

Mr. GALLAGHER. If it is, then let us abandon what you are about to do if it is all that handy.

Mr. BOWMAN. Much of it is not.

The next point is even if it is centralized more than it is now, it is not available now and it would not be available when it is centralized so far as the individual is concerned.

Mr. GALLAGHER. You have told me you are not going to program out the individual's name before it goes in there.

Mr. BOWMAN. I have indicated that legislation to permit the disclosure of the information about the individual is certainly acceptable so far as the data center is concerned.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Right. The legislation is acceptable but the information is obtainable by those persons who have access to the central data bank keys.

Mr. BOWMAN. It is obtainable in the same way it is obtainable now.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Now he has to go to 25 areas and he has to say, "May I have this information?" and he can be turned down at every one of them and I am sure he probably is turned down. Again, I say that you are placing an unbearable temptation before whoever is in control of this central data bank not to use it for nonbenevolent purposes.

I would hope, Mr. Bowman, that you could give great consideration to this before you move forward on it.

Mr. BOWMAN. Certainly.

Mr. GALLAGHER. I appreciate your assurance that this will be submitted to the Congress for full consideration before even a pilot program is set up as a central data bank.

Do you have a question before we adjourn?

We are going to recess until 2 o'clock, Mr. Bowman.

Mr. BOWMAN. Would you like me to be back? I had planned to go off this afternoon but if you want me here I will remain.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Not as long as Mr. Ruggles and Mr. Dunn will be here. We want to thank you very much for being here this morning. I leave assured that you are full of good intentions but I leave with an uneasy feeling that they are incapable of accomplishment.

Mr. BOWMAN. More than good intentions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Thank you very much.

The committee stands adjourned until 2 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 12:35 p.m., the committee adjourned, to reconvene at 2 p.m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. GALLAGHER. The committee will come to order.

The Chair would like to call Mr. Richard Ruggles and Mr. Edgar S. Dunn, Jr., to the stand.

Mr. Krueger, would you like to join in?

Mr. Ruggles, of the Yale University Department of Economics was chairman of the Committee on the Preservation and Use of Economic Data of the Social Science Research Council, which last year submitted a report urging the establishment of a data bank.

Mr. Dunn is a research analyst with Resources for the Future, Inc., of Washington, D.C. As a consultant to the Office of Statistical