

Depository Library Act says that every department of Government and every Cabinet member gets a copy of every congressional report. Under that law, we send a copy of our hearings down to the Justice Department, but I didn't think we were a prosecuting body and I don't think we ought to be put in the position of recommending prosecution. I am not a lawyer, as I told you, but I think I can understand a little bit about what goes on around here.

I think if we did that, it could very well be upset by the Supreme Court on the ground that the thing was prejudiced before it ever went to trial. I don't know, but they have handed down to me, as a layman, some peculiar decisions. I didn't want to be put in that position.

Mr. MARTIN. You have stated that you changed the name of this subcommittee.

Mr. HAYS. We created it. We didn't change the name. It was the Subcommittee on Contracts. We broadened it and called it the Subcommittee on Ethics and Contracts.

Mr. MARTIN. Under the rules of the House, your committee is primarily responsible for auditing?

Mr. HAYS. That may be true, but we were also castigated in the press because we didn't do anything about these matters. So we thought we would try to do so. I think, sir, as I have said before, that before we can become very effective in any committee we are going to have some kind of mandate from the House laying down some ground rules.

Mr. MARTIN. I assume from your testimony that you are opposed to setting up a select subcommittee. Do you oppose this because you feel it is within the jurisdiction of your committee?

Mr. HAYS. I do, sir. I think it is within the jurisdiction of our committee. I think it would be plowing the same ground over. I don't think a hypothetical Congressman who is a lush and a drunk and a few other things that Mr. Latta described that exist—

Mr. LATTI. Did I leave any out?

Mr. HAYS. I didn't think you did. But if such a person did exist, I think we would be coming within the violation of some of the things that the House Administration Committee has jurisdiction over.

Mr. MARTIN. One other question. About the poll recently taken concerning the feelings of the public over congressional misconduct and the conduct of Mr. Powell, as brought out by your hearings and others, do you think that the temper of the people in the United States would go along with assigning this problem to a present committee of the House rather than setting up a new committee? Don't you think that it would be more effective as far as our public relations are concerned with the people to create a new committee?

Mr. HAYS. I don't necessarily think that. I have about 5,000 letters in my office that came addressed to me as a result of the hearings we had. I haven't read them all. I had my staff go over them. I think there are about 11 that are critical. The others are all laudatory or commendatory or some of each. Some saying we did a good job as far as we went. Some people said we ought to have built a gallows in front and hanged him. You can't satisfy everybody all the time. Maybe I am a little vain, but I sort of thought that that committee