

basis of a 30-day charge account which sometimes lapses into 90 days with no charge. Then there are 3-month charge accounts, 6-month charge accounts, 1-year credit terms on which there are service charges. A few of our stores are in revolving credit.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. Would it not solve some of your problems in competing with the unscrupulous credit outfits if we eliminated garnishment as a crutch for firms which oversell on credit to bad credit risks, so that they cannot use the courts as weekly or monthly collection agencies? We are just as anxious as you are to end the misuse of credit by both the seller and the buyer.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD. The easy answer, Madam Chairman, and may I say that while I do not think this committee has jurisdiction, I did not question the competence of the members of the committee.

The easy answer to your last question is "Yes." If we are going to stand on principle, what right has the Federal Government to regulate State laws of the 50 States on the matter of garnishment which is a local matter within the jurisdiction only of the States? I may be awfully reactionary in this modern day and age in making such a firm statement. But if I am going to appear here on principle, on the basic principle against the growing encroachment of the Federal Government on small local business, I have got to appear all the way.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. May I refer you to the material I placed in the Congressional Record last night containing the testimony given to us last Friday morning by four referees in bankruptcy from all across the country. They reported to us on the basis of some 54 years of experience in personal bankruptcies in the Federal courts. I wish you would read that testimony.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD. I read the newspaper report. I will be pleased to read that testimony. I do not think it changes the fundamental. The fundamental is that credit and collection laws in the State of Missouri are within the jurisdiction of the legislature of the State of Missouri and not within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. My only comment on that, Mr. Rothschild, is that we are no longer a stationary people. We are a mobile people and we move from place to place, and there should be some uniformity.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD. Let us then amend the Constitution and change our form of government, which we are doing by indirection.

Mrs. SULLIVAN. We have about 2 minutes remaining for this period. Do you, Mrs. Dwyer, or any of the other members have any questions for Mr. Rothschild? Mr. Gonzalez?

Mr. GONZALEZ. I have one question. You do have the Wool Products Labeling Act, the Flammable Products Act, the Fur Products Labeling Act and the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act which in a way regulates your constituents in having to identify and give information to the consumer as to the product, its quality, and its identification.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD. That's correct, Mr. Gonzalez. Those laws specifically read, affecting interstate commerce. The Federal Trade Commission Act itself is different.

Mr. GONZALEZ. To be effective they would have to come under some purview of Federal jurisdiction somewhere—constitutional or statutory authority.