

So if there are questions of the type that seem to be completely alien to the inquiry, or an invasion of privacy in a way that has been referred to here earlier today, we want to identify those and we want to take steps to have them eliminated.

Mr. GALLAGHER. The Chair thanks Mr. Eckler for that statement. We certainly concur.

In fact, that was one of the reasons why we wanted to bring out that the information was adequately protected, so that you could carry out your duties more efficiently. This inquiry is concerned with what you said.

In a free society, there are a great many activities that must be measured, but with all the questionnaires and with all of the things that we are swallowing now, there is a very great possibility that we might be questionnairing our way out of a free society, and I think it is a healthy thing if we can continue to review our policies, and if we take a fresh look at where we are headed in this entire area.

I wonder, perhaps in a lighter vein, whether or not the fact these 332 questions must be answered by farmers, could be a reason why more people are leaving the farm?

Another thing, why do you question them merely about Irish potatoes?

Mr. RANDALL. I think the sweetpotatoes are on there some place, are they not?

Mr. GALLAGHER. No, just Irish potatoes.

Mr. TAEUBER. You perhaps have a schedule for a State that does not grow any significant quantity of sweetpotatoes.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Yes; this is a New Jersey questionnaire.

Mr. TAEUBER. The Georgia questionnaire asks for sweetpotatoes as well.

Mr. GALLAGHER. You mean New Jersey merely grows Irish potatoes?

There are a lot of people in New Jersey because there were no Irish potatoes in Ireland, notably my grandparents.

Mr. TAEUBER. The sweetpotatoes must not be commercially significant.

Mr. GALLAGHER. But Irish potatoes are commercially significant in New Jersey?

Mr. TAEUBER. In New Jersey.

Mr. GALLAGHER. And no other potato?

I am glad that the Irish are making a contribution that is significant enough to point out in the questionnaire, that there are no other potatoes.

Mr. CORNISH. Mr. Chairman, during our informal interviews prior to this hearing, we spoke to Mr. Randall and he gave us a rather interesting reaction on some of his personal views in regard to Government questionnaires and other forms that people are often asked to fill out. I wonder if he might be willing to share some of those with us today?

Mr. GALLAGHER. We would be delighted to hear them.

Mr. RANDALL. I will be glad to, Mr. Chairman.

I think my observation, Mr. Cornish and Mr. Romney, was along the line that although I am a statistician by profession, and if people generally could quit answering questionnaires I would be unemployed I guess, I personally react to questionnaires in about the following