

Dr. ROWE. If we can afford it, which is an opportunity for them to get a start on the basis of earning a living rather than to go through a period of somewhat starvation, this would be an assistance toward that. I would like very much to cooperate with schools in providing these opportunities where we can.

Mr. JACOBS. Is this what you meant, though, when you said that the optometrists should assist in establishing young graduates in their practices? Are you referring to the activities of those who establish young graduates in individual practices, not employed by corporations?

Dr. ROWE. As a general rule, there is very little assistance given to graduates by the optometric associations throughout the United States. There is some assistance in the form of loans, but, generally, the young optometrist does not have any help from his local organization to get started either financially or by referral or anything else. He has to go in and develop and establish his own practice on his own without any help from any organization.

Mr. JACOBS. Do you know of any interests in which your organization or any one of its subsidiaries has ever operated in one state in contravention of the state laws of the state next to it?

Dr. ROWE. I am not aware of that, no, sir.

Mr. JACOBS. Do you know about a case where the Colston Company did recruiting in Indiana by correspondence from Ohio?

Dr. ROWE. I never heard of it.

Mr. JACOBS. For example, are you aware of the case in which the Colston Company in Ohio wrote recruitment letters to young graduates at the optometry school, the Indiana University Optometry School, in order to employ them by a corporation in Indiana?

Dr. ROWE. I am not aware of it. When was this correspondence that you are referring to?

Mr. JACOBS. I am just asking you.

Would you be willing to look into that question?

Here is what I had in mind: Since we are not in a court of law, I take it, Mr. Chairman, that I can submit for the record, without the strict rules of evidence regarding hearsay, a letter received by me sometime after August 17, 1967, from Dr. Robert D. Corns, O.D., member of the AOA Legal Affairs Committee and Secretary of the Indiana State Board of Examiners—and I presume that means of optometrists—in which he says:

I have proof in my files that the Ohio corporation—

Referring to the Colston Corporation—

has recruited and guaranteed a salary for optometrists to work in a Sears Roebuck optical department in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The officers and records of the Ohio corporation, Colston Company, are not subject to the Indiana records subpoena powers, so it appears that we are at an impasse to stop this circumvention of the state statute.

I have been handed some material here which purports to be from the Governmental Research Public-Affairs Associates, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, 16, Ohio.

Does that have anything to do with the Colston Corporation?

Dr. ROWE. I am not familiar with that at all.

Mr. JACOBS. Would you check that out and perhaps write us a letter later about that?