

vised that the Clerk took up the reading exactly where first interrupted.

Matters Not in Order Until Reading Completed

§ 12.23 A request that the Record be corrected is not in order during the reading of the Journal.

On June 1, 1934,⁽¹⁴⁾ in response to a Member who interrupted the reading of the Journal with a parliamentary inquiry as to the propriety of asking at that time that the Record be corrected, the Speaker⁽¹⁵⁾ advised that it would not be proper at that time.

§ 12.24 The motion to dispense with Calendar Wednesday business is not in order during a reading of the Journal.

On Sept. 19, 1962,⁽¹⁶⁾ before the Clerk had completed his reading of the Journal, a Member moved that business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with after an objection was voiced to his request that such business be dispensed with by unanimous consent. The

14. 78 CONG. REC. 10226, 73d Cong. 2d Sess.

15. Henry T. Rainey (Ill.).

16. 108 CONG. REC. 19943, 87th Cong. 2d Sess.

Speaker⁽¹⁷⁾ ruled that the motion was not in order until after the Journal was read.

§ 13. Effecting Corrections

Jefferson's Manual⁽¹⁸⁾ states that on information of an incorrect or omitted entry in the Journal, a committee may be appointed to examine and rectify it, and report it to the House. However, in practice, the correction of the Journal is accomplished without utilizing such procedure, being done simply either by motion⁽¹⁹⁾ or unanimous consent.⁽²⁰⁾ The latter method is employed usually, if not exclusively, when the Journal to be corrected is that of a day prior to the previous legislative day.⁽¹⁾ For example, when the Journal of a day preceding the previous legislative day fails through oversight to indicate that the Speaker signed a particular enrolled bill,⁽²⁾ or which shows an incorrect placement of an amendment to a bill,⁽³⁾ it may be corrected by unanimous consent.

17. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

18. *House Rules and Manual* §583 (1973).

19. See, for example, § 13.1, *infra*.

20. See, for example, § 13.4, *infra*.

1. See §§ 13.4 et seq., *infra*.

2. See § 13.5, *infra*.

3. See § 13.7, *infra*.

The motion to amend the Journal takes precedence of the motion to approve it,⁽⁴⁾ but is not in order before the reading of the Journal has been completed,⁽⁵⁾ and will be denied after the previous question has been demanded on the motion to approve the Journal.⁽⁶⁾ However, the motion to commit provided for in the rule for the previous question⁽⁷⁾ may be applied to a motion to amend the Journal.⁽⁸⁾

Time for Making Corrections

§ 13.1 A motion to amend the Journal is not in order prior to a reading of the Journal.

On May 4, 1960,⁽⁹⁾ prior to the commencement of the reading of the Journal, a Member stating a parliamentary inquiry asked whether a motion to amend the Journal was in order at that point or during the reading of the Journal or at the conclusion of the reading of the Journal. The Speaker⁽¹⁰⁾ ruled that such a mo-

- 4. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 2760; 6 Cannon's Precedents § 633.
- 5. See § 13.2, *infra*.
- 6. See § 13.3, *infra*.
- 7. Rule XVII clause 1, *House Rules and Manual* § 804 (1973).
- 8. 5 Hinds' Precedents § 5574.
- 9. 106 CONG. REC. 9413, 86th Cong. 2d Sess.
- 10. Sam Rayburn (Tex.).

tion was not in order at that point.

§ 13.2 A motion to amend the Journal is not in order until the reading thereof has been completed.

On Sept. 13, 1965,⁽¹¹⁾ a Member rising to a parliamentary inquiry interrupted the reading of the Journal to ask whether it would be in order to move to amend the Journal at that time or after completion of the reading of the Journal. In response, the Speaker⁽¹²⁾ stated that the effort of any Member to amend the Journal would have to be at the conclusion of the reading of the Journal.

§ 13.3 A motion to amend the Journal, made after the previous question is demanded on a motion to approve, will be denied.

On June 1, 1934,⁽¹³⁾ following the reading of the Journal, a Member moved that the Journal be approved, and on that motion demanded the previous question. Another Member then moved to amend the Journal, making the point of order that such motion

- 11. 111 CONG. REC. 23598, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.
- 12. John W. McCormack (Mass.).
- 13. 78 CONG. REC. 10226, 73d Cong. 2d Sess.

had precedence. The Speaker,⁽¹⁴⁾ citing an earlier precedent,⁽¹⁵⁾ ruled that a motion to amend the Journal might not be had after the moving of the previous question on a motion to approve the Journal. The previous question was then ordered.

Again, on Sept. 13, 1965,⁽¹⁶⁾ after the reading of the Journal had been completed, a Member moved that it be approved as read and moved the previous question thereon, whereupon another Member moved to lay on the table the motion to approve and attempted to offer an amendment to the Journal. The Speaker⁽¹⁷⁾ ruled that the motion to lay on the table was in order, but that the amendment was not.

Method of Effecting Corrections

§ 13.4 When the Journal erroneously shows a Member as absent during a roll call, it may be corrected by unanimous consent.

On June 29, 1966,⁽¹⁸⁾ at the request of a Member, the Journal of

14. Henry T. Rainey (Ill.).

15. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 2770.

16. 111 CONG. REC. 23600, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.

17. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

18. H. JOUR. 655, 89th Cong. 2d Sess.

June 27, 1966, was corrected by unanimous consent to show him as present and answering to his name in response to a roll call conducted on that date.

§ 13.5 Where the Journal of a day preceding the previous legislative day fails through oversight to indicate that the Speaker signed a particular enrolled bill, it may be corrected by unanimous consent.

On June 24, 1968,⁽¹⁹⁾ the Journal of the proceedings of Thursday, June 20, having been read and approved, the Speaker⁽²⁰⁾ announced that although he had signed a particular enrolled bill⁽¹⁾ on Wednesday, June 19, through accident or oversight that fact was not noted in either the Journal or the Record, and that therefore, without objection, the Journal and Record of June 19 would be amended to reflect such action. There was no objection.

§ 13.6 Where the Journal contains an error with respect to an appointment made by the Speaker, it may be corrected by unanimous consent.

19. H. JOUR. 591, 90th Cong. 2d Sess. (1968).

20. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

1. H.R. 4566, 90th Cong. 2d Sess. (1968).

On Feb. 4, 1963,⁽²⁾ the Speaker,⁽³⁾ calling attention to an error in the list of those appointed by him on Jan. 31, 1963, to the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Military Academy, asked unanimous consent that the Journal and Record be corrected accordingly. There was no objection.

§ 13.7 The Journal may, by unanimous consent, be corrected to show the proper place for an adopted amendment in a bill.

On Aug. 30, 1957,⁽⁴⁾ a Member asked unanimous consent that the Journal of June 17, 1957, which erroneously showed a certain amendment to a reported bill⁽⁵⁾ as having been adopted following a particular line therein, be corrected to properly reflect the action taken by the House and show that such amendment was instead adopted as a specific subsection and inserted immediately following a different line of the reported bill. There was no response to the call of the Speaker pro tempore⁽⁶⁾ for objections.

2. H. JOUR. 177, 88th Cong. 1st Sess. (1963).

3. John W. McCormack (Mass.).

4. 103 CONG. REC. 16760, 85th Cong. 1st Sess.

5. H.R. 6127, 85th Cong. 1st Sess. (1957).

6. Jere Cooper (Tenn.).

Precedence of Motion to Amend Journal in Senate

§ 13.8 In the Senate, a motion to amend the Journal made after the reading thereof takes precedence of a motion to lay a House bill before the Senate and make it the pending business.

On July 26, 1962,⁽⁷⁾ following a quorum call conducted immediately after the reading of the Journal, a Senator moved that the Senate turn to the consideration of a certain House bill⁽⁸⁾ and that it be laid down and made the pending business. Another Senator, however, pointing out that because of the quorum call there had been no opportunity to offer amendments to the Journal, raised the point of order that such motion was not in order until such time as amendments to the Journal had been offered and consideration thereof completed. The presiding officer⁽⁹⁾ sustained the point of order, noting that under Senate Rule III⁽¹⁰⁾ any motion to amend or correct the Journal was privileged and to be proceeded

7. 108 CONG. REC. 14857, 87th Cong. 2d Sess.

8. H.R. 11040, 87th Cong. 2d Sess. (1962).

9. Lee Metcalf (Mont.).

10. Rule III clause 1, *Senate Manual*.

with until disposed of, but that there had been no opportunity to present such a motion because the Senate found itself without a quorum.

§ 14. Approval

In ordinary practice the Journal is approved by the House without the formality of a motion,⁽¹¹⁾ after the Speaker, in accordance with the applicable House rule,⁽¹²⁾ has examined it and announced that it meets with his approval. But when objection is raised to the approval of the Journal by unanimous consent, the Speaker may immediately put the question thereon to the House.⁽¹³⁾ Moreover, even though the Speaker announces his approval of the Journal, he or the House may order it read.⁽¹⁴⁾ And, in this regard, a motion that the Journal be approved as read, in the absence of timely objection thereto, may be entertained and acted upon even though offered before the reading of the Journal has been completed.⁽¹⁵⁾ On the other hand, the motion to amend the Journal, al-

11. See §§ 14.10, 14.11, *infra*.

12. See § 11, *supra*.

13. See § 14.12, *infra*.

14. See § 11, *supra*.

15. See §§ 14.4 *et seq.*, *infra*.

though taking precedence over the motion to approve it, may not be admitted after the previous question has been demanded on the motion to approve.⁽¹⁶⁾

It is a long-established rule that the transaction of business, no matter how highly privileged, is not in order before the approval of the Journal.⁽¹⁷⁾ Thus, even a matter of such high privilege as a report from the Committee on Rules may not be called up for consideration before the Journal has been approved.⁽¹⁸⁾ However, the Journal's approval yields to, and thus may be delayed by, the simple motion to adjourn,⁽¹⁹⁾ the administration of the oath,⁽²⁰⁾ a point of no quorum,⁽¹⁾ an arraignment of impeachment,⁽²⁾ a parliamentary inquiry,⁽³⁾ and questions of privilege of the House.⁽⁴⁾ And, of course, those matters sanctioned by unanimous consent prior to or during the reading of the Journal are at the same time necessarily in order before the approval of the Journal also.⁽⁵⁾

16. See § 13, *supra*.

17. See § 12, *supra*.

18. See § 12.2, *supra*.

19. See § 12.3, *supra*.

20. See § 12.5, *supra*.

1. See §§ 12.6, 12.13, *supra*.

2. 6 Cannon's Precedents § 469.

3. See § 12.15, *supra*.

4. See § 12.17, *supra*.

5. See § 12, *supra*.