

may not, as a matter of right, require the reading of a book or paper on suggestion that it contains matter infringing on the privileges of the House (V, 5258).

The former rule prohibiting the reading of papers in debate was held to apply to the exhibition of articles as evidence or in exemplification in debate (VIII, 2452, 2453; June 2, 1937, pp. 6104-05; Aug. 5, 1949, p. 10859), and the new form of the rule adopted in the 103d Congress (H. Res. 5, Jan. 5, 1993, p. —) marks the modern relevance of that application. While Members may use exhibits such as charts during debate subject to this rule, the Speaker may, pursuant to his authority to preserve order and decorum under rule I (see § 622, *supra*), direct the removal of a chart from the well of the House which is not being utilized during debate (Apr. 1, 1982, p. 6304), or which is otherwise disruptive of decorum.

The reading of papers other than the one on which the vote was about to be taken was usually permitted without question (V, 5258), and the Member in debate usually read such papers as he pleased, but this privilege was subject to the authority of the House if another Member objected (V, 5285-5288, 5289-5291; VIII, 2597, 2602; Dec. 19, 1974, p. 41425; Dec. 10, 1987, p. 34669). This principle applied even to the Member's own written speech (V, 5258; VIII, 2598), to a report which he proposed to have read in his own time or to read in his place (V, 5293), and to excerpts from the Congressional Record (VIII, 2597). But, on a motion to lay on the table, a demand for the reading of a paper other than the one to which the motion applied was overruled (V, 5297); and after the previous question were ordered a Member could not ask the decision of the House as to the reading of a paper not before the House for action (V, 5296), even though it be the report of the committee (V, 5294, 5295). For further discussion, see §§ 432-436, *supra*. The consent of the House pursuant to the former form of this rule for a Member to read a paper in debate only permitted the Member seeking such permission to read as much of the paper as possible in the time yielded or allotted to that Member, and did not necessarily grant permission to read or to insert the entire document (Mar. 1, 1979, p. 3748). Where a Member objected to another's reading from a paper the Chair put the question without debate, and it was not in order under the guise of parliamentary inquiry to debate that question by indicating that the objection was a dilatory tactic (Dec. 10, 1987, p. 34672).

RULE XXXI.

HALL OF THE HOUSE.

The Hall of the House shall be used only for the legislative business of the House and for the caucus meetings

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of its Members, except upon occasions where the House by resolution agrees to take part in any ceremonies to be observed therein; and the Speaker shall not entertain a motion for the suspension of this rule.

Rules relating to the use of the Hall were adopted as early as 1804. The present form of the rule dates from 1880 (V, 7270). It was renumbered January 3, 1953, p. 24.

RULE XXXII.

OF ADMISSION TO THE FLOOR.

1. The persons hereinafter named, and none other, shall be admitted to the Hall of the House or rooms leading thereto, viz: The President and Vice President of the United States and their private secretaries, judges of the Supreme Court, Members of Congress and Members-elect, contestants in election cases during the pendency of their cases in the House, the Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, heads of departments, foreign ministers, governors of States, the Architect of the Capitol, the Librarian of Congress and his assistant in charge of the Law Library, the Resident Commissioner to the United States from Puerto Rico, each Delegate to the House, such persons as have, by name, received the thanks of Congress, the Parliamentarian, elected officers and elected minority employees of the House (other than Members); and ex-Members of the House of Representatives, former Parliamentarians of the House, and former elected officers and elected minority employees of the

§ 919. Persons and officials admitted to the floor during sessions of the House.