

Mr. CLAGUE. Yes.

Representative CURTIS. Which is an interesting statistic, but I think this matter of handicapped and rehabilitation is an important item in this.

One final area: Do you have any estimates in the Bureau of Labor Statistics on communities, large and small, in this country which have unemployment rates of over 10 percent?

Mr. CLAGUE. That is not done by us in the Bureau of Labor Statistics. That is done by the Bureau of Employment Security, which works with the State employment security agencies.

Those State agencies are the ones under instruction from the Bureau of Employment Security who make those estimates of local unemployment.

Representative CURTIS. Oh, I see. And who publishes those, then?

Mr. CLAGUE. They are published by the Bureau of Employment Security.

Representative CURTIS. I see, yes.

Mr. CLAGUE. They are not ours.

Representative CURTIS. That is out of your field. I had one other question that has eluded me.

Senator PROXMIRE. Maybe Mr. Widnall would like to go ahead.

Representative CURTIS. Yes, my time is up anyway.

Representative WIDNALL. Mr. Clague, do you have any statistics to show the reasons why—I am talking about men, now, in the 45-and-over group, have failed to get employment.

Do you have anything broken down as to the causes?

Mr. CLAGUE. No, not firm statistics of the kind you are talking about.

Secretary of Labor some time ago—this may be several years ago—had a committee of businessmen meet on that general subject.

There was a popular impression that older men, particularly in the light of pension plans, would find it harder to get a job in a concern, and the general, prevailing opinion among those businessmen was that this was not an important factor; that, on the whole, if a man was qualified, they were inclined to take him. That committee made such a statement in their final report.

Now I believe since then the Canadians have done some work on this subject and have come out with a finding that this does make a difference in some cases. I do remember that some of the businessmen on that committee, too, particularly in retail trade, said that in the narrow margins in which they operated, they would have to think twice about hiring a person, say, beyond the age of 50 because of their pension plan.

Representative WIDNALL. Is it not also true that an older person would have a salary or wage requirement higher than the younger person going into a job?

Mr. CLAGUE. Well, this is not statistics, Mr. Congressman, but I would say this is human psychology. The answer is certainly "Yes."

As we move along in life and get more wages and salary, we hate to go backward. One of the difficulties undoubtedly with older people is their hesitancy to reduce their wage demand or their salary requirement in the light of their failing powers.