

If experience indicates that these limits are too high, I don't think that there will be any difficulty in lowering them.

I don't believe there has been sufficient experience to indicate this now.

Chairman PATMAN. That is right.

Mr. LOEVINGER. I just don't have enough information to give you a good judgment on it.

Chairman PATMAN. As we said in the beginning, this is a pioneering venture and we will probably profit by the experience we have in the future.

If four companies selling the same products were to rotate their bids, company A making the low bid once, then the next time company B, and so forth, with no identical bid submitted on any given bid, then that wouldn't be covered in your report, would it?

Mr. LOEVINGER. No, sir.

Chairman PATMAN. It wouldn't be possible.

The Executive order does not relieve the head of Federal departments from reporting under the Armed Services Procurement Act, and the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act.

How many reports under these two laws did you receive during the reporting period?

Mr. LOEVINGER. I don't know, Congressman.

I suppose that it is obvious that the armed services and the General Services Administration will not make duplicate reports, and to the extent that the data they might otherwise report are covered in the identical bidding report, they won't make additional reports.

These statutes would impose on them the duty only to report some particular situation where there were nonidentical but apparently collusive bids so that these would quite obviously be relatively limited in number.

Chairman PATMAN. Have you had much resistance in the Federal agencies about making the kind of report you feel is necessary?

Mr. LOEVINGER. No, sir, they have been very cooperative.

Chairman PATMAN. Fine.

In the previous report you made for us, some industries appear to be habitually making identical bids. Have you compared the new report with the previous report to see whether some of the industries have changed their bidding practices since the President's Executive order was announced?

Mr. LOEVINGER. Not yet, no, sir.

Chairman PATMAN. I call your attention to page 226 of your report and several subsequent pages, about the electric companies.

It seems they are still making identical bids. You indicate, on page 226 that in the case of one item amounting to \$925, the same bid was presented by Graybar Electric of Newark, N.J.; Westinghouse Electric Supply Co. of Newark, N.J.; Wagner Electric Corp., St. Louis, Mo.; Jersey State Electric, Jersey City.

Right below it is another item of \$1,458 where General Electric, Westinghouse, and General Engineering all submitted identical bids. Then there is one on page 227 where Westinghouse, General Electric, and General Engineering, all made the same bids of \$972.

Then on page 279, there are three examples, and without objection I will just put these in the record without enumerating them.

(The information referred to follows:)