

spoken to the chairmen of both committees.

§44. Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries was established on Dec. 21, 1887,⁽⁷⁾ to take the place of the old Select Committee on Shipbuilding and Shipowning Interests. The committee was primarily ocean-oriented, and because of the importance of wireless telegraphy (i.e., radio) in maritime commerce, sea disasters, and naval operations,⁽⁸⁾ the committee was given jurisdiction over matters relating to radio services in 1919.⁽⁹⁾ In 1932, the committee's name changed to become the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries; however, the new name lasted only briefly as the committee was divested of radio services jurisdiction by House resolution⁽¹⁰⁾ in

1935. The same resolution also increased the jurisdictional breadth of the committee by transferring to it subject matters formerly within the realm of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.⁽¹¹⁾ The Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946⁽¹²⁾ further enhanced the committee's jurisdiction. Under the 1973 rules⁽¹³⁾ the committee's jurisdiction read as follows:

- (a) Merchant marine generally.
- (b) Coast and Geodetic Survey.
- (c) Coast Guard, including lifesaving service, lighthouses, lightships, and ocean derelicts.
- (d) Fisheries and wildlife, including research, restoration, refuges, and conservation.
- (e) Measures relating to the regulation of common carriers by water (except matters subject to the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission) and to the inspection of merchant marine vessels, lights and signals, lifesaving equipment, and fire protection on such vessels.

- 7. 4 Hinds' Precedents §4129.
- 8. See Walter J. Oleszek, "Monographs on the Committees of the House of Representatives" (93d Cong. 2d Sess., Dec. 13, 1974), committee print, p. 110.
- 9. The committee had reported on measures pertaining to radio communication before that, however; see 7 Cannon's Precedents §1853.
- 10. H. Res. 126, 79 CONG. REC. 2631, 74th Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 26, 1935.

- 11. The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce forfeited its jurisdiction over all transportation by water, the Coast Guard, lifesaving service, lighthouses, lightships, ocean derelicts, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the Panama Canal. See §44.19, *infra*.
- 12. 60 Stat. 812.
- 13. Rule XI clause 14, *House Rules and Manual* §709 (1973). See Rule X clause 1(n), *House Rules and Manual* §683 (1979).

(f) Merchant marine officers and seamen.

(g) Navigation and the laws relating thereto, including pilotage.

(h) Panama Canal and the maintenance and operation of the Panama Canal, including the administration, sanitation, and government of the Canal Zone; and interoceanic canals generally.

(i) Registering and licensing of vessels and small boats.

(j) Rules and international arrangements to prevent collisions at sea.

(k) United States Coast Guard and Merchant Marine Academies.

As noted in the *House Rules and Manual*,⁽¹⁴⁾ the jurisdiction of this committee includes the general subjects of shipbuilding, admission of foreign-built ships, registering and licensing of vessels,⁽¹⁵⁾ including pleasure yachts,⁽¹⁶⁾ tonnage taxes and fines and penalties on vessels,⁽¹⁷⁾ the extension and increase of the merchant marine,⁽¹⁸⁾ navigation and the laws relating thereto,⁽¹⁹⁾ pilotage,⁽²⁰⁾ the naming and measuring of vessels,⁽¹⁾ rules, and inter-

14. Rule XI clause 14, *House Rules and Manual* §710 (1973). See Rule X clause 1(n), *House Rules and Manual* §683 (1979).

15. 4 Hinds' Precedents §4134.

16. *Id.* at §4143.

17. *Id.* at §4131, and 7 Cannon's Precedents §1856.

18. 4 Hinds' Precedents §4138.

19. *Id.* at §4130.

20. *Id.* at §4136.

1. *Id.* at §4132.

national arrangements to prevent collisions at sea,⁽²⁾ and the shipping, wages, treatment,⁽³⁾ and health of sailors.⁽⁴⁾

The committee has also exercised a general jurisdiction over subjects relating to inspection of steam vessels as to hulls and boilers⁽⁵⁾ lights and signals,⁽⁶⁾ and protection from fire on vessels,⁽⁷⁾ collisions, coasting districts, marine schools, etc.,⁽⁸⁾ regulation of small vessels propelled by naphtha, etc., and transportation of inflammable substances on passenger vessels,⁽⁹⁾ the titles, conduct, and licensing of officers of vessels,⁽¹⁰⁾ and regulation of shipping in Hawaii.⁽¹¹⁾ The committee exercises jurisdiction as to the seal herds and other revenue-producing animals of Alaska.⁽¹²⁾

As the precedents reveal, the committee's jurisdiction has also extended to such matters as regulating the hours and pay of cer-

2. *Id.* at §4135.

3. *Id.* at §4140.

4. *Id.* at §4141.

5. *Id.* at §4133, and 7 Cannon's Precedents §1854.

6. 4 Hinds' Precedents §4135.

7. *Id.* at §4141.

8. *Id.* at §4146, and 7 Cannon's Precedents §1857.

9. 4 Hinds' Precedents §4142.

10. *Id.* at §4139.

11. *Id.* at §4130.

12. 7 Cannon's Precedents §§1725, 1851.

tain civilian employees of the Coast Guard,⁽¹³⁾ authorizing construction of a geomagnetic station for the Department of Commerce,⁽¹⁴⁾ authorizing construction of a saltwater marine-life research lab,⁽¹⁵⁾ licensing commercial boat personnel,⁽¹⁶⁾ promoting foreign commerce through use of mobile (seagoing) trade fairs,⁽¹⁷⁾ and controlling the shipment overseas of gasoline and petroleum products from the United States.⁽¹⁸⁾ The committee has also had jurisdiction over measures relating to marine resources of the Continental Shelf and the establishment of a Marine Exploration and Development Commission,⁽¹⁹⁾ the importation and interstate shipment of endangered wildlife species,⁽²⁰⁾ and the use of radios on shipboard.⁽²¹⁾

In 1973, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries main-

13. § 44.3, *infra*.

14. § 44.8, *infra*.

15. § 44.7, *infra*.

16. § 44.9, *infra*.

17. § 44.12, *infra*.

18. § 44.14, *infra*.

19. § 44.10, *infra*.

20. § 44.21, *infra*.

21. § 44.18, *infra*. The committee's jurisdiction over this subject was with the consent of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce although the legislation in question called for amendment of the Communications Act of 1934.

tained five subcommittees, as follows:

1. Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation;
2. Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment;
3. Subcommittee on Merchant Marine;
4. Subcommittee on Oceanography; and
5. Subcommittee on Panama Canal.

The Committee Reform Amendments of 1974 broadened the jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries over Coast and Geodetic Survey to include the entire subject of oceanography and marine affairs, including coastal zone management; the amendments also granted the committee jurisdiction over state maritime academies and international fishing agreements.

Canadian Registered Ship— Permitting Travel Between American Ports

§ 44.1 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has jurisdiction of a joint resolution to permit travel by ship of Canadian registry between American ports.

On May 5, 1941,⁽²²⁾ Schuyler Otis Bland, of Virginia, Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, obtained unanimous consent that the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 166), which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, be rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing Mr. Bland noted that both the author of the resolution and the Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce were in agreement with such action.⁽²³⁾

Canal Zone Code and Postage Stamp Designs

§ 44.2 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has jurisdiction of a bill amending the Canal Zone Code to prescribe the design of postage stamps to be used in the Canal Zone postal service.

On July 2, 1963,⁽²⁴⁾ Thomas J. Murray, of Tennessee, Chairman

22. 87 CONG. REC. 3596, 77th Cong. 1st Sess.

23. H.J. Res. 166 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on June 6, 1941 (H. Rept. No. 744).

24. 109 CONG. REC. 12120, 88th Cong. 1st Sess.

of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6081), and to have it rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Civilian Employees of Coast Guard—Duties and Pay

§ 44.3 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has jurisdiction of a bill and an executive communication pertaining thereto, to regulate the hours of duty and the pay of civilian keepers of lighthouses and civilians employed on lightships and other vessels of the Coast Guard.

On Mar. 21, 1949,⁽²⁵⁾ Thomas J. Murray, of Tennessee, Chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, obtained unanimous consent to have the bill (H. R. 3294), and a letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury pertaining thereto (Exec. Comm. No. 289), rereferred from his committee to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so

25. 95 CONG. REC. 2868, 81st Cong. 1st Sess.

doing, Mr. Murray noted that he had made his request at the suggestion of the Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Coast and Geodetic Survey Officers

§ 44.4 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Armed Services has jurisdiction of a bill to extend to commissioned officers of the Coast and Geodetic Survey the provisions of the Armed Forces Leave Act of 1946.

On Mar. 11, 1949,⁽²⁶⁾ Carl Vinson, of Georgia, Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2572), and to have it referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.⁽²⁷⁾

Fisheries Research—Aiding Fish Restoration and Management Projects

§ 44.5 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

26. 95 CONG. REC. 2277, 81st Cong. 1st Sess.

27. H.R. 2572 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on June 29, 1949 (H. Rept. No. 950).

and not the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction of a bill to provide that the United States shall aid the states in fish restoration and management projects.

On Feb. 25, 1941,⁽²⁸⁾ by direction of the Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. Frank H. Buck, of California, obtained unanimous consent to have that committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3361), and to have it rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Conveyance of Land Formerly Operated as Federal Fish Cultural Station

§ 44.6 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Public Lands (now the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs), had jurisdiction of a bill to grant a certain parcel of land in St. Louis County, Minnesota (formerly operated as a federal fish cultural station), to the University of Minnesota.

On May 13, 1948,⁽²⁹⁾ Mr. Fred L. Crawford, of Michigan, ob-

28. 87 CONG. REC. 1389, 77th Cong. 1st Sess.

29. 94 CONG. REC. 5823, 80th Cong. 2d Sess.

tained unanimous consent that the bill (H.R. 6446), which was previously referred to the Committee on Public Lands (now the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs), be rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing, Mr. Aspinall noted that "It is the sense of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs that this bill properly comes within the scope and jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries."

Construction of Saltwater Marine-life Research Laboratory

§ 44.7 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs had jurisdiction in the 86th Congress of a bill to provide for construction of a saltwater marine-life research laboratory.

On Feb. 16, 1959,⁽¹⁾ Wayne N. Aspinall, of Colorado, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, requested unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4402), and to have it rereferred to

1. 105 CONG. REC. 2382, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.

the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing, Mr. Aspinall noted that "It is the sense of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs that this bill properly comes within the scope and jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries."

Immediately thereafter, the House granted unanimous consent.

Geomagnetic Station for Department of Commerce

§ 44.8 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has jurisdiction of an executive communication transmitting a draft of a bill entitled "To authorize the construction and equipment of a geomagnetic station for the Department of Commerce."

On Sept. 13, 1950,⁽²⁾ Mr. Lindley Beckworth, of Texas, obtained unanimous consent that the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce be discharged from further consideration of a letter from the Acting Secretary of Commerce (Exec. Comm. No.

2. 96 CONG. REC. 14746, 81st Cong. 2d Sess.

1652), and that the communication be referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Licensing of Commercial Boat Personnel

§ 44.9 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction of a bill relating to the licensing of personnel on tug boats, towing boats, and freight boats [amending 46 USC §405].

On Oct. 7, 1969,⁽³⁾ Mr. James A. Burke, of Massachusetts, on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means,⁽⁴⁾ obtained unanimous consent to have that committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H. R. 14186), and to have it rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Parliamentarian's Note: There was no jurisdictional conflict with respect to H.R. 14186. The bill was inadvertently referred to the Committee on Ways and Means when it was introduced on Oct. 3, 1969.

3. 115 CONG. REC. 28798, 91st Cong. 1st Sess.

4. Wilbur D. Mills (Ark.).

Marine Resources of the Continental Shelf; Marine Exploration and Development

§ 44.10 In the 89th Congress, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs had jurisdiction of a bill relating to marine resources of the Continental Shelf and establishment of a Marine Exploration and Development Commission.

On Mar. 15, 1965,⁽⁵⁾ Wayne N. Aspinall, of Colorado, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6009), and to have it rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

On Mar. 17, 1965,⁽⁶⁾ Mr. Aspinall similarly obtained unanimous consent to have an identical bill (H.R. 5884), rereferred from his committee to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Parliamentarian's Note: Both bills were initially referred to the

5. 111 CONG. REC. 5001, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.

6. 111 CONG. REC. 5285, 89th Cong. 1st Sess.

Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs because they dealt with the development of the land mass beneath the sea. The rereferrals were at the instigation of the chairman, who declined jurisdiction.

Merchant Marine Act

§ 44.11 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction of a bill to amend title V of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936.

On Feb. 2, 1959,⁽⁷⁾ Speaker Sam Rayburn, of Texas, recognized Wilbur D. Mills, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, who made the following statement:

Mr. Speaker, on January 12, last, H.R. 2181, to amend title V of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, to promote the maintenance of the American fishing fleet under competitive conditions and in the interest of sustained fish food supplies in case of emergency, and for other purposes, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. The bill proposes to amend an act that comes within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

I ask unanimous consent, therefore, that the bill be referred to the Com-

7. 105 CONG. REC. 1606, 86th Cong. 1st Sess.

mittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Immediately thereafter, unanimous consent was granted.

Mobile (Seagoing) Trade Fairs

§ 44.12 In the 87th Congress, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce had jurisdiction of a bill designed to promote foreign commerce abroad through use of mobile [seagoing] trade fairs.

On Aug. 27, 1962,⁽⁸⁾ Oren Harris, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (S. 3389), and to have it rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Parliamentarian's Note: While the text of the bill (S. 3389), did not disclose the fact, the trade fair contemplated by this bill would have involved U.S. naval or merchant vessels outfitted for this special purpose.⁽⁹⁾

8. 108 CONG. REC. 17706, 87th Cong. 2d Sess.

9. S. 3389 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and

Private Bill Conveying Land to Utility Company

§ 44.13 In the 87th Congress, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs had jurisdiction of a private bill to provide for the conveyance of certain land under the control of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries to a utility company.

On Feb. 28, 1961,⁽¹⁰⁾ Wayne N. Aspinall, of Colorado, Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, requested unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the private bill (H.R. 3840), and to have it re-referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing, Mr. Aspinall noted:

. . . It is the sense of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs that this bill properly comes within the scope and jurisdiction of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Immediately thereafter, the House granted unanimous consent.

Fisheries on Sept. 21, 1962 (H. Rept. No. 2463).

- 10.** 107 CONG. REC. 2858, 87th Cong. 1st Sess.

Parliamentarian's Note: The land to be conveyed was under the control of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and was used for conservation and wildlife refuge purposes.⁽¹¹⁾

Petroleum Shipment Overseas

§ 44.14 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Armed Services has jurisdiction of a bill to control the shipment to foreign countries of gasoline and petroleum products from the United States.

On July 17, 1947,⁽¹²⁾ Walter G. Andrews, of New York, Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4042), and to have it re-referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.⁽¹³⁾

- 11.** H.R. 3840 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on Aug. 23, 1961 (H. Rept. No. 1019).

- 12.** 93 CONG. REC. 9205, 80th Cong. 1st Sess.

- 13.** H.R. 4042 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 21, 1947 (H. Rept. No. 1018).

Retirement Benefits of Lighthouse Service Employees

§ 44.15 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has jurisdiction of a bill to provide benefits for the widows of certain persons who were retired or are eligible for retirement under section 6 of the act entitled "An act to authorize aids to navigation and for other works in the Lighthouse Service, and for other purposes" [approved June 20, 1918, as amended].

On Feb. 20, 1950,⁽¹⁴⁾ Thomas J. Murray, of Tennessee, Chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 7192), and to have it referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.⁽¹⁵⁾

§ 44.16 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on

14. 96 CONG. REC. 1983, 81st Cong. 2d Sess.

15. H.R. 7192 was reported by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on June 26, 1950 (H. Rept. No. 2328).

Post Office and Civil Service has jurisdiction of a bill to increase the retirement pay of certain employees of the former Lighthouse Service.

On Mar. 21, 1949,⁽¹⁶⁾ Thomas J. Murray, of Tennessee, Chairman of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, obtained unanimous consent to have the bill (H.R. 2986), rereferred from his committee to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing, Mr. Murray noted that he had made his request at the suggestion of the Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Retirement Pay of Members of Life Saving Service

§ 44.17 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service has jurisdiction of a bill to amend the Act of Apr. 14, 1930, to provide increased retirement pay for certain members of the former life saving service.

On Feb. 5, 1947,⁽¹⁷⁾ Mr. T. Millet Hand, of New Jersey, obtained

16. 95 CONG. REC. 2868, 81st Cong. 1st Sess.

17. 93 CONG. REC. 800, 80th Cong. 1st Sess.

unanimous consent that the bill (H.R. 70), which was originally referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, be re-referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so doing, he noted that the chairmen of both committees had no objection to the rereference.

Shipboard Radios

§ 44.18 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has jurisdiction of a bill relating entirely to the use of radios on shipboard.

On June 8, 1936,⁽¹⁸⁾ Schuyler Otis Bland, of Virginia, Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, requested unanimous consent that the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce be discharged from further consideration of a bill (S. 4619), to amend the Communications Act of 1934, approved June 19, 1934, for the purpose of promoting safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communications and for other purposes, and that the bill be referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. In so

18. 80 CONG. REC. 9244, 74th Cong. 2d Sess.

doing, he noted that "This bill relates entirely to radios on shipboard, and for that reason the chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce agrees that it should be referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries."

Immediately thereafter, the House granted unanimous consent.

Water Transportation; Rate Regulation on Inland Waterways

§ 44.19 The House having effected a transfer of jurisdiction by unanimous consent and by amendment of the rules, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce obtained jurisdiction over all water transportation except the regulation of rates on inland waterways.

On Feb. 26, 1935,⁽¹⁹⁾ Sam Rayburn, of Texas, Chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, asked unanimous consent that a bill (H.R. 5379), to amend the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended, by providing for the regulation of the transpor-

19. 79 CONG. REC. 2623, 74th Cong. 1st Sess.

tation of passengers and property by water carriers operating in interstate and foreign commerce, be rereferred from the committee he chaired to [what was then] the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries. He additionally asked unanimous consent that thereafter all bills relating to or affecting transportation by water carriers, regardless of the fact that they may amend an act which was originally considered by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, be referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries.

Under reservation of objection, several Members initiated a series of exchanges relating to the unanimous-consent request. In an effort to explain the situation, Mr. Frederick R. Lehlbach, of New Jersey, noted that:⁽²⁰⁾

This unanimous-consent request is to be immediately followed by the presentation of a rule coming from the Rules Committee which further deals with the subject matter of jurisdiction. It does not in any way bring about a conflict of jurisdiction. Insofar as cooperation and coordination with respect to rates of competing water, highway, and railroad carriers are concerned, that is with the Interstate Commerce Committee, but all shipping matters concerning vessels on the riv-

ers and on the coast and in overseas transportation have always belonged to the Merchant Marine Committee.

At another juncture, the chairmen of the two committees involved were queried as follows:

MR. [ROBERT F.] RICH [of Pennsylvania]: Reserving the right to object, I should like to ask the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee if the regulation of rates will still be under the jurisdiction of his committee?

MR. RAYBURN: Yes.

MR. [FRANCIS D.] CULKIN [of New York]: Reserving the right to object, I should like to ask the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries, on which I happen to serve, if this resolution or proposition proposes that all maritime matters go to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries? Is that the understanding?

MR. [SCHUYLER OTIS] BLAND [of Virginia]: Not as to inland waters.

Mr. Lehlbach then stated:

The fact is at the present time inland navigation with respect to its physical aspect is now with the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. Insofar as the rate structure is concerned relative to the various means of transportation in interstate commerce, particularly where it competes with railroads, that remains with the Interstate Commerce Committee, and there is no conflict at all.

Shortly thereafter, the House granted unanimous consent.

A few moments after that,⁽¹⁾ John J. O'Connor, of New York,

20. *Id.* at p. 2624.

1. *Id.* at p. 2627.

Chairman of the Committee on Rules, called up House Resolution 126, which had been previously alluded to by Mr. Lehlbach as he initially explained the unanimous-consent request. House Resolution 126 read as follows:

Resolved, That the rules of the House of Representatives are amended in the following manner:

“Rule X, clause 9. On the Merchant Marine and Fisheries, to consist of 21 Members.⁽²⁾

“Rule XI, clause 7. To commerce—to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.⁽³⁾

“Rule XI, clause 9. To the merchant marine, including all transportation by water, Coast Guard, life-saving service, lighthouses, lightships, ocean derelicts, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Panama Canal, and fisheries—to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.”⁽⁴⁾

2. The only change to be affected by this clause was to remove the word, “Radio” from the name of the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries, thus renaming the committee. See H. Jour. 875, 73d Cong. 2d Sess. (1934).
3. At the time, this clause provided that legislative subject matters relating “to commerce, life-saving service, and lighthouses, other than appropriations for life-saving service and lighthouses” were to be referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; see H. Jour. 875, 73d Cong. 2d Sess. (1934).
4. At the time, this clause provided that legislative subject matters relat-

In the course of discussing the resolution, Mr. O’Connor noted that:

. . . Both committees have agreed entirely to the resolution and the question of their respective jurisdiction. . . .

. . . The Rules Committee came to the determination that you could not properly divide communications, and that radio, telegraph, telephone, and cable inevitably went together, and, the Interstate Commerce Committee having jurisdiction of most of those subjects and for a longer time than the Merchant Marine Committee had jurisdiction over radio, it was thought best and fairest to put radio in the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. On the other hand the Merchant Marine Committee reestablishes and reclaims its jurisdiction over the merchant marine and over many matters which were under the jurisdiction of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

Discussion of the measure continued, after which the resolution was agreed to by voice vote.⁽⁵⁾

Wildlife Conservation Through Land-use Practices

§ 44.20 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

ing “to merchant marine, radio, and fisheries” were to be referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine, Radio, and Fisheries; see H. Jour. 875, 73d Cong. 2d Sess. (1934).

5. 79 CONG. REC. 2631, 74th Cong. 1st Sess., Feb. 26, 1935.

and not the Committee on Agriculture has jurisdiction of a bill to provide expert assistance and to cooperate with federal, state, and other suitable agencies in promoting the conservation of wildlife by promoting sound land-use practices.

On May 21, 1947,⁽⁶⁾ Mr. Raymond H. Burke, of Ohio, obtained unanimous consent to have the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2472), and to have it referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Wildlife; Importing and Shipping Endangered Species

§ 44.21 The Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and not the Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction of bills regulating the importation and interstate shipment of wildlife species threatened with extinction, even though such proposals include amendments to title 18, United States Code, "Crimes and Criminal Procedure".

6. 93 CONG. REC. 5615, 80th Cong. 1st Sess.

On Apr. 27, 1967,⁽⁷⁾ Emanuel Celler, of New York, Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, obtained unanimous consent to have his committee discharged from further consideration of two bills (H.R. 6138, H.R. 8693), and to have them rereferred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.⁽⁸⁾

§ 45. Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service was created Jan. 2, 1947, as part of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946,⁽⁹⁾ and combined the former Committees on Post-Office and Post Roads (created in 1808),⁽¹⁰⁾ the Civil Service (created in 1893 as the Committee on Reform in the Civil Service),⁽¹¹⁾ and the Census (created in 1901).⁽¹²⁾ At the same time, jurisdiction over post-roads

7. 113 CONG. REC. 11060, 90th Cong. 1st Sess.

8. Title 18 of the United States Code encompasses federal criminal law and criminal procedure. Accordingly, the Committee on the Judiciary normally deals with amendments thereto.

9. 60 Stat. 812.

10. 4 Hinds' Precedents § 4190.

11. *Id.* at § 4296.

12. *Id.* at § 4351.