

**Lesson 22: *The Organization of Congress I***

(Lesson Time 24:18)

[for Sunday, May 31, 2015]

Reading: *The Making of America*, pages 321-335

***Chapter 13: The Organization of Congress I***

Pre-lesson questions for homework study and review: [*Supplemental* notes are bracketed]

[287 Constitution Provisions “principles” in text.]

1. WHO HAS THE POWER TO DETERMINE THE TIME, PLACE, AND MANNER IN WHICH FEDERAL ELECTIONS ARE HELD? (PAGES 322-24)

Provision 46

States set election details, but Congress may alter.

2. WHY DID CONGRESS RESERVE TO ITSELF THE RIGHT TO ALTER ANY STATE'S ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS? (324-28)

o 1842 – Congress redistricts

o 1866 – leg. meet on certain day until choosing of senators

o 1872 – (Federal) gen election on Tuesday following 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in November

o 1899 – voting machines

o spending limits

o 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Amendments (Women & 18-20 yr olds)

3. WHY DID THE FOUNDERS FEEL IT NECESSARY TO MANDATE A YEARLY MEETING TIME FOR CONGRESS? (328-30)

Provision 47

Congress to meet every year on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in December

o Charles I ruled England for 11 years without ever convening parliament

o French parliament not convened for 175 years

o Is there enough work to do? (Quote)

o Winter more convenient

4. WHAT AUTHORITY DOES THE CONSTITUTION GIVE EACH HOUSE OF CONGRESS TO DETERMINE WHETHER A MEMBER IS PROPERLY ELECTED? (330-31)

Provision 48

Each House determines if members are properly elected.

Provision 49

Each House judges qualifications of members.

5. WHAT IS A QUORUM IN CONGRESS, AND WHAT PROVISIONS ARE MADE TO ENSURE THE PRESENCE OF A QUORUM? (331-33)

Provision 50

A majority is required to make a quorum in each House.

Provision 51

Minority may compel absent members to attend

6. WHAT AUTHORITY DOES EACH HOUSE OF CONGRESS HAVE TO DETERMINE ITS OWN RULES AND TO DEAL WITH TROUBLESOME MEMBERS? (334-35)

- o Can levy fines or other penalties
- o Once a quorum is had, any number can transact business

Provision 52 (334)

Each House determines rules.

- o Completely independent
- o "Senatorial courtesy."

Provision 53

Each House can punish members for disorderly conduct.

Provision 54

Each House can expel with 2/3 vote.

- o Reprimand – lightest
- o Censure
- o Expelled

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Quiz - Lesson 22

1. THE FOUNDERS LEARNED FROM THEIR OWN TEMPESTUOUS \_\_\_\_\_ LEGISLATURES THAT THE RULES GOVERNING CONGRESS HAD TO BE WELL THOUGHT OUT AND DETAILED.

2. THE FOUNDERS LEFT TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ TO DETERMINE THE TIME, PLACE, AND

MANNER OF ELECTION BUT RESERVED THE RIGHT FOR \_\_\_\_\_ TO INTERVENE IF NECESSARY.

3. GIVE ONE CHANGE CONGRESS MADE IN THE ELECTION PROCEDURES.

\_\_\_\_\_  
4. GIVE ANOTHER CHANGE CONGRESS MADE IN THE ELECTION PROCEDURES.

\_\_\_\_\_  
5. THE FOUNDERS MANDATED THAT CONGRESS MEET ONCE EACH \_\_\_\_\_ BECAUSE OF EXPERIENCES THEY OBSERVED IN BOTH \_\_\_\_\_ AND IN \_\_\_\_\_.

6. WHO ARE THE JUDGES OF WHETHER A CONGRESSMAN OR SENATOR HAS BEEN PROPERLY ELECTED OR NOT? \_\_\_\_\_

7. HOW MANY (GIVE NUMBER) ARE REQUIRED IN EACH HOUSE TO TRANSACT BUSINESS?

\_\_\_\_\_  
THIS IS CALLED A \_\_\_\_\_.

8. HOW CAN ABSENT CONGRESSMAN OR SENATORS BE COMPELLED TO ATTEND?

\_\_\_\_\_  
9. WHO MAKES THE RULES OF PROCEDURE IN THE HOUSE OR SENATE? \_\_\_\_\_

10. WHO PUNISHES A MEMBER FOR DISORDERLY CONDUCT? \_\_\_\_\_

11. WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO EXPEL A MEMBER FROM EITHER HOUSE OF CONGRESS?

\_\_\_\_\_