shall not be Quorum.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

present, the clerk of the committee shall call the attention of the chairman to the fact, who shall thereupon suspend the proceedings of the committee until a quorum be present, or adjourn the committee to some future day.

Power to report opinion and observations.

61. Every select committee having power to send for persons, papers, and records, shall have leave to report their opinion and observations, together with the minutes of evidence taken before them, to the House, and also to make a special report of any matters which they may think fit to bring to the notice of the House.

Notice of prayers.

62. The serjeant-at-arms attending this House shall, from time to time, when the House is going to prayers, give notice thereof to all committees.

Public Money.

Recommendation from Crown when required on application relating to public money.

63. This House will receive no petition for any sum relating to public service or proceed upon any motion for a grant or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of money

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

to be provided by parliament, unless recommended from the Crown.

64. This House will not proceed upon any petition, motion, or bill, for granting any money, or for releasing or compounding any sum of money owing, to the Crown, but in a committee of the whole House.

Certain proceedings relating to public money to be initiated in committee.

65. This House will not receive any petition for compounding any sum of money owing to the Crown, upon any branch of the revenue, without a certificate from the proper officer or officers annexed to the said petition, stating the debt, what prosecutions have been made for the recovery of such debt, and setting forth how much the petitioner and his security are able to satisfy thereof.

Restriction on receipt of petitions relating to public money.

66. This House will not proceed upon any motion for an address to the Crown, praying that any money may be issued, or that any expense may be incurred, but in a committee of the whole House.

Procedure on address to Crown for issue of public money.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

67. This House will not receive any petition or proceed upon any motion for a charge upon the revenues of India, but what is recommended by the Crown.

68. If any motion be made in the House for any aid, grant, or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the consolidated fund or out of money to be provided by parliament, or for any charge upon the people, the consideration and debate thereof shall not be presently entered upon, but shall be adjourned till such further day as the House shall think fit to appoint, and then it shall be referred to a committee of the whole House before any resolution or vote of the House do pass therein.

69. When notice has been given of a resolution authorising expenditure in connection with a bill, the House may if the recommendation of the Crown is signified thereto, at any time after such notice appears on the paper resolve itself into committee to consider the resolution.

70. A resolution authorising the issue of money out of the consolidated fund reported

Procedure on application for charge on revenues of India.

Procedure on motion for charge on public revenue.

Money committees.

Consolidated fund issues.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

from the committee of ways and means may be considered forthwith by the House, and the consideration on report and third reading of a bill ordered to be brought in upon such a resolution or resolutions may be taken forthwith as soon as the bill has been reported from committee of the whole House.

Packet and Telegraphic Contracts.

71. In all contracts extending over a period of years, and creating a public charge, actual or prospective, entered into by the government for the conveyance of mails by sea, or for the purpose of telegraphic communications beyond sea, there should be inserted the condition that the contract shall not be binding until it has been approved of by a resolution of the House.

Contracts to be approved by resolution.

72. Every such contract, when executed, shall forthwith, if parliament be then sitting, or if parliament be not then sitting, within fourteen days after it assembles, be laid upon the table of the House, accompanied by a minute of the lords of the treasury, setting

Contracts to be laid on table.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

forth the grounds on which they have proceeded in authorising it.

73. In cases where any such contract requires to be confirmed by act of parliament, the bill for that purpose shall not be introduced and dealt with as a private bill, and power to the government to enter into agreements by which obligations as a public charge shall be undertaken shall not be given in any private act.

Public Accounts.

74. There shall be a committee, to be designated "the committee of public accounts," for the examination of the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by parliament to meet the public expenditure, to consist of not more than fifteen members, who shall be nominated at the commencement of every session, and of whom five shall be a quorum. The Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to report from time to time.

Contracts to be confirmed by public act.

Committee of public accounts.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.**Public Petitions.*

75. Every member offering to present a ^{Presenta-} petition to the House, not being a petition for ^{tion of} a private bill or relating to a private bill ^{petitions.} before the House, shall confine himself to a statement of the parties from whom it comes, of the number of signatures attached to it, and of the material allegations contained in it, and to the reading of the prayer of such petition.

76. Every such petition not containing ^{No debate} matter in breach of the privileges of this ^{on presenta-} House, and which according to the rules or ^{tion.} usual practice of this House, can be received, shall be brought to the table by the direction of Mr. Speaker, who shall not allow any debate or any member to speak upon, or in relation to such petition ; but it may be read by the clerk at the table, if required.

77. In the case of such petition complaining ^{Petition as} of some present personal grievance, for which ^{to present} there may be an urgent necessity for providing ^{personal} an immediate remedy, the matter contained ^{grievance.}

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

in such petition may be brought into discussion on the presentation thereof.

Reference of petitions to committee on public petitions.

78. All other such petitions, after they shall have been ordered to lie on the table, shall be referred without any question being put to a committee to be designated the committee on public petitions ; but if any such petition relate to any matter or subject with respect to which the member presenting it has given notice of a motion, and the said petition has not been ordered to be printed by the committee, such member may, after notice given, move that such petition be printed with the " Votes."

Petitions against imposition of a tax.

79. Subject to the above regulations, petitions against any resolution or bill imposing a tax or duty for the current service of the year shall be henceforth received, and the usage under which the House has refused to entertain such petitions shall be discontinued.

Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

Deputy-Speaker and deputy-chairman.

80.—(1) Whenever the House shall be informed by the clerk at the table of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, the chair-

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

man of ways and means shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of Speaker in relation to all proceedings of this House, as Deputy Speaker, until the next meeting of the House, and so on from day to day, on the like information being given to the House, until the House shall otherwise order: provided that if the House shall adjourn for more than twenty-four hours the Deputy Speaker shall continue to perform the duties and exercise the authority of Speaker for twenty-four hours only after such adjournment.

(2) At the commencement of every parliament, or from time to time, as necessity may arise, the House may appoint a deputy chairman, who shall be entitled to exercise all the powers vested in the chairman of ways and means, including his powers as Deputy Speaker.

(3) Provided also that the chairman of ways and means or deputy-chairman do take the chair as Deputy Speaker, when requested so to do by Mr. Speaker, without any formal communication to the House; and that Mr. Speaker shall nominate, at the commencement of every session, a panel of not more than

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

five members to act as temporary chairmen of committees, when requested by the chairman of ways and means.

Members.

Seats not to be taken before prayers.

81. No member's name shall be affixed to any seat in the House before the hour of prayers ; and Mr. Speaker shall give directions to the doorkeepers accordingly.

Seats secured at prayers.

82. Any member having secured a seat at prayers shall be entitled to retain the same until the rising of the House.

Time for taking the oath.

83. Members may take and subscribe the oath required by law at any time during the sitting of the House, before the orders of the day and notices of motions have been entered upon, or after they have been disposed of ; but no debate or business shall be interrupted for that purpose.

Affirmation in lieu of oath.

84. Every person returned as a member of this House, who may claim to be a person for the time being by law permitted to make a solemn affirmation or declaration instead

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

of taking an oath, shall henceforth (notwithstanding so much of the resolution adopted by this House on the 22nd day of June, 1880, as relates to affirmation) be permitted, without question, to make and subscribe a solemn affirmation in the form prescribed by the Parliamentary Oaths Act, 1866, as altered by the Promissory Oaths Act, 1868, subject to any liability by statute.

Witnesses.

85. Any oath or affirmation taken or made by any witness before the House, or a committee of the whole House, may be administered by the clerk at the table.

Adminis-
tration of
oath in
House.

86. Any oath or affirmation taken or made by any witness before a select committee may be administered by the chairman, or by the clerk attending such committee.

Adminis-
tration of
oath in
select
committee.

Strangers.

87. The serjeant-at-arms attending this House shall, from time to time, take into his custody any stranger whom he may see, or

Power of
serjeant-at-
arms with
respect to
strangers.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

who may be reported to him to be, in any part of the House or gallery appropriated to the members of this House, and also any stranger who, having been admitted into any other part of the House or gallery, shall misconduct himself, or shall not withdraw when strangers are directed to withdraw, while the House, or any committee of the whole House, is sitting.

Places to which strangers are not admitted.

88. No member of this House shall presume to bring any stranger into any part of the House or gallery appropriated to the members of this House while the House, or a committee of the whole House, is sitting.

Withdrawal of strangers from House.

89. If at any sitting of the House, or in committee, any member shall take notice that strangers are present, Mr. Speaker, or the chairman (as the case may be), shall forthwith put the question, "That strangers be ordered to withdraw," without permitting any debate or amendment: provided that Mr. Speaker, or the chairman, may, whenever he thinks fit, order the withdrawal of strangers from any part of the House. Provided that any order made under this

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

standing order shall not apply to members of the House of Lords.

Letters.

90. To prevent the intercepting or losing of letters directed to members of this House, the postmaster of the House or other persons appointed by the Postmaster-General shall attend daily (Sundays excepted) for the delivery and re-direction of all letters arriving in course of post and shall take care, during their stay there, to deliver the same to the several members to whom they shall be directed, or to their known servant or servants, or other persons bringing notes under the hands of the members sending for the same.

Custody of letters addressed to members.

91. The said officers shall, upon their going away, lock up such letters as shall remain undelivered.

Directions to officers in charge of letters.

92. When any letter or packet directed to this House shall come to Mr. Speaker, he shall open the same ; and acquaint the House,

Mode of dealing with letters directed to House.

PART I.—STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

at its next sitting, with the contents thereof, if proper to be communicated to this House.

Parliamentary Papers.

Presentation
of command
papers.

93. If, during the existence of a parliament, papers are commanded to be presented to this House by His Majesty at any time, the delivery of such papers to the librarian of the House of Commons shall be deemed to be for all purposes the presentation of them to this House.

PART II.

SESSIONAL ORDERS AND
RESOLUTIONS.*

Elections,—*Ordered*, That all members ^{21 Nov. 1933.} who are returned for two or more places in any part of the United Kingdom do make their election for which of the places they will serve, within one week after it shall appear that there is no question upon the return for that place ; and if any thing shall come in question touching the return or election of any member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate ; and that all members returned upon double returns do withdraw till their returns are determined.

Resolved, That no peer of the realm, except such peers of Ireland as shall for the

* The sessional orders printed here are orders which are customarily made at the beginning of each session. As to the distinction between standing and sessional orders, see May, 150.

PART II.—SESSIONAL ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS—
continued.

time being be actually elected, and shall not have declined to serve, for any county, city, or borough of Great Britain, hath any right to give his vote in the election of any member to serve in parliament.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a member of this House, or endeavoured so to be, by bribery, or any other corrupt practices this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

21 Nov. 1933.

Witnesses,—*Resolved*, That if it shall appear that any person hath been tampering with any witness, in respect of his evidence to be given to this House, or any committee thereof, or directly or indirectly hath endeavoured to deter or hinder any person from appearing or giving evidence, the same is declared to be a high crime or misdemeanour; and this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath given false evidence in any case

PART II.—SESSIONAL ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS—
continued.

before this House, or any committee thereof, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.

Metropolitan Police,—*Ordered*, That the 21 Nov. 1933. commissioner of the police of the metropolis do take care that during the session of parliament the passages through the streets leading to this House be kept free and open and that no obstruction be permitted to hinder the passage of members to and from this House, and that no disorder be allowed in Westminster Hall, or in the passages leading to this House, during the sitting of parliament, and that there be no annoyance therein or thereabouts ; and that the serjeant-at-arms attending this House do communicate this order to the commissioner aforesaid.

“ Votes and Proceedings,”—*Ordered*, That 21 Nov. 1933. the “ Votes and Proceedings ” of this House be printed being first perused by Mr. Speaker ; and that he do appoint the printing thereof ; and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

PART II.—SESSIONAL ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS—
continued.

21 Nov. 1933. Privileges,—*Ordered*, That a committee of privileges be appointed.

21 Nov. 1933. Journal,—*Ordered*, That the journal of this House, from the end of the last session to the end of the present session, with an index thereto, be printed.

Ordered, That the said journal and index be printed by the appointment and under the direction of * * * * the clerk of this House.

Ordered, That the said journal and index be printed by such person as shall be licensed by Mr. Speaker, and that no other person do presume to print the same.

INDEX.

ABSENCE, LEAVE OF, MOTIONS FOR, 118, 247

ACCOUNT, VOTES ON, *see* VOTES ON ACCOUNT

ACCOUNTS, *see* PAPERS

ACCOUNTS, PUBLIC, COMMITTEE OF, *see* PUBLIC ACCOUNTS,
COMMITTEE OF

ACT OF PARLIAMENT—

Papers presented in pursuance of, 241, 243

Proceedings in pursuance of, 37 ; exemption of,
from interruption, 36

ADDRESSES TO THE CROWN, 235

For issue of public money or for incurring expense,
197, 235

For returns, 241, 242

In reply to speech from the throne, 10 ; anticipation
of matters appointed for consideration and
notices of motions in debate on amendments
to motions for, 120

ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE, MOTIONS FOR—

Debate on, 140

Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption of
business, 39

Mover of—

Cannot reserve speech, 140

Has no right of reply, 139

Rights of, on resumption of debate, 141

ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE, MOTIONS FOR—*continued.*

Notice of, not required, 114

Powers of chair as to, 150

Restriction on moving or seconding of, 140

Secunder of, cannot reserve speech, 140

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE—

By Mr. Speaker without question put—

Hour of, at sittings on Friday, 40 ; at sittings
on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday, 40

In case of grave disorder, 154

When quorum not present, 112-113

Dissolution of parliament during period of, 5

From Friday till Monday, 34, 112

In case of grave disorder, powers of chair as to, 154

Motions for—

After moment of interruption, 40

Before commencement of public business, 299 ;
by ministers of the crown, 75

Debate on, 140

Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption
of business, 39

Mover of, cannot reserve speech, 140

Moving of, if orders of the day are disposed
of before 11.30 p.m., 40

Notice of, not required, 114

On matter of urgent public importance, motions
for, 72-75

On "allotted days," 212 *note* 5

Not permitted on last two "allotted
days," 211

Time for asking leave to make, 53, 72

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE—*continued.*

- Powers of chair as to, 150
- Restriction on moving or seconding of, 140
- Until Saturday, 35
- Orders for, nature of, 2
- Through absence of quorum, 112-113
- Time for, 40
- To a day fixed with power to Mr. Speaker to call House together on an earlier day, 2

ADVOCACY OF CAUSE FOR PECUNIARY REWARD, by members, prohibition of, 249

AFFIRMATION—

- Administration of, to witnesses, 239
- By members, 16
- By witnesses, 239

AGENTS, PARLIAMENTARY, 58, 253, 259

AGREEMENTS by which obligations at public charge are undertaken, power to government to enter into, not to be given in private acts, 332

AIR ESTIMATES, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAYS, *see under* SUPPLY

AMENDED CLAUSES of bills under consideration in committee of whole House, printing and circulation of, 177 ; of bills under consideration in standing committee, printing and circulation of, 89, 178

AMENDMENTS—

- To bills in committee—
 - Admissibility of, rules as to, 167-168, 171-173
 - Amendments to, 173
 - Arrangement of, on order paper, 171

AMENDMENTS—*continued.*

- To bills in committee—*continued.*
 - Mode of proposing, 170
 - Moving of, by other than member named in notice, 171
 - Notice of—
 - How and when given, 116, 165
 - Member giving, not obliged to move, 171
 - Not obligatory, 115, 170
 - Reference of, to standing committee, 87
 - Not within title of bill, 168
 - Powers of chair as to, 173
 - Precedence among, 171
 - Selection of, 130, 173 ; power of, not exercised in standing committee, 88
 - Withdrawal of, 173
- To bills on report, 181-182—
 - Considered after new clauses, 180
 - Mover of, may speak more than once in case of bills reported from standing committee, 139
 - Procedure on, 182
 - Restrictions on, 181
 - Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130
- To bills on third reading, 185
- To bills under Parliament Act in second or third session, 272
- To motions—
 - Admissibility of, rules as to, 123
 - Amendments to, 124
 - For omission of words and substitution of others, precedence of, over amendment for omission of words, 123
 - Kinds of, 122
 - Notice of, 114, 115 *note* ¹

AMENDMENTS—*continued.*

To motions—*continued.*

Personal charges may not be made by means of, 124 *note* ²

Personal interest does not preclude moving of, 136

Precedence among, 123

Previous question may not be moved on, 127

Question on, mode of putting, 124

Selection of, 130

In committee of whole House, 130

In House, powers of chairman of ways and means and deputy chairman as to, 131

Withdrawal of, 122

To question for second or third reading of bill, 163, 164-5, 184, 185

To question for speaker leaving the chair on going into committee of supply, 206, 207 ; notice of, obligatory, 114

To resolutions reported from committees of the whole House, 82

To title of bill, in committee, 168, 176 ; on third reading, 185

AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS—

To bills, 173

To motions, 124, 125

ANTICIPATION, rule against, 74, 120

APPROACHES TO THE HOUSE, clearing of, sessional order as to, 9, 343

APPROPRIATION ACT, 201, 216, 220

APPROPRIATION BILL, 220, 221-223

Not committed to a standing committee, 86, 166

APPROPRIATION BILL—*continued.*

Report and third reading stages of, may be taken forthwith, 179, 192

APPROPRIATIONS IN AID, committee of supply and, 215

ARMY AND AIR FORCE (ANNUAL) BILL, exemption of proceedings on, from interruption, 36

ARMY ESTIMATES, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY

BALLOT—

For notices of motions on going into committee of supply, 49-50, 207

For bills and for first two motion days of session, 48-49 ; members successful in, must choose between bill or motion, 48, 49

For notices of motions, 49, 117 ; for first two available Wednesdays, 49, 116

BANKRUPTCY of a member, 17 ; issue of new writ during recess in case of vacancy caused by, 21

BAR OF THE HOUSE, members must not speak from a place below, 137

BELLS, ELECTRIC, ringing of, to warn members in case of divisions 111, 133 ; in case of counts, 111

BILLS, HYBRID—

Committal of, to joint committees, 103, 166 ; to select committees, 163, 166

Examiners' reports on, reference of, to select committee on standing orders, 162

Joint committees on, nomination of commons members of, 167

Nature of, 156

BILLS, HYBRID—*continued.*

- Reference of, to examiners, 161
- Procedure on, 161-163, 166
- Second reading of, 162
- Select committees on, nomination of members of, 92, 107, 166
- Suspension of proceedings on, and resumption in following session, 194

BILLS, PRIVATE, *see also* BUSINESS, PRIVATE—

- Advertisements as to objects of, preliminary, 253
- Agents for, 253
- Amendments to, on report, 261 ; opposition to, 262 ; on third reading, 261
- Chairman of ways and means and, 27
- Committal of, 259 ; to joint committees, 103 ; to specially constituted committees, 92
- Committee of selection and, 106, 259, 265
- Committees on—
 - Instructions to, 57, 58, 260, 262
 - Opposed—
 - Absence of members of, 248, 266
 - Adjournment of, over day on which House sits, 266
 - Appointment of, 265
 - Chairmen of, appointment of, 106, 265 ; vote of, 266
 - Committee of selection and, 106
 - Constitution of, 265
 - Members of, appointment of, 106, 265 ; duties of, as to attendance, 248, 266 ; absence of, 267
 - Members personally or locally interested not to serve on, 136, 267

BILLS, PRIVATE—*continued.*Committees on—*continued.*

- Select committees and, differences between, 265-267
- Specially constituted, 92
- Suspension, etc., of member does not exempt him from serving on, 151, 153
- Unopposed, 265 ; members of, locally or personally interested, voting by, 267
- Witnesses before, attendance of, how secured, 237
- Consideration of, as amended, 260, 261 ; opposition to, 262
- Deposit of, on day before presentation in committee and private bill office, 256
- Deposit of copies of, in certain offices, 254
- Deputy-chairman and, 28, 259
- Distribution of, between the two Houses, 256
- Estimates, &c., relating to, deposit of, 254
- First reading of, 257
- Imposing charges on people or public revenue, 198
- Joint committees on, 103
- Introduction of, 256-257 ; preliminaries to, 253-256
- King's consent to, signification of, 57
- Lords, authorising pecuniary penalties, &c., 230
- Members not to manage, for pecuniary reward, 248
- Money deposits required for, 254
- Notices to owners regarding, 254
- Object of, 155
- Opposed—
 - Committee of selection and, 106, 259
 - Committees on, *see above*, Committees
 - What are, 258
- Petitions against, 258

BILLS, PRIVATE—*continued.*

Petitions for, 254

Examiners of, 255

Examination of, by examiners, 255

Plans, &c., regarding, deposit of, 253

Preliminary advertisements, deposits and notices
regarding, 253-254

Presentation of, 256, 257

Procedure on, how regulated, 252

Promotion of, 253 ; by members for pecuniary
reward not allowed, 248

Public bills and, 155

Second reading of, 259 ; opposition to, 58, 262

Speaker's powers regarding, 155

Stages of, requiring proceedings in House, 57 ;
intervals between, 262Unopposed, committee on, *see above*, Committees

BILLS, PROVISIONAL ORDER, 56, 263

Not committed to standing committees, 86, 166

Parliament Act does not apply to, 273

Under Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland)
Acts, 263-265

BILLS, PUBLIC—

See also subject headings

Affecting prerogative or property of Crown, &c., 192

Affecting private interests, 156, 161-163

Amendments to—

In committee, 167-168, 169, 170-173

Admissibility of, rules as to, 167-168,
171-173

Amendments to, 173

Arrangement of, on notice paper, 171

Mode of proposing, 170

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Amendments to—*continued.*

In committee—

Moving of, by other than members named
in notice, 171

Notice of—

How and when given, 116, 165

Member giving, not obliged to move,
171

Not obligatory, 115, 170

Not within title of bill, 168

Powers of chair as to, 173

Precedence among, 171

Reference of, to standing committee, 87

Selection of, 130, 173; power of, not
exercised in standing committees, 88

Withdrawal of, 173

Lords, *see* Lords amendments

On report—

Considered after new clauses, 180

Mover of, may speak more than once, in
case of bills reported from standing
committees, 139

Procedure on, 182

Restrictions on, 181

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130,

On third reading, 185

Blanks in, proceedings on, 317

Clauses of—

Amended, reprinting of, 89, 177

Amendments to, *see above*, Amendments

Closure on, or on words of, 128, 130

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Clauses of—*continued.*

Consideration of, in committee, 169 ; on report, 182

Imposing charges on people or public revenue, 160

New, in committee, 174-175 ; notice of, 115, 116 ; selection of, powers of chair as to, 130

New, on report, 180, 181

Mover of, right of, to speak more than once in case of bill reported from standing committee, 139

Notice of, obligatory, 115, 181

Restrictions on, 181

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130

When taken, 180

Omission of, may be proposed on report, 182

Postponement of, in committee, 174 ; on report, not allowed, 182

Committal of—

to committees of the whole House, 166 ; motions for 39, 86, 166 ; in respect of some provisions only, 86

to joint committees, 102, 166 ; motions affirming expediency of, 39, 166

to select committees, 166

to standing committees, 86, 165 ; in respect of some provisions only, 86

Committed to standing committees—

Amended clauses of, printing and circulation of 89, 178

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Committed to standing committees—*continued.*

Distribution of, among committees by Mr. Speaker, 87

Notices of amendments to, referred to committee, 87

Precedence among, 87

Procedure on, after committee stage, 180

Relating exclusively to Scotland, 83, 87; to Wales and Monmouthshire, 84.

Committees of whole House on—

See also COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSEAmendments in, *see above*, Amendments

Conclusion of proceedings in, 176

Consideration of bill not completed by, at time for interruption of business, 176

Instructions to, 167, 168

Orders of the day for, procedure on reading, 167; where progress has been reported, 177

Procedure in, 169-177, *see also sub-headings*, Amendments; Blanks; Clauses; Preamble; Schedules; Title

Consent of Crown or Duke of Cornwall to, signification of, 192, 234

Consideration of, as amended, *see below sub-heading*, Report stage

Contents of, must not go beyond title, 161

"Dummy," 157, 158

Endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 186, 193, 269, 270

Effect on, of prorogation, 193

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*

Explanatory memorandum may be prefixed to, 161
 First reading of, 158, 160 ; on first day of session,
 9, 10, *note* ⁴

Government—

How indicated in notice paper, 47 ; in weekly
 list, 53

Notices of, when usually given, 11

Precedence of, in standing committees, 87

Introduction of, 156-160

Italicised provisions in, 160 ; procedure on, 317

Joint committees on, *see* COMMITTEES, JOINT

Lapse of, at end of session, 193

Leave to bring in, motions for, *see above*, Intro-
 duction

Lords—

Authorising, &c., pecuniary penalties, &c., 229

Commons amendments to, 191

Financial provisions required to give effect to,
 228

Imposing charges on people or public revenue,
 226, 227

Infringing commons privileges, how dealt
 with, 227

Procedure on, 190

Provisions in, printed in special type, 228

Restrictions on, 226

Lords amendments to—

Committees to draw up reasons for disagree-
 ing with, appointment of, 188 ; notice
 of, not required, 91, 114

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Lords amendments to—*continued.*

Consideration of, 187-188

Mover of motion on, has no right of reply,
139Notice of motion for appointment of time
for, not required, 115 *note* ⁵, 187Disagreement to, procedure consequential on,
189-190Imposing or altering amount of charge on people
or otherwise infringing commons privileges,
226, 227-228

Non-contentious, consideration of, 53, 187

Printing of, 189

Touching pecuniary penalties, 229

Money—

Definition of, in Parliament Act, 268

Endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 186,
193, 269

Powers of House of Lords as to, 226, 268

Sent to the lords one month before end of
session and not passed by them within one
month, 268Money clauses of, *see above*, Clauses

Names on back of, limit to, 158

Not committed to standing committee, what, 86, 166

Not passed by end of session, 193

Objection to, as going beyond title, when to be
made, 161Originating in committee of the whole House, 159,
197 ; stages of, must be taken on different days,
178, 191Originating in committee of ways and means, exemp-
tion of proceedings on, from interruption, 36

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*

Other than government bills, *see below*, Private members'

Passed by the commons in three successive sessions, and rejected by the lords, 270 ; procedure on, in second or third session, 272

Passed by the commons, sending of, to the lords, 186

Passing of, no motion made for, 186

Preamble to, consideration of, in committee, 175

Presentation of, 156, 157, 158

Presented for royal assent under Parliament Act, endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 193, 269, 270

Printing of, after introduction, 160 ; whilst under consideration in committee, 177 ; when reported from committee, 179

Private bills and, distinction between, 155

Private members'—

Ballot for, 47, 48

Precedence of, after Whitsuntide (or after Easter in session beginning between Easter and Christmas), 47-48

Sittings at which they have precedence, 45-46

Recommittal of, 181, 182-184 ; on report, 182 ; motion for, 179, 180 ; procedure on, if opposed, 183 ; on third reading, 183 ; 185

Rejection of, by the lords, 271 ; in three successive sessions, 270

Report stage of—

Amendments on, *see above*, Amendments

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Report stage of—*continued.*

Closure on, 130

Member in charge of bill, and mover of new clause or amendment may speak more than once on, in case of bill reported from standing committee, 139

New clauses on, *see above*, Clauses

Orders of the day for, procedure on reading, 179

Postponement of, 179, 180

Procedure on, 180-183

Recommittal of bill may be proposed on, 182

Time for, appointment of, 179

Reported from committees of the whole House, procedure on, 178-179

Reported from joint committees, procedure on, 103, 180

Reported from select committees, procedure on, 180

Reported from standing committees, procedure on, 180

Reprinting of, while in committee stage, 177 ; after committee stage, 179

Resolutions authorising expenditure in connection with, 159

Royal assent to, 192 ; under Parliament Act, 268, 270

Schedules to, procedure on, in committee, 175

Second reading of, 163-165

Motion for, 163 ; amendments to, 163-165

Objection to bill as going outside title should be made before, 161

Opposition to, on ground of too short time for previous consideration, 160

BILLS, PUBLIC—*continued.*

- Select committees on, *see* COMMITTEES, SELECT
- Sending of, to the lords, 186
- Third reading of, 184-185
 - Amendments on, 185
 - Amendments to question for, 184
 - Consent of Crown, if required, must be signified before, 192
 - May be taken immediately after report or after committee stage, 178, 184, 191 ; exceptions, 178, 184
 - Title of, amendment of, in committee, 168, 176 ; after third reading, 185
- Urgent, 191
- Weekly list of, 53, 191
- Withdrawal of, 193

BLANKS, filling up of, in committee, 317

BLOCKING MOTIONS, abuse of, *see* ANTICIPATION

"BLUE PAPER," 52

BRIBERY AT ELECTION, sessional resolution as to, 9, 24, 342

BUDGET STATEMENT, 218

BUSINESS, order of, 52 ; on Saturdays, 34

BUSINESS, PRIVATE, 55-58

See also BILLS, PRIVATE

BUSINESS, PUBLIC—

Government—

- Arrangement of, on notice paper, 47
- How indicated in notice paper, 47

BUSINESS, PUBLIC—*continued.*Government—*continued.*

Sittings at which it has precedence, 43 ; in session beginning between Easter and Christmas, 44, 46

Interruption of—

Business exempted from, 36

Exemption of business from, motions for, 37 ; on Fridays, 38

Time for, 35 ; arrival of, procedure on, 38, 80, 176 ; effect of, on dilatory motions, 39 ; closure may be moved on, 35 ; completion of proceedings on divisions or under closure after, 35 ; what business may be taken after, 36, 39

Resumption of postponed proceedings on exempted business after, 292

Matters taken at commencement of, 37, 51, 75, 92, 158, 208, 209

Motions relating to, by minister, time for making, 76 ; may be moved by any member of government, 118

Motions relating to transaction of, previous question cannot be moved on, 127

Non-contentious—

Motions which are classed as, 115 *note* 5

When it may be taken, 53

Opposed, 39

Private members', sittings at which it has precedence, 43, 45 ; in session beginning between Easter and Christmas, 44, 46

Undisposed of, before termination of sitting, 41

Unopposed, may be taken after time for interruption, 39, 41

CALL OF THE HOUSE, motions for, 247

CERTIFICATES BY THE SPEAKER under provisions of Parliament Act, *see* PARLIAMENT ACT ; SPEAKER

CESSIO BONORUM, issue of new writ during recess in case of vacancy caused by decree of, 21

CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS

Absence of, 29, 79

Appointment of, 26

Chair of, 32, 78

Conduct of, cannot be questioned by means of amendment, 124 *note*²; reflections on, in debate, 143, 144, *note*⁸

Deputy for, *see* DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN and under COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Duties and powers of, 27. *See also under subject headings*

Leaving of chair by, motions for—

Debate on, 140

Effect of carrying, 81

Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption of business, 39

Powers of chair as to, 81, 150

Restriction on moving or seconding of, 140

Quorum includes, 110

Reference to, in debate, 144 *note*⁸

Rising of, procedure on, 147

Salary of, 27, 248

Vote of, 134

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES, TEMPORARY, nomination of panel of, 29

CHAIRMEN'S PANEL, 85

CHARGES ON PEOPLE OR PUBLIC REVENUE—

- Amendments imposing or increasing may not be moved on report stage, 181
- Bills imposing, introduction of, 159
- Clauses imposing, printing of, in italics, 160
- Committees of whole House to consider resolutions sanctioning imposition of 159, 197
- Crown's recommendation of, signification of, 234
- Motions for—
 - Crown's recommendation required for, 159, 195
 - Procedure on, 197

CHARGES, PERSONAL, *see* PERSONAL CHARGES

CHILTERN HUNDREDS, acceptance of office of, 17, 20

CIVIL ESTIMATES, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY

CLAUSES—

- Of private bills, new, on report, procedure if opposed, 58, 262
- Of public bills—
 - Amendments to, *see* AMENDMENTS
 - Closure on, or on words of, 128, 130
 - Consideration of, in committee, 169 ; on report, 182
 - Imposing charges on people or public revenue, 160
 - New, in committee, 174-175 ; notice of, 115, 116 ; selection of, powers of chair as to, 130
 - New, on report, 180, 181
 - Mover of, right of, to speak more than once in case of bill reported from standing committee, 139

CLAUSES—*continued.*Of public bills—*continued.*

Notice of, obligatory, 115, 181

Restrictions on, 181

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130

When taken, 180

Omission of, may be proposed on report, 182

Postponement of, in committee, 174; on report, not allowed, 182

CLERK AT THE TABLE, duties of, 14, 29, 54, 63, 82, 132, 149, 158, 174, 239

CLERK OF THE CROWN, 6, 12

CLERK OF THE HOUSE—

Appointment and tenure of, 31

Duties of, 31, 154, 186, 231, 236, 240

Department of, 31

CLERKS ASSISTANT—

Appointment and tenure of, 31

Duties of, 32, 49, 50

CLERKS, DIVISION, 132

CLOSURE, 127-130

Chairman of ways and means and, 80, 129

Deputy-chairman and, 80, 129

Deputy-Speaker and, 129

In committees of whole House, 80, 129

In select committees, no, 130

In standing committees, 88, 129

May be moved on interruption of business, 35, 36

Proceedings under, may be completed after arrival of time for interruption of business, 35

Temporary chairman cannot accept, 29

COMMAND PAPERS, *see* PAPERS

COMMITTEE AND PRIVATE BILL OFFICE, 31, 58, 253, 254,
256, 259

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES, *see under* PRIVILEGES

COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, *see* PUBLIC ACCOUNTS,
COMMITTEE OF

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION, *see* SELECTION, COMMITTEE OF

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PETITIONS, *see under* PETITIONS,
PUBLIC

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE, 77-83

See also BILLS, PUBLIC ; MONEY COMMITTEES ; SUPPLY ;
WAYS AND MEANS

Amendments in—

See also AMENDMENTS

Seconder not required for, 119

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 80, 130, 173

Bills originating in, 159, 197

Stages of, must be taken on different days, 178,
191

Third reading of, cannot be taken forthwith, 178

Business under consideration in, not completed at
time for interruption, 39, 80, 176, 177

Chairman of, *see* CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS

Chairmen of, temporary, 29, 79

Absence of, 79

Closure may not be put by, 29

Panel of, nomination of, by Speaker, 29

Clerk of, 32

Closure in, 80, 127-130

Committal of public bills to, 166 ; motions for, 39,
86, 166 ; in respect of some provisions only, 86

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE—*continued.*

Counting, 110

Dilatory motions in, 81

Debate on, 140

Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption or
business, 39

Powers of chair as to, 150

Restrictions on moving or seconding of, 140

Discontinuance of proceedings in, 81, 177

Disorderly conduct in, powers of chair in case of,
150, 151

Divisions in, 131-137

Instructions to, 78, 168

Irrelevance or repetition in, powers of chair as to,
149

Motions in—

See also subject headings

Seconding of, 80, 119

Naming of members in, 151, 152

Obstruction in, 151

Order in, 149-152

Orders of the day for—

Dropped, 81, 177

Procedure on reading, 78, 167, 177

Previous question cannot be moved in, 80

Procedure in, 79

Quorum of, 110

Recommittal to—

of hybrid bills reported from select or joint
committees, 103, 180

of public bills, 179, 180, 181 *note*³, 182; re-
ported from select or joint committees, 103,

180

of resolutions, 83

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE—*continued.*

Resolution of House into, 77, 78, 159

Resolutions of—

Amendments to, 82

Postponement of consideration of, 83

Recommittal of, 83

Report of, 81, 82 ; consideration of, 82

Taking down of words in, 148

Witnesses before, summoning of, 236 ; swearing of, 238, 239

COMMITTEES, JOINT, 102-104

Committal to, of hybrid bills, 103, 166 ; of private bills, 103 ; of provisional order bills under

Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Acts, 264 ; of public bills, 103 ; motions affirming expediency of, 39, 103, 166

On hybrid bills, nomination of, 167

Public and hybrid bills reported from, procedure on, 103, 180

COMMITTEES, SELECT—

Appointment of, 92 ; duties of members intending to move for, 91

Chairmen of—

Appointment of, 95

Duties of, in case of absence of quorum, 95

Power of, to administer oath or affirmation to witnesses, 239

Vote of, 95

Clerks of, duties of, 95, 96, 98

Closure not permissible in, 130

Committal to, of hybrid bills, 163, 166 ; of public bills, 166

Divisions in, 96, 98 ; record of, 98

COMMITTEES, SELECT—*continued.*

- Evidence before, *see below*, Minutes of Evidence ;
Witnesses
- Hybrid bills reported from, recommitment of, to committee of whole House, 103, 180
- Inquiry by, not completed by end of session, 101
- Inquiry by, scope of, 93
- Instructions to, 93, 168 ; on bills, time for moving, 167
- Matters referred to, may be discussed by House, 121
- Members of—
 - Additional, notice of motions for appointment of, 326
 - Asking questions of witnesses, entry of names of, on minutes of evidence, 98
 - Attendance of, record of, 98
 - Discharge of, and appointment of others in substitution for, notice of motion for, 326
 - Discharge of, in pursuance of reports from committees, notice of motions for, 114
 - Lists of, 94
 - Nomination of, *see below*, Nomination
 - Number of, 90
- Members' right to be present during deliberations of, 97
- Minority reports from, not allowed, 100
- Minutes of evidence before—
 - Particulars to be entered on, 98
 - Publication of, intermediate, 101
 - Reporting of, 100
- Minutes of proceedings of, 98
- Nomination of, 92
 - By committee of selection, 92, 107

COMMITTEES, SELECT—*continued.*Nomination of—*continued.*

Motions for—

At commencement of public business, 76,
92

Notice of, 91

Preliminaries to, 91

On hybrid bills, 92, 107, 163, 166

On private bills, specially constituted, 92

On public bills, 89, 166

Duty of, to report bill, 93

Expression by, of views on matters dealt with
in bill, 90, 100

Instructions to, 168 ; time for moving, 167

Order of reference in case of, 93

Special report from, 90, 100

On questions of privilege, 91

Order of reference to, 93

Powers of, as to—

Adjourning from time to time, 94

Appointing sub-committees, 97

Exclusion of strangers, 97

Hearing of counsel, 97

Making of special reports, 100

Place of sitting, 94

Reporting from time to time, 101

Reporting minutes of evidence, 100

Reporting opinions and observations, 90, 100

Requiring attendance of witnesses on produc-
tion of documents, 96, 236

Sitting in private, 97 ; outside precincts of
House, 94

COMMITTEES, SELECT—*continued.*Powers of, as to—*continued.*

Swearing witnesses, 238

Time of sitting, 94

Public bills reported from, recommittal of, to committee of whole House, 103, 180

Quorum of, 95

Absence of, 95

Motion for fixing, may be made at same time with motion for nomination of committee, 93

Recommittal of bills to, 182

Reports of—

Consideration of, 101

Drafts of, preparation and discussion of, 98-99 ; amendments to, 99

Minority, not allowed, 100

Presentation of, 101

Printing of, 101

Recommittal of, 102

Special, 90, 100

Sittings of—

Adjournment of, 94

Record of attendance of members at, 98

Place of, 94

Time of, 94

Strangers admitted during examination of witnesses by, 97

Witnesses before—

Affirmation by, 239

Examination of, 97, 98

Failure of, to attend, 96, 237

False evidence by, punishment for, 238, 342

Interference with, 239, 342

COMMITTEES, SELECT—*continued.*Witnesses before—*continued.*

Members as, 238

Members asking questions of, entry of names of,
on minutes of evidence, 98

Peers or officers of House of Lords as, 238

Prisoners as, 237

Summoning of, 96, 236

Swearing of, 238, 239

Tampering with, 342

COMMITTEES, SESSIONAL, 104-109

COMMITTEES, STANDING—

See also SCOTTISH BILLS, STANDING COMMITTEE ONAmended clauses of bills before, printing of, 89,
178Amendments referred to, not proposed unless moved
by member of committee, 87

Appointment of, 83

Bills committed to—

Distribution of, among committees, 87

Precedence of, 87,

What, 86, 165

Bills not committed to, what, 86, 166

Bills reported from, procedure on, 180 ; certain
members entitled to speak more than once on
report stage of, 139

Chairmen of—

Appointment of, 85

Duties of, 87

Panel of, 85

Powers of, 88, 149, 150

Clerks of, 89

Closure in, 88, 129

COMMITTEES, STANDING—*continued.*

Committal of bills to, 86, 165 ; in respect of some provisions only, 86

Constitution of, 84

Dilatory motions in, 88, 150

Divisions in, 89

Instructions to, 87, 168 ; time for moving, 167

Interruption in, no, 130

Irrelevance or repetition in, 88, 149

Members of—

Additional, in respect of particular bills.
nomination of, 85

Discharge of, and appointment of others in substitution, 84

Nomination of, 84, 107

Number of, 84

Minutes of proceedings of, 89

Nomination of, *see above*, Members

Number of, 83

Powers of, as to—

Printing and circulation with the votes of minutes and amended clauses, 89

Strangers, 89

Time of sitting, 87

Procedure in, 88, 89, 178

Quorum of, 88

Reference to, of business other than bills, 83 ; of notices of amendments, 87

Sittings of, 87

Strangers admitted to, 89 ; may be excluded by, 89

Suspension of proceedings of, on division being called in House, 87

COMMITTEES TO DRAW UP REASONS FOR DISAGREEING WITH LORDS AMENDMENTS, appointment of, 188 ; notice of motion for, not required, 91, 114

CONDOLENCE or CONGRATULATION, addresses of, 235

CONFERENCES, 231

CONSOLIDATED FUND—

Acts, 220, 221

Bills—

Amendments to, 223

Debate on, 222

Introduction of, 220

Not committed to standing committees, 86, 166

Report and third reading stages of, 179, 191-192

Issues from, resolutions authorising, 205, 216

Bills brought in upon, *see above*, Bills and APPROPRIATION BILLS

Duties of public bill office as to, 217

Report of, may be considered forthwith, 219

CONTRACTS requiring confirmation by parliament, 244

CORNWALL, DUKE OF—

Bills affecting property or interests of, 192

Consent of, to bills, signification of, 192, 234

COUNSEL, hearing of, by select committees, 97

COUNSEL TO THE SPEAKER, 106, 256, 266

COUNTING THE HOUSE, 110-113

COURTS OF SUMMARY JURISDICTION, references to, in debate, 144 *note* ^a

CREDIT VOTES OF, *see* VOTES OF CREDIT

CROSSING THE HOUSE, rule as to, 145, 146 *note* ³

CROWN—

Addresses to, 235 ; in reply to King's speech, 10 ;
for issue of public money, 197, 235 ; for
returns, 241, 242

Assent of, presentation of bills for, under Parlia-
Act, 193, 268, 269, 270

Assent of, to bills, 4, 192-193

Bills affecting prerogative, hereditary revenues,
personal property or interests of, 192

Clerk of, 6, 12

Communications from, 77, 232-234

Communications to, 235

Consent of, to bills, 192, 234 ; to private bills, 57

Debts to, petitions regarding, 61, 197 ; motions or
bills for releasing or compounding, 197

Demise of, 5-6, 7

Heir to, reference to, in debate, 143, 144 *note* ³

Interests of, placing of, at disposal of parliament,
192, 234

Messages from, 77, 113, 204, 232-234, 235

Ministers of, *see that title*

Money owing to, *see above*, Debts

Papers presented by command of, 241, 242, 243

Prerogative of, bills affecting, 192

Property of, personal, bills affecting, 192

Recommendation of, signification of, 196, 234

Reference to, in debate, 143

Revenues of, hereditary, bills affecting, 192

CROWN OFFICE, 1, 12

DEBATE—

See also subject headings

- Adjournment of, motions for, *see that title*
- Anticipation in, of matters appointed for consideration and notices of motions, 120
- Closure of, *see* CLOSURE
- Conduct and rules of, 137-149
- Former, reference to, in debate, 142
- Order in, provisions for maintenance of, 149-154
- Relevancy of, 138, 149
- Reply in, when allowed, 139
- Resumption of, 141
- Taking down of words in, 148

DEBTS DUE TO THE CROWN, *see under* CROWN

DEMISE OF THE CROWN, 5-6, 7

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

See also CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS

Appointment of, 27

Powers of, 28

See also under subject headings

As Deputy Speaker, 28

DEPUTY SPEAKER, 29

DILATORY MOTIONS—

Debate on, 140

Definition of, 39

Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption of business, 39

On last two "allotted days," 211

Powers of chair as to, 150 ; in standing committees, 88, 150

Restriction on moving or seconding of, 140

- DISORDER, GRAVE, powers of Speaker in case of, 154
- DISORDERLY CONDUCT, powers of chair in case of, 150-154
- DISORDERLY WORDS, taking down of, 148
- DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT, 5 ; during adjournment, 5
- DIVISION BELLS, 111, 133
- DIVISIONS, 131-137
- Absence of quorum on, 111-112 ; in committee of whole House, 110
 - Abstention from voting in, 133
 - Between 8.15 and 9.15 p.m., absence of quorum on, 111
 - Error or confusion as to numbers reported as voting in, 134
 - Equality of votes on, 134
 - In select committees, 96 ; record of, 98
 - In standing committees, 89
 - Lists of members voting in, issue of, 135
 - Members not obliged to vote in, 133
 - Members' right to remain in House during division without taking part in, 133
 - Members voting in wrong lobby in, 134
 - Mode of taking, 131-133
 - Point of order during, mode of raising, 133, 137
 - Proceedings on, may be completed notwithstanding arrival of time for interruption of business or adjournment, 35, 41
 - Suspension of proceedings in standing committee to enable members to vote in, 87-88
 - Tellers for, 132, 133
 - Errors by, 134
 - Included in quorum, 112
 - Procedure in case two cannot be found, 133

DIVISIONS—*continued.*

Unnecessarily claimed, powers of chair in case of,
135

Voting in—

Abstention from, 133

By members absent when question put, 133

By members pecuniarily interested, 136-137

DOUBLE RETURNS, 23, 341

“ DUMMY BILLS,” 157, 158

DUTIES, petitions against, 334

ELECTION COURT, vacancy caused by decision of, 17

ELECTION OF MEMBERS—

See also DOUBLE RETURNS

Bribery at, 24, 342

For two or more places, 23, 341

Peers not to vote in, 23, 341

Petitions against, 19

Questions as to, members interested to withdraw
during debates on, 23, 341

Writs for, *see* WRITS

ESTIMATES—

See also EXCESS GRANTS ; SUPPLY

Annual navy, army, air and civil, 199

Days allotted for consideration of—

Number of, 208

Procedure on, 209-212

What count as, 208

Procedure on first going into committee of
supply on, 206

Other than annual, 200

ESTIMATES—*continued.*

- Revised, presentation of, 215
- Select committee on, 108 ; sits in private, 97
- Supplementary, 201 ; for new services, &c., days occupied by consideration of, not counted as "allotted days," 208 ; when to be submitted for consideration in committee of supply, 211
- Withdrawal of, 215

EVIDENCE—

See also WITNESSES

Minutes of, *see* MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

Of proceedings in House or before committees, by clerks or officers of House, &c., 240

EXAMINERS OF PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS—

Appointment and duties of, 255

Reference to, of bills appearing to be hybrid, 161

Reports of, reference of, to standing orders committee, 162, 255

EXCESS GRANTS, 202 ; presentation of estimates for, 200

EXEMPTED BUSINESS, 36-37 ; may be taken after business under consideration at 11 p.m. has been disposed of, 39 ; not interrupted at 11 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 35

EXPLANATIONS, PERSONAL, 138

EXPULSION OF MEMBERS, 17

FEEs, &c., lords bills or lords amendments imposing, 229

FEEs OFFICE, 26

FELONY, conviction of member for, 17

FINANCE, *see* CHARGES ON PEOPLE OR PUBLIC REVENUE ;
ESTIMATES ; MONEY, PUBLIC ; SUPPLY ; WAYS AND
MEANS

FINANCE ACT, 218, 223

FINANCE BILL, 223

FINANCIAL YEAR, commencement of, 199

FIRST READING of private bills, 257 ; of public bills, 160

FOREIGN SOVEREIGNS, references to, in debate, 144 *note* 3

FRIDAY SITTINGS—

Adjournment of House at its rising at, till Monday,
34

Counting the House at, 113

Hour of meeting at, 34

Hour of rising at, 40

Interruption of business at, 35

Motions for exemption of business from interrup-
tion at, debateable, 38

Opposed business cannot be taken after 4 p.m., at,
39

Opposed private business cannot be set down for,
56

Precedence of business at, 43-47

Reckoning of, for "allotted days," 211

FRONT BENCH MOTION, seconder not required for, 119

FRONT BENCHES, crossing between table and member speak-
ing from, forbidden, 146 *note* 3

GOVERNMENT BILLS, *see under* BILLS, PUBLIC

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS, *see under* BUSINESS, PUBLIC

GOVERNORS-GENERAL of the Dominions, references to, in debate, 144 *note* ^s

GRANTS, *see* EXCESS GRANTS ; SUPPLY

HOUSE, *see subject headings*

HOUSE OF LORDS, *see* LORDS, HOUSE OF

HOUSEKEEPER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, 33

INDIA—

Revenues of, petitions or motions for charge on, 61, 196

Viceroy of, references to, in debate, 144 *note* ^s

INSTRUCTIONS—

To committees of whole House, 78, 167, 168

To committees on private bills, 57, 168, 260

To select committees, 93, 167, 168

To standing committees, 87, 167, 168

INTEREST, PERSONAL OR PECUNIARY—

Declarations from members of private bill committees as to, 267

Of member in vote, 136

Of member of committee on unopposed bills, 267

INTERRUPTION OF BUSINESS, 35-36

Business exempted from, what, 36

Closure on, 35, 36

Motions for exemption of business from, 37 ; on Fridays, 38

Time for, 35 ; arrival of, procedure on, 38, 80, 176 ; effect of, on dilatory motions, 39 ; proceedings on divisions or under closure may be completed notwithstanding, 35

Resumption of postponed proceedings on exempted business after, 292

What business may be taken after, 36, 39

INTERRUPTIONS, 146, 147 *note* °

INTRODUCTION—

Of new members, 8, 14, 53

Of private bills, 256

Of public bills, 156-160

IRELAND, PEERS OF, 23, 341

IRRELEVANCE, 138 ; powers of chair regarding, 149 ; in standing committees, 88, 149

ITALICS, clauses in bills printed in, 160 ; procedure on, 317

JOINT COMMITTEES, *see* COMMITTEES, JOINT

JOURNAL OFFICE, 31

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE, 32, 245-246 ; sessional resolution as to printing of, 9, 344

JUDGES, references to, in debate, 144 *note* °

KING, *see* CROWN

KING'S SPEECH—

At opening of parliament, 8 ; address in reply to, 10 ; debate on amendments to motion for, 120

At prorogation, 4

KITCHEN AND REFRESHMENT ROOMS (HOUSE OF COMMONS),
SELECT COMMITTEE ON, 105, 109

LEAVE OF ABSENCE, MOTIONS FOR, 118, 247

LETTERS—

To House, duty of Speaker as to, 339

To members, 339

LIBRARY OF THE HOUSE, 26

"LOAN," definition of, in Parliament Act, 269

LONDON, LORD MAYOR AND SHERIFFS OF, presentation by,
of public petitions, 62

LORDS, HOUSE OF—

Bills originating in—

Private bills, authorising pecuniary penalties,
&c., 230

Public bills—

Commons amendments to, 191

Financial provisions required to give effect
to, 228

Infringing commons privileges, 227

Procedure on, 190

Provisions in, printed in special type, 229

Communications to and from, 231

Conduct or proceedings of, use of offensive expres-
sions regarding, by members in debate, 143

Conferences with, 231

Debates of, references to, in debate, 142

House of Commons and—

Communications between, 231

Distribution of private bills between, 256

Joint address to Crown from, 235

Relations between, 224-231

Members of—

See also PEERS

Orders for withdrawal of strangers do not apply
to, 250

Messages from and to, 231

LORDS, HOUSE OF—*continued.*

- Messages requesting attendance of House in, 4, 192
- Arrival of, during sitting of committee of whole House, 80
- Quorum not required for reception of, 113
- Peers or officers of, attendance of, as witnesses, 238
- Powers of, as to money bills, 268 ; as to bills other than money bills, restriction of, 270 ; as to money grants, 195, 224-230
- Rejection of bills by, 226, 268, 270 ; definition of, in Parliament Act, 271

LORDS AMENDMENTS—

- To private bills, consideration of, 57
- To public bills—
 - Committees to draw up reasons for disagreeing with, appointment of, 188 ; notice of motion for, not required, 91, 114
 - Consideration of, 187-189 ; notice of motion for appointment of time for, not required, 115 *note*⁵, 187 ; mover of motion on, has no right of reply, 139
 - Disagreement to, procedure consequential on, 189
 - Imposing or altering amount of charges on people or otherwise infringing commons privileges, 226, 227-228
 - Non-contentious, consideration of, 53, 187
 - Printing of, 189
 - Touching pecuniary penalties, 229

LUNACY of a member, 17 ; issue of new writ in case of, 21

MACE, 26

Crossing between chair and, forbidden, 146 *note* ³
 Position of, during sitting of committee of whole
 House, 79.

Removal of, from table on resolution of House into
 committee, 78

MATTERS TAKEN AT COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS,
 37, 51, 75-76, 92, 158, 208, 209

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE, *see subject headings*

MEMORANDA, EXPLANATORY, prefixing of, to public bills,
 161

MESSAGES—

From Crown, 232-234

To and from the lords, 231

MINISTERS OF THE CROWN—

Questions to, *see* QUESTIONS

Quotations by, from despatches or other state
 papers, 142

MINORITY REPORTS not allowed, 100

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE before select committees—

Particulars to be entered on, 98

Publication of, intermediate, 101

Reporting of, 100

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS of select committees, 98 ; of
 standing committees, 89

MONEY, DEPOSIT OF, before introduction of private bill,
 254

MONEY BILLS—

Definition of, in Parliament Act, 268

MONEY BILLS—*continued.*

Endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 186, 193,
269

Origination of, in committee of whole House, 159,
197

Powers of the lords as to, 224-226, 268

Sent to the lords at least one month before end of
session and not passed by the lords within one
month, 268

MONEY COMMITTEES, 159, 197 ; reports of, exemption of
proceedings on, from interruption, 36

MONEY, PUBLIC—

See also APPROPRIATION ACT, APPROPRIATION BILL ;
BUDGET STATEMENT ; CHARGES ON PEOPLE OR
PUBLIC REVENUE ; CONSOLIDATED FUND ; ESTI-
MATES ; SUPPLY ; WAYS AND MEANS ; *and under*
CROWN

Expenditure of, in connection with bills, resolu-
tions authorising, 159, 160 ; resolution of
House into committee to consider, 159

Expenditure of, proceedings upon reports of com-
mittees authorising, exemption of, from inter-
ruption, 36

Grants of, bills or motions for, 195, 197

House of Commons and, 195, 224-228

House of Lords and, 195, 224-228

Issue of, motions for addresses to the Crown for,
197

Petitions for, 61, 195, 197

MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES, bills committed to standing
committees relating exclusively to, 84

MOTIONS—

See also subject headings

Adjourned debates on, 43

Amendments to, *see* AMENDMENTS

Ballot for notices of, 49-50, 116-117

Dilatory, *see* DILATORY MOTIONS

“Front bench,” seconder not required for, 119

Government, may be moved by any member of government, 118

Kinds of, 43

Mover of, right of, to reply, 139

Notice of—

Amendment of, 118

Dispensation with, 115

How given, 116

Irregular or improper, 119

Latest day for which it may be given, 50, 116 ;
postponement of motion beyond, not
allowed, 118

Need for, 114 ; exceptions, 114-116

Oral, 50, 117 ; to be followed by written, 50,
117

Period for which it may be given, 50, 116

Printing and circulation of, 116

Time for giving, 50, 117

On going into committee of supply, 207 ; ballot for
notices of, 49-50

Personal interest does not preclude moving, 136

Postponement of, 118

Private members'—

Ballot for, 49-50, 116-117

Interruption of proceedings on first, on Wednes-
days, 43-44, 46

MOTIONS—*continued.*Private members—*continued.*

Sittings at which they have precedence, 43, 44, 45 ; in session beginning between Easter and Christmas, 44-45, 46

Privy councillors', 119

Question on, proposing of, 121 ; putting of, 125

Raising question substantially identical with question already decided, 120

Relating to or arising out of orders of the day, 43

Seconding of, 119

Substantive—

Definition of, 140

Mover of, right of reply, 139

Secunder of, right to reserve speech, 140

Terms of, to be handed to chair, 119

Withdrawal of, 122

NAMING OF MEMBERS, 151, 153

NAVY ESTIMATES, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY

NEW CLAUSES, *see* CLAUSES

NEW SCHEDULES, *see* SCHEDULES

NEW SERVICES, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY

NEWSPAPERS, reading of, by members, 145

NON-CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS, *see under* BUSINESS, PUBLIC

NOTICE PAPER, 52

NOTICES OF MOTIONS—

Ballot for, 49-50, 116-117

Definition of, 42

NOTICES OF MOTIONS—*continued.*

Period for which they may be given, 50, 116

Sittings at which they have precedence, 43, 44, 45 ;
in session beginning between Easter and
Christmas, 44-45, 46

OATH—

Administration of, to witnesses before House or com-
mittees, 238-239

Form of, 14

Mode of taking, 15

Taking of, by members, 6, 10, 12-14 ; by Speaker,
7, 14

OBSTRUCTION, 143, 151

ORDER, provisions for maintenance of, 149-154

ORDER, POINTS OF, mode of raising, during division, 133,
137

ORDER BOOK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, 52

ORDERS OF THE DAY—

See also subject headings

Definition of, 42

Dropped from the list, restoration of, 42

Motions relative to, or arising out of, 43

Moving of, 140

Notices of motions and, distinction between, 42

Order of disposing of, 54

Postponement of, 42

Procedure when they are disposed of before 11.30
p.m., 40

Reading of, 54

After interruption at 11 p.m. (or 4 p.m.), 40

When exempted business is under considera-
tion at 11.30 p.m., 41

ORDERS OF THE HOUSE, signing of, 31, 154, 236

ORDERS, STANDING, *see* STANDING ORDERS

OUTLAWRIES BILL, 9, 10 *note* ¹

PAPERS, 241-244

Command, presentation of, during recess, 243, 340

Quotations from, by ministers, 142

PANEL, CHAIRMEN'S, *see* CHAIRMEN'S PANEL

PARLIAMENT—

Dissolution of, 5

Duration of, 5 ; bills to extend maximum, 270

New, proceedings at beginning of, 6-11

Opening of, 7

Postponement of meeting of, 3, 4

Prorogation of, 3

Summoning of, 1

PARLIAMENT ACT, 268-274

Existing rights and privileges of House of Commons not diminished or qualified by, 228, 274

Money bills under, endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 186, 193, 269

Public bills other than money bills presented for royal assent under, endorsement of Speaker's certificate on, 193, 270

PARLIAMENTARY AGENTS, *see* AGENTS, PARLIAMENTARY

PECUNIARY INTEREST of member in vote, 136

PECUNIARY PENALTIES, &c., bills originating in the lords or lords amendments authorising, &c., 229

PEERS, voting by, at elections, sessional resolution as to, 9, 23, 341

PERSONAL CHARGES—

Against members, in debate, not allowed, 143
 Cannot be raised by motions for adjournment of
 House under S.O. No. 8, 74, 75 *note*¹; or by
 amendments, 124 *note*²

Questions making or implying, 71

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS, 138; by members whose votes
 are objected to on ground of pecuniary interest, 136

PERSONAL INTEREST of member in vote, 136

PETITIONS, PUBLIC—

See also subject headings

Committee on, 64, 108

Debate on, 59, 63

Duplicate, 61

Informal or irregular, 61

Presentation of, 62-64

Printing of, 64

Reading of, by clerk, 63

Reference of, to committee on public petitions, 64,
 65 *note*¹

Rules regarding, 59-61

PETITIONS RELATING TO PRIVATE BILLS—

Petitions against bills, 253

Petitions for bills—

Deposit of, 254

Examination of, by examiners, 255

PLANS relating to private bills, deposit of, 253

PRAYERS, 51

Attendance at, of members desiring to secure seats,
 147

Notice of, given to committees, 328

Seats secured at, right of members to retain, 147

PREAMBLE of public bill, consideration of, in committee,
175

PREVIOUS QUESTION, 126 ; restrictions on moving of, 80,
127

PRISONERS, attendance of, as witnesses, 237

PRIVATE BILL COMMITTEES, *see under* BILLS, PRIVATE

PRIVATE BILL OFFICE, *see* COMMITTEE AND PRIVATE BILL
OFFICE

PRIVATE BILLS, *see* BILLS, PRIVATE

PRIVATE BUSINESS, *see* BUSINESS, PRIVATE

PRIVATE LEGISLATION PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) ACTS, bills
for confirmation of orders under, 263-265

PRIVILEGE(S)—

See also SUPPLY ; TAXATION

Committee of, 107 ; appointment of, 9, 107

Committees on matters of, notice not required for
motions for appointment of, 91 ; motions to
dissent from, or affirm decisions of, 51

Motions on questions of, 50 ; notice of, 51, 114

Petitions raising question of, 65 *note* ¹

Questions of, cannot be raised on motions for
adjournment of House under S.O. No. 8, 74

PRIVY COUNCIL, information to be obtained through, how
obtained, 242

PRIVY COUNCILLORS, seconder not required for motions
by, 119

PROGRESS—

- Motions to report, 81, 177
 - Debate on, 140
 - Effect on, of arrival of time for interruption of business, 39
 - Powers of chair as to, 81, 150
 - Restriction on moving or seconding of, 140
- Report of, by chairman of committee of whole House, 81, 177 ; on arrival of time for interruption of business, 80, 176, 177

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT, 3

PROVISIONAL ORDER BILLS, *see* BILLS, PROVISIONAL ORDER

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, COMMITTEE OF, 105

- And changes in form of estimates, 200
- Power to report from time to time given to, 101
- Proposals for excess grants must first be brought before, 203
- Sits in private, 97

PUBLICATIONS AND DEBATES REPORTS, SELECT COMMITTEE ON, 105, 109

PUBLIC BILL OFFICE, 31 ; duty of, as to bills appearing to affect private rights, 162 ; as to resolutions authorising issues out of consolidated fund, 217

PUBLIC BILLS, *see* BILLS, PUBLICPUBLIC BUSINESS, *see* BUSINESS, PUBLICPUBLIC MONEY, *see* MONEY, PUBLICPUBLIC PETITIONS, *see* PETITIONS, PUBLICPUBLIC REVENUE, CHARGES ON, *see* CHARGES ON PEOPLE OR PUBLIC REVENUE

QUESTION—

- Complicated, division of, 121
- “Fully put,” definition of, 145
- Motion and, 113
- Proposal of, on motions, 121 ; on amendments, 124
- Putting of, 125

QUESTION, PREVIOUS, *see* PREVIOUS QUESTION

QUESTIONS, 65-71

Asking of, by other than member in whose name they stand, 68

Answers to—

- Ministers may refuse, 69
- Printing of, in official report, 67
- Reference to, in subsequent questions, 70

Disallowance of, 71

Mode of asking, 67

Notice of, 65

Not reached by 3.45 p.m., 67

Number of, limit on, 71

Postponement of, 67

“Private notice,” 65, 66

Rules as to form and contents of, 69-71

Speaker's powers as to, 65, 71

Time for, 66

To private members, 71

To Speaker, notice of, not received, 65

Unanswered, owing to absence of minister to whom addressed, 66

Unasked, 67, 68

“Unstarred,” 67

Urgent, 66

QUORUM OF THE HOUSE, 110

See also COUNTING THE HOUSE

Absence of, 112 ; on Fridays, 113 ; apparent, on divisions between 8.15 and 9.15 p.m., 111

Presence of, not required for reception of message for attendance of House in House of Lords, 113

Speaker or chairman included in, 110

RATE, amendment or new clause imposing, or varying incidence of, cannot be moved on report stage of bill, 181 *and note* ³

RECESS—

Dissolution of parliament during, 5

Vacancy occurring during, issue of writ to fill, 8, 18-21 ; in case of Speaker's absence, 22

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CROWN, signification of, 234

RECOMMITTAL—

Of bills on report stage, 182-183 ; on third reading, 183, 184, 185 *note* ²

Of report of select committee, 102

Of resolutions of committee of whole House, 83, 215

RECORDS OF THE HOUSE, 245

REDUCTION OF VOTES, *see under* SUPPLY

REFEREES, COURT OF, 258 ; chairman of, 27

REPETITION, TEDIOUS, powers of chair in case of—

In House or committee of whole House, 149

In standing committee, 88, 149

REPLY, RIGHT OF, 139

REPORT—

Of public bill from committee of whole House, 176

Of resolutions—

Of committee of whole House—

Authorising expenditure of public money,
exemption of proceedings on, from
interruption, 36

Consideration of, procedure on, 82

Of committee of supply—

Consideration of, 215

Proceedings on, not exempted from inter-
ruption, 36

Of committee of ways and means—

Authorising issues from consolidated fund,
may be considered forthwith, 219

For taxation, consideration of, 219 ;
exemption of proceedings on, from
interruption, 36, 219

Of select committee—

Consideration of, 101

Draft of, preparation and discussion of, 98-99 ;
amendments to, 99

Minority, not allowed, 100

Presentation of, 101

Printing of, 101

Recommittal of, 102

Special, 90, 100

REPORT STAGE OF PUBLIC BILLS—

Amendments on, 181-182

Considered after new clauses, 180

REPORT STAGE OF PUBLIC BILLS—*continued.*Amendments on—*continued.*

Mover of, may speak more than once in case of
bills reported from standing committees,
139

Procedure on, 182

Restrictions on, 181

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130

Closure on, 130

Member in charge of bill and mover of new clause
or amendment may speak more than once in
case of bills reported from standing committees,
139

New clause on, 180, 181

Mover of, right of, to speak more than once in
case of bill reported from standing com-
mittees, 139

Notice of, obligatory, 115, 181

Restrictions on, 181

Selection of, powers of chair as to, 130

When taken, 180

Orders of the day for, procedure on reading, 179

Postponement of, 179, 180

Procedure on, 180-183

Recommittal of bill may be proposed on, 182

Time for, appointment of, 179

RESIGNATION OF SEAT, 17

RESOLUTIONS—

Of committee of whole House—

Authorising expenditure in connection with
bills, 159

RESOLUTIONS—*continued.*

Of committee of whole House—*continued.*

Postponement of, 83

Recommittal of, 83

Report of, 81, 82 ; consideration of, 82

Of committee of supply—

Recommittal of, 215

Report of, consideration of, 215 ; proceedings on, not exempted from interruption, 36

Of committee of ways and means—

Authorising issues from consolidated fund, form of, 217 ; report of, may be considered forthwith, 219

For continuing, imposing or increasing taxation, 217, 218 ; report of, consideration of, 219 ; procedure on, 219 ; exemption of proceedings on, from interruption, 36, 219

Of Houses, sessional, 9, 23-24, 341-344

RETURNS, motions for, 242 ; unopposed, time for making, 53, 242 ; may be moved by one member for another, 118 ; seconder not required for, 119

RETURNS TO WRITS, 12 ; double, 23, 341

REVENUE—

Charges on, *see* CHARGES ON PEOPLE OR PUBLIC REVENUE

Departments, information desired from, mode of obtaining, 242

Indian, *see* INDIA

ROLL OF MEMBERS, SIGNING OF, 14

ROYAL ASSENT to bills, 192 ; under Parliament Act, 268, 270

RULES, STATUTORY, 37

SALARIES OF MEMBERS, 248

SATURDAY—

Adjournment over, 34

Adjournment until, instead of Monday, motion for,
35

Not "a day on which the House usually sits," 42

Sittings on, 34

SCHEDULES TO BILLS—

Amendments referring to, 172

Consideration of, in committee, 175

SCHEMES requiring confirmation by parliament, 37

SCOTLAND, Bills committed to standing committees relating
exclusively to, 83, 87

SCOTTISH BILLS, standing committee on, 83-84

SEATS—

Reservation of, 147

Resignation of, 17

Taking of, by new members, 8, 14, 53

Vacation of, 13, 17

SECONDER—

Motions requiring, 119 ; motions not requiring, 119

Of substantive motion, right of, to reserve speech,

140

SELECT COMMITTEES, *see* COMMITTEES, SELECT

SELECTION, COMMITTEE OF, 104, 106

Functions of, 84, 85, 92, 106, 166, 167, 259, 263,
265, 269

SELECTION OF AMENDMENTS, 130

In committee of whole House, 80, 130, 173

Power of, not exercised in standing committees, 88

SERJEANT-AT-ARMS—

Appointment and tenure of, 32

Assistant, 33

Deputy, 33

Duties of, 32, 33, 78, 150, 153, 250

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES, 104-109

SESSIONAL ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS, 23-24, 341-344 ;
when made, 9

SICKNESS OR INFIRMITY, members allowed to speak sitting
in case of, 137

SITINGS OF THE HOUSE, 34, 40

See also ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Suspension of—

By Speaker, in case of grave disorder, 154 ;

Until 4 p.m. for want of quorum, 112

Informal, 2, 112

SOVEREIGNS, FOREIGN, references to, in debate, 144 *note* ^s

SPEAKER—

Absence of, 29 ; from realm, issue of new writs
during, 22

Addressing of, by members speaking, 137

Certificates of, under Parliament Act—

Endorsement of, on money bills, 186, 193, 269 ;

on other public bills presented for royal

assent under Parliament Act, 193, 270

Not to be questioned in court of law, 272

Conduct of, cannot be questioned by means of
amendments, 124 *note* ² ; reflections upon, in
debate, 143, 144 *note* ³

SPEAKER—*continued.*

- Counsel to, 106, 256, 266
- Deputy for, *see* DEPUTY SPEAKER
- Duties and powers of, 25. *See also under subject headings*
- Election of, 6, 25
- Power to call House together on an earlier day may be given to, 2
- Questions to, notice of, not received, 65
- Quorum includes, 110
- Reference to, in debate, 143, 144 *note* ⁸
- Rising of, procedure on, 147
- Salary of, 26, 248
- Taking of oath by, 7, 14
- Vote of, 134
- Warrant of, for production of prisoner as witness, 237

SPECIAL REPORTS from select committees, 90, 100

SPEECH—

See also DEBATE

- King's, *see* KING'S SPEECH
- Reading of, 141
- Reservation of, 140

STANDING COMMITTEES, *see* COMMITTEES, STANDING

STANDING ORDERS—

Relating to private business—

- Amendment of, motions for, 57
- Compliance with, examination of bills as to, hybrid bills, 161 ; private bills, 255
- Dispensation with, in case of hybrid bills, 162 ; in case of private bills, 255

STANDING ORDERS—*continued.*

Relating to private business—*continued.*

Non-compliance with, of hybrid bills, 162 ; of private bills, 255

Suspension of, motions for, 57

Relating to public business, 290-340 ; table showing dates of passing and amendment of, 283-289

Select committee on, 104, 105

Chairman of, 27, 106

Reference to, of examiners' reports on hybrid bills, 162 ; on petitions for private bills, 255

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS, 37, 243

STRANGERS—

Admission of—

to House, Speaker and, 249-250

to select committees, 97

to standing committees, 89

Notice taken of presence of, duty of chair when, 250

Serjeant-at-arms' duties as to, 250-251

Withdrawal of—

Power of chair to order, 250

Power of standing committee to order, 89

SUB-COMMITTEES, appointment of, by select committees, 97

SUMMARY JURISDICTION, COURTS OF, reference to, in debate, 144 *note* ⁸

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES—

Days occupied by consideration of certain, not counted as "allotted days," 208

For new services, time for submission of, for consideration in committee of supply, 211

Presentation of, 200, 201

SUPPLY—

“ Business of,” items included in, 212 *note* 7

Committee of—

Appointment of, 11, 204

and Appropriations in aid, 215

Business in, taking of, after 11 p.m. on

“ allotted days,” 209

Chairman of, 27

Days allotted for sittings of, *see below*, Days
allotted

Days for which it may be fixed, 205

Estimates referred to, 200

Functions of, 205, 214

Going into, on navy, army, air or civil esti-
mates, first—

Motions on, 207 ; ballot for, 50, 207

Procedure on, 206

Motions in, *see below*, Grants

Order of the day for, procedure on reading,
206

Procedure in, 213 ; on “ allotted day ” given
to vote on account, 209 ; on last but one
of “ allotted days,” 209

Resolutions of—

See also below, Report

Recommittal of, 215

Submission of estimates for new services for
consideration in, 211

Votes cannot be taken in, without “ effective
notice,” 206

Days allotted to—

Days not counted as, 208

Given to a vote on account, procedure on, 209

SUPPLY—*continued.*Days allotted to—*continued.*

How Fridays count as, 211

Last two, procedure on, 209-211

Number of, 208

Given to a vote on account, 209

May be increased, 208

Taking of business in committee or proceedings
on report of supply after 11 p.m. on, 209

Taking of business other than supply before
11 p.m. on, 209

Taking of private business at 7.30 p.m. on, 58,
212 *note*^s

Grants of—

Alteration of destination of, motions for, not
allowed, 214

Exceptional, 203 ; estimates for, presentation
of, 200, 204

Excess, 200, 202

Increase of, motions for, not allowed, 214

Items in, omission or reduction of, motions for,
213, 214

Reduction of, motions for, 213, 214

Supplementary or additional, estimates for, 200,
201 ; for new services or war expenditure,
days occupied by consideration of, not
counted as "allotted days," 208, 212
note^e

Powers of House of Lords as to, 228, 268-269

Report of—

Consideration of, 215

Proceedings on, not excepted from interruption,
36 ; taking of, after 11 p.m. on "allotted
days," 209

SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS, 151-154

SUSPENSION OF SITTING—

By Speaker—

In case of grave disorder, 154

Until 4 p.m. when quorum not present, 112

Informal, 2, 112

TABLE OF THE HOUSE—

Crossing between chair and, 146 *note*³

When time begins to run in case of documents laid on, 37

SWEARING OF MEMBERS, 13-16

TAKING DOWN OF WORDS, 148

TALKING DURING DEBATE, 146, 147 *note*⁵

TAXATION—

Amendment, or new clause imposing or varying incidence of, cannot be moved on report stage of bill, 181 *and note*³

Bills for imposing, not committed to standing committees, 86, 166

Committee of ways and means and, 205, 216-219

Commons rights regarding, 224-231

Definition of, in Parliament Act, 269

House of Lords and, 224-231, 268-269

Increase of, cannot be proposed in committee of ways and means except by minister of Crown, 218 ; or on report of committee of ways and means, 219

TAXATION—*continued*.

Necessity of, must first be declared by Crown, 195

Petitions against, 334

Resolutions for continuing, imposing or increasing,
217-218 ; reported from committee of ways and
means, consideration of, 219 ; confirmation of,
218, 223

TELLERS, 132, 133

Procedure if two cannot be found, 133

TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN, *see* COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE
HOUSE

TEMPORARY LAWS, duration of, must be expressed in bills,
194

THIRD READING—

Of private bill, 57, 261 ; opposition to, 58, 262

Of public bill, 184-185

Amendments on, 185

Amendments to question for, 184

May be taken immediately after report or com-
mittee stage, 178, 184, 191 ; exceptions,
178, 184

TITLE OF BILL, amendment of, in committee, 168, 176 ;
after third reading, 185

UNOPPOSED BILLS, COMMITTEE ON, 265 ; voting by members
of, locally or personally interested, 267

UNOPPOSED RETURNS, *see* RETURNS

URGENT BILLS, 191

URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE, MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT
OF HOUSE ON MATTER OF, *see under* ADJOURNMENT OF
THE HOUSE

VICEROY of India, reference to, in debate, 144 *note* ³

VACATION OF SEAT, 13, 17 ; issue of new writ in case of,
16-22

VOTE—

Of chairman of committee of whole House, 134 ;
of private bill committee, 266 ; of select com-
mittee, 95

Of Speaker, 134

VOTE OFFICE, 26, 244

“ VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS,” 32, 245 ; printing of, 9, 246,
343

“ VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS ” OFFICE, 31, 242

VOTES OF CREDIT—

Days occupied by consideration of, not counted as
“ allotted days,” 208

Estimates for, presentation of, 200, 203

Procedure on going into committee of supply on,
206

VOTES ON ACCOUNT, 200 ; “ allotted days ” given to,
number of, and procedure on, 209

VOTING, *see* DIVISIONS

WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE, bills committed to standing committee relating exclusively to, 84

WAR EXPENDITURE, *see* ESTIMATES ; SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES ; SUPPLY ; VOTES OF CREDIT

WAYS AND MEANS—

Chairman of, *see* CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS

Committee of—

Appointment of, 11, 204

Bills originating in, exemption of proceedings on, from interruption, 36

Budget introduced in, 218

Business in, necessary to complete and render effective grants of supply counts as "business of supply," 209, 212 *note* 7

Chairman of, *see* CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS

Days for which it may be fixed, 205

Functions of, 205, 216

Procedure in, 218

Resolutions of, authorising issues from consolidated fund, 216 ; report of, may be considered forthwith, 219 ; exemption of proceedings on, from interruption, 36, 219 ; legislation consequent on, 220

Resolutions of, for taxation, 217 ; procedure on consideration of report of, 219 ; exemption of proceedings on, from interruption, 36, 219 ; legislation consequent on, 220

Sittings of, 205

WEDNESDAY SITTINGS—

At which government business has not precedence,
interruption of proceedings on first motion at
7.30 p.m. at, 44, 46

Precedence of business at, 43, 45 ; in session begin-
ning between Easter and Christmas, 44, 46

“ WHITE PAPER,” 52

WITHDRAWAL—

Of amendments, 122 ; to bills, 173

Of estimates, 215

Of members, power of chair to order, 150

Of motions, 122

Of public bills, 193

Of strangers, power of chair to order, 250

WITNESSES, 236-240

Before private bill committees, 237

Failure of, to attend, 96, 237

False evidence by, 238, 342

Interference with, 239, 342

Members as, 238

Peers or officers of House of Lords as, 238

Prisoners as, 237

Summoning of, before House or committee of whole
House, 236 ; before select committee, 96, 236

Swearing of, 238, 239

WRITS for election of members—

New, issue of—

During recess, 18-21 ; in case of Speaker's death or absence from realm, 22

During session, 16-18 ; motions for, 17 ; time for making, 8, 17, 53

In case of lunacy, 21

Motions for, 17 ; time for making, 8, 17, 53

Returns to, 12

