

Mr. HAYES. No; I can't tell you that.

Mr. CONTE. Where was the meeting held?

Mr. HAYES. The meeting was held in Mount Vernon, Ill.

Mr. CONTE. Which, if any, of the farm organizations have offered to help you promote the ABC package?

Mr. HAYES. None, officially.

Mr. CONTE. How about unofficially?

Mr. HAYES. I can't reveal that information.

Mr. CONTE. Why can't you reveal that information?

Mr. HAYES. They don't want their private affairs spread around the newspapers.

Mr. CONTE. All right. Would you be willing, if we go into executive session, to tell us privately?

Mr. HAYES. No; I couldn't reveal that in executive session any more than I can in open session.

Mr. CONTE. Why can't you reveal it in executive session? You gave the excuse that you didn't want it spread in the newspapers.

Mr. HAYES. This is up to the farm organization's policy.

Mr. PATMAN. Would you yield for a short question?

Mr. CONTE. Certainly.

Mr. PATMAN. It is a fact that you tried to sell that to one of the farm organizations, just as Mr. Walsh sold it to you, as a package and they refused to buy it?

Mr. HAYES. That is not correct.

Mr. PATMAN. Go ahead, Mr. Conte.

Mr. CONTE. Mr. Hayes, the Wall Street Journal article of August 28, 1967, quotes Mr. Walsh as saying:

Non-profit civic organizations are to be set up in every county in Illinois. The civic organization would recruit members, many of them farmers, who would set up foundations for research and development in food, nutrition and related areas such as cattle feeding and soil improvement.

How much progress has been made in setting up these civic organizations?

Mr. HAYES. I don't know.

Mr. CONTE. Why don't you know? You are a trustee of ABC, aren't you?

Mr. HAYES. I am not aware of all the details of these things that go on.

Mr. CONTE. As one of the three trustees? There are only three trustees in ABC. Is that correct?

Mr. HAYES. That is correct.

Mr. CONTE. You have no knowledge of this.

Mr. HAYES. What sponsoring members are doing I have no way of knowing.

Mr. CONTE. In your statement before this committee last week, on October 30, you stated on page 8:

Several of our agricultural members are now setting up soil testing laboratories for the purpose of improving the quality and the quantity of food produced and thereby improving the health of those who use this food.

These are your own words.

Mr. HAYES. The Jefferson County Civic Association is public knowledge.

Mr. CONTE. In Illinois?