

I think that what I am looking for is effective laws where criminals are taken into the courts, taken off the streets, so that I can walk safely up First Street or Independence Avenue or any other street in the District of Columbia, and so could my children, without having to send an armed guard, if they were interested in visiting the Congressional Library, which is open until 10 o'clock at night. You would now not allow your 18- or 19-year-old downtown to visit the Monument, and I do not know, if the crime progress continues, how long it will take before these criminals have taken over the seats in the Congress.

It may not happen soon, but progress is progress, and we are not retarding them in any degree than I can see.

Mr. MACHEN. Let me caution you that members of the Congress are not elected from the District yet; they come from all over the United States.

Mr. KANE. I do not think our problem is in the District only. But, of course, this is the one that is in our back yard.

Mr. Dowdy. It is not a localized problem. It is probably more apparent here, but this is the problem all over the nation.

Mr. KANE. It is a problem for the lawmakers. I think we have to struggle with it in regard to looking out for our individual safety, but I think it is the lawmakers' job who were elected by their districts, to take a bite out of this problem so that it backs down a little bit, at least let us have progress in reverse to some extent.

Where to start, does not seem to be the average layman's problem as to put his finger on what can be done, but we do look up to the people who are elected.

Mr. Dowdy. This actually is a problem for law enforcement officers. The lawmakers might have to do something about them, now, that is something else. We have passed all the laws, I think, we can. Some of the laws passed by Congress may have made the situation worse, but the problem is law enforcement.

Mr. RICHMOND. Could I ask a question now, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Dowdy. Yes.

Mr. RICHMOND. It seems to me everybody is asking for the same thing. Everybody wants something to be done. I think everybody is asking for the criminal to be stopped.

Mr. Dowdy. Oh, yes.

Mr. RICHMOND. It seems to me that everybody is asking, like I say, everybody is asking, the same question. Everybody is going to the Congress. These are the only people we have to go to. What is stopping them really, what is stopping you from doing anything?

Mr. MACHEN. It is not just Congress. It is just like what you all are doing. It is not only going to take many of us who are cognizant of it, but it is going to take the aroused citizenry also, to insist that this small minority of your lawbreakers could be locked up and something could be done.

Mr. RICHMOND. It seems to me, Mr. Machen, that the wrong people get the publicity. You take these people like Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael and so forth, any little thing they say is publicized all over television, and it makes people believe, it makes white people believe, that Negroes are behind these people, and this is ridiculous.

Mr. Dowdy. It does not make me believe it.