

The cost of that is infinitesimal. Likewise, cleaning up a lot of things around here would make them more efficient, which a committee of this nature could do. This would again be a moneysaver. It is the clean house that is the efficient house.

I am not one who objects to spending money if I know how it is being spent.

The CHAIRMAN. I gave the demonstration of that to start with. The other thing is the space thing, and I should give you an opportunity to answer that if you want to take the time, but I just wanted to point out that that is a physical situation.

Mr. CURTIS. Someone said when they built the Pentagon Building how were they going to fill it, and some of the comments were the same when Congress built the Rayburn Building. How is Congress going to fill it.

That is the trouble with bureaucracy, and of ourselves with the bureaucratic habit. We can always fill it, but believe me, there are plenty of areas where space is available.

I know in my own committee, Ways and Means—I hate to confess on it, but I know areas that we have that are not fully used. I have no worry about space—

The CHAIRMAN. I do not want to burden the record with repetition, but this committee has been trying to find a little additional space and had to go to the basement.

Mr. CURTIS. Well, let me suggest that we need to establish some priorities on this, and I would be glad to appear before the House Administration Committee some time and go into this, but let me go into the real guts of it.

This is not a lecture. This grievance committee or this ethics committee is an absolute essential, and the longer the Congress goes without establishing one and understanding the essentiality of it, the more trouble we are going to be in. So my answer is, this is number one priority, and I would even say let the great Ways and Means Committee make room for them if that is what is necessary.

But the public would rightly laugh in our faces if we said the reason we did not want to establish an ethics committee was because we could not figure out where the space was after we spend—what was it, a hundred million or so on this stone monument, the Rayburn Building.

The CHAIRMAN. I hope the gentleman is not putting words in my mouth that we should not establish one. It was the approach to it.

Mr. CURTIS. We must always consider cost, but costs are an infinitesimal problem here.

The CHAIRMAN. The Madden-Curtis-Monroney bill, you have considered this matter?

Mr. CURTIS. Yes; and we have a unanimous recommendation.

The CHAIRMAN. And you think this committee should act on the present situation?

Mr. CURTIS. Yes; I do.

The CHAIRMAN. I just wanted to get that straight.

Mr. CURTIS. Yes; I do.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Smith?

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Chairman, I do not want to violate your request for brevity. Inasmuch as we have had hearings that have been transcribed, and I have not been here because of a heart attack, I would not