

Mr. WILLIS. Well, it is the law of the United States, is it not, that in order to see whether a vote is properly counted, it must be marked or pinpointed, and when he comes to that vote, he looks over the certificate, looks over the ballot, and says, "Well, have you properly counted it?" And he must take a look at those ballots to give meaning to this provision, if he votes.

Mr. WALSH. I don't think it would have to go that far, Mr. Willis.

Mr. WILLIS. Well, how is he going to report? And he is ordered to report back to the Federal judge: "* * *" and report to the court whether any vote cast by any such person has not been properly counted."

Let us say the judge uses discretion and orders these people to be in that county or in any particular voting precinct, and he is ordered to make that report to the judge. How is he going honestly to make a report to the judge that the vote of Mr. John Brown, and all other similar cited votes, have been improperly counted?

Mr. WALSH. I don't think the judge's order would so require. If you got a complaint that "they took my ballot and threw it out the back window, and it is lying in the backyard," that might be the kind of thing you could report on. But where you vote on a machine, the votes are lost right in the machine. The judge knows that, and is not going to make a foolish order.

Mr. WILLIS. I know that; but why have a foolish bill?

Mr. WALSH. Well, I don't know. The bill might not be so foolish in some areas.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. McCulloch.

This will be the last person to ask questions.

Mr. McCULLOCH. This will be a statement rather than a question.

We have now been in session more than 3 hours. I think the type of questions that have been propounded to the witness, the very learned answers that we have had from him, and the indecision that still remains in the minds of some members and some of the staff, is evidence enough, if any evidence were needed, of the necessity for having some hearings on this most important proposal.

However, I want it unmistakably understood that I did not suggest hearings for the purpose of delay, and in accordance with the discussion earlier today, when we were entertaining the motion of the gentleman from Louisiana and the substitutes and the amendments thereto, I hope that we will proceed to final hearing without unnecessary delay. Although this is the week of Lincoln's birthday and it is understood that many members are or will be back home, I am ready, willing, and anxious to stay here and have the hearings which will bring this bill to a final decision by the Judiciary Committee within the 7-day period.

The CHAIRMAN. The 7-day period?

Mr. McCULLOCH. Or within the term "within a 7-day period."

That is my statement.

Furthermore, I hope that these hearings will not be seized upon by anyone as an excuse for unnecessarily delaying the Celler bill which is before the Rules Committee, which had so long and so careful a hearing before this committee.