

are lacking evidence that they actually cause disease. There is abundant evidence that individuals already suffering from chronic disease have aggravated symptoms. There is abundant evidence that pollutants cut down on performance of otherwise healthy individuals. There is abundant evidence that they are harmful to certain plants. On the other hand, the area in which we are almost totally lacking in knowledge is what the effect will be of exposure to relatively low concentrations of materials over a period of 10, 20, or 30 years.

At the present time we have literally no way to extrapolate this. It is quite clear that if we are ever to have this information we must set up a mechanism for making these observations prospectively. In the meantime, lacking these observations and this information, we have to use criteria other than severe damage to health in trying to pick a number to set a standard. There are many other reasons for setting criteria. Eye irritation is perhaps a minor matter of health but it certainly is a major annoyance. We do have very good knowledge about certain of the effects of these pollutants on plants and physical structures. Therefore, since we lack quantitative health evidence, one can only say that our knowledge base should be expanded by setting up programs to get this information. At the present time, as I am sure will be brought out later on in these hearings, the responsible people in HEW are setting up such long-term programs.

Mr. BELL. Doctor, you spoke on page 10 of your prepared statement about systems analysis being used in this effort. Are you talking about the systems type of analysis that certain corporate enterprises are involved in? Is this the type of thing you are speaking of?

Dr. BENNETT. Yes, sir.

Mr. BELL. Computer effort.

Dr. BENNETT. It is the type of activity that has characterized several sectors of industry up until now.

Mr. BELL. As you know many of our governmental agencies make certain contracts with private industry today. Are you suggesting that maybe we change that and allow the systems type of analysis to be worked on in many instances by private organizations?

Dr. BENNETT. I am unaware of the obstructions to which you refer.

Mr. BELL. There is some objection to many of our Government agencies making Federal contracts in this field with private corporations because it may give them a competitive advantage for later work. I am wondering if you would be in favor of this.

There is also the question of support service contracts in view of the recent rulings.

Mr. DADDARIO. If you have some problems with that, we could have Mr. Bell supply the question to you. You could supply the answer for the record.

Dr. BENNETT. Yes, sir.

Mr. FULTON. If the gentleman will yield, my point is that when we are going into research, development, and effectuating programs to clean up the air, the water, and the environment, we must watch that we are not trying to change the commercial lines favoring one group over another. On page 10 of your statement there is an inference to me that you are saying that electrical-powered vehicles are better than oil- or gasoline-powered vehicles. From my point of view, it is no part of the jurisdiction of the Government to decide that either gasoline-