

Commission, which are exactly the same as that of this committee—in other words, the Civil Rights Commission does not adhere to the Administrative Procedure Act. It follows the fairplay rules of the House of Representatives the same as a standing committee of this House.

Mr. FORRESTER. As I understand you, your proposal is completely different from the recommendation of the Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. WALSH. That is correct.

Mr. FORRESTER. In other words, you are repudiating the recommendation of the Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. WALSH. Yes. We recognize the validity of the observations of the Civil Rights Commission on the need for something to be done in this field, and we respect the attention which they focused on it. We do not think that the Federal registrar proposal is a proper vehicle.

Mr. FORRESTER. Let me ask you this, if you do not mind, because I may not have time to ask any questions.

As a matter of fact, you have not followed a single recommendation of the Civil Rights Commission, have you?

Mr. WALSH. I don't know exactly where you say their recommendation begins and where it ends. We are opposed to the idea of having the relief stem from an administrative Federal officer.

Mr. FORRESTER. You are opposed to that theory, which is in opposition to the Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. WALSH. Right.

Mr. FORRESTER. All right, sir.

Now, are you or are you not in favor, and have you introduced legislation to do away with any literacy test, and that any person who can satisfy the State requirements as to residence and age would be a qualified voter?

Mr. WALSH. No, sir, we did not, and the Commission as a whole did not make that recommendation. It was divided on whether there should be a constitutional amendment to that effect.

Mr. FORRESTER. But it was majority recommendation, was it not?

Mr. WALSH. I believe it was 3 to 3.

Mr. FORRESTER. But at least, you have not accepted all of its recommendations.

Mr. WALSH. In that we have not submitted any proposal to that effect; no, sir.

Mr. FORRESTER. Then may I ask you this question?

What is the Civil Rights Commission, in your opinion? Are they umpires, or are they advocates, or are they agitators, or what?

Mr. WALSH. They are a committee established to perform the fact-finding work of Congress in this field. The purpose of establishing the Commission was to find a group which would not have the manifold problems that each Member of this House has, which could concentrate its attention on a single field and survey that field for the Congress. That is their function, at the moment.

Mr. FORRESTER. They are not advocates?

Mr. WALSH. They are not advocates, and they are not a quasi-judicial body, which comes back to the constitutional problem that Congressman Walter has posed, that their procedures are not established for the purposes of making findings of fact and determinations as to individual registrars or the supplanting of individual registrars.