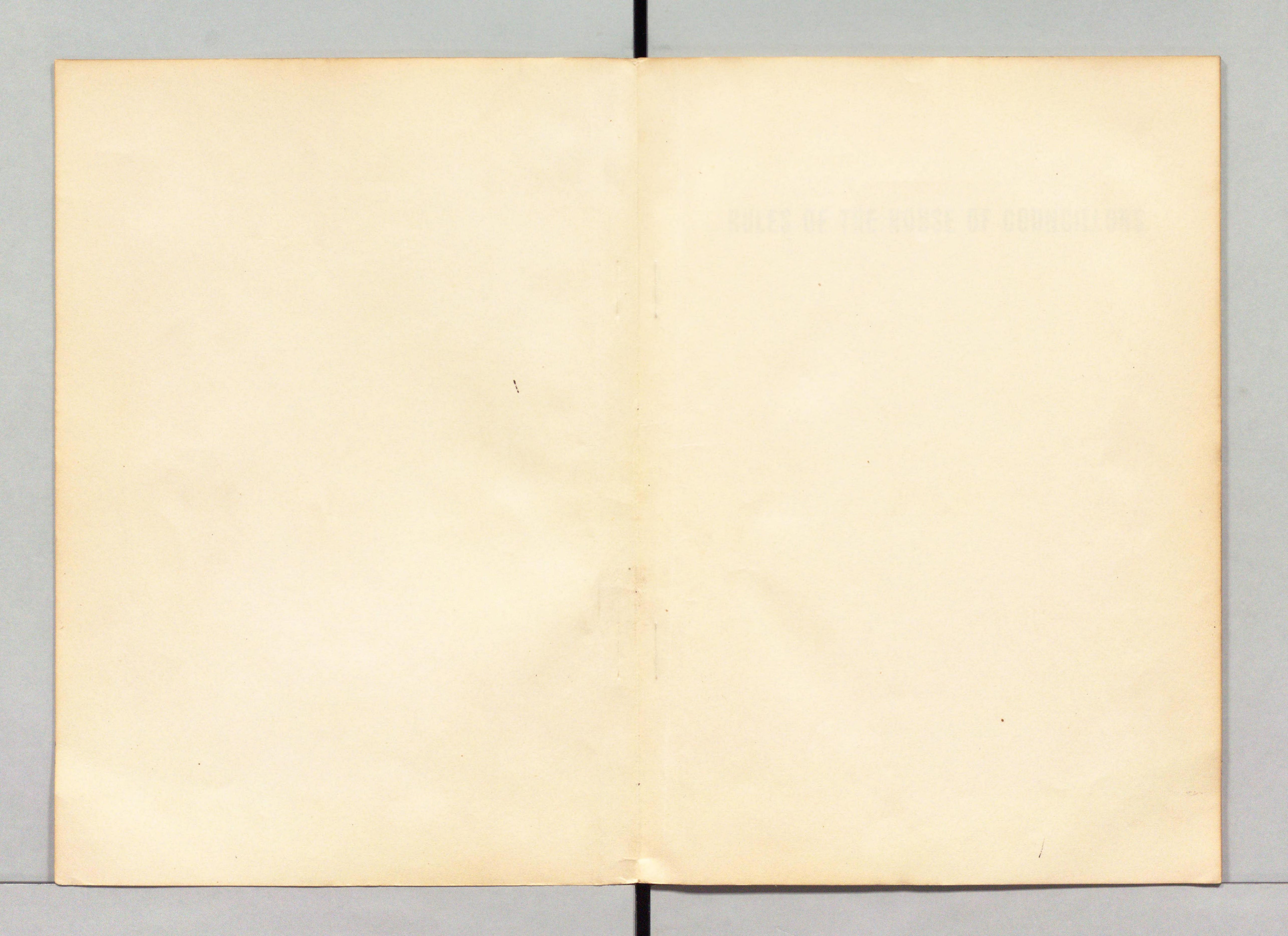


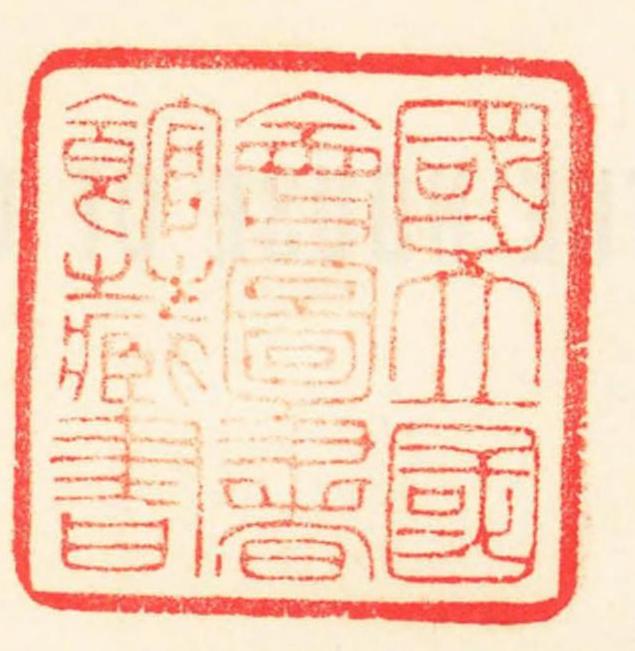


RULES OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS

HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS
SECRETARIATE
Tokyo



RULES OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS



137



K 27908

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS

Adopted: June 28, 1947 Amended: Oct. 11, 1948 Oct. 26, 1949 July 14, 1950 Dec. 15, 1951 Oct. 24, 1952 Mar. 18, 1955

CONTENTS

	CONTENTS	
Chapter		Page
I.	Opening of Session and Election of Officers	1
II.	Designation of the Prime Minister	3
III.	Opening Ceremony	3
IV.	Determination of the Term of a Session, its Exten-	
	sion, and Recess	3
V.	Introduction and Withdrawal of Bills	4
VI.	Reference of Bills	5
VII.	Committees	6
	Section 1. General Rules	6
	Section 2. Public Hearing	9
	Section 3. Committee Reports	10
	Section 4. Standing Committees	11
	Section 5. Special Committees	17
VIII.	Plenary Sessions	17
	Section 1. Opening, Close and Adjournment of	
	Plenary Sessions	17
	Section 2. Agenda	18
	Section 3. Motion	

	Section 4. Speech	19
	Section 5. Amendment	22
	Section 6. Voting	23
	Section 7. Deleted	24
IX.	Questions	24
X.	Minutes	25
XI.	Petitions	26
XII.	Relations with the House of Representatives	27
XIII.	Relations with the People and Government Offices.	28
XIV.	Leave of Absence and Resignation	29
	Section 1. Leave of Absence	29
	Section 2. Resignation	30
XV.	Litigation concerning Qualifications	30
XVI.	Discipline and Police	32
	Section 1. Discipline	32
	Section 2. Police	33
XVII.	Visitors	33
XVIII.	Disciplinary Measures	34
XIX.	Elections of Judging Members of the Judges Im-	
	peachment Court, Members of Judges Indictment	
	Committee and others	37
XX.	Emergency Session	37
XXI.	Supplementary Rules	38



Article 1. Members must assemble in the House of Councillors at ten o'clock on the morning of the day designated by the Imperial

rescript of convocation.

Article 2. Members who attend the House for the first time since their election must present to the Secretariate their certificates of election for collation with the List of the Elected.

Article 3. When the attendance of Members reaches one-third of the full membership of the House, the President shall take the President's Chair.

Article 4. In case both the President and the Vice President are vacant on the day of convocation, the House shall elect the President after the attendance of Members has reached one-third of the full membership of the House.

The election of the President shall be conducted by secret vote with single entry.

Article 5. Each Member, in response to roll-call, shall carry his ballot and wooden name-ticket to the Rostrum for voting.

Secretary A shall receive the name ticket and Secretary B the ballot, and they, on behalf of each Member, shall cast his or her name-ticket and ballot into the name-ticket and ballot boxes respectively.

Article 6. When all the Members present have voted, the Secretary General shall announce the close of the ballot-box. After this announcement no more voting shall be permitted.

Article 7. On completion of the voting, the Secretary General shall at once have the secretaries count the name-tickets and ballots cast and examine the ballots.

In case the number of the ballots cast exceeds the number of name-tickets, another election must be held. However, this shall not apply when such excess does not affect the result of the election.

Article 8. On completion of the examination of the ballots, the Secretary General shall report the result of the election.

- Article 9. He who has obtained a majority of votes shall be the elected. In case no one has obtained a majority of votes, a final election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes, and he who then receives the greater number of votes shall be the elected. In case, however, the candidates have obtained an equal number of votes, the two on whom a final election shall be held or the one to be elected shall be determined by lot.
- Article 10. If a problem arises concerning the election, the Secretary General shall settle it after consultation with the House.
- Article 11. Following the election of the President, the House shall elect the Vice President.

The election of the Vice President shall be held in the same manner as that of the President.

- Article 12. Following the elections of the President and the Vice President, the Secretary General shall introduce them to the House and conduct the President to the President's Chair.
- Article 13. In case either the President or the Vice President is vacant on the day of convocation, they shall be elected according to the manner of Article 4 and the articles thereafter.
- Article 14. The President shall designate the seats of the Members at the beginning of each term of a session. However, he may change them if necessary.

Each seat shall be numbered and have a name plate attached.

Article 15. Deleted.

Article 16. If the chairmanship of any Standing Committee is vacant on the day of convocation, the Chairman shall be elected according to the manner of election of the President.

The House may delegate to the President the power of selection and appointment of the Chairman of a Standing Committee.

Article 17. In case the Secretary General is vacant on the day of convocation, he shall be elected according to the manner of election of the President.

The House may delegate to the President the power of selection and appointment of the Secretary General.

Article 18. Deleted.

Article 19. The election of the President, the Vice President, the Chairman of a Standing Committee, or the Secretary General, whose post has become vacant while the Diet is in session, and the election of a President pro tempore shall be conducted according to the manner of Article 4 and the articles thereafter.

CHAPTER II. DESIGNATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Article 20. Designation of the Prime Minister shall be conducted by means of secret vote with single entry.

He who has obtained a majority of votes shall be the designated.

In case no candidate has won a majority of votes, a final election shall be held to decide between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes, and he who then receives the greater number of votes shall be the designated. In case, however, there are candidates who have received an equal number of votes, the two on whom a final election shall be held or the one to be designated shall be determined by lot.

The House may designate, not by balloting, but by a motion or other ways.

CHAPTER III. OPENING CEREMONY

Article 21. The date and place of the opening ceremony shall be determined by the President in consultation with the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHAPTER IV. DETERMINATION OF THE TERM OF A SESSION, ITS EXTENSION, AND RECESS

Article 22. The term of an extraordinary and a special session shall be decided by the House after the President has consulted with the Speaker of the House of Representatives. In this case the President must previously consult with the Chairmen of Standing Committees to obtain their opinions on the legislative program for the session.

The result of the above decision shall be reported to the House of Representatives and to the Cabinet.

Article 23. As to the extension of the term of a session of the Diet, the provisions of the preceding Article shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Article 23-II. As to the recess of the Diet, the provisions of Article 22 shall apply mutatis mutandis.

The recess of the House shall be decided by the House upon the proposition of the President. In this case, the President must previously consult with the Chairmen of Standing Committees to obtain their opinions.

During a recess of the House, the House may sit in plenary session when the President deems it urgently necessary, or when the request has been made by one-fourth or more of the Members.

When the plenary session has been held under the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the recess of the House shall have ended.

CHAPTER V. INTRODUCTION AND WITHDRAWAL OF BILLS

Article 24. Any Member introducing a bill shall present to the President its draft together with written reasons for introduction under joint signature of its supporters, as provided for separately, as well as of himself. As to a bill which is to create a new budget, a document clarifying the expenditure necessary for enforcement of that law must be added thereto.

The President shall have the introduced bill printed and distributed to each Member.

Article 25. Of the bills under the preceding Article, those which require the decision of the Diet shall be sent by the President to the House of Representatives for preliminary examination, simultaneously with their distribution to each Member.

Article 26. When the introducer or submitter of a bill intends to request the omission of a Committee's examination on the bill,

he must inform the President to that effect in writing simultaneously with its introduction, submission or sending.

When the request is made under the preceding paragraph, the President must refer it to the House.

Article 27. When a bill is submitted by the House of Representatives or by the Cabinet, or when a bill is sent from the House of Representatives, or when a bill is sent from the House of Representatives or from the Cabinet for preliminary examination, the President shall have it printed and distributed to each Member. However, this shall not apply in case the bill submitted or sent is the same that has already been distributed for preliminary examination.

Article 28. When a Member wishes to withdraw a bill he has introduced or a motion he has made with other Members, the request for withdrawal must be made by all the Members who have introduced the bill or made the motion with him.

In order to withdraw a bill introduced or a motion made after it has become the subject of a Committee meeting or a plenary session, the permission of the Committee, or the House, respectively, is necessary.

CHAPTER VI. REFERENCE OF BILLS

Article 29. The President shall refer a bill or a bill sent for preliminary examination to a competent Standing Committee.

As to a bill deemed especially necessary or a special bill which does not fall under the jurisdiction of any Standing Committee, the President shall consult with the House for creation of a Special Committee, to which the bill shall be referred.

In case of reference of matters other than bills to Committees, the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs shall apply, unless provided for otherwise in these Rules.

Article 29-II. A bill submitted by a Committee shall not be referred to a Committee, but to a plenary session of the House. However, the one deemed especially necessary by the President may be referred to a Committee.

Article 29-III. The President may refer other bills or matters related to the bill or matter referred to a Special Committee to the same Committee in addition.

CHAPTER VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. General Rules

Article 30. The selection and appointment of members of Committees shall all be made through designation by the President.

The permission of resignations of members of Committee shall be given by the President.

Article 31. A Committee shall have one or several directors.

Directors shall be mutually elected from among the Committee members by secret ballot. However, the selection and appointment may be made by the procedure of motion or others instead of voting.

When the chairman is incapacitated or becomes vacant, a director shall perform the Chairman's functions.

Article 32. Deleted.

Article 33. A Committee may hold its meeting to examine or investigate the bill or matter referred to it.

Article 34. Deleted.

Article 35. A Committee may create a sub-committee to examine or investigate the bill or matter referred to it or the matter on which an approval has been given by the President.

Article 36. If necessary for examination or investigation, a Committee may hold a joint investigation meeting with another Committee after consultation.

Article 37. No Committee shall meet while the House is sitting in plenary session. However, this does not apply, when approved by the President.

Article 38. The Chairman shall decide the date for a meeting of the Committee. When requested by one-third or more of the Committee members, the Chairman must hold a Committee meeting.

The Chairman shall declare the opening, intermission or close of a Committee meeting.

Article 39. When a bill has been referred to a Committee, the Committee shall first hear the explanation on the purport of the bill and then begin examination thereon.

Article 40. Deleted.

Article 41. As to the bill submitted by the House of Representatives or the part amended by the House of Representatives of the bill submitted by the Cabinet, the Committee may request an explanation by the Committee Chairman, the introducer or the amendment proposer of the House of Representatives.

Article 42. A Committee member can freely interpellate and ex-

press his views on subjects under discussion.

In case Committee members request to speak, the Chairman shall recognize the members in the order of such requests.

Article 43. The Chairman may attend other Committees and speak in order to express a view on behalf of his Committee.

Article 44. A Committee may hear an opinion or permit a speech of a Member who is not a member of the Committee.

Article 45. In case the Committee Chairman desires to participate in debate, he must take his seat as a Committee member.

If the Chairman participates in debate, he shall not return to his seat as Chairman pending completion of decision by vote on the subject.

Article 46. A Committee member who desires to amend a bill shall submit the amendment draft to the Chairman in advance.

In case the amendment draft of the preceding paragraph is an amendment to a bill and creates an increase of the budget or will create a budget, a document clearly stating the necessary expenditure resulting from the amendment must be attached.

Article 47. A Chairman may limit the time for interpellation, debate or other speech beforehand by consulting thereon with his Committee.

Article 48. A Committee member may make a motion to close interpellation or debate.

- Article 49. When the debate is finished, the Chairman shall bring the matter to a vote, after announcing it.
- Article 50. When a Committee intends to submit a bill creating a new budget, the Chairman, prior to the decision, must give the Cabinet an opportunity to express its opinion.

As to a bill introduced by a Member creating a new budget and referred to the Committee, the Chairman, before putting the bill to vote, must give the Cabinet an opportunity to express its opinion. The same shall also apply to an amendment to increase the total amount of the budget and an amendment to a bill, creating an increase of the budget or to create a new budget, submitted by the Committee member.

- Article 51. When a Committee member acts contrary to the Diet Law or the present Rules, or disturbs the order of the Committee or injures the dignity of the House, the Chairman shall restrain him or cause him to retract his words. When the order is not obeyed, the Chairman may prohibit him from speaking until the end of the Committee meeting for the day or order him to leave the room.
- Article 52. The Chairman may announce an intermission or close of a meeting of the Committee, when it becomes too disorderly to control.
- Article 53. When a Committee intends to continue its examination or investigation on a special bill or matter after the House is no longer in session, a request must be made to the President in writing along with its reason.

When a request under the preceding paragraph is made, the President must refer it to the House.

Article 54. Deleted.

Article 55. Deleted.

Article 56. A Committee shall prepare its Minutes.

Article 57. The Committee Chairman or the director who has presided over the Committee meeting for the day shall sign the Minutes of the Committee, which the Secretariate shall safekeep.

Article 58. The Minutes of a Committee meeting shall be printed and the copies shall be delivered to each Member. However,

of the records of a secret meeting, a part which has been decided especially to be kept secret by that Committee or a speech which the Chairman has ordered to be deleted in accordance with Article 51 shall not appear in the Minutes.

Article 59. Except as provided in the preceding three Articles, provisions of Articles 156 to 158 inclusive shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Committee Minutes.

Section 2. Public Hearing

- Article 60. A public hearing may be held for examination of a bill.

 Article 61. When a Member or anyone who is not a Member desires a public hearing to be held in connection with an important bill, he must state to the Committee Chairman to that effect in writing making clear the reason thereof.
- Article 62. An approval of the President must be obtained for a Committee to hold a public hearing.
- Article 63. A public hearing may be held even for preliminary examination.
- Article 64. The subject matter of a public hearing shall be decided by the Committee Chairman after consultation with the Committee.
- Article 65. The Committee Chairman shall make public the date and the subject matter for a public hearing.
- Article 66. Anyone who desires to express his views in a public hearing shall inform the Chairman to that effect in advance by a letter stating his reason and whether he is for or against the subject matter.
- Article 67. The Committee shall select interested individuals and men of knowledge and experience whose opinions are to be heard in a public hearing (these are called "public speakers"), from among those who have registered the desire to speak in advance and others; and the Committee shall notify them to that effect.

Diet Members and other public service employees shall not be prevented from becoming public speakers. At public hearings, the number of public speakers for and against the subject matter as well as the length of time allotted to them must be equitable.

Article 68. Public speakers shall not talk beyond the scope of the subject matter.

In case either a public speaker talks beyond the scope of the subject matter, or his words or behaviors are improper, the Chairman may prohibit the speech or order the speaker to retire from the meeting.

Article 69. A Committee member may question a public speaker.

Article 70. Neither debate shall take place nor vote be taken at a public hearing.

Article 71. A public speaker cannot express his views through a proxy or present his views by means of a document. However, this shall not apply to the case when a special permission has been given by the Committee.

Section 3. Committee Reports

Article 72. When a Committee completes examination or investigation on a bill or a matter referred to it or approved, a report thereon shall be drawn up, and be presented to the President by the Chairman, with the signatures of the members holding the majority opinion.

The report of the preceding paragraph shall have attached thereto a written summary explaining briefly the reasons for the Committee decision, the expenses and others.

In case the Cabinet has expressed an opinion in a Committee meeting in accordance with Article 57-III of the Diet Law, the purport shall be entered in the written summary.

Article 72-II. A report on the minority opinion shall be presented promptly to the President through the Chairman.

Article 72-III. As to a bill or matter on which a Committee has not finished its examination or investigation while the Diet is out of session, a report to that effect shall be presented to the President.

Article 72-IV. The President shall have the report under the preceding three Articles printed and distributed to each Member.

Article 73. When a Standing Committee intends to make an interim report to the House on the matter under its investigation with the approval of the President, the Chairman shall report in writing to the President to that effect.

When the request of the preceding paragraph is made, the President shall refer it to the House.

Section 4. Standing Committees

- Article 74. The number of members of each Standing Committee and its jurisdiction shall be as follows:
 - 1. Standing Committee for Cabinet 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning the Imperial Household.
 - (2) Matters concerning national administration organization.
 - (3) Matters concerning national public officials.
 - (4) Matters concerning pensions.
 - (5) Matters concerning national defence.
 - (6) Matters concerning honours.
 - (7) Matters concerning general statistical investigation.
 - 2. Standing Committee for Local Administration 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning local public entities.
 - (2) Matters concerning local administration.
 - (3) Matters concerning local finance.
 - (4) Matters concerning elections.
 - (5) Matters concerning police.
 - (6) Matters concerning fire defence.
 - 3. Standing Committee for Judicial Affairs 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning judicial regulations of civil, criminal, and other affairs.
 - (2) Matters concerning judicial system and judicial administration.
 - (3) Matters concerning public prosecution.
 - (4) Matters concerning judges and public procurators.
 - (5) Matters concerning lawyers.
 - 6) Matters concerning execution of penalty.

- (7) Matters concerning amnesty, regeneration and protection.
- (8) Matters concerning safeguard of human rights.
- (9) Matters concerning nationality, census registration, inhabitant registration, notarial act, registry and deposit.
- (10) Matters concerning control of entry and exit and registration of aliens.
- (11) Matters concerning litigations in relation with national interests.
- (12) Matters concerning regulation of destructive groups.
- 4. Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning diplomacy.
 - (2) Matters concerning treaties.
 - (3) Matters concerning international conferences and international organizations.
 - (4) Matters concerning overseas Japanese nationals and overseas commerce.
 - (5) Matters concerning voyage abroad and immigration.
 - (6) Matters concerning other international relations.
- 5. Standing Committee for Finance 25 persons
- (1) Matters concerning national accounts.
- (2) Matters concerning national taxation.
- (3) Matters concerning national bonds.
- (4) Matters concerning national properties.
- (5) Matters concerning monopolies (excluding alcohol monopoly).
- (6) Matters concerning currency.
- (7) Matters concerning foreign exchange.
- (8) Matters concerning banking, trust, insurance, mutual financing and other financing.
- (9) Matters concerning stock transaction.
- (10) Matters concerning enterprise accounts.
- 6. Standing Committee for Education 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning education and educational system.
 - (2) Matters concerning religion.
 - (3) Matters concerning scientific and cultural research.

_ 12 _

- (4) Matters concerning art, cultural properties and other culture in general.
- (5) Matters concerning Japanese language and literary works and publication.
- (6) Matters concerning physical education.
- 7. Standing Committee for Social and Labour
 Affairs 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning social welfare.
 - (2) Matters concerning daily life protection.
 - (3) Matters concerning public health and sanitation.
 - (4) Matters concerning social insurance.
 - (5) Matters concerning labour conditions and protection of labourers.
 - (6) Matters concerning labour unions.
 - 7) Matters concerning coordination of labour relation.
 - (8) Matters concerning security of employment.
 - (9) Matters concerning population problem.
 - (10) Matters concerning repatriation and demobilization.
- 8. Standing Committee for Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery 25 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning agriculture.
 - (2) Matters concerning livestock breeding.
 - (3) Matters concerning forestry.
 - (4) Matters concerning sericiculture.
 - (5) Matters concerning fishery.
 - (6) Matters concerning food.
 - (7) Matters concerning agricultural land and reclamation.
 - (8) Matters concerning fishing ports and fishing boats.
 - (9) Matters concerning insurance of agriculture and fishery.
 - (10) Matters concerning agricultural and fishery groups.
- 9. Standing Committee for Commerce and Industry

20 persons

- (1) Matters concerning commerce.
- (2) Matters concerning foreign trade.
- (3) Matters concerning industry.
 -) Matters concerning mining.

- (5) Matters concerning medium and small size enterprises.
- (6) Matters concerning electricity and gas.
- (7) Matters concerning measures and weights.
- (8) Matters concerning inventions, practical new designs, devices and trade marks.
- (9) Matters concerning alcohol monopoly.
- (10) Matters concerning fair trade.
- (11) Matters concerning synthetic planning of economy.
- (12) Matters concerning insurance of commerce and industry.
- (13) Matters concerning commercial and industrial groups.
- 10. Standing Committee for Transportation 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning land transportation.
 - (2) Matters concerning water transportation.
 - (3) Matters concerning aviation.
 - (4) Matters concerning harbours.
 - (5) Matters concerning ships and railroad rolling stocks.
 - (6) Matters concerning seamen.
 - (7) Matters concerning maritime safety.
 - (8) Matters concerning marine accident inquiry.
 - (9) Matters concerning tourist industry.
 - (10) Matters concerning warehouses.
 - (11) Matters concerning meteorological observation.
- 11. Standing Committee for Communications 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning postal services.
 - (2) Matters concerning postal savings, postal money orders and postal transfer savings.
 - (3) Matters concerning post office easy life-insurance and post office annuity.
 - (4) Matters concerning tele-communications.
 - (5) Matters concerning radio regulation.
 - (6) Matters concerning broadcasting.
- 12. Standing Committee for Construction 20 persons
 - (1) Matters concerning national land planning, local planning and city planning.
 - (2) Matters concerning roads, rivers, sea-shores, public water surface, canals and sand-control.

- (3) Matters concerning flood-control.
- (4) Matters concerning public engineering, building and housing.
- (5) Matters concerning land expropriation.
- (6) Matters concerning survey and maps.
- 13. Standing Committee for Budget

 45 persons
 - (1) Budget.
- 14. Standing Committee for Audit 30 persons
 - (1) Audit.
 - (2) Matters concerning approval of disbursement from the reserve fund.
 - (3) Complete data on currently non-appropriated obligations for future payments by the national treasury.
 - (4) Complete data on the increase and decrease of the national alproperty holdings and the current amount of the national property holdings, and also on the conditions of loans made without compensation.
 - (5) Matters concerning examination of accounts by the Board of Audit.
- 15. Standing Committee for House Manage-

ment 25 persons

- (1) Matters concerning House management.
- (2) Matters concerning the Diet Law and other rules and regulations of the House.
- (3) Matters concerning management of the National Diet Library.
- (4) Matters concerning the Judges Impeachment Court and the Judges Indictment Committee.
- 16. Standing Committee for Disciplinary

Measures

10 persons

- (1) Matters concerning disciplinary measures of the Members of the House.
- Article 74-II. A Member of the House shall not serve on more than two Standing Committees concurrently. In case he serves on two Standing Committees, one of the two shall be limited to the Standing Committees for Budget, Audit, House Management or Disciplinary Measures, excepting for the case of paragraph 3, Article 42 of the Diet Law.

Article 74-III. A Standing Committee may conduct investigation into the matter approved by the President, besides the bills and matters referred to it.

In order to ask for an approval of the President, a Standing Committee shall submit to the President a written request clearly stating the name of the matter which the Committee intends to investigate, its purpose, method, term, etc.

When the request of the preceding paragraph is approved, the President shall report to the House to that effect.

Article 74-IV. The Standing Committee for House Management may hold its meeting at any time while the Diet is in session with respect to management of the House or the National Diet Library.

Article 75. The Budget Committee and the Audit Committee may be divided into several sections for convenience of examination.

Each section shall elect a chief and an assistant chief from among its members by secret ballot. However, a motion or other means may be employed for the selection and appointment instead of voting.

Pending the election of a chief and an assistant chief, the business pertaining to a section shall be conducted by the eldest member of the section.

In the House, the chief of a section may supplement the report of the Chairman of the Committee.

When the chief of a section is incapacitated or the post of the chief is vacant, the assistant chief shall perform the functions of the chief.

The permission for the resignation of the chief or the assistant chief shall be given by the section.

Article 76. In case a Standing Committee holds a joint examination meeting together with a Standing Committee of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall make its decision to that effect after consultation between its Chairman and the Chairman of the Committee of the House of Representatives.

Article 77. A Standing Committee shall not vote on a bill or matter referred to a joint examination meeting until the joint examination meeting comes to an end.

Section 5. Special Committees

Article 78. The number of members of a Special Committee shall be fixed by decision of the House. If necessary, however, the House may increase the number.

Article 79. Deleted.

Article 80. The mutual election of the Chairman of a Special Committee shall be conducted by secret ballot and he who has obtained the greatest number of votes shall be the elected. In case the votes obtained are equal in number, lot is drawn for decision. However, a motion or other means may be employed for the selection and appointment instead of voting.

Pending the election of the Chairman, the business of the Committee shall be conducted by the eldest member of the Committee.

The permission for the resignation of the Chairman of a Special Committee shall be given by the Committee.

CHAPTER VIII. PLENARY SESSIONS

Section 1. Opening, Close and Adjournment of Plenary Sessions

- Article 81. A plenary session shall be opened at 10 o'clock in the morning. This, however, does not apply in case the President deems other arrangements necessary.
- Article 82. When the proceedings on the bills or matters placed on the agenda have been brought to an end, the President may declare the session closed. Even in case the proceedings are pending, the President may declare the adjournment of the session, referring it to the House when he deems it necessary, or without referring it to the House when it is past 4 o'clock in the afternoon.
- Article 83. When it is time to commence proceedings, the President shall take the President's Chair and declare the opening of the session after reporting on various matters.

Until the President declares the opening of the session, no one shall be allowed to speak on the proceedings.

Article 84. When the Members present do not constitute a quorum the President shall declare adjournment. When attendance falls below a quorum because of the members leaving their seats during the session, the President may declare an intermission or adjournment of the session.

When it is feared that the number of the Members present will fall short of a quorum during the session, the President may prohibit the Members from leaving thier seats or request the Members who are outside the Chamber to present themselves in the Chamber.

When the number of the Members present is deemed to be short of a quorum, a Member may request the President to count the number of the Members present.

Article 85. When the President has declared a close, adjournment, or an intermission, no one shall be allowed to speak on the proceedings.

Section 2. Agenda

Article 86. In the agenda, there shall be entered the time for the opening of the session, the bills and matters to be laid in the plenary session and their order.

The agenda shall be notified to each Member through the Official Bulletin of the House of Councillors and published on the Official Gazette.

Article 87. When the President has notified the Members of the date of a session only, he must fix the agenda of the day prior to the opening of the session.

Article 88. When the President recognizes it necessary, or when such a motion is made by a Member or Members, the President may alter the order of the agenda or add other bills or matters to the agenda by referring it to the House to decide upon it without debate.

Article 89. When a plenary session fails to open for the bills or matters placed on the agenda, or when the proceedings have not been finished for the day, the President shall again fix the agenda for them.

Section 3. Motion

Article 90. Except where special stipulation is made in the Diet Law or the present Rules, all motions shall require one or more supporters to be brought up for discussion.

Section 4. Speech

- Article 91. Any Member who desires to make a speech in a plenary session shall so notify the secretary in advance. However, under unavoidable circumstances, this shall not apply.
- Article 92. Deleted.
- Article 93. A Member who notifies of his intention of debate shall make it clear at the time of the notification whether he is for or against the subject.
- Article 94. As to the notifications of interpellations or debates, the secretary shall put them on the Speech List in the order of the notifications received, and report this to the President.

In allowing interpellations or debates, the President shall name the speaker in the order indicated by the Speech List.

For those who do not comply with the naming mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the notifications shall become invalid.

- Article 95. A Member who has not notified cannot ask for permission to make a speech until all the speeches by those who have notified have been finished.
- Article 96. A Member who wants to speak without prior notification shall stand up, call the President by name, give his own name, and then may with the permission of the President make his speech.
- Article 97. When two or more stand up to seek the floor, the President shall nominate the one he deems to have stood up first.
- Article 98. All speeches shall be made on the rostrum. However, when a speech is extremely short or when special permission has been given by the President, a Member may speak from his own seat.

- Article 99. At any time, the President may demand a Member who is speaking from his own seat to make the speech from the rostrum.
- Article 100. Any speech shall neither touch on extraneous matters nor go farther beyond the scope of the subject under discussion.
- Article 101. A speech shall not be interrupted by another speech.
- Article 102. A Member who has not finished his speech owing to an adjournment or intermission may continue his speech when the proceedings are resumed.
- Article 103. In a plenary session, a Member shall not read documents, except, however, brief documents for quotation or report.
- Article 104. In a plenary session in which the bill or matter referred to a Committee is discussed, the Chairman of the Committee shall explain the contents of the bill or matter, and report the proceedings and results thereof in the Committee before interpellations on the bill or matter begin. The contents of this report shall have the prior approval of the members holding the majority opinion.
- Article 105. The Chairman of a Committee shall not, in making reports, add his personal views thereto.
- Article 106. The minority opinion holders, following the report by the Chairman, shall report the minority opinion. In case there are several minority opinions, the order of the reports shall be decided by the President.
- Article 107. In a plenary session discussing a bill on which Committee examination has been omitted, the introducer or the submitter of the bill shall make explanations on its purport and contents.
- Article 107-II. As to a bill introduced by a Member and creating a budget, on which Committee examination has been omitted, the President shall, after the explanation by the introducer on the purport of the bill, give the Cabinet an opportunity to express its view. The same shall apply to an amendment submitted by a Member to increase the total amount of the budget or an amendment to a bill, which creates an increase of the budget or will creat a budget.

- Article 108. Members may interpellate the Chairman, the reporter of the minority opinion, the introducer or the submitter.
- Article 109. In interpellations, a Member cannot state his own opinion.
- Article 110. Interpellations shall not be made on the same subject more than three times.
- Article 111. When interpellations occur in succession and do not easily come to an end, a Member may propose a motion for closing interpellations.

In case there are twenty or more supporters of the motion provided for in the preceding paragraph, the President shall refer it to the House to decide upon it without debate.

- Article 112. When interpellations have come to an end, the President shall declare the close of interpellations.
- Article 113. When interpellations close, debate shall be opened.
- Article 114. Deleted.
- Article 115. Deleted.
- Article 116. In the debate, the President shall give the opportunity to speak first to an opponent, and then, so far as circumstances permit, to supporters and opponents alternately.

Even when all the Members on side A who have sent in notice have not finished their speeches, Members on side B who have not sent in notice may ask to speak after the close of the speeches by the Members on side B who have sent in notice.

- Article 117. A Member shall be allowed to debate but once on the same subject.
- Article 118. The Committee Chairman and the reporter of the minority opinion may speak several times in order to explain the purport of their report.

An introducer or a submitter may speak several times in order to explain the purport of the bill.

Article 119. When the President desires to debate on a bill he shall send in prior notice and take his seat as a Member in the House.

When the President has participated in the debate, he shall not return to the President's Chair until a vote on the question has been taken.

Article 120. When two or more supporters and opposers have made their speeches, or when two or more Members on side A have speeches with no Member on side B demanding speeches, Members may propose a motion for closing debate.

In case there are twenty or more supporters of the motion of the preceding paragraph, the President shall refer it to the

House to decide upon it without debate.

Article 121. When, after debate is closed or a motion for close of debate is carried, the introducer or the submitter has made a speech on the subject, it shall be deemed that further debate has been entered upon.

Article 122. When debate has been completed, the President shall declare the close of debate.

Article 123. Any Member who wants to make a speech on the progress of proceedings shall in advance notify the secretary of its purport.

The time for a speech on the progress of the proceedings shall be decided by the President.

Section 5. Amendment

Article 124. Deleted.

Article 125. A motion for amendment shall previously be submitted to the President under joint signature of supporters in the number prescribed, together with the draft of the proposed amendment.

In case the amendment draft of the preceding paragraph is an amendment to a bill and creates an increase of the budget or will create a budget, a document clearly stating the necessary expenditures resulting from the amendment must be attached.

The President shall have the above-mentioned amendment draft printed and distributed to each Member.

Article 126. A motion for amendment withdrawn by the introducer may be re-introduced by another Member together with supporters in the number prescribed.

Article 127. Deleted.

Article 128. An amendment draft reported by a Committee requires no supporter to be a subject on the agenda.

Article 129. An amendment draft proposed by a Member shall be voted upon prior to an amendment draft reported by a Committee.

Article 130. In case several amendment drafts are submitted by Members on the same subject, the more different in purport in the amendment draft from the original bill the earlier it shall be voted upon. The order of such votes shall be decided by the President. But in case twenty or more Members present object to the order, the President shall refer it to the House for a decision without debate.

Article 131. When all amendment drafts have been rejected, the original bill shall be voted upon.

Article 132. In case both amendment drafts and original bill have failed to secure a majority of votes, and if the House has resolved not to abandon the subject, the House may especially refer it to the Committee, which shall prepare a new draft of the bill; when such a new bill is reported, it may be made a subject for discussion.

Article 133. The House may entrust the President with adjustment of the articles and wording which have been amended and approved.

Section 6. Voting

Article 134. Votes shall be cast unconditionally.

Article 135. Members who are not actually in the Chamber at the time of voting can not participate in voting.

Article 136. Before a vote is taken, the President shall announce the subject matter for voting. After the President's announcement of the subject matter for voting, no Member has the right to speak on the subject.

Article 137. In taking a vote, the President shall ask the Members who are in favor of the subject matter under discussion to rise from their seats, and having ascertained whether they are in the majority or minority, he shall announce the result of the vote.

In case the President finds it difficult to ascertain whether the pros are in the majority or minority, or if one-fifth or more of the Members present protest against the President's announcement, the President shall call for an open vote.

Article 138. If the President deems it necessary, an open vote may be employed for decision. An open vote shall be used upon the demand of one-fifth or more of the Members present.

Article 139. In an open vote, each Member shall cast a white ticket bearing his name, provided he is on the affirmative side, or cast a blue ticket bearing his name, provided he is on the negative side.

Article 140. At the time of an open vote, the doors of the Chamber shall be closed.

Article 141. When the vote is finished, the President shall announce the results to the House.

Article 142. No Member may demand a change in his cast vote.

Article 143. On any matter before the House, the President may ask the House whether any Member has an objection thereto. When he recognizes that there is no objection, he shall declare that the matter has been passed by the House. But if any Member expresses an objection to the President's announcement, the President shall have a vote taken, in accordance with the other means of voting provided in this Section.

Section 7. Deleted

Article 144 to 152. Deleted.

CHAPTER IX. QUESTIONS

Article 153. The President shall have printed and distributed to each Member the summaries of question which the House or the President has approved and the replies of the Cabinet thereto.

Article 154. The Cabinet may make oral replies to questions.

On the replies mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the questioner may pose further oral questions.

Article 155. In recording summaries of question in the Minutes in accordance with the provision of Article 74, Paragraph 4, of the Diet Law, the President may have such summaries rewritten in a more concise form if they are deemed not brief enough.

CHAPTER X. MINUTES

Article 156. In the Minutes, there shall be recorded all the proceedings of the plenary sessions of the House, by means of stenography.

Article 157. Matters especially so provided for by the Diet Law, matters especially so decided by the House and matters deemed necessary by the President shall be recorded in the Minutes.

Article 158. Members may demand corrections of their own statements only before six o'clock on the afternoon of the day of the distribution of the Minutes. However, such corrections shall be limited to changes of words or phrases, with no alternations in the meaning of the statements made. The same shall apply to the Cabinet Ministers, Government delegates, and others who made statements in plenary sessions.

In case a protest is filed by a Member against the matters recorded in the Minutes, or against the corrections in the Minutes, the President shall refer it to the House for decision without debate.

Article 159. The Minutes to be preserved in the Secretariate shall be signed by the President, or the Vice President or the President pro tempore who presided over the plenary session on that day, and by the Secretary General or the secretary who is his proxy.

Article 160. The Minutes shall be printed and distributed to each Member, and shall be available to the general public.

Article 161. The Minutes to be distributed or to be made available to the public shall not contain the part which has been decided to be kept secret in accordance with Article 63 of the Diet Law

or a speech which the President has ordered to be retracted in accordance with Article 116 of the same Law.

CHAPTER XI. PETITIONS

- Article 162. A petition shall bear the name (in case of a juridical person, its name), and the residence (present address if there is no residence) of the petitioner.
- Article 163. No petition in the name of the delegation shall be accepted, except in the case of juridical persons.
- Article 164. A petition must be expressed in moderate terms and must be submitted in a peaceful manner.
- Article 165. The President shall prepare the list of summaries of petitions and have it printed and distributed weekly to each Member.

The list of summaries of petitions shall bear the purport of each petition, the name and residence of the petitioner, the name of the Member introducing such a petition, and the date on which it was received.

- Article 166. The President shall, simultaneously with the distribution of the list of summaries of petitions, refer the petitions to the committees concerned.
- Article 167. A petition requesting dismissal of a judge shall be referred by the President to the Judges Indictment Committee, without referring it to any other Committees.
- Article 168. A Member who has introduced a petition shall make an explanation on the purport of the petition when requested by the Committee.
- Article 169. Only such petitions as have been approved by the House shall be printed and distributed.
- Article 170. The Committee shall classify petitions, according to the results of examination thereon, as below, and submit the written report to the President.
 - 1. Petitions to be taken up for consideration at a plenary session of the House.

2. Petitions not to be taken up for consideration at a plenary session of the House.

Petitions to be taken up for consideration at a plenary session of the House shall be further classified as follows:

- 1. Petitions to be sent to the Cabinet.
- 2. Petitions not to be sent to the Cabinet.
- Article 171. As to the petition which has been decided by the Committee not to be taken up for consideration at a plenary session of the House, the Committee may attach a note stating the Committee's view to the written report of the preceding Article.
- Article 172. As to the report of the Committee's decision on a petition that it is not to be taken up for consideration at a plenary session of the House, the decision of the Committee shall be final, unless consideration by the House is demanded by twenty or more Members within seven days thereafter.

Article 173. Deleted.

CHAPTER XII. RELATIONS WITH THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Article 174. When a bill is to be transferred to the House of Representatives, the President shall have the Secretary General transmit it to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- Article 175. When a bill is received from the House of Representatives, the President shall report to the House to that effect.
- Article 175-II. A Committee Chairman, an introducer or a submitter of an amendment draft may make an explanation in the House of Representatives on the bill submitted by the House of Councillors or the part amended by the House of Councillors of the bill submitted by the Cabinet, when so requested by the House of Representatives.
- Article 176. Election of members of a Joint Committee of Both Houses shall be conducted by secret ballot with plural entry.

The persons who have polled the greatest number of votes shall be the elected, but in case of a tie the persons to be elected shall be determined by lot.

The House may entrust the President with the selection and appointment of the members of a Joint Committee.

The resignation of the member of a Joint Committee shall be

permitted by the House.

Article 177. The cooptation of the Chairman of the Joint Committee shall be supervised by the eldest member of the Joint Committee.

Article 178. Bills sent back from the House of Representatives and final drafts of bills approved by a Joint Committee of Both Houses shall not be referred to a Committee.

Interpellation and debate on the bills sent back shall be

limited to the scope of the amendments made.

Interpellation and debate on the final drafts of bills approved by a Joint Committee shall be limited to the scope of the final drafts.

Article 179. Rules governing a Joint Committee of Both Houses and rules concerning a joint examination meeting of Standing Committees shall be decided by the House, after the President has consulted with the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHAPTER XIII. RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Article 180. If Members are to be dispatched for examination or investigation or for other purposes, it must be decided upon by the House. While the House is not in session, however, the President may decide upon the dispatch of the Members.

Article 180-II. A Committee may, with an approval of the President, dispatch its members for examination or investigation.

When a Committee intends to dispatch its members, a written request shall be submitted to the President, stating the purpose of the dispatch, the names of the members, the destination, the period and the expense.

Article 181. If a Committee desires the Cabinet, Government or other public offices or others to present reports or records for examination or investigation, such request must be made through the President.

Article 182. When a motion is made demanding the presence of witnesses at a plenary session for examination or investigation, the President shall decide it after consultation with the House, and the President shall request the presence of the witnesses.

Any Committee which has decided to request the presence of witnesses shall request their presence through the President.

Article 183. The President or the Committee Chairman may request the witness to submit, in advance, a summary of his testimony.

Article 184. The witness shall present himself to the House or to the Committee to give testimony. However, under unavoidable circumstances, a letter may be presented instead of testimony.

Article 185. The witness shall limit his statement to the scope of the subject on which he is required to testify.

Article 186. A Committee may hear the opinions of references for examination or investigation.

A request by a Committee for attendance of a reference shall be made through the President.

CHAPTER XIV. LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND RESIGNATION

Section 1. Leave of Absence

Article 187. Any Member who cannot be present at the House for several days due to certain circumstances shall submit in advance to the President a written application for leave of absence with the reason therefor and the number of days of absence. The President may grant the leave of absence for a period not longer than seven days. In case the leave of absence is longer than seven days, the President shall refer it to the House for decision.

Any Member who is unable to be present at the House due to official duties, illness, or other circumstances of a temporary nature shall submit to the President a written notification of his absence giving the reason therefor.

- Article 188. Any Member who takes a journey with leave of absence granted shall, at the time of his departure and return, notify the President thereof.
- Article 189. When a Member, granted a leave of absence, is present at the House before the termination of his leave of absence, the grant of leave of absence shall lose its effect.

Section 2. Resignation

- Article 190. Any Member who wishes to resign shall submit his written resignation to the President.
- Article 191. The President shall have the written resignation read, and shall decide whether the application shall be granted or not, referring it to the House for decision without debate.
- Article 192. If the President considers that the written resignation includes insulting words, he may omit its reading, and report a summary of it to the House. In this case the President may refer the written resignation for examination of the Committee for Disciplinary Measures.

CHAPTER XV. LITIGATION CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS

- Article 193. A Member who wishes to contest the qualifications of another Member shall submit to the President a written appeal, in duplicate, duly signed by him, which contains the summary of the dispute and the reasons and the evidence thereof.
- Article 193-II. When a written appeal has been submitted a Special Committee for Litigation concerning Qualifications is deemed to have been established.

The Special Committee of the preceding paragraph shall be composed of 10 members.

Article 194. The President shall determine the term of examination upon consultation with the House and refer the written appeal

to the Committee, and at the same time shall send the duplicate of the written appeal to the Member against whom the dispute of qualifications is raised (such a Member is called hereafter the defendant Member), notify him of the period of examination by the Committee, and demand him to submit a written answer within a fixed period.

If the defendant Member's failure to submit the required answer within the fixed period is proved to be due to a natural calamity, illness, or other unavoidable causes, the President may have him submit his written answer at a later date to be fixed by the President.

- Article 195. When the written answer is submitted by the defendant Member within the fixed period, the President shall immediately send it to the Committee.
- Article 196. The Committee shall conduct the examination on the basis of the written appeal and the written answer. If the required answer is not submitted within the fixed period, the examination may be conducted on the basis of the written appeal only.
- Article 197. The defendant Member may engage a counsel any time after he receives the duplicate of the written appeal. In this case, the President shall be notified thereof.
- Article 198. The counsel may, at the request or with the permission of the Committee, speak in defense of the defendant Member in the Committee.
- Article 199. The Member who initiates the contest (such a Member is called hereafter the prosecutor Member) and the defendant Member may speak at the Committee with the permission of the Committee.
- Article 200. If the Committee deems it necessary while conducting the examination, it may summon, through the President, the prosecutor Member as well as the defendant Member to the Committee meetings for inquiry.
- Article 201. The Committee may request the President to extend the period of examination.

- Article 202. When the Committee has submitted to the President its written report of examination, the President shall have it printed and distributed to each Member.
- Article 203. The defendant Member may speak several times in his own defense in the plenary session of the House.
- Article 204. The Counsel may speak in defense in the plenary session of the House.
- Article 205. The House shall decide by voting on the qualifications of the defendant Member.

No reason shall be attached to the decision of the House.

Article 206. When a decision has been made by the House, the President shall have copies of the decision prepared and delivered to the prosecutor Member as well as to the defendant Member.

CHAPTER XVI. DISCIPLINE AND POLICE

Section 1. Discipline

- Article 207. The Members shall respect the dignity of the House.
- Article 208. Terms of respect shall be used mutually by Members in the Chamber and in Committee meeting rooms.
- Article 209. Those who enter the Chamber or Committee meeting rooms are forbidden to wear or carry hats, overcoats, mufflers, umbrellas, canes, and the like. However, a Member who has obtained permission of the President may carry his cane.
- Article 210. No smoking is allowed in the Chamber.
- Article 211. No one shall read newspapers, books, or the like during the meeting, unless they are used for references.
- Article 212. No one shall speak unnecessarily or make noise to disturb the speech of another person during the meeting.
- Article 213. No one shall mount the rostrum without permission of the President.
- Article 214. Everyone shall be silent when the President rings the bell.

- Article 215. At the close or intermission, Members shall not leave their seats until after the President has left his Chair.
- Article 216. All matters relating to discipline shall be decided by the President. The President, however, may refer the matter to the House to decide upon it without debate.

Section 2. Police

- Article 217. The President shall exercise police power within the House by directing the guards and policemen.
- Article 218. The guards shall be on police duty inside the House building.

The policemen shall be on police duty outside the House building. The President, however, may put the policemen on police duty inside the House building, when he deems it especially necessary.

Article 219. When a flagrant criminal act is committed inside the House, the guards or the policemen shall arrest the offender, make their report to the President, and await his order. In the Chamber, however, they cannot arrest the offender except by order of the President.

CHAPTER XVII. VISITORS

- Article 220. Seats for the visitors are divided into those for the Imperial family, foreign diplomats, members of the House of Representatives, public employees, the general public and the press.
- Article 221. When public employees desire to visit the House through the offices of the Ministry or the board to which they belong, the Secretary General shall send a limited number of tickets to the Ministry or the Board.
- Article 222. Half of the seats for the general public shall be allotted to those who obtain tickets for the general public gallery issued by the Secretary General on the day of the plenary session. These tickets shall be given to the people in the order of their arrival, at the House before the session.

The other half of the seats for the general public shall be allotted to those carrying general public tickets with the date indicated, previously issued by the Secretary General to the Members upon their introduction.

Article 223. Visitors' badges for the duration of a session shall be

given to press agencies.

The number of such badges shall be decided at the beginning of each session by the Secretary General, under direction of the President.

Article 224. The President, when he deems it necessary, may order the guards or policemen to check visitors' belongings.

Article 225. Those who possess firing arms or any other dangerous things, those who are intoxicated and other persons whom the President considers it necessary to control, shall not be permitted to enter the visitors' gallery.

Article 226. The President, when he considers it necessary for keeping order, may limit the number of visitors.

Article 227. The visitors shall show their visitors' tickets or badges to the guards and take the seats assigned to them by the latter.

Article 228. Visitors shall obey the visitors regulations determined by the President.

Article 229. Visitors shall under no circumstances enter onto the floor of the House.

Article 230. The President shall order the guards to execute his order to remove all visitors from the visitors' gallery when a secret meeting is decided on, or when the visitors are noisy, or to remove visitors who interfere with the proceedings of the House.

Article 231. Provisions of Article 224 and succeeding Articles shall be applied mutatis mutandis to visitors at Committee meetings.

CHAPTER XVIII. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 232. If during a plenary session of the House a disciplinary offense is committed, the President shall announce an intermission or adjournment, or have the offender removed from the Chamber.

Article 233. If a disciplinary offense occurs in a Committee meeting, the Chairman may announce an intermission or a close of the meeting.

Article 234. When a disciplinary offense occurs in the House at any other occasion than a plenary session or a Committee meeting, the President shall refer it to the Committee for Disciplinary Measures.

Article 235. The President may refer those who disobey his restraining order or order for retraction of a statement to the Committee for Disciplinary Measures for action as a disciplinary offense, besides punishing them in accordance with Article 116 of the Diet Law.

The Committee Chairman may report to the President for action as a disciplinary offense the cases of those who disobey his restraining order or order for retraction of a statement, besides punishing in accordance with Article 51 of these Rules.

Article 236. When a Member has disclosed to others the matters not to be publicized under Article 63 of the Diet Law, the President shall refer him to the Committee for Disciplinary Measures as a disciplinary offense.

Article 237. In accordance with Article 121, paragraph 3, of the Diet Law, a Member may propose a motion for disciplinary action to the House even if the Chairman fails to regard the case as a disciplinary offense.

Article 238. When a motion for disciplinary action is made, the President shall refer it immediately to the plenary session of the House.

In case of the foregoing paragraph, the President shall call for a vote without debate, and then place the matter before the Committee for Disciplinary Measures.

Article 239. The Committee for Disciplinary Measures, through the President, may request the presence of the Member in question and the persons involved, and subject them to inquiry.

- Article 240. A Member shall not attend a meeting of the House or of the Committee which deals with disciplinary action against himself. With the permission of the President or of the Committee Chairman, however, he may make explanations in his defence or have another Member explain in his stead.
- Article 241. Of the punishments, an admonition or an apology in a plenary session open to the public shall be drafted by the Committee for Disciplinary Measures and presented to the President together with its written report.

Article 242. The suspension of attendance at the House shall not exceed a period of 30 days.

Even if several offenses concur, the suspension shall not exceed the period mentioned in the foregoing paragraph.

- Article 243. If a Member whose attendance at the House is suspended is a Special Committee member or a member of a Joint Committee of Both Houses, he shall be regarded as having been relieved from that office.
- Article 244. When a Member whose attendance at the House is suspended appears in the House within the period of his suspension, the President shall order his immediate removal from the House. If he disobeys the order, the President shall take necessary measures and refer the matter to the Committee for Disciplinary Measures again.
- Article 245. A Member whose actions are considered especially grave, by reason of disturbing the House or imparing the honor of the House, may be suspended from attendance at the House or shall be dismissed from membership of the House.
- Article 246. If the decision of the Committee for Disciplinary Measures to dismiss a Member from membership in the House is not approved by two-thirds or more of the Members present, the House may subject the Member to other disciplinary measures.
- Article 247. When a disciplinary measure is decided by the House, the President shall make an announcement of it in an open plenary session of the House, even if the decision was made in a secret meeting.

CHAPTER XIX. ELECTIONS OF JUDGING MEMBERS OF JUDGES IMPEACHMENT COURT, MEMBERS OF JUDGES INDICTMENT COMMITTEE AND OTHERS

Article 248. The election of the judging members of the Judges Impeachment Court and its reserve members, and the members of the Judges Indictment Committee and its reserve members shall be conducted by secret vote with plural entries.

Those who have obtained the greatest number of votes shall be the elected. However, in case the number of votes obtained are equal, lot is drawn to decide the elected.

The House may entrust the President with the above selection and appointment.

- Article 249. Excepting those provided for in the preceding Article the provisions of the preceding Article shall apply mutatis mutandis to the election of Members as members of an agency or a commission and others whose membership is to be elected in the plural from among the Members of the House of Councillors according to law.
- Article 250. The election of a Member to membership of an agency or a commission or others, one member of which must be a Member of the House according to law, shall be conducted in the same manner as in the case of the President.

The House may entrust the President with the above selection and appointment.

CHAPTER XX. EMERGENCY SESSION

- Article 251. The Members shall assemble at the House of Councillors at ten o'clock on the morning of the day designated for an emergency session.
- Article 252. In applying the provisions of Art. 4, Art. 13, Art. 14, Art. 16, Art. 17, Art. 19, Art. 74–IV and Art. 223, "convocation", "each term of session" and "while in session" or "a term of session" shall read "assembly", "emergency session" and "while in emergency session".

CHAPTER XXI. SUPPLEMENTARY RULES

Article 253. The President shall decide all the doubtful points with regard to the Rules of the House. The President, however, may decide them in consultation with the House.

—— The End ——



31.6.6

