dealt with the delicate and difficult problem of ex parte communication between persons in and persons outside the Government with respect to pending cases.

The Conference concluded that a single code of behavior applicable to such problems in every Federal agency was not feasible for the obvious reason that the factual circumstances giving rise to the problem vary too greatly among the agencies to be susceptible of common treatment except in the most generalized terms. The Conference did, however, promulgate a set of principles and recommended that each agency formulate a code of behavior which would adapt these principles to its activities and problems.

Thanks to the exploratory work done by the Conference and to the guidelines it furnished, the Securities and Exchange Commission was able to develop and has adopted a specific code of behavior with respect to ex parte communications more comprehensive than any of our earlier rules or canons.

We have also adopted certain recommendations relating to service of pleadings on attorneys and to the right to counsel for persons subpenaed or who appear voluntarily to testify. Perhaps most important of all, pursuant to a recommendation of the Conference, we have created a permanent staff committee for the continuous observation and evaluation of Commission procedures. Under the guidance of this committee, our rules of practice relating to these many matters including, for example, the issuance of and motions to quash subpenas are now being reexamined with a view toward possible implementation of conference recommendations on these matters. As a result of another recommendation of the Conference, we are exploring the feasibility of publication of an official index of all opinions issued by the Commission since its establishment. Other recommendations made by the Conference or stimulated by these activities are now under study.

I am unable to speak for the activities of other agencies in any detail. I understand, however, that our efforts at the Commission are being duplicated elsewhere. I think it is remarkable that within less than 6 months since publication of the final report of the Conference, so much has been accomplished. This should prove beyond doubt the readiness of the regulatory agencies to accept criticism of their procedures, and to initiate changes necessary to meet these criticisms, developed in a cooperative undertaking in which each has had an important opportunity to learn, to explain, and to participate.

Too often in recent years the rising tide of day-to-day workload has permitted administrators little time for critical and objective analysis of recognized problems and has deflected efforts to reevaluate the adequacy of existing procedures. The activities of the Administrative Conference served, first, to focus attention on these problems, and then to facilitate the task of finding solutions by furnishing objective guidelines and criteria for adaptation to individual requirements.

Although the work of the Conference bore fruitful results in a number of important areas, its short duration necessarily left untouched many other complex problems. For example, the principles formulated by the Conference with respect to ex parte communications were limited to off-the-record contacts between private litigants and mem-