

the pastor of the church who took me into his church and showed me what they were doing by way of rehabilitation. This man, this pastor, is a Monsignor in the Catholic Church. He left a very important post in the charities to lead this congregation which is nearly completely nonwhite and is now lifting the whole area up with his own hands and with money which he begs from the total community.

While showing me the inside of the church, he said, "Let's look on the outside." Outside we found some children playing what is known as stick ball, which I don't understand, except that I've seen the kids playing it. They use a large broomstick as a bat and they play with half of a rubber ball because they can't afford a whole rubber ball. I asked for the stick and said to one of the boys, "Toss one up." He tossed one up from the pitcher's position and to my amazement I picked it off and hit it over the fence. I didn't expect to hit it in the first place, especially when you are wearing bifocals—but they invited me to try again and I guess we both thought I wouldn't hit it. Well, we tried again and I hit it again.

I am not saying I am a great home run hitter—I was raised in the era of Babe Ruth and some of the great home run hitters of America, but I'd like to hit a home run in that particular area, by providing not only good housing but good recreation facilities, so these kids won't have to play stick ball in the middle of a street which is no more than 15 feet wide and which has a lot of vacant houses on it. Incidentally, the street is named Watts Street—the same as the unfortunate area of Los Angeles which has come to represent so many of the problems we are facing in our older areas.

And when these kids knew that there was interest by their mayor, in this game of stick ball, they said, "If we only had a playground where we could play this out in the open without the restrictions of the street with the vacant houses, everybody would be happy." But the big concern was, one kid said, "I hope we get this before I get out of the eighth grade."

I don't want to discuss the bureaucratic problems of government but it does take so long for people who want so much sometimes.

Mr. BARRETT. This would indicate that you still maintain your skill.

Mr. REUSS?

Mr. TATE. Just lucky, sir.

Mr. REUSS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

As a prelude to this hearing, I took my family to Philadelphia yesterday afternoon and I can see why our chairman and the mayor are so proud of the great strides that Philadelphia has made in recent years. We took a look at not only the historic area, but at Society Hill, and it is really an inspiring setting and it has helped me to understand your testimony a little better this morning.

You make a very convincing case that the Federal Government should help those who are willing to help themselves, and certainly Philadelphia has done a remarkable job in that.

I have one question about a matter that was not covered directly in your testimony and that concerns the research aspect of mass transit. Congressman Moorhead, Congressman Ashley of Ohio and myself