

Mr. BENNETT. I think in this field, I think when it has been given the powers that are in this field, it is my understanding they do.

Mr. DELANEY. We have a conflict. There is a standing committee with some powers, that is, on the election and so forth. Would it not be better to include all of these things under one committee?

Mr. BENNETT. I am not avaricious for jurisdiction; it's not me. The committee is not avaricious for jurisdiction. There is jurisdiction in the House Administration Committee which it has had for years with regard to its accounts which it supervises administratively, in addition to oversight. In other words, it approves the checks, and I don't see any reason to move that jurisdiction into this committee. I would think the things that they have had before under their jurisdiction they could well continue.

I think this committee is going to have plenty to do without getting into the House Administration Committee's functions. If you wanted to specifically spell it out in the resolution, this came up as a practical matter last fall because if this committee had been avaricious about jurisdiction, it might have raised the question with regard to House Administration Committee and its looking into Adam Clayton Powell.

It did not do so. It felt that the House Administration Committee had a jurisdiction in this field and it was proper for it to handle the hearings. It made no protest or effort to get into this act whatsoever. And I think this would be the experience in the future, but if you wanted to write something into the law to specifically preserve to the House Administration Committee the things that are within its powers, elections and accounts, this would certainly not in any way seriously affect this committee.

Mr. DELANEY. It seems there is such a close relationship between the House Administration and this select committee that it should come under one head rather than under separate heads.

Mr. BENNETT. Well, I have already stated in my statement why I don't think this broad power should be given to the House Administration Committee. I must also add if you try to do so, you would have to have a two-thirds vote, as I understand it, because it would require an amendment of the rules.

It does not have the jurisdiction at the present moment and I think this is an important enough thing and I think the country wants this thing to be looked at importantly and handled importantly, an important enough thing to put it in the hands of a committee which is designed to try to improve this particular thing instead of just sticking it in another committee which has endless things to do as it is.

Mr. DELANEY. We have a joint committee here with Mr. Madden and Mr. Monroney. They recommend—

Mr. BENNETT. Yes, they did.

Mr. DELANEY. Well, if they recommended an ethics committee, then it would go through both Houses and we would have it as a joint committee?

Mr. BENNETT. The only difference between that committee recommended by the Joint Committee on Organization of the House and Senate, and this committee, is this very mild—but I think important—