

Senator Flynn: I will be polite, but I am questioning the witness.

Senator Phillips: I agree.

Senator Flynn: Who told you?

Senator Phillips: The idea that we cannot come in here and question the witness is atrocious.

Senator Flynn: Who told you?

Senator Martin: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could be allowed to finish my question?

Senator Flynn: I am asking a very simple question. Who told you?

Senator Martin: He told you he did not meet . . .

Senator Flynn: Who told you?

Senator Martin: He answered your question.

Senator Flynn: I want to know the name of the individual who told you.

Senator Martin: He told you he did not know the man's name.

Senator Flynn: Do you have his name?

Mr. Yeomans: The name of the official at IBM? No, I do not.

Senator Flynn: Then what you are telling us is hearsay. Someone else told you.

Mr. Yeomans: I have officials who concern themselves directly with the supply of cheques for this and many other programs.

Senator Flynn: But who told you?

Senator Martin: Allow him to finish, please.

Mr. Yeomans: These are officials of our department who deal regularly with this corporation. They were the ones who were in discussion with the corporation and explained the problem that they were faced with, and it was as a result of those discussions that I was advised by my senior officials that May 19 was the last date that we could place an order in order to have the cheques in our offices across the country in time to meet the deadline.

Senator Flynn: I understand that. Are you able to find out the name of the senior official of your department who spoke with the senior official of IBM so that I could get the name of the official at IBM who could then come here and tell us directly, instead of going through an intermediary who is only repeating what someone else has told him?

Mr. Yeomans: If I can reach him by phone, I am sure I can do that.

Senator Flynn: Well, if you can, we should like him to come here either tonight or tomorrow.

The Chairman: Tonight.

Senator Martin: This witness has stated that May 19 is the last date.

May I ask Dr. Willard if there are any other problems in connection with this matter. For instance, I believe you have a process of advertising, do you not?

Dr. Willard: Yes, Mr. Chairman. On each occasion when we have a change in the rate of old age security or guaranteed income supplement and every time there is an amendment we have a major task to get the word to the old people across the country so that they know exactly what was happened. With regard to the newspaper advertisements, again we are up against a very tight deadline and this also applies to the printing of the small inserts for the cheques.

Senator Martin: Well, let us deal with the advertising process.

Dr. Willard: Perhaps I could ask Mr. Bergevin to report on the advertising situation.

Senator Phillips: Mr. Chairman . . .

The Chairman: Would you please let the witness answer the question first?

Senator Phillips: I am used to diversionary tactics. I will come back to my subject.

The Chairman: We have all night, Senator Phillips, so do not become worried.

Senator Phillips: I am prepared to stay all night.

Senator Flynn: I am not.

Senator Martin: Answer the question, please.

Mr. J. B. Bergevin, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister (Operations), Department of National Health and Welfare: For the newspaper advertising it is absolutely necessary to have the final draft of the material to be printed over the weekend, as it must be translated and given to the printers on Monday.

Senator Martin: Monday next?

Mr. Bergevin: Yes, Monday next. For the special mailout which is to precede the issuance of cheques for the purpose of explaining to pensioners what the different rates are, the arrears and the amounts of their cheques, the text of the special mailouts also has to be prepared and given to the printer.

Senator Martin: I should . . .

Senator Phillips: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order . . .

The Chairman: Just a moment, please; there is a supplementary question. You will have an opportunity for your point of order.

Senator Phillips: A point of order takes precedence, Mr. Chairman. There is reference now to advertisements and mailouts. We have not seen those. If we are going to discuss them, we should see them.

The Chairman: I do not think it is a good point of order.