



The 1970 Census and its proposed array of personal questions is the subject of inquiry by the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights. The Subcommittee is conducting hearings concerning individual privacy, the census, and burdensome Federal questionnaires.

For several years, the Subcommittee has investigated unwarranted governmental invasions into people's personal affairs. On April 14th, I introduced a measure, S. 1791, to further secure personal privacy and protect the constitutional right of people to ignore certain unwarranted governmental questionnaires. This measure is the subject of the present Subcommittee inquiry relating to statistical surveys by the government which would delve into personal and financial activities of individuals, such as the 1970 Cen-

sus. In recent years, Congress has received serious complaints of wholesale governmental interrogation of citizens about their daily activities, how they spend their money, and why they behave as they do. Answers are recorded and analyzed, tabulated and computerized.

This search for information is often from a good cause and is sometimes conducted in a reasonable and limited fashion. Frequently, however, individuals are told to disclose information to the government simply because some agency is engaged in "people-studies," and the agency is substituting surveys for judgment and creative ingenuity in the administration of the laws.

Many of these questionnaires carry the full weight of Federal criminal and civil laws to back up the demand for statistical in-

Who Said Crime Doesn't Pay?



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formation. The decennial census forms, which must be answered on pain of \$100 or imprisonment for 60 days, grows longer and more complicated every ten years.

Millions of people, we are told, will be required to give 1970 Census takers mandatory answers about their household equipment, their marital history, their income, and a host of questions unrelated to the constitutional basis for the census.

The first census had six questions, related to the counting of persons living in this country. The 1970 Census is a sociologist's dream compared to the first census. It will have upwards of 170 questions for millions who will answer its detailed questionnaire.

The measure which I have introduced, and other proposals in Congress, are designed to answer a question asked more and more: When, if at all, should the force of the Federal criminal

or civil law be brought to bear when the government demands information about the personal lives and households of its citizens?

The decennial inquiries might be excused to some degree, if they were not thousands of Census Bureau inquiries underway all the time. The individuals receiving these inquiries from the Federal Government is seldom told that a particular questionnaire can be answered voluntarily. The inference is always that a response is required. If he fails to respond, the citizen is subjected to a round of follow-up letters, phone calls and personal interviews.

It is clear that a balance must be struck between the individual's desire to provide information. It is the duty of Congress to say under what circumstances information can be solicited, and this is the purpose of the hearings on this legislation.

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Thug Who Beat Jim Parrott Only Gets Six Months in Jail

The thug who snatched a very surprised Jim Parrott out of his car on February 9th and badly beat him about the face finally came to trial Tuesday in Lenoir County District Court and on conviction for this unprovoked and serious assault he drew a pat-on-the-wrist six-month jail term. The judge could have given him two years.

The thug is Thomas Lee Coltrain of 1809 West Vernon Avenue and his excuse for the malicious assault on Parrott, a resident of 606 Rountree Street, was that somebody in a car resembling Parrott's had "almost caused" him to have an accident.

Some time after the "almost accident" didn't happen Coltrain saw Parrott pass, gave chase, forced Parrott's car to the curb and then without a word of any kind snatched Parrott, a light-weight, out of the car and badly beat him.

CRIME DOES PAY

Last week Lenoir County District Court collected \$590 in fines from 16 defendants, one person got an active jail sentence, 11 were found not guilty, six paid off bum checks, nine appealed decisions to higher courts and five persons charged with felonies were given preliminary hearings.

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