

the advantages of bigness which he might get by cooperation under complete supervision, and I have had the opinion that the Antitrust Division is living in the past, and you prove it to me, because if you think that we are going to a cartel system, if we try to find ways in which we are going to get 95 percent of American business firms to participate in the field from which they are excluded, you and I differ 100 percent.

Chairman PATMAN. Have you finished?

Senator JAVITS. I am finished.

Chairman PATMAN. May I invite the attention of the gentlemen of the committee—and I am not doing this to lobby with you, although I don't think I would violate any law if I did; but you would probably construe it as lobbying by a House Member with the Senators—that this is a great anniversary. August 22, 1961, the House of Representatives—1 year ago today—passed H.R. 8603, the identical bidding bill, and it is now in the Senate and has been for a year before the Government Operations Committee and the Appropriations Committee, and no action has been taken on it, and I just want to ask these gentlemen here who are members of this committee and who initiated this matter, to do something about the passage of this bill, and I suggest that under your rules, you can do most anything that is germane; you could consider an amendment providing that, in the event of identical bids, the policy be adopted of giving the award to the smallest concern making the identical bid. And then I think you would break up this identical bidding.

Senator PROXMIRE. I think that is an excellent suggestion. I can't see anything really wrong with it although maybe there is. But I think you would break up identical bidding in a hurry.

Chairman PATMAN. You gentlemen, I hope, won't overlook the fact this bill number is H.R. 8603. It was passed a year ago. [Laughter.]

And I hope you do get action on it.

Senator JAVITS. He is lobbying.

Chairman PATMAN. Yes, I am lobbying.

Any other questions before we conclude?

This brings to a close the committee's hearings on the state of the economy and on policies for achieving full employment. We have a number of charts, tables, and notes which have been prepared by the committee staff, which were circulated to the members of the committee for their use.

I believe most of these have been admitted to the record at appropriate places. However, many of these have not been put into the record and I would like them to appear and without objection they will be placed in the record as an appendix.

I believe that the committee's hearings have been most informative and most useful.

We are indebted to the large number of witnesses who devoted their time and energies to preparing statements for us and who have come here to testify.

I particularly want to thank those members of the committee who have given their time to these hearings; several members have attended all or almost all of the sessions and raised very penetrating questions and the chairman feels indebted to them.

The committee will stand adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 12 noon, the committee stood adjourned.)