

the number of jobs created, unemployment, health, education, juvenile delinquency, welfare cases, substandard housing units remaining, the number and expected life of rehabilitation units, the attitude of residents toward their neighborhoods and society, the impact of the demonstration program on the rest of the city, the cost of using different construction methods, the variations in rentals charged, and the complex relocation breakdown.

In these dry statistics will be found a story of cooperation at all levels of government and all walks of life—a dramatic experiment in shaping a new future for the most depressed sections of an old city so that blight will not touch the lives as well as the homes of its families.

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Mayor, New York is about two swimming strokes from Jersey City?

Mr. WHELAN. About four strokes now.

Mr. BARRETT. We have one of the great Members of New York on this committee—he swims the opposite way. He is a New Yorker.

I want to ask you this question: You bring it up on page 4 of your statement. I would like to ask you the same question I have asked several of the witnesses who have appeared here before.

Some people seem to have the fear that the Federal coordinator which the bill would set up for each demonstration cities program, would be some sort of a Federal dictator or czar. Now, I do not believe this and I think that the bill is clear that he would not have dictatorial powers, but I would like to ask you two questions.

First, would people who have such fears feel better, do you think, if we renamed this Federal official “the local coordinator” rather than the “Federal coordinator”?

Second, what do you think of the idea of giving the city some voice in the selection of the coordinator?

Mr. WHELAN. This is Mr. Sidney Willis, our city planner.

Mr. BARRETT. If you desire him to answer, if you would have him identify himself for the record, we will be glad to have him.

Mr. WHELAN. I think I can answer the question, Mr. Congressman. I would just like to introduce Mr. Sidney Willis. He is our city planner—a very fine, talented, dedicated young man, and we have him along with us today.

His observation was, with which I have to agree, that the name isn't too important, as Shakespeare says, “a rose called by any other name smells as sweet”—perhaps to some a Federal coordinator might carry a connotation of bureaucracy or interference from the Federal level or an impediment that could be difficult to work with—perhaps a local coordinator might be more acceptable to some. I really don't think that makes too much difference.

The second part of the question was, do you think we should have one? Is one necessary? I answer that question—that is an absolute must. The little experience I have had in government—

Mr. BARRETT. I want to repeat my question. I asked you, what do you think of the idea of giving the city some voice in the selection of the coordinator?

Mr. WHELAN. I would say the position as such is mandatory. You have to have this position to function properly—to coordinate all of the governmental agencies that are available and the power that stems therefrom. Whether the coordinator should have a voice in the matter, is a question of judgment. My answer to that would be no, that generally as with other appointments of this kind, sometimes it can result