

Mr. Ashley Sellers has presented to you a review of the long history of effects directed toward creation of a permanent Administrative Conference, and I shall not repeat that history here. Much of it has been intertwined as Mr. Russell has indicated with the history of the activity of the American Bar Association in this field.

To those of us who have watched that part of history, February 5, 1963, was a day of real achievement when the house of delegates of the American Bar Association almost unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the establishment of an Administrative Conference of the United States and recommending specific legislation or its equivalent in purpose and effect. An index of the extent of this achievement lies in a mere reference to the earlier widely ranging views within and among various units of the American Bar Association.

A copy of the resolution of the house of delegates and the proposed draft of legislation were formally transmitted, on February 22, 1963, to the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, to the President of the Senate, and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The resolution of the house of delegates imposed responsibilities for urging enactment of the proposed legislation upon the American Bar Association's special committee on legal services and procedure, section of administrative law, section of mineral and natural resources law, and section of public utility law.

Thereafter, representatives of these groups were privileged to meet with the Honorable E. Barrett Prettyman, the distinguished jurist who rendered untiring service as Chairman of the President's 1953-54 Conference on Administrative Procedure and also as Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, established by President Kennedy, which submitted its final report on December 15, 1962. We had other meetings attended by representatives of the Council of the 1961-62 Administrative Conference. We were also honored to meet with representatives of the Bureau of the Budget.

Discussions during these meetings were productive. In the first place, with the submittal of its final report in December 1962, the Administrative Conference outlined the framework of legislation which would create a permanent Administrative Conference.

Also, drafting work was underway at the Bureau of the Budget. A number of suggestions which we advanced met with acceptance. Likewise, in a continuing effort to evolve a draft upon which we all could agree, we made a number of changes in our proposed draft, consistent with the mandate from the house of delegates to urge enactment of the draft of legislation which it had endorsed, or legislation equivalent in purpose and effect.

Incorporating a number of changes urged by others, the last such revision in our draft of proposed legislation was completed on May 1, 1963. I shall later refer to that draft, and I ask leave of the chairman at this point to have it printed as an appendix to my remarks.

(The draft referred to follows:)

A BILL To provide for continuous improvement of the administrative procedure of Federal agencies by creating an Administrative Conference of the United States, and for other purposes

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Administrative Conference Act of 1963."*