

piece of legislation, let me say first of all that a small area has been reserved to public officials. If any of the following witnesses—Mr. Cole, Mr. Beck, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Farr, Mr. Whetzel, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Trefry, Mr. Winslow, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Hill, Mr. Boyd and Mr. Castles—are sitting elsewhere in this room, they should sit over here in the reserved section so that other people can have the other seats.

Now, this is a meeting of a committee of the U.S. Congress and although you are not led to believe by very many of those interested in the news media of the United States that the Congress of the United States is a dignified body, nevertheless, this committee accepts the responsibility of conducting its proceedings in a dignified manner. That is one reason why we do not permit television pictures, radio, or anything like that. If there happens to be a connection here between either this loudspeaker or that one or any here with an outside radio and we hear about it, we will more than likely take appropriate action to take care of it. This happened just recently in one of our hearings.

Now, we are sitting here as a quasi-judicial body. No one, except those who have already introduced bills, have made up their minds on this legislation. We come to you as people with open minds and we come to you here in this area in order to hear you state your positions, individually, as much as time will permit. Inasmuch as we do this, we expect you to return, throughout all of these proceedings today and tomorrow, the proper respect for this committee.

There will be no show of emotion. That means that there will be no applause. There will be no hissing, and there will be no clapping of hands. You would not do it in a courtroom. You will not do it in this room. Sometimes there are those who, by some means or other, are able to get quite a following. We do not care who has what following in this committee. We are here only for facts.

We would suggest that since hundreds of people have asked to appear as witnesses, that you tell us if your testimony is going to be repetitious, and that you would like to have your statement placed in the record. We will give it just as much respect as if you stood up and took up time repeating what has already been said.

Now, with that understanding, and with the further advice to you that the chairman of this subcommittee, Mr. Taylor, knows how to handle a meeting, I want to say that we are glad to be in this great State of Washington. We are glad to come here to find out the feelings of the people of this area. We do recognize that there are differences between areas where local government is situated and where people live and people make their living off of areas and areas like Seattle and its surrounding counties where people are seeking to get out in the open. We realize all these things so you do not have to impress that upon us. Most of the members of this committee have been on the committee for a long time and all that we want are your facts and your personal positions.

Thank you very much.

Mr. TAYLOR. Thank you, Chairman Aspinall.

I agree with Chairman Aspinall that in considering a matter of this magnitude it is very important that we have field hearings and that we hear from local people. We have come here from different States. We have given up the Easter recess—which is an opportunity to get back home with our families and with our own constituents—in order