

Mr. DADDARIO. Mr. Winn?

Mr. WINN. Mr. Chairman, I am privileged to sit with this committee and I want to commend you on your line of questioning. The line that concerns most of us is exactly who is going to serve as a clearing-house or the central agency for all of these many activities that are now underway. A lot of money is being spent. I think most of us are concerned about that.

I would like to ask, Dr. Buckley, maybe I did not understand you correctly, but there are five volumes of the size you referred to there on the table. You say you do not know what you are going to do with it.

Dr. BUCKLEY. I said that, having queried the system, the way in which information was provided from it is not one that is useful to us in trying to understand what we wanted to do here. This is not a criticism of the system. This is a simple statement, for the reason that information that was put in here was for a very different reason and the key words that are available for sorting it out were not put in as a part of it. And you cannot use automatically an information or data system that already exists to withdraw those things that you may want if you did not know at the time you made the system you might want it. So if the basic information that you need is not present in the system, you cannot extract it and this is our problem.

The obvious thing seemed to us to go to existing systems and we did that, but we convinced ourselves in fairly short order it was not a manageable way of handling this particular problem.

Mr. WINN. I may not read you correctly yet, but it almost looks like putting 22 ballplayers on a football field without the ball.

Mr. DADDARIO. May I interject a thought here?

Mr. WINN. Yes.

Mr. DADDARIO. I know that we have some difficulty from time to time in reconciling figures from different departments on the same subject, and they do not necessarily tell you the same thing. But how will this be affected, as you understand it, by the planning program in the budget which is aimed at reconciling differences so that everybody is going to be speaking the same language? I know that is coming and it should give you some help. If not, are you going to be able to put this together so that it will in fact be meaningful?

Dr. BUCKLEY. I will answer the last one first.

Yes, they can be put together in a way they are meaningful, and the information in here is valuable to us, but it is voluminous enough that the sheer weight of it does not permit you to boil this down as easily as getting it some other way. This will offer a very good cross-check in what information we have obtained in other ways.

As to the problems of whether the program planning and budgeting system will lead us to a common language in here that answers these questions, I am not prepared to say. It certainly will not worsen the situation, and very likely will markedly improve it.

We had some semantic difficulties, for example, even with the word "intramural," which to most of us simply means it is going to be done in the Federal Government. We found, when we tried to sit down and put the numbers together, intramural meant different things to different people. With some this is where you have a close enough control over the way the money is spent that you really are