

1 MR. MELVIN: I think we are opening ourselves
2 up to litigation as to the interpretation of that word
3 serious. I don't know the solution to it but it seems
4 to me no matter what the Legislature decides, that it
5 could be attacked on the grounds that the crimes they
6 designate are not serious.

7 MR. RUSSELL: The answer is the Committee
8 felt it would be in the proper place, proper for the
9 courts to decide and interpret any statutes.

10 MR. MELVIN: I realize that but it seems
11 to me if we could come up with something a little more
12 definite such as the one you have in the footnote on
13 Page 7, in New Jersey. At least that would avoid any
14 possible litigation.

15 MR. RUSSELL: Who shall be convicted of
16 such crimes as it may designate? We thought we should
17 have serious to indicate to the Legislature we didn't
18 feel people convicted of disturbing the peace should
19 lose their right to vote. We rejected the word infamous
20 because it has some vague common law definition and
21 would not include crimes for which many members of the