

§ 25. Charges Before a Governmental Agency or Committee

Communist Party Affiliation

§ 25.1 Testimony by a government witness before a government agency charging a Member of the House as being a Communist gave rise to a question of personal privilege.

On Oct. 18, 1951,⁽¹³⁾ Mr. Franck R. Havenner, of California, rising to a question of personal privilege, read, from the transcript of deportation hearing proceedings, certain testimony by a government witness in which he [Havenner] was identified as a former member of the Communist Party. Upon hearing the objectionable matter, the Speaker⁽¹⁴⁾ ruled that the transcript gave rise to a question of personal privilege.

Alteration of Official Transcript

§ 25.2 A statement before a Senate committee which challenged the integrity of an official transcript of a hearing before a committee

13. 97 CONG. REC. 13483, 82d Cong. 1st Sess.

14. Sam Rayburn (Tex.).

of the House, thus impugning the integrity of those Members responsible for its preparation, gave rise to a question of personal privilege.

On May 21, 1959,⁽¹⁵⁾ Mr. Clarence Cannon, of Missouri, presented as involving a question of personal privilege a statement made before a Senate committee inferring that he had provided the committee with an altered transcript of a hearing held before a committee of the House. Thereupon, the Speaker⁽¹⁶⁾, recognized Mr. Cannon on a question of personal privilege.

§ 26. Charges by Fellow Member

Charges Involving Unnamed Members

§ 26.1 A statement on the floor by the Majority Leader "there is nothing to stop a man from making a damn fool of himself if he wants to" which was carried in the press as referring to a particular Member, gave rise to

15. 105 CONG. REC. 8868, 86th Cong. 1st Sess. See also 105 CONG. REC. 11587, 11588, 86th Cong. 1st Sess., June 23, 1959.

16. Sam Rayburn (Tex.).