

you should not set it up as a conference committee, so you have a subcommittee of five and five operating under a partisan committee of 14 and 11.

Let us assume that the five and five came out with a report on a given case and the partisan committee of 14 to 11 decided not to pursue the matter. Then where do you go from there?

Mr. BURLESON. I would say that the full committee, if it turned down a recommendation of the subcommittee, would be like any other resolution, they just would not have one.

Mr. LATTI. Assuming this was done on a partisan basis, and this is hypothetical, you are defeating the purpose of setting up your five and five subcommittee in the first place.

Mr. BURLESON. That could follow. It would be, but I do not know. That is the nearest way I would know to approach it, nonpartisan.

Mr. LATTI. Have you given any thought to making this entire Committee on House Administration a bipartisan committee with expanded powers, because your committee does get into matters that in my opinion should be bipartisan.

Mr. BURLESON. Of course not. It is like any other standing Committee of the House. Maybe there have at times seeped in some partisan angles in the House Administration Committee, but most of it is of such nature that there is no room for partisanism, or very little of it.

We have had at times, I suppose, in election contests, where sentiments have shown up, of a partisan nature one way or the other, but the men who are on the Subcommittee on Elections are all lawyers and I think in the vast majority of cases an attorney can look at these things a little more objectively and possibly without partisanism than maybe those who are not.

But I have never seen that occur, and I believe that those who served on the committee on the other side—I believe Mr. Lipscomb would agree with this statement, as well as others I have experience with on the committee.

We have discussed the matter of staffing because the minority has been insisting on staff to be identified as minority and majority. We have an individual in the committee designated who has contact for the minority who will have the answers to their inquiries.

The committee is on a 14 to 11 basis, which on a 25-man committee is usually 10 and 15.

Mr. LATTI. One further question. You indicated that your committee was criticized in the Powell case for not moving quickly enough to get Mrs. Powell off the payroll, and you admitted that you questioned whether you had the authority to do it but went ahead and did it, and I commend you for it.

The question arises in my mind, since you knew that Corrine Huff was doing the same thing, out of the country and not in conformance with the regulations of the House that she work either in the district or in the State, why did you not remove her?

Mr. BURLESON. She had been here in the offices, as I understand it, until she went fishing, and that was only the latter part of the year. But as far as I know, and I think it is pretty common knowledge, this Miss Huff was here on the committee staff, or his office committee.