LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

NEW SOUTH WALES

# REPORT

# FROM THE

# STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

# CONTAINING

# PROPOSED NEW STANDING ORDER, AMENDED STANDING ORDERS AND RESCISSION OF CERTAIN STANDING ORDERS

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 19 February, 1964



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# EXTRACTS FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

#### VOTES No. 11. WEDNESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 1962

13. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (Sessional Order):--Mr. Mannix moved, pursuant to Notice,--

(1.) That the Standing Orders Committee for the present Session consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fowles, Mr. Nott, Mr. Tully, Mr. Wattison, Mr. Maddison, Mr. McCaw, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Hughes and the Mover, with leave to report on any matter or thing referred to or pending before the said Committee, and to confer upon subjects of mutual concernment with any Committee appointed for similar purposes by the Legislative Council, and that Mr. Speaker be empowered to convene meetings of the Committee.

(2.) That such Committee have leave to sit during any adjournment of the House.

Question put and passed.

#### VOTES No. 11, WEDNESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 1962

14. STANDING ORDERS—REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE:—Mr. Heffron moved, pursuant to Notice,—That the whole of the Standing Orders be referred to the Standing Orders Committee for consideration and report.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

#### VOTES No. 59, WEDNESDAY, 21 AUGUST, 1963

 STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE:-Mr. Mannix moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee have leave to sit during the sittings of the House.

Question put and passed.

#### VOTES No. 99, WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY, 1964

3. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (Proposed New Standing Order, Amended Standing Orders and Rescission of certain Standing Orders):--Mr. Mannix, on behalf of the Chairman, brought up from the Standing Orders Committee, a Report on a proposed New Standing Order, Amended Standing Orders and the Rescission of certain Standing Orders.

Ordered to be printed.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

NEW SOUTH WALES

# REPORT

FROM THE

# STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

# OF THE

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

CONTAINING

PROPOSED NEW STANDING ORDER, AMENDED STANDING ORDERS AND RESCISSION OF CERTAIN STANDING ORDERS THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, to whom was referred on 26th September, 1962, the whole of the Standing Orders for consideration and report;

has agreed to the following Report : ---

Your Committee, having had under consideration the whole of the Standing Orders, has now the honour to present a new Standing Order, amended Standing Orders and the rescission of certain Standing Orders as, in its opinion, ought to be adopted for the improvement of the procedure of your Honourable House.

# RAY MAHER,

Chairman.

Committee Room, Legislative Assembly, 14th November, 1963.

# STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Statement showing the effect of the Amendments agreed to by the Committee.

CHAPTER II .- PROCEEDINGS ON THE OPENING OF A NEW PARLIAMENT.

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## A MEMBER PROPOSED AS SPEAKER.

9. (a) After the Members present have been sworn, a Member, addressing himself to the Clerk, shall propose some other Member, then present, to the House, for their Speaker, and move, "That Mr.

do take the Chair of this House as Speaker", which motion must be seconded.

(b) A Member when proposed and seconded, shall stand up in his place and inform the House whether he accepts nomination.

(c) No Member shall speak to any such motion for more than ten minutes.

CHAPTER III.—GENERAL PROCEDURE.

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#### MEMBERS SEATED ON PETITION.

20. Members seated on Election Petition need not be introduced.

## ABSENCE OF SPEAKER AND CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

23. In the event of the absence of both the Speaker and the Chairman of Committees, the members present—if a quorum—may proceed, by motion made and seconded, to at once elect one of their number to act as Deputy-Speaker Acting-Speaker for the time being, and the Question in that case shall be put by the Clerk at the Table without debate, and the Member so elected shall have the same power and authority as is conferred on the Deputy-Speaker by Standing Order 22; and in the event of no such motion being carried, the Clerk shall declare the House adjourned until the next usual Sitting Day.

## ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

28. (a) A Member shall, by Resolution upon upon Motion without Notice, be elected Chairman of Committees of the Whole House, and when so elected shall continue to act as such Chairman during the continuance of the Assembly, unless the House shall otherwise direct.

(b) For the purpose of the election of a Chairman of Committees a Member shall propose some other Member, as Chairman of Committees, and move, "That Mr. be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House", which motion must be seconded. Further nominations may be proposed in like manner.

No Member shall speak to any such motion for more than ten minutes.

The Speaker shall, in the order in which the Members have been proposed, put the Question, "That Mr. be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House"; and if resolved in the affirmative the Member shall be declared elected; but, if in the negative, the Question shall then be put, by the Speaker, "That (the Member next proposed) be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House", and so on until a majority has been recorded in favour of one of the candidates.

(c) At any time during the proceedings relating to the election of Chairman of Committees, whether any Member is addressing the House or not, the Premier or a Minister may move, without notice or debate, "That the Question be now put".

Before putting the Question "That the Question be now put," the Speaker shall ask, "Is there any further proposal for the office of Chairman of Committees?" and the Speaker shall receive any nomination or nominations then made, no debate being allowed.

The Speaker shall then put the Question, without debate, "That the Question be now put".

The carrying of the Question "That the Question be now put" shall be deemed to be an instruction to the Speaker to put forthwith, and without further debate, the necessary Questions in relation to the candidates.

(b)(d) When a vacancy occurs in the office of Chairman, a new Chairman shall be elected in like manner.

#### NOMINATION OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN.

28 (e)28A. Mr. Speaker shall nominate, at the commencement of every Session, a panel of not more than five Members to act as Temporary Chairmen of Committees when requested by, or in the absence of, the Chairman of Committees, and any Temporary Chairman, while acting under this Standing Order, shall have all the powers of the Chairman of Committees of the Whole House : Provided that he shall immediately vacate the Chair on the return and at the request of the Chairman of Committees.

## ELECTION OF ACTING CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

28B. Whenever the Speaker is unavoidably absent and the Chairman of Committees is performing the duties of the Speaker in accordance with section 31A of the Constitution Act, 1902, as amended, or in the unavoidable absence for a period of the Chairman of Committees, the House may proceed, upon motion without notice, to the election of an Acting Chairman of Committees who shall exercise all the authorities, duties and functions of the Chairman.

For the purpose of the election of an Acting Chairman of Committees the procedure provided for the election of a Chairman of Committees shall be adopted.

CHAPTER IV .--- OPENING OF A SESSION OF PARLIAMENT.

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# FORMAL BUSINESS ONLY BEFORE ADOPTION OF ADDRESS.

39. Except as provided in Standing Order 29A Standing Orders Nos. 28, 29A, 49, 113A, 161 and 395, no business beyond what that which is of a formal character shall be entered upon before the Address in Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech has been adopted.

## CHAPTER V.—SITTING AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

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#### ABSENCE OF QUORUM.

44. If, at any time after the commencement of the Business of the Day, notice be taken by any Member, or the Chairman of a Committee of the Whole reports (whether upon Division or otherwise) that there is not a Quorum of Members present, the Serjeant at Arms, by direction of the Speaker shall ring the Division Bell, the Division Bell shall be rung, and one of the Clerks Assistant at the Table shall simultaneously turn a Minuteglass; and at the expiration of two minutes by the glass, the Speaker shall count the House and, if there be not a Quorum present (being at least twenty Members exclusive of the Speaker), shall adjourn the House, it appear by the Lists handed in by the Tellers that there is not a Quorum present, the Speaker shall adjourn the House at once, without the Bell being rung or the Minuteglass turned.

## CHAPTER VII.—ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS.

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#### PAPERS LAID UPON THE TABLE. ARE PUBLIC:

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57. All Papers and Documents laid upon the Table of the House shall be considered public and may be ordered to be printed without notice and without debate. Any such Papers or Documents ordered to be printed shall be considered public.

Papers not ordered to be printed may be inspected at the offices of the House at any time by Members, and, unless otherwise ordered by the Speaker, by other persons, and copies thereof or extracts therefrom may be made.

Should Mr. Speaker present any document he may, at once, put the Question: "That the Document be printed"; no debate being allowed.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PAPERS.

58. (a) The Clerk shall distribute to each Member of the Assembly, if so requested by him, a copy of each paper printed by Order of the Assembly, and shall transmit to the Clerk of the Council a sufficient number of copies of all such Papers for distribution to the Members of the Council.

(b) The Clerk shall cause to be printed and brought up to date weekly a list of the regulations, rules, ordinances, by-laws, proclamations, and instruments showing the date upon which each was laid upon the Table, together with the date of the last day (in the normal course of sitting days) upon which Notice of Motion for Disallowance may be given.

# CHAPTER VIII.-STRANGERS.

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# ACCOMMODATION FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS.

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62A. The representatives of registered newspapers shall have admission to the Press Gallery during the sittings of the House. The Speaker shall have control of the gallery and rooms adjacent thereto set apart for the use of the representatives of the Press, and shall provide for the accommodation in such gallery and rooms of a representative or representatives of such newspapers as he deems fit; but the House may, from time to time, direct by resolution that a representative or representatives of any newspaper shall be admitted to or excluded from the accommodation of such gallery and rooms : Provided that Mr. Speaker shall be entitled to put the Question when debate on any such resolution shall have exceeded thirty minutes, and that no Member or the Mover in Reply shall, without concurrence, speak to such resolution for more than ten minutes.

In this Standing Order "registered newspapers" shall be deemed to include licensed radio and television broadcasting stations which conduct independent news services. The privilege conferred upon representatives referred to in this Standing Order shall not, unless with the permission of the Speaker, confer the right upon such representatives to use cameras, microphones, tape recorders, or other mechanical recording device within the Chamber or the precincts of the House.

CHAPTER IX.—ATTENDANCE AND PLACES OF MEMBERS.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

65. Leave of absence, not exceeding the remainder of the then Session, may be given, **upon Motion without Notice**, by the House to any Member, for any sufficient cause, to be stated to the House.

## NOTICE OF MOTION FOR LEAVE.

66. Notice shall be given of a Motion for giving leave of absence to any Member, stating the cause and period of absence.

## NO MEMBER TO PASS BETWEEN CHAIR AND TABLE OR BETWEEN THE CHAIR AND THE MEMBER ADDRESSING THE CHAIR.

72. No Member shall pass between the Chair and the Table, or between the Chair and the Member addressing the Chair.

## CHAPTER X.-ROUTINE OF BUSINESS.

## ROUTINE OF BUSINESS.

74. The House shall proceed each day with its ordinary business in the following routine : 1. Presentation of Petitions. 2. Notices of Motions and Questions. 3. Formal Business. 4. Placing or Disposal of Business. 5. Motions and Orders of the Day, or vice versa, as set down on the Notice Paper. 3. Placing or Disposal of Business. 4. Formal Business. 5. Motions under Standing Order No. 49. 6. Motions and Orders of the Day, or vice versa, as set down on the Notice Paper. 3. Placing or the Notice Paper or as provided by Sessional Orders.

# PRESENTATION OF MESSAGES, PAPERS, AND RETURNS.

75. Messages between the Legislative Council and Assembly, Papers and Returns may be presented at any time when other business is not before the House. Debate on the motion for the adjournment of the House may be interrupted in order to present such Messages, Papers and Returns.

# CHAPTER XI.—QUESTIONS SEEKING INFORMATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

## QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.

79. Questions asked without notice may be read and are subject to the same rules as Questions upon notice, but neither the Question nor reply shall be recorded in the Votes and Proceedings : Provided that no Question shall be asked after the lapse of forty-five minutes from Mr. Speaker calling on Notices of Motions and Questions. **Provided further that no supplementary questions may be asked.** 

# CHAPTER XIII.-NOTICES OF MOTIONS.

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# ARGUMENT OR UNBECOMING EXPRESSIONS EXPUNCED.

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106. If a Notice contains **argument or** unbecoming expressions the Speaker may order that it shall not be printed, or it may be expunged from the Notice Paper, by order of the House.

# GIVING MORE THAN ONE NOTICE.

107. No Member (except a Minister) may give two Notices of Motions more than one Notice of Motion consecutively, except Notices of Motions under Standing Order No. 113A.

## CHAPTER XIV.-MOTIONS.

NOT TO BE MADE WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE .- EXCEPTIONS.

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110. No Member shall make any Motion, initiating a subject for discussion, but in pursuance of Notice openly given at a previous sitting of the House and duly entered on the Notice Paper, or by leave of the House; but it shall always be in order on the presentation of any document, except a Petition, for the Member presenting it to move, without previous Notice, that it be printed, and that a day be appointed for its consideration.

Should Mr. Speaker present any document, he may, at once, put the question that it be printed.

It shall also be in order at any time to move, without previous notice, that any resolution of the House be communicated by Message to the Council.

#### DISALLOWANCE OF REGULATIONS, RULES, ORDINANCES, BY-LAWS, PROCLAMATIONS, OR INSTRUMENTS.

113A. (a) Notice of a Motion to disallow or to amend, in accordance with statutory provisions, any regulation, rule, ordinance, by-law, proclamation, or instrument to which objection may be taken within a time specified shall, when given, be forthwith set down to be considered upon the next sitting day.

- (b) Such motions—
  - (i) shall have priority on such day in the order in which notice was given;
  - (ii) shall, except as provided in Standing Order No. 108, Standing Orders Nos. 108 and 161, take precedence over all other business on such day;
  - (iii) if not moved on that day shall lapse.

(c) Mr. Speaker shall be entitled to put the Question when debate on any such motion shall have exceeded thirty sixty minutes, and no Member or the Mover in Reply shall, without concurrence, speak to such motion for more than ten minutes.

#### CHAPTER XVI.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE AND FORMAL BUSINESS.

#### BUSINESS PAPER.

122. A Business Paper containing Notices of Questions and Motions and Orders of the Day and a Questions and Answers Paper shall be printed and circulated with the Votes and Proceedings.

#### INTERRUPTION OF BUSINESS.

123A. Whenever it is appointed that General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on any meeting day, and that after a specified hour Government Business shall take precedence of General Business, the Business under discussion shall be interrupted at the hour so specified.

- (a) If the interruption be in the House, the Debate shall stand adjourned and the Speaker shall call upon the Member in charge of the Business to name the date for the resumption of the Debate and the Member speaking shall have pre-audience upon such resumption.
- (b) If the interruption be in Committee the Chairman shall leave the Chair, report progress, and ask leave to sit again on a day fixed by the Member in charge of the Business under consideration.

At the moment of interruption, Motions for the Adjournment of the House or the Debate, or in Committee that the Chairman leave the Chair, or report progress, shall lapse without question put.

Provided that if at the moment of interruption a division be in progress such division shall be completed and the result announced.

The provisions of this Standing Order shall not apply to motions under Standing Order No. 49.

# MINISTERS MAY ARRANGE GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ON GOVERNMENT DAYS.

125. The right is reserved to Ministers to place take any Notices of Motions or Orders of the Day relating to Government Business upon the Business Paper in the rotation in which they desire them to be taken on any days on which Government Business has precedence.

#### CHAPTER XVIII.-RULES OF DEBATE.

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## INDULGENCE TO MEMBER UNABLE TO STAND.

136. By the special indulgence of the House Speaker, a Member unable conveniently to stand, by reason of sickness or infirmity, will be permitted to speak sitting and uncovered.

#### EXPLANATION.

139. A Member who has spoken to a Question may again be **briefly** heard, to explain himself in regard to some material part of his speech, but shall not introduce any new matter, or interrupt any Member in possession of the Chair.

#### TIME LIMIT OF SPEECHES.

142A. Except where a time limit is otherwise provided in these Standing Orders-

In the House,—No Member shall speak for more than forty-five minutes at a time on any question in the House except in the Debate on the Address in Reply, or on a Motion of Censure or "No confidence," on which occasions a Member shall not speak for more than one hour: Provided that with the consent of a majority of the House on a Motion to be moved and determined at once without amendment or debate, a Member may be allowed to continue his speech for a further period or periods, each period not to exceed twenty minutes.

In Committee of the Whole,—In Committee of the Whole House, except as hereinafter provided, no Member, other than the Member in charge of a Bill or Motion, shall speak more than three times on any one question, nor more than twenty minutes on any one occasion and ten minutes on any other occasion.

In Committee of Supply and Ways and Means,—In Committee of Supply or Ways and Means, except as hereinafter provided, no Member, other than the Minister in charge of a Resolution, or Estimates, shall speak more than three times on any one Question, nor more than forty five thirty minutes on any one occasion and ten minutes on any other occasion: Provided that when the Estimates are taken in globo, except as hereinafter provided, no Member other than the Minister in charge of the Resolutions or Estimates, shall speak more than three times on the Question, nor more than sixty minutes on the first occasion and ten minutes on any other occasion.

In Committee of Ways and Means,—In Committee of Ways and Means, except as hereinafter provided, no Member, other than the Minister in charge of a Resolution, shall speak more than three times on any one Question, nor more than forty-five minutes on any one occasion and ten minutes on any other occasion.

This Standing Order shall not apply to the Leader of the Government, a Minister in charge of a Bill or Motion then before the House, or to the Leader of the Opposition, or to the Leader of any Party in the House ordinarily recognised by the Speaker, or any Member deputed by them respectively to act on their behalf.

### SPEECHES OF SAME SESSION.

144. No Member shall read the report of any speech made in Parliament during the same Session.

No Member may allude to or quote from any debate or proceedings of the same session unless such allusion or quotation be brief and relevant to the matter under discussion.

USE OF THE KING'S OR GOVERNOR'S NAME.

#### USE OF THE SOVEREIGN'S OR GOVERNOR'S NAME.

148. No Member shall use His Majesty's the name of The Sovereign or the Governor's name Governor irreverently in debate, or for the purpose of influencing the House in its deliberations.

# OFFENSIVE WORDS, IMPUTATIONS AND REFLECTIONS AGAINST ANY MEMBER.

151. No Member shall use offensive or unbecoming words in reference to any Member of either House of Parliament or make imputations of improper motives or personal reflections on Members.

## DIGRESSIONS. IMPUTATIONS, AND REFLECTIONS.

152. No Member shall digress from the subject-matter of any Question under discussion. and all imputations of improper motives, and all personal reflections on Members, shall be deemed disorderly.

# SPEAKING TO PRIVILEGE. OR "TO ORDER."

158. A Member may rise to speak upon a matter of Privilege suddenly arising, or "to Order" subject to Rule 160.

When rising to speak upon a matter of Privilege under this Standing Order, a Member shall, before submitting a substantive motion, establish to the satisfaction of the Speaker, in a statement limited to five minutes, a prima facie case of breach of Privilege, and that the matter is being raised at the earliest opportunity. All matters of Privilege shall be dealt with by the House.

A Member may give Notice of Motion relating to a matter of Privilege.

# PROCEEDINGS ON QUESTION OF ORDER.

160. Upon a Question of Order being raised, the Member called to order shall resume his seat and A Member may rise to speak upon a Question of Order suddenly arising and the Member addressing the Chair shall resume his seat. After the Question of Order has been stated to the Speaker by the Member rising to Order, the Speaker may give his decision thereon, or he may first hear further argument thereon, at his discretion.

## OBJECTIONS TO THE RULINGS OF MR. SPEAKER.

161. A Ruling of Mr. Speaker may only be dissented from by Motion: Provided that Mr. Speaker shall be entitled to put the Question when Debate on any such Motion shall have exceeded thirty minutes, and that no Member or the Mover in Reply, shall, without concurrence, speak to such Motion for more than ten minutes.

Notice of such Motion shall be given and set down to be considered within three sitting-days of that on which the ruling was given, shall take precedence of all other business on the day appointed, and if not moved on that day shall lapse.

# OBJECTIONS TO DECISIONS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

162. If any objection is taken to a ruling or decision of the Chairman of Committees, such objection must be taken at once; and having been stated in writing, and if the Committee so decide (no debate being allowed, except a statement of the objection limited to ten five minutes), the Chairman shall leave the Chair, and the House resume, and the matter be laid before the Speaker; and having been disposed of, on the terms set forth for debating dissent from Mr. Speaker's ruling, the proceedings in Committee shall be resumed where they were interrupted.

#### CLOSURE .- RIGHT OF REPLY.

175. At any time during the proceedings of the House, or during the proceedings of a Committee of the Whole, and whether any Member is addressing the Chair or not, except where otherwise provided any Member may move, without notice or debate, "That the Question be now put"; and such Motion shall then be put without debate, but shall not be decided in the affirmative unless no division is called for or by a vote of at least thirty Members in favour thereof, and if such Motion be carried, the Speaker or Chairman of Committees, as the case may be, shall forthwith put the Question to the vote: Provided that, whenever it is decided that any Question shall be put, the mover of the matter pending shall be permitted to speak in reply (where any reply is allowed) for thirty minutes, except as provided in Hule 49e Standing Orders Nos. 49, 62A, 113A, 161, 244 and 395, before the Question be put.

## CHAPTER XX.—AMENDMENTS.

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## AMENDMENTS TO BE IN WRITING.

190. An Amendment to any Motion before the House must if required by the Chair, be in writing.

#### QUESTION AS AMENDED PUT PROPOSED.

199. When amendments have been agreed to, the main Question, as amended, shall be put proposed.

## CHAPTER XXI.—DIVISIONS.

#### NO MEMBER TO VOTE IF PERSONALLY INTERESTED.

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# NO MEMBER TO VOTE IF HE HAS PECUNIARY INTEREST.

204. No Member shall be entitled to vote in any Division upon a Question in which he has a direct pecuniary interest, and the vote of any Member so interested shall be disallowed.

# QUESTION PUT AND DIVISION TAKEN .- TELLERS.

208. (a) When the doors have been locked, the Speaker shall put the Question to the House, and the Members present shall take their seats, the "Ayes" to the right, and the "Noes" to the left of the Chair respectively, and the Speaker shall appoint Tellers—two for each party side; and shall declare which has the majority, from lists of the Members voting on each side to be handed to him by the Tellers; and, in the event of the Tellers not agreeing, the Speaker shall appoint other Tellers and so on from time to time until the Tellers shall have agreed. No Member appointed to act as a Teller shall decline to so act unless excused by the Speaker.

# MEMBERS PRESENT MUST VOTE.

(b) Every Member present in the House when the Question is then put, will be required to remain and vote.

# IF ONLY ONE MEMBER. NOT MORE THAN FIVE MEMBERS.

(c) In case there should be only one Member not more than five Members on a side on a Division, the Speaker, without completing the Division, shall forthwith declare the resolution arrived at and the number of the minority, and their names shall be taken down and printed in the proceedings.

## MEMBERS COUNTED, AND NAMES RECORDED.

(d) Members having taken seats, as far as possible, every Member shah then be counted, and his name recorded by the Tellers for either side, who shall sign the list, and present the same to the Speaker, who will declare the result to the House.

## DIVISIONS FRIVOLOUSLY CLAIMED.

213. (a) Mr. Speaker may, after the lapse of two minutes as indicated by the Minute glass, if in his opinion the Division is frivelously or vexationally claimed, take the vote of the House by directing the Members who support or challenge his decision to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, and he shall thereupon, as he thinks fit, either declare the determination of the House or name Tellers for a Division.

(b) In case there is no Division the Speaker shall declare the number of the minority who had challenged this decision, and their names shall, thereupon, be taken down and printed in the proceedings.

# CHAPTER XXII.—ADDRESSES TO HIS MAJESTY THE SOVEREIGN AND TO THE GOVERNOR.

#### ADDRESSES TO HIS MAJESTY THE SOVEREIGN PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR BY SPEAKER.

214. Addresses to His Majesty The Sovereign shall be presented to the Governor by the Speaker, who shall request His Excellency to cause the same to be forwarded for presentation.

#### CHAPTER XXV.—PUBLIC BILLS.

#### Initiation.

#### HOW INITIATED.

244. A Public Bill (unless sent from the Council) shall be initiated by a motion for leave to bring in the Bill, except Taxation, Temporary Supply, Loan, or Appropriation Bills, which shall be initiated by resolution reported from Committee of Ways and Means, and agreed to by the House, upon which a Motion, without Notice, specifying the intended title of the Bill shall be founded.

A Member, and the Mover in Reply, shall be entitled to speak for ten minutes to any such motion for leave to bring in a Bill, however initiated.

The Mover shall within that time briefly outline the objects of the Bill and an explanatory note shall be prefixed to the Bill when presented in pursuance of leave granted.

#### PROCEEDINGS ON BLANKS.

266. In going through a Bill no Question shall be put for the filling up of words already printed in italics, and commonly called "blanks," unless exception be taken thereto, and if no alterations have been made in the words as printed in italics, the Bill is to be reported without amendment, unless other amendments have been made therein.

#### PREAMBLE AGREED TO.

270. After every Clause and Schedule has been agreed to, and any new clauses added which are within the title of the Bill, or pursuant to any instructions, the Preamble shall be considered, and, if necessary, amended, and a Question put proposed "That the Preamble as read (or amended) be the Preamble of the Bill".

# First Report to Adoption of Final Report.

# BILL REPORTED TO THE HOUSE.

273. When the Bill shall have been thus considered or amended, clause by clause, the Question shall be put, without debate, "That the Chairman do now leave the Chair and report the Bill with, or without, amendment to the House", and the Chairman shall report the Bill, with or without amendment, accordingly to the House, and the Report shall be received without Question put.

#### Assent.

PREPARATION AND CERTIFICATES REQUIRED PRIOR TO PRESENTATION FOR ASSENT.

#### 306. (1) Every Bill originated in this House-

- (a) which shall finally pass both Houses, or
- (b) which, in accordance with the provisions of section 5A or section 5B of the Constitution Act, 1902, is presented for the signification of His Majesty's The Sovereign's pleasure thereon,

shall be fair printed on vellum or parchment and be by the Speaker presented to the Governor.

Before being so presented a Bill shall be certified in accordance with this Standing Order.

(2) Where a Bill has finally passed both Houses, the Chairman of Committees or the Acting Chairman of Committees shall certify in writing on the Bill that he has examined such fair print and found it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as finally passed by both Houses, and at the top of the first page of such fair print the Clerk of the Assembly shall certify that it has finally passed both Houses.

(3) Where a Bill is to be presented in accordance with section  $5_A$  of the Constitution Act, 1902, the Chairman of Committees or the Acting Chairman of Committees shall certify in writing on the Bill that he has examined such fair print and found it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as directed by the Legislative Assembly, in accordance with section  $5_A$  of the Constitution Act, 1902, to be presented for the signification of His Majesty's The Sovereign's pleasure thereon, and the Clerk of the Assembly shall certify at the top of the first page of such fair print that the Bill has passed the Legislative Assembly, and that the Assembly has directed, in accordance with the provisions of section  $5_A$  of the Constitution Act, 1902, that the Bill be presented to the Governor for the signification of His Majesty's The Sovereign's pleasure thereon.

(4) Where a Bill is to be presented in accordance with section 5B of the Constitution Act, 1902, the Chairman of Committees or the Acting Chairman of Committees shall certify in writing on the Bill that he has examined such fair print and found it to correspond in all respects with the Bill as approved at a referendum by a majority of the electors voting, and the Clerk of the Assembly shall certify at the top of the first page of such fair print that the Bill has passed the Legislative Assembly, and, having been approved at a referendum by a majority of the electors voting, is now presented to the Governor, in accordance with the provisions of section 5B of the Constitution Act, 1902, for the signification of His Majesty's The Sovereign's pleasure thereon.

# CHAPTER XXVI.-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE.

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#### ABSENCE OF QUORUM.

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322. If notice be taken of the absence of a Quorum, the Serjeant at-Arms, by direction of the Chairman shall ring the Division Bell, the Division Bell shall be rung, and one of the Clerks Assistant shall simultaneously turn the Minute-glass, and if within two minutes as indicated by the Minute-glass, a Quorum be not formed, or if it appears upon a Division in Committee, that a Quorum of Members be not present, the Chairman shall leave the Chair of the Committee without a Question being put, and the Speaker shall resume the Chair.

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326. When all matters referred to a Committee have been considered, the Chairman shall be directed to report the same to the House. and when all such matters have not been considered, the Chairman shall report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

#### REPORT BROUGHT UP.

327. 328. A Report from a Committee of the Whole House shall be brought up without any Question being put.

#### MOTION TO REPORT PROGRESS.

328. 327. A Motion may be made during the proceedings of a Committee "That the Chairman leave the Chair, report progress, and ask leave to sit again," no debate being allowed on such Motion.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.—SELECT COMMITTEES.

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#### SECRET COMMITTEE.

#### COMMITTEE SITTING IN CAMERA.

366. No Strangers, or Members, not being of the Select Committee, shall be admitted at any time to a Secret Committee Committee sitting in camera.

# CHAPTER XXXI.-SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS-PROCEDURE IN URGENT CASES.

395. Any Standing Order or Orders of the House may be suspended on Motion duly made and seconded in accordance with notice given, and in cases of urgent necessity such Standing Order or Orders may be suspended on Motion duly made and seconded without notice. Provided that the Speaker shall be entitled to put the Question when debate on any such Motion shall have exceeded one hour, and that no Member or the Mover in **Reply** shall, without concurrence, speak to such Motion for more than ten minutes.

## Any substantive Motion sought to be discussed by way of Urgency must conform to the rules and practice of the House in respect to Motions and Notices of Motions.

The question of urgency shall be decided by the House upon Motion, without notice or debate, except a statement by the Mover and a statement by a Minister, or the Leader of the Opposition when the Motion is moved by a Minister, each limited to ten minutes.