

Mr. TAHA. I think it's about seven, eight blocks to get the stamps. But those people have to get their stamps from Northeast.

Mr. MYERS. They could go from the bank to another store, then, as well as to your store?

Mr. TAHA. Absolutely.

Mr. MYERS. Another chainstore?

Mr. TAHA. Absolutely.

Mr. MYERS. And still be within the same distance?

Mr. TAHA. Yes.

Mr. MYERS. OK.

Now, we realize in these inflationary times—and we certainly do have them now—prices change such as we have seen here.

Now, the mechanics—how do you go about changing your price?

There was something here three for 89 and four for a dollar.

Now, how mechanically—what kind of a control do you use?

Do you wash it off and put a new price on, or how do you go about changing the price?

Mr. TAHA. The employee is designated to do this.

First we give him the list of the specials, and I have a copy of it. He has to turn this list back to me after changing the prices. And there is a note to that sheet stating "Prices all changed, price tags changed, signs posted."

The same thing he will do next week when he has to take them off. And then I take that sheet from him after he signs it, and I put it on file.

Mr. MYERS. You all have the same practice, then——

Mr. TAHA. Yes.

Mr. MYERS (continuing). Where an employee does it, and he finds he has done it.

Mr. TAHA. And in the meantime we check on this notice.

Mr. MYERS. Now, Mr. Winstead, you talked about a price and decline sheet that is sent out to the stores; is that correct?

Mr. WINSTEAD. That is correct; yes.

Mr. MYERS. Now, you send the same stores in this area the same price and decline sheet the same day—I believe that was your testimony.

Mr. WINSTEAD. Yes. As I—let me refer back.

As I stated, we have one price throughout the entire Metropolitan Washington price area. We have a price book in our dry grocery departments, a printed book. We have a printed price sheet in our produce department. We have a printed price sheet in our meat department. Any movement of price, either up or down within that price book, must be supported by an advance and decline sheet, and we send that advance and decline sheet from our central division office to all stores in this price area.

It is a printed sheet that says, in fact, an item either went up or went down.

And on this basis, the people in the store change the prices on the shelves. They record the inventory on hand for accounting control, and then they return a copy of this to our accounting department for the bookkeeping records.

Mr. MYERS. But they are all treated exactly alike as far as time is concerned?

Mr. WINSTEAD. That is correct.