

and we have a lot of dedicated people around here. I have no criticism about it.

The matter of credit cards, expenditures that are going to show up, as I said, a couple of months later with no way of really knowing whether they were justified or not—all of this if you think about it will reflect on the chairman of the committee.

Are we the ones to say that a trip to the west coast is justified by staff people or some investigation, or are we going as we have heretofore done, depend on what the committee as a committee and the chairman of that committee thinks is necessary.

If we are to do otherwise, we would have to have some clarifying authority. I use that as an example. If we are to look at a Member's office to see how many employees he has and to see if a body goes with a name on the payroll, then we have got to have somebody to go around and ask questions.

Mr. YOUNG. They come around now and check on the typewriters.

Mr. BURLESON. Congressman Young, if I went into your office and said, "Where is J. Jones? You have her on the payroll," I think I know what you would tell me, and you should.

Mr. YOUNG. I have no comment.

Mr. BURLESON. I think I know, and that is the way I would feel. It seems to me that we just should not get real excited because there is a rat in the barn and, as we say out in the West, to burn down the barn to get rid of the rat is proved not to be the best method.

We are in an emotional period somewhat, and sensitive to what the press is saying and these letters we get and the attack on the Congress as an institution. That is the bad part of it. It is really sad. That is the only way I can put it, with so many people feeling that Congress as an institution is just no good.

I have had a few Members send me letters they receive from their constituents—of course I get enough of them—wanting to know what they say. I got a letter this morning enclosing a letter from a constituent. In effect it said, "You are a rotten bunch of bums down there in Washington." It said, "Look this fellow over in the Senate, look at him, and look what you have in the House. Here are a couple, and the rest of you must be that way." It is bad.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Burleson, I think I have demonstrated here that personally I think this is largely a matter for one's constituency. I do not see how you can spell out everything. You cannot legislate morals and ethics. Yet, I am sure that the gentleman agrees with me that there is some room for improvement in preventing and in punishing for these errors, really criminal errors, that are committed.

In the final analysis, the people pretty well get the type of representation they want. If a bad egg is elected to Congress people sooner or later find it out and get rid of him. There may be exceptions to that, but I think it would be rather rare.

I repeat. I think this committee, having original jurisdiction in this matter, has got to do something about it. There are over a hundred resolutions pending here that have been introduced by various Members. We have gotten down to the point now of a conflict between jurisdictions, although I am not attributing any eagerness to the gentleman to acquire these additional duties if additional duties it may be.