

on the cost of the insurance proposal that has been suggested from these witnesses?

Mr. CHECKET. On the insurance proposal, if I can take the second one first, we would not have actual figures as to costs, neither we, and I presume not the insurance witnesses. This is a matter we have gone into at some length. We know we have been assured they will be of reasonable cost; but as premiums are set, they depend partially upon the experience factor of each individual owner, as to whether he pays something more or something less. And his cost factor would vary from year to year depending on his experience factor.

Mr. WRIGHT. Do you know whether there is any other country in the world today which requires this insurance or bonding protection in connection with ships operating?

Mr. CHECKET. I know of no other country at this time. It is certainly a question that we would hope would be considered on an international basis through the machinery of the CMI and IMCO.

Mr. EDMONDSON. On the "Good Samaritan" proposal, do you have some specific language to propose on it?

Mr. CHECKET. We actually do have some language that we have prepared with respect to the various points that have been made in my statement that would really incorporate in proposed legislation everything that we have recommended, and I know we would be prepared to submit this draft of recommended changes to the committee.

Mr. EDMONDSON. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions. I would like to state for the record that I agree with the gentleman from Texas that we have had some very constructive and helpful testimony so far, and I think it is also general knowledge, at least in our part of the country, that the petroleum industry and leaders in the petroleum industry have been substantial contributors to conservation movements and organizations. They are very keenly interested in the overall problem of improving the quality of our waters and our environment. And I think this is a plus for the petroleum industry that is not generally understood in some parts of the country. I certainly know that in our State, some of the real leadership in this field is supplied by the leaders in the petroleum industry.

Mr. CHECKET. Thank you.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you.

Mr. DORN. Mr. Chairman, I do want to join my colleagues in commending the petroleum industry for its fine testimony here today.

I am interested in this "Good Samaritan" clause suggestion, and the insurance also. Perhaps we would have an opportunity for further questioning later on in the hearing.

As an individual member of the committee, and I would say for other members of the committee also, I am impressed by the amount of expenditures this great industry has spent to alleviate this problem.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. BLATNIK. Mr. McCarthy.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

OWNERSHIP AND TONNAGE OF VESSELS

Mr. Checket, on page 3 of your testimony, I am a little confused, you say there in paragraph 2 that you can foresee a variety of circum-