Telephone conversation with Dr. M. Visscher 5/18/66

Dr. Dennis: Hello:

Dr. Visscher: Hellow Clarence

Dr. Dennis: Tell me what's cooking, Maurice.

Dr. Visscher: Well, as of yesterday morning the Commerce Committee had a meeting Senator Magnusom said that he wanted to postpone action on the Committee draft bill because of the very large number of telephone calls, telegrams and lettersm that he had received from the academic community and especially from some people whose judgment that he trusted to indicate it that the Bill, particularly with the Momeroney amendment would do great harm.

Dr. Dennis: What's the Mobroney amendment, that's one that I had not come across yet.

Dr. Visscher: Well, this is Mike Monroney's intention to put the licensing and regulations of housing and care of animals in Research Laboratories under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Dr. Dennis: Oh boy, that would never pass, would it?

Dr. Visscher: Well, I don't think so.

Dr. Dennis No.

Dr. Visscher: And he said, that he was calling a limited public hearing for a week from to-day, and he was going to invite particular people to come to give the Committee some advice. Now, off the record, his Committee Staff indicated that he would appreciate having some suggestions from us as to persons who might be able to testify, both objectivitely And I was not in Washington but Harry King, Kunquan our new Executive Director called me and I made suggestions, particularly of Deans, and Vice-Presidents and Presidents of Universities whom I knew had knowledge of the situation and could

be counted on to give the right sort of testimony. ***Extreme*

Dr. Visscher: (cont'd)

I mentioned for example, Clark Wes.....who is at the University of Kansas. I mentioned Herb Longenecker, who is President of Tulane. Now Longenecker is a biochemist himself and I've talked to him about the problems over the telephone... in fact I got him to get to work on the members of the Senate Commerce Committee a couple of weeks ago myself and he sent me copies of letters that he had sent to various people and he got the land grant college association and so forth involved in it.

partly Bronck's infemence that changed Magnusom's views. I think

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Dr. Dennis: ,Good.

Dr. Visscher: So, I know that he is alright, then I thought I would suggest
Mr. B.ronck
that MixexR... at the Rockefeller, a person I know you hasn't

paid too much attention to this but recently, he himself has called
me and wanted to do something and I think he does understand it now
but the reason for doing this is that Bronck who has had a
great deal of contact with Magnusom, and he told me that he had
done many things for Magnusom and thought he could influence him
directly. As a matter of fact I would'nt be surprised if it was

his views have changed.

Dr. Dennis: You think they have, good.

Dr. Visscher: Now, let's see, who else, oh I thought Albert Askanian Shaman.

You know, Albert Shaman.

Dr. Dennis: No.

Dr. Visscher: Well, of course, you know who he is?

Dr. Dennis: Yes.

Dr. Visscher: He is taking a very active part in Indiana and the Committee staff

Remark felt that Albert Shaman would have a great deal of influence

Dr. Visscher: (continued)

with several members of their committee. Incidentally, the Committee staff there in Commerce is quite sympathetic with out viewpoint, Clarence.

kind of a

Dr. Dennis: Is that so. How did they ever get that/show set up before if that's

the case, anyway.

Dr. Visscher: Well, I'll tell you, they are ordered to do things, but that doesn't mean that they really approve of everything they are ordered to do.

That's the situation with regard to this hearing. We are not going to be allowed to volunteer and I'no one, and that is I am not going to try to testify and I don't want Harry Kingland to try to testify because this will be just discounted as the voice of the same old after record, you see? You know of course that Hill has introduced after S3332 and there are 12 senators including Senator Kennedy and his brother among the 12 who joined in introducing that administration bill. We think that was in very good hands, and, with that number

Dr. Dennis: If we could get both senators Kennedy on it, you are probably alright.

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Dr. Visscher: Well, that's present my feeling. And after that/we have Neuburger on it.

Dr. Dennis: No, he's come all the way around. I'll be darned. What about Javitz? Is Javitz with it?

of co-sponsers it will get along pretty well.

Dr. Visscher: Beg pardon.

Dr. Dennis: Is Senator Javitz on it too?

Dr. Visscher: No, but I think that he has been out of the country, hasn't he?

Dr. Dennis: Yes. He was in Puerto Rico or some place.

Dr. Visscher: I don't think that means that he will go...

Dr. Dennis: He backed the O'Brian Bill, as I recollect in New York.

Dr. Visscher: But that doesn't mean he can't also put his name on this because the risk...any very important reason why he shouldn't.

Dr. Dennis: A copy of khak S3332 available now?

Dr. Visscher: Yes, they are, not in my office.

Dr. Dennis: I'll write down to the Senate office building, I can get some.

Dr. Visscher: Oh yes.

Dr. Dennis: It would be the Commerce Department, I suppose.

Dr. Visscher: Yes, no, it's not the Commerce. Lester Hill is Chairman of the Committee of Labor and Public Welfare.

Dr. Dennis: They why are we fussing with Magnusom for?

Dr. Visscher: Because, he's still got this otherdamm bill that he's trying to

Dr. Dennis: Yes, I see, O.K.

Dr. Visscher: Yes, this is the trouble. They are really messing things up for us pretty badly, but you can't help this. Now, the thing that has bothered me very greatly, is, and this is a little bit confidential, use it with discretion. Robert Burson, you know who he is?

Dr. Dennis: No, I am not sure.

Dr. Visscher: He is Director of the AAMS, Association of the American College.

Under date of May 14th, a statement about the current situation
that isn;t really quite correct. He says, that the Magnusom Bill
S2322, I think is the Magnusom Bill, isn't it.

Dr. Dennis: I think that's right.

Dr. Visscher: Without the Malroney Amendment isk comparable to the Poage Bill, now it isn't. And this is quite an unfortunate thing.

Dr. Dennis: Can't we get him to change it?

Dr. Visscher: I've called him on the telephone and have written him a letter asking him to do so, to send out. Unfortunately, he sent this out

Dr. Visscher: to 2,000 people, including all the Deans and the damm thing is

(continued)

just wrong. Now, what do you do about a thing like that?

Dr. Dennis: Does he refuse to do it?

Dr. Visscher: He didn't say. I don't know just what to do.

Dr. Dennis: Well, if you were to send one to all the Deans, wouldn' that

Dr. Visscher: But he says for us not to communicate with the Deans. He wants

to do this.

Dr. Dennis: Well, if he is incompetent, I wouldn't depend on him.

Dr. Visscher: Well, that's my feelings. I just don't know what to think.

Well, be that as it may, we are in a little trouble there with

this information he has given, because I am afraid some of these

Deans are going to wire or write to members of the Commerce Committee

telling them to pass S2322 without the Modroney Amendment, and

This wouldn't be good at all. Because, for example, in its

present form S2322 includes other animals than cats and dogs

and so forth.

Dr. Dennis: You are going to have to tatoo all the fish.

Dr. Visscher: Yes, but we haven't got fish yet. But, be that as it may, we don't

want the thing muddied.

Dr. Dennis: Well, I would think the thing to do was to pin down Burson, or do

you know somebody who knows him well enough to do it?

Dr. Visscher: Well, I don't know. I think the person who ought to do it is the

President of the AMC.

Dr. Dennis: Who is that?

Dr. Visshher: Well, let's see, I got the officer listed in the book...

Dr. Dennis: Well, I got it here someplace or other too

better contact with such a man than I. The President-Elect is Thomas B. Turner at Johns Hopkins. I've got the 1965-66 directory. I wonder when they change officers.

Dr. Dennis: That's what I have too on the shelf.

Dr. Visscher: George Wolf of Tufts is the current president in that book. The president-elect is Thomas B. Turner.

Dr. Dennis: Turner, as I recollect, was a consultant here at one time for some teaching session that we have and I have an idea that Bob Moore knows him pretty well. I would suspect it would be a little more potent, if you would, if you'd call Bob Moore and I'll call him also, and get him to call Turner and get him to put the heat on Burson and get this straightened out before it's too late.

Dr. Visscher: OK. I will call Bob Moore. I'll do it now.

Dr. Dennis: Do it right now. I'll wait a little while and then I'll call. Is there anything I can do other than this?

Dr. Visscher: I don't think so.

Dr. Dennis: They don't want communications sent in for the record, do they?

Dr. Viszcher: No. I don't think so.

Dr. Dennis: There's no point in extra people showing up?

Dr. Visscher: I don't see why.

Dr. Dennis: You don't see that there's any point in it?

Dr. Visscher: No.

Dr. Dennis: Did you talk to Alton Ochsner?

Dr. Visscher: Yes, I did.

Dr. Dennis: Did it do any good?

Dr. Visscher: No. I talked not only to Alton Ochsner, I talked with Mike DeBakey himself and he didn't agree to say anything, and he didn't say anything.

Dr. Dennis: There was one comment from him in the New York Times this morning.

Dr. Visscher: I know.

Dr. Dennis: That's the only thing I've seen.

Dr. Visscher: He was asked by the NIH to do this yesterday and he made a good statement and told, I didn't hear it and I haven't seen it anything in the newspapers

here, but Harry Kingman tells me that he made a good statement yesterday. But this was under pressure from NIH. He didn't do it for Alton or for me. It corresponds with your predictions.

Dr. Dennis: That isn't a prediction, that's looking back. If there's anything I can do please let me know. I've got some mail on the way to you. Maybe it's arrived already, I don't know.

Dr. Visscher: No, it hasn't.

apparently

Dr. Dennis: It might help that Joel Baker/got hold of Senator Magnuson, and I've got copies of Baker's letters that he wrote to me about it afterward.

Dr. Visscher: I'm sure that would do good.

Dr. Dennis: I think he's got it organized so that several people are approaching him from Washington State, which should help.

Dr. Visscher: Yes, OK Clarence.

Dr. Dennis: Alright, good luck. Let me know if there is anything I can do.