

BILL LOUGHERY

July 20, 1982

I asked him about Arlen and the Jobs Bill amendment.

He argued that it's the only way to get people to focus on what you want.

Did you tell them in advance. "I went over and told them that Specter was going to introduce this amendment but that I didn't think he was going to push it very hard. I don't think he appreciated my telling them that he wasn't going to push it. They weren't taking it seriously. So he decided to push it a little harder. It was effective. It worked. The hearing was held last week."

Does it ^{rest} est. "If you made a habit of doing that you might wear out people's patience. But you don't lose any chits by doing it. It's the only way to get people to focus on what you want. Otherwise no one will pay attention to you."

"The only way to get people to pay attention is to go over there and rant and rave and threaten them with amendments. They don't want to fool with you because they are afraid they might lose. They probably won't, but they can't be sure. They do sometimes lose amendments. That's because they never focus on amendments till it hits them--bam."

Didn't you try to urge it behind the scenes? "It belonged in Heinz subcommittee. We talked to them, but their staff didn't want to hold hearings. I don't think Heinz himself ever focussed on it... We could have pushed quietly and gotten it that way. But it didn't hurt us to make an issue of it in public. Jobs is the biggest problem in Pennsylvania."

He talked about lack of focus in terms of amendments. "They don't

Loughery - 7/20/82

See also 6/21
to R.R. Rehman 2

focus well on amendments. They take whip counts on big issues they know about in advance. On railroad retirement, I told them they stood a good chance of losing that. The last vote on the subject (in the fall) was 59-34 and I couldn't see them doing any better. I told them there was no way they were going to get Specter's vote. There are more retired railroad people in PA than in any other state I don't think they took me seriously. They lost it and they could have lost the whole thing."

Talked at Baker technique. "He very seldom takes sides on a subject. That way, he can step in and act as mediator."

"Pennsylvania is more opposed to the President's program than any other state. That's what the Republican Committees polls show."