

court. I would therefore recommend that that word "shall" be changed to "may."

Mr. CRAMER. Both could be prosecuted in other than the general sessions court?

Mr. BRESS. In the district court. Yes, sir.

Mr. CRAMER. Felony and misdemeanor?

Mr. BRESS. That is correct.

Mr. ROBERTS. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. CRAMER. Yes.

Mr. ROBERTS. As you know, I have been out of town and out of the committee and this is the first time I have seen this. My first reaction is, why is this going to deter anybody from committing a felony? If he is going to throw a hand grenade in the House, why a \$500 or \$5,000 fine? The next thing, there are at least 10 Members of Congress that I know of that are licensed gun collectors. I happen to be one of them. There is a gun in my office or my automobile practically all the time.

I noticed when I was gone there were two or three appraisals going on. Under this law I would be guilty and so would all the other gun collectors on the Hill.

Mr. BRESS. That is not correct.

Mr. ROBERTS. Why is it not correct?

It says, ". . . have accessible to any person, any individual upon the U.S. Capitol Grounds."

Mr. BRESS. Page 4, paragraph 7(c), beginning at line 14, provides that:

Nothing contained in this section shall forbid any act of any Member of the Congress \* \* \*

Mr. ROBERTS. These were delivered by the post office. He delivers a gun to me. I saw a whole case of guns there this morning for appraisal. They delivered them here because they are not handed out in the county. A postman violated the law.

Mr. BRESS. I would have some doubt about that, sir, in view of the lack of any scienter on his part, any knowledge on his part that he was transporting them.

Mr. ROBERTS. If anybody was going to shoot any member of this committee or anybody else, throw a hand grenade over the balcony, why is it going to deter him to have a fine? Why do you think he would do something he knows he is going to get the hot seat for, if it is going to stop him to have a fine placed against him?

This is almost as bad as some of the other legislation proposed by the Justice Department.

Mr. BRESS. As far as providing remedies against improper conduct, the most the law can do is to provide for punishment. This does provide the deterrent which I believe is reasonably adequate for imprisonment and fine.

Mr. SNYDER. If the gentleman would yield for a second, I do not think section 6(c), despite what the counsel says, protects the gentleman. It says, "\* \* \* performed in the discharge of his official duties." I do not think gun collecting is a discharge of the official duties. I do not think it would give him protection.

Mr. CRAMER. If the gentleman would yield, I think he raised a good point. It is a point I raised yesterday in initially discussing the bill.

Mr. ROBERTS. There are at least 10 that I know.