

By the way, I talked with Mrs. Dames on the phone, and here I go rambling, which I shouldn't do, my attorney will give me hell for this.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. And rightly so.

Mr. O'NEAL. But I enjoyed talking with her very much. I would guess that we talked for probably 30 minutes on the phone and I invited her out to our warehouse, or at least to my office, and I would have taken her to the warehouse. I don't think anyone can appreciate the complexities and the problems and the tonnage. Mr. White mentioned how many pounds—I guess he's gone—I think it was 12 million pounds of merchandise a week. Do you ever stop and think how much 12 million pounds of merchandise is? That's a lot of tonnage, and people have to do this. Our business is a people business. We are dealing constantly with people. That's about all we deal with is people and merchandise, really, employees and customers and merchandise.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Let me ask you some specific questions. We do have a time problem.

Mr. O'NEAL. I'm finished with my statement.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Here is a nice, simple issue that a fellow like me can understand.

A reporter, a disinterested citizen, went to your stores, one being what would appear to be a poverty store at 4331 Natural Bridge, and one a middle-income store. Peach halves were 31 cents in the poverty store, 29 cents in the other store; green peppers were 19 cents in the poverty store, 15 cents in the other; hamburger was 65 cents a pound in the poverty store, 59 cents in the other; pork chops were 79 cents in the poverty store, 69 cents in the other; Crisco was 89 cents in the poverty store, 85 cents in the other; lettuce was 33 cents in the poverty store, 29 cents in the other.

How do you respond to that, particularly when you said without equivocation that you have a standard one-price policy?

Mr. O'NEAL. We have a standard one-price policy, we have a standard price list, let me qualify it that way. Now, I think when you are dealing—I have made this statement many times, I made it to Mrs. Dames. There are many sizes of peppers. You buy peppers by the bushel. Now, they call it a bushel because they used to be in a bushel basket, now they are in a box, but they still call it a bushel. You buy them by count. There is a 60 count, an 80 count, a hundred count, and so on.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Why do you have smaller peppers in the poverty store for 15 cents—well, let's forget peppers. How about Crisco, there is no difference in size between Crisco at 85 and 89, is there?

Mr. O'NEAL. I can't explain that. What survey is this?

Mr. ROSENTHAL. This is Mrs. Dames' survey.

Mr. O'NEAL. I haven't heard anything about it. I don't know what stores we are talking about or anything, not Mrs. Dames' survey. I never saw it.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. This is her survey. When you talked to her on the phone, didn't she—

Mr. O'NEAL. I didn't know what stores she was talking about. She never identified any stores or any companies. She just was searching for information.

Mr. MYERS. She did this morning.