

(Text)

Mr. DRYER: You say "do I believe." I do know that he did. Now when you say "do I believe", I believe he did in the same way as Mr. Jones on the street believes he did. This is probably what I picked up in the newspaper but, as a trustee, I do not know.

Mr. NIELSEN: On that line, Mr. Chairman, are you aware, Judge Dryer—and I am not asking for your legal opinion here—of any circumstances, since you have been a member of the board of trustees, that might be considered as evidence of criminal activities on the part of Banks while he was there during his tenure?

Mr. DRYER: There again you are getting into the field of what I know from the newspapers. I might say this; that as trustees we did not deliberately set out to find evidence of crime within those areas which had been turned over to the Department of Justice to investigate.

Mr. NIELSEN: I am not asking about that.

Mr. DRYER: We were concerned as to that after we got in and I know of nothing. If I had known of anything I would have laid it before the proper authorities. In other words, if I knew of a crime that had been committed, I would have laid it in front of the committee.

Mr. NIELSEN: Nothing came to your attention at all with respect to the manner in which the union funds were being administered which you would construe as evidence of criminal activities on the part of Banks?

Mr. DRYER: No.

Mr. NIELSEN: Or any other S.I.U. member?

Mr. DRYER: No, I cannot think of any. There has been some allegation lately about Banks stealing \$25,000. Is that what you have in mind?

Mr. NIELSEN: I am asking the question.

Mr. DRYER: Well, I am just trying to identify your question. You asked about a question and I am trying to be specific.

Mr. NIELSEN: Not specific.

Mr. DRYER: I can tell you what I know about it. When we first went into office we directed the unions to send us their balance sheets and things of that nature. It took some time to get them but I would think this would be about November or December, 1963. You would call it a profit and loss account. In the previous year there was an item of \$25,000 paid by the S.I.U. of Canada, I think it was to the S.I.U. of North America and I made inquiries about that. I believe I spoke to Mr. McLaughlin about it and I spoke to our auditors as well. Yes, I spoke to Mr. McLaughlin about it and I think I spoke to Banks about it. The answer I received was that they owed this \$25,000 to the S.I.U. of North America and that they had paid it to them. There was a complication. They owed it, as I recall it, in the sense that they had not paid the per capita. Subsequently I put the question to our accountants and asked if this made sense. They confirmed that that was right. As a matter of fact the balance in per capita was away up for the amount that had been removed. That is what I know about the \$25,000.

Mr. NIELSEN: The matter that we are discussing now, Mr. Chairman, has relation to the S.I.U. of North America. I have other questions which I wish to ask along the same lines but perhaps I might defer them.

The CHAIRMAN: I appreciate that. I have not interfered and therefore I feel duty bound to allow anyone else to carry on.

Mr. WOOLLIAMS: My question is a follow-up. Was Mr. Banks removed because of his activities within the S.I.U. or because he was an undesirable character as painted by Mr. Justice Norris?