

MAYOR WAGNER. I remember seeing something on it. I don't know the workings of the committee. I think people are practically guaranteed some money because anyone who is unable to work gets some welfare payments.

I think our job is to try to raise the standard and train these people so that they can qualify for positions.

I think one of the things that we have to be concerned about is that unless we do some of these things and train some of these people, particularly in some of these semiskilled and skilled jobs—of course, the unskilled jobs are drying up, then you have to come to something like that and you have a permanent dole.

I think our job is to train them so that they can make a contribution instead of being welfare cases through their whole lives.

MR. MARTIN. It is being connected up with this entire poverty program which we are considering in this committee. Let me read to you point 7 of their conclusions which they propose to do. Here is what it says:

We propose a major revision of our tax structure aimed at redistricting income as well as apportioning the cost of the transition period equitably. To this end, an expansion of the use of the excess profits tax would be important—

and so on. In other words, redistribution of the wealth has gone on in countries which are out-and-out completely Socialist. We have this same kind of plan worked out in Communist nations. This is being proposed supposedly by a responsible committee.

MAYOR WAGNER. I am not a member—

MR. MARTIN. I have not had 5 minutes.

MR. PERKINS. I recognize the gentleman from California.

MR. MARTIN. I resent this, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday I had about 2½ minutes and today I have not had my full time.

MR. PERKINS. You have had a full 5 minutes.

MAYOR WAGNER. Could I have the opportunity of answering? I must say I am not a member of this committee. I have not read their report. I would be glad to comment on it, but it seems to me that they are suggesting something that certainly is not within the realm of possibility at this point. I think it is more important that we try to get legislation, which is before the committee, through now and get to the problem immediately.

MR. MARTIN. This whole thing is all interwoven into this problem we are considering in this committee this morning.

MAYOR WAGNER. I think the people who are for this in New York are not part of that ad hoc committee.

MR. PERKINS. The gentleman from California is recognized.

MR. LANDRUM. Will you yield?

MR. BELL. I will yield to Mr. Landrum for a few seconds.

MR. LANDRUM. Do you know any provisions of this bill which this committee has now under study calling for such actions as the gentleman from Nebraska has interrogated you about?

MAYOR WAGNER. I know of none.

MR. LANDRUM. Is there any provision of this bill that you know about which will guarantee anyone any amount of income?

MAYOR WAGNER. I know of none. It is merely, as I said before, Congressman, this bill will at least help to give some people the opportunity to get some dignity.