

Chapter CXLIX.¹

THE MEETING OF CONGRESS.

1. Provisions of Constitution. Section 1.

1. The twentieth amendment to the Constitution provides for the annual meeting of Congress.

The term of a Congress begins on the 3d of January of the odd-numbered years, and extends through two years.

The twentieth amendment to the Constitution provides:

The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 4, Article 1 of the Constitution, provided for the assembling of Congress on the first Monday in December of each year unless otherwise provided by law, and the term of a Congress began on the 4th of March of the odd numbered years and extended through two years. Under the twentieth amendment to the Constitution, proclaimed March 3, 1932, the term of Congress begins on the 3d of January of the odd-numbered years, and extends through two years.

In Section 3 of Article 11, the further provision is made that the President of the United States “may on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them.”

¹Supplementary to Chapter 1.