

Senator Phillips: You are following a dangerous course in that you are attempting to direct this committee meeting. You are attempting that right now, and you are not going to do it.

The Chairman: I have been directing committee meetings now for four years.

Senator Phillips: And we have had our fill of you and your directing committee meetings.

Senator Martin: Mr. Chairman, I think it is certainly open—

Senator Phillips: Are we going to be honoured by you again?

Senator Martin: Surely, we can conduct this in an orderly way? I think it is open to the chairman to comment.

Senator Phillips: It is not for the chairman to decide when I can ask a question.

Senator Martin: But the chairman was in the process—

The Chairman: If you want to vote me out as chairman, I am quite ready to take a vote.

Senator Martin: Mr. Chairman, you were in the process of elucidating a point, and I think you ought to be allowed to do that. You started to do it—

The Chairman: I am quite sure that Senator Flynn, being fair as he is—

Senator Flynn: I have no objection, but I do not see why you would be so fast in cross-examining the witness. Suppose that I have examined the witness. You are cross-examining him. I do not see why it should be you instead of the Leader of the Government, who has been defending this thesis for two weeks—

The Chairman: The Leader of the Government is not my boss here; I am the boss.

Senator Flynn: You can make all the jokes you want, but do not make that kind of joke to me.

The Chairman: No, you won't do that to me.

Senator Flynn: I will do it to you.

The Chairman: Oh, you can do it to me, but it will not be the truth.

Senator Martin: Mr. Chairman, you are allowed to make a comment.

The Chairman: If I am not allowed to ask any question . . .

Senator Flynn: You are allowed; I said it was not proper.

Senator Phillips: I do not think the chairman is allowed to ask a question.

Senator Flynn: Oh, yes, he can . . .

The Chairman: What is the use of being a chairman, then? I will put you in the chair.

Senator Phillips: The chairman is the deciding officer; he is not the questioning officer.

The Chairman: I wanted to ask the question . . .

Senator Phillips: I have the privilege of asking questions . . .

The Chairman: Ask your question.

Senator Phillips: If it is not annoying "Your Excellency" too much, may I ask these questions? I was impressed by the fact that the witness held up a cheque, a computerized cheque. Would you like to raise it again, please? You told me you do not have a computer. Why are those holes in that cheque?

Mr. Yeomans: The holes are in the cheque to be read by a computer that is used to reconcile the cheques after they come back in through the banking system.

Senator Phillips: I understood you to say that you do not have a computer.

Mr. Yeomans: The department has many computers, but we do not use computers to issue these cheques.

Senator Phillips: I am not a computer expert, but as a layman I find it awfully confusing that you will hold up a cheque with certain holes punched in it from a computer, and then say you use them in a different system.

Dr. Willard: Perhaps I can help. I was the one who suggested that we do not have a computer. The point I was trying to make is that in making changes in the amounts of the cheques, if you have a computer it is much simpler to do this. In the process that we will have to go through to carry out this undertaking, which is very large indeed and very complex, we have to work with Addressograph plates, and we have to put the changes in amounts on plates for many different categories. We cannot do that automatically by computer. The computer is used, as Mr. Yeomans has said, for this other purpose after the cheques come back in through the banking system.

Senator Forsey: Is that computer in your department or Mr. Yeomans' department?

Dr. Willard: Mr. Yeomans'.

Senator Phillips: What computer system do you use?

Mr. Yeomans: We have 22 computers in our department.

Senator Phillips: I do not care about the number. I want to know what company. Is it IBM, or what?

Mr. Yeomans: We have IBM computers, Univac computers and Honeywell computers.

Senator Phillips: Would it be fair for me to direct a question to the chairman?

The Chairman: I am not allowed to answer questions or to raise a question.

Senator Phillips: I would ask if he would call the computer people and see if they can handle the situation. Because of the confusion in the computer system and the unem-