

and that it would be beneficial to all concerned if the Corporation Commission were directly empowered to initiate its own investigations of regulated utilities and industries. In that connection, the Committee would observe that the present personnel of the Corporation Commission are not sufficient in number and not adequately trained to make an analysis of rates of utility companies.

20. The Corporation Commission does not have an adequate system of screening prospective employees and likewise, there is an inadequate policy with reference to the retention, promotion, retirement and discharge of employees of the Corporation Commission.

21. There was called to the attention of the Committee, a book entitled *Overcharge* by Metcalf and Reinemer, and an analysis of this book has been drafted by Senator Don Baldwin, undersigned member of this Committee, summarizing the allegations set forth in said book. This analysis has been made a part of the records of this Committee, together with the comments of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, concerning the effect on Oklahoma taxes as to the allegation contained in said book and summarized in said analysis. The Committee finds that the allegations set forth in said book do not reflect any illegal acts by any one in the State of Oklahoma and the Committee at this time is unable to determine whether or not any additional legislation is needed in this field.

22. The position of Fuel Inspector of the Corporation Commission is now being filled temporarily by L. D. Hoyt, an attorney at law, who assumed the duties of this office upon the death of the former fuel inspector in December of 1966. One holding this position is prohibited by law from having any other employment. Mr. Hoyt was engaged in the practice of law in addition to his duties in the Corporation Commission, prior to his assuming the duties of Fuel Inspector. The Committee finds that inasmuch as this is a temporary assignment and inasmuch as the evidence does not show that Mr. Hoyt has accepted employment as an attorney since assuming the temporary duties as Fuel Inspector, there is not sufficient evidence to show a violation of law by Mr. Hoyt.

Based on the above findings, after reviewing the testimony and reviewing the documents and records submitted to the Committee, the Committee makes the following recommendations.

1. That the Legislative Council make a study of the pay of the members of the Corporation Commission and the employees of said commission, which studies should be made by an appropriate committee of the Legislative Council, and that the Oklahoma Legislature, after receiving such study, enact appropriate legislation to adjust the pay of said members and employees of said Corporation Commission in order that they may be adequately paid in keeping with the duties and responsibilities of said members and employees of the Corporation Commission.

2. That the Corporation Commission be re-organized in three separate and distinct divisions, consisting of a utilities division, a transportation division and a conservation division, and that the regulation of cotton gins be transferred to the State Board of Agriculture; that an expert be selected to head each division. The Committee would further recommend that all reports by employees of the Corporation Commission, with reference to investigation of complaints and regulations, be reduced to writing and properly filed in the Corporation Commission.

3. That the members of the Corporation Commission should be nominated and elected by districts in the State of Oklahoma and your Committee further strongly recommends a continuing legislative study by an appropriate committee of the Legislative Council of a re-structure of the Corporation Commission with particular reference to the advisability of an increased membership in said Commission.

4. That all attorneys of the Corporation Commission and all attorneys who render legal services in other departments of state government should be placed under the jurisdiction of the Attorney General who would be charged with the responsibility of assigning attorneys to the respective departments as the need arose, and no attorney employed by the State of Oklahoma should be permitted to engage in the private practice of law.

5. That the Administrative Procedures Act of the State of Oklahoma be made applicable to the Corporation Commission with the exception that an appeal from a decision of the Corporation Commission should be made directly to the Supreme Court of the State of Oklahoma.

6. That persons or corporations who are subject to the regulations of the Corporation Commission and their attorneys should be prohibited from furnishing transportation, presents or gratuities of any kind to any member of the Corporation Commission or any employee thereof, with the exception that, during a specified time when there is a political campaign, persons other than corporations may make campaign contributions.