

I might add that when inflationary forces hit the dam of balance of payments, which is the one thing that is keeping costs down, they are prevented from causing price increases. Instead, it comes out in unemployment.

Chairman PATMAN. All of us may extend our remarks, without objection, in connection with our testimony, and insert any materials or charts or statements that are material or germane.

Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. You were very nice to give us so much of your time, and we appreciate the information you have given us, sir. It will be helpful to us.

Secretary DILLON. Thank you.

Chairman PATMAN. This afternoon we will have a meeting at 2 o'clock in this room. Mr. Ewan Clague, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, will be the witness.

The committee will be adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

(Whereupon, at 1 p.m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 2 p.m., the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Representative REUSS (presiding). Good afternoon.

The session of the Joint Economic Committee's inquiry into the economic situation will resume.

This afternoon we are privileged to have with us Mr. Ewan Clague, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, accompanied by two members of his staff.

Would you be good enough, Mr. Clague, to identify for the record the lady and gentleman who are with you today?

STATEMENT OF EWAN CLAGUE, COMMISSIONER OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; ACCOMPANIED BY MISS GERTRUDE BANCROFT, ASSISTANT CHIEF, MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS DIVISION; AND ROBERT L. STEIN, CHIEF OF BRANCH OF EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS

Mr. CLAGUE. Yes, sir.

This is Miss Gertrude Bancroft, who is the statistician in charge of this work in the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the other is Mr. Robert Stein, who is her assistant.

Representative REUSS. You are all extremely welcome.

Mr. Clague, would you proceed in your own way, either by reading your statement or summarizing it, or any other way.

Meanwhile, your statement and the accompanying tables, in accordance with our practice, will be admitted for the permanent record.

Mr. CLAGUE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think, in view of the fact my statement is rather short and precise, I would like to read it, and then I can submit myself to questions.

I am very glad to have this opportunity to discuss with you and members of this committee the behavior of the labor force during the past year and over the long run. The slowdown of labor growth during the past year has been of great interest and concern to all of us who keep track of our economy's performance. It is of particular interest to the members of this committee and others faced with the re-