

prise to build and to construct and to operate and maintain and manage the development.

Mr. STEPHENS. Thank you. That verifies what I wanted.

Mr. BARRETT. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. St Germain?

Mr. ST GERMAIN. Mr. Secretary, going back to the question of my colleague, Mr. Gonzalez, public housing: Are we meeting the needs of public housing, or isn't it a fact that we are behind and have been behind? I would like to have Mrs. McGuire answer this question.

Mrs. MCGUIRE. Well, I think obviously the answer is "No." We have had, Congressman, since the passage of the 1965 act, we have had applications which are now close to the 80,000-unit mark, as against our proration of 60,000 units of public housing for each of the 4 years under the 1965 act. And in addition to that, as was pointed out last year in the testimony, we have had in excess of 500,000 families who had applied for and were on the waiting list for public housing low-rent housing, around the country.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. I wonder Mrs. McGuire, if you would also answer the same question with respect to housing for the elderly?

Mrs. MCGUIRE. This is particularly critical.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. This is within the same category?

Mrs. MCGUIRE. This is particularly critical. And today about 46 percent of all the applications for public housing units which are being developed are for the elderly. I think this is because this is a catch-up program; it is fairly recent.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. It is the greatest program we ever put on the books.

Mrs. MCGUIRE. It is certainly the most gratifying one, and one which the tenants themselves respond to with pleasure and delight and benefit.

But I think there is a tremendous need for low-rent housing for older people and also for the handicapped, as Mr. Ashley recommends, and for a number of other special groups. We think today of the American Indian and Eskimo and other special groups.

We have the special areas of need. I think perhaps the elderly is the most pressing at this time. And the communities are realizing this, and their applications are reflecting this.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. And I wonder if Mr. Slayton would be gracious enough to tell us where we stand on urban renewal, how close we are to keeping up with approved requests for urban renewal programs. In other words, how far behind are we running, dollars and cents wise, Mr. Slayton?

Mr. SLAYTON. Well, we have roughly \$200 million left of this fiscal year's authorization. And we have in the pipeline \$600 million in applications. And we expect to receive for the balance of the year \$400 million in applications.

Mr. ST GERMAIN. You see, Mr. Secretary, the reason I ask these questions is that here we are, we are way behind in our public housing, and we have got a lot of elderly people who would like some housing, we are away behind in urban renewal. And I think that this is quite a program, it is coming along nicely, and it has improved, and its acceptability has improved, and its impact at long last is getting the people to the point where they realize its value. And I agree that