

course of this committee's work at this time Judge Prettyman will ultimately come before the committee for the full development of that story in order that the committee may have the benefit of his experience and their recommendation in arriving at its judgment as to what to recommend.

I make this statement for the record at this time to give a brief background of the interest of the committee in carrying out its duties and responsibilities.

Today the committee has been called together for the purpose of surveying the objective of improved procedure of the regulatory agencies, and how we may arrive at the best solution in carrying out our job and giving help to those who are responsible for such a tremendous task.

As I have explained, we have been working on this problem for the last 7 or 8 years. Recently my attention was called to a statement that was carried in the press on Saturday, January 26. In view of the fact that it referred to a particular problem which has concerned this committee, I made some inquiries about the problem. I learned, as the article had indicated, that a letter had been written to the President of the United States under date of January 23, 1962, by Commissioner Howard Morgan of the Federal Power Commission.

Now, as chairman of the committee—and I think that I express the feeling of the committee—it isn't our duty or responsibility to become involved with any differences of opinion on any particular decision or judgments made by the Commission. We maintain it is the duty of all Commissioners to do their job and make their own decisions based on the facts and information in any particular case. If it is a part of the majority decision, or if it is a unanimous decision, or if it is a dissent on a particular issue, it is the duty of each Commissioner to assume his own responsibility. And so this committee is not concerned, then, with any differences of opinion that might exist within the Commission itself, or any personalities that might be involved. We are concerned with the administration of the laws and whether or not these Commissions are carrying out the law as written and intended by the Congress and the legislative record, we think, should be considered.

In view of the fact that the letter had to do with the general problem of the regulatory agencies of the Government after obtaining a copy of the letter and reading it, I felt that this committee should have the benefit of the experience of Commissioner Morgan, as we intend to have other Commissioners not only of the Federal Power Commission but of the other agencies of the Government, particularly the chairman, to report the progress they have made in carrying out their responsibilities.

But in view of the importance and the seriousness of the charge that has been made about the regulatory agencies as such as referred to in the letter, it appears to us that the committee might be benefited by having the views of Mr. Morgan as to what is meant in dealing with the agencies as such.

So at this point, since it is the background of the hearing today, the letter of Mr. Morgan to the President referred to will be included in the record.