

Petitions, and to the whole number of such Committees then to be appointed, and they shall report to the House from time to time the days appointed by them for choosing such Committee.

LVI. And be it enacted, That if Parliament be prorogued after any Election Petition has been presented, but before the appointment of a Select Committee to try such Petition, the General Committee of Elections appointed in the following Session shall, within two days after their first meeting, in case the sureties have been then reported unobjectionable, appoint a day and hour for selecting a Committee to try the Petition so standing over as aforesaid: Provided always, that if the number of Petitions so standing over be so great that the times for selecting Committees to try the whole thereof cannot in the judgment of the General Committee be conveniently appointed within two days after their first meeting, the said General Committee shall within two days after their first meeting, appoint the times for selecting Committees to try so many of the said Petitions as the said General Committee deems convenient, and shall afterwards from time to time, as soon as conveniently may be, appoint the times for selecting the Committees to try the remainder of such Petitions.

Proceedings in case of prorogation before appointment of Select Committee.

Proviso: if the number of Petitions be very great.

LVII. And be it enacted, That notice of the time and place at which the Committee will be chosen to try any Election Petition shall be published, with the principal votes, not less than eight days before the day on which such Committee is appointed to be chosen; and in case the conduct of the Returning Officer is complained of, such notice shall be sent to him through the Post not less than fourteen days before the day on which such Committee is appointed to be chosen, and every such notice shall direct all parties interested to attend the General Committee of Elections by themselves or their agents, at the time and place appointed for choosing the Select Committee; and if after such notice has been published with the printed votes, or sent to the Returning Officer as aforesaid, the proceedings in the matter of such Petition become suspended, notice of such suspension shall be immediately published with the printed votes, and in case the conduct of the Returning Officer is complained of, such notice shall be sent to him through the Post.

Notices to be given before the Select Committee is chosen in any case.

LVIII. And be it enacted, That if notice of the death or vacancy of the seat of any Member petitioned against, or that it is not the intention of such Member to defend his election or return, have been inserted in the Gazette by order of the Speaker as hereinbefore provided, and no party has been admitted to defend such election or return, then, if the conduct of the Returning Officer is not complained of in such Petition, it shall not be necessary to insert such Petition at the bottom of the then list of Petitions, but the General Committee of Elections shall meet for choosing the Select Committee to try such Petition, as soon as conveniently may be after the expiration of the time allowed for parties to come in to defend such election or return, and not less than one day's notice of the time and place appointed for choosing such Committee shall be given in the printed votes of the House, and in such case it shall not be necessary to deliver to the Chairman of the Select Committee for the trial of such Election Petition, a list of the voters intended to be objected to as hereinafter is required in other cases, unless the same shall be specially ordered by such Select Committee.

Proceedings when there is no party who defends the return.

LIX. And be it enacted, That the General Committee of Elections may change the day and hour appointed by them for choosing a Select Committee to try any Election Petition, and appoint some subsequent, or by the consent of all parties concerned, some earlier day and hour for the same, if in their judgment it be expedient so to do, giving notice in the printed votes of the House, of the day and hour so subsequently appointed; and in every case in which any such change is made by them, they shall forthwith report the same to the House with their reasons for making such change.

Day appointed for choosing Committee, may be changed.

LX. And be it enacted, That notice shall be published, with the votes, of the Petitions appointed for each calendar week reckoned from Sunday to Saturday inclusive, and of the Panel from which Committees will be chosen to try such Petitions, and each Panel shall serve for a calendar week, beginning with the Panel first drawn,

Certain notices to be printed with the votes.