

tice Department to investigate—Donald Turner in the Antitrust Division, on the ground that these three stores are located in the three quadrants of the city where there is no immediate chainstore, competition—we felt that the price increases were an abuse of monopolistic power.

Mr. MYERS. You are obviously well organized. Have you gone to other chainstores about getting some competition in your community—are you working toward that?

Mrs. KELLY. Not yet; no, we are not.

Mr. MYERS. This seems to be an attack toward Safeway. Did you conduct any other survey in any other stores?

Mrs. KELLY. No, simply because we felt that we should limit ourselves to just so much as working housewives can do and we wanted to do it right.

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. We also felt that Safeway has something like about 133 stores in the District—by far the largest—I do not know, but the largest number of chainstores in the District. And, also, from my own point of view, in working on the boycott, this is one of the big problems that we ran into. It did cover Safeway and A. & P. and I believe Giant. And we found that by spreading ourselves so thin we ended up with much less than I think we would have gotten if we had stuck to one chain.

We also thought if we got a ruling or some kind of a law passed concerning Safeway that it would also apply across the board to all chainstores. And we said in our letter that we are not saying this only as to Safeway, but its being the largest supermarket in the area, we used this so that we certainly, although we have not investigated any other chainstore, we believe that this might very well be the same case in other major chains.

Mrs. KELLY. In other words, the city's—

Mr. ROSENTHAL. In the areas that you were concerned with, Safeway has virtually a monopoly?

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. Yes.

Mr. MYERS. Not necessarily. You have some other 10 areas up here that have their stores.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. One, two and three.

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. No other chainstores there.

Mr. MYERS. I want to see your worksheets. I borrowed some. I noticed—

Mrs. KELLY. Can you read them?

Mr. MYERS. I do not get the same conclusions that you got on your charts when I read them here. For instance, I notice an item here that the store at New Jersey and K Streets was actually higher on the first of September on three or four items here that you did not list in the store at Fourth and M, Southwest.

Mrs. SCHLOSSBERG. Which item is that? As we said, we surveyed 20 items, but we disqualified eight items. They were not available at every store, or, in some cases, for example, coffee, we did not in some stores do that. They had Safeway brands of coffee, some of which were in the cans and in the other stores they had it in bags. We did not feel that we could compare these items, because they were not the same, although they were Safeway coffees. One was in a bag and one was in the can. The prices were different. We felt that these would not be fair to use in this.