

up the cartons—you do not have to manhandle them, then—they do not either check or look to see if there is a mother or a father or a child—he comes and the doors fly open. This is really something. I was saying one day to someone that they will have to pay out some money because this thing has kind of a blade that really works under the carton and the case and elevates them up and takes them wherever you know they have to carry them.

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. I would like to add a few things to that. We are not concerned with the stores. They say that “all of our stores are spic and span and our managers are helpful and nice,” as they advertise.

You go up to the Chevy Chase store and you do not see flies in the store—you do not see dirty floors. The general appearance of the store is lovely. You do not find this in the low-income areas.

Further, in the upper Connecticut Avenue stores there are men in there. You have the pickup service or there is someone there helping you with the bag to the car. I know that I go into the store, in the low-income areas, and I have a little toddler, I am 6 months pregnant, and no one offers to help me. I am trying to lug my 20-pound shopping bag and hold onto the child. And no one would ask to help us. In Chevy Chase there is no question about it; it is quite different.

Mr. REUSS. Can you make any comparison between the time required waiting for a checkout in, say, the Chevy Chase Circle Safeway and, say, in the Fourth and M Street SW. Safeway store?

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. That I could not, because I do not shop at that store, but I would think—we went to the Chevy Chase store, we did not have to wait more than a few minutes—much more organized.

Mr. REUSS. I ask that because not long ago I happened to be in the Fourth and M Street SW., Safeway store, one of your welfare stores and while there I met a very responsible and respectable Congressman, a Republican, incidentally, who was outraged. We might as well make this bipartisan.

Mr. MYERS. We are.

Mr. REUSS. Outraged at the length of wait that was required and the general condition of the store. And he quite vocally was outraged right there on the spot.

Mrs. KELLY. I would like to say that we did make a verbal complaint last week to the Retail Stores Local No. 400, because of the use of child labor in the customer service there, that many of these Safeways have, to the point of encouraging truancy and delinquency as to a certain amount of protection racket going on. The little kids have to pay back to the older ones for the purpose of standing outside to carry out people's bags. The customer pays for it.

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. Which you pay for.

Mr. REUSS. I am going to ask the witnesses from Safeway, who will be given a full opportunity to be heard, for a breakdown of their service charges between, say, the Chevy Chase type of store and a poverty area store, because I cannot understand the discrepancy in service unless—

Mrs. KELLY. I think that it might be because of the security guards. They employ quite a few security guards in the low-income neighborhoods. But I have never heard of a security guard at any chainstore having to pull his gun and I question the use of them. I would prefer not to see an armed security guard standing there with the children