

were our next door neighbors and who have now left and gone to the city.

We have great concern that they have an adequate diet, that they have a comfortable home, that they have an adequate job. And therefore, it is only fitting then that we should support the Demonstration Cities Act of 1966.

I would like to point up, however, a major cause of the poverty, lack of economic opportunity and the social unrest that is now prevalent in the cities. We believe the serious problem is the result of a lack of public concern for rural decapitalization and rural depopulation.

This has been caused by lack of economic opportunity, lack of jobs, lack of public services, doctors, medical clinics, the welfare services in the rural areas. These people have left, outmigrated, gone into the cities looking for a better life. We are happy that the Demonstration Cities Act promises to provide grants to plan and develop, provide education, consumer assistance, better homes, transportation, and in general job opportunities for the people who are there.

But, Mr. Chairman, having said we support this act, I would like to say that we need a bill of this nature for our rural areas. We need the same kind of program. If we could have this kind of assistance we could stop the outmigration. A great number of people who have already migrated to the cities would like to move back to the rural area or to the farm. And to prove my point, Mr. Chairman, I hold in my hand a news story which appeared in the Washington Post on Tuesday, March 22, 1966, 2 days ago of a Gallup poll which was taken, entitled "Rural Area Chosen as Ideal Home Spot."

You may have seen this, in which a nationwide poll by the Gallup Institute revealed that 49 percent of all the people living in the cities would prefer to live in a small town or on the farm. It said, despite the longtime population trend toward the big cities, many Americans look wistfully upon the small town and farm as the ideal place to live.

And although we have about one-third of the people living in small towns and on the farm today and they define small town as those under 10,000 population, over 49 percent said they would rather live on the farm or in the small town. The question that was asked, "If you could live anywhere in the United States that you wanted to, would you prefer a city, an urban area, small town, or farm?"

Twenty-two percent of the people said city; 28 percent said suburban; 31 percent said small town; and 18 percent farm; and 1 percent no opinion. The total of 49 percent for small town and farm.

Mr. Chairman, I might point out that this wasn't just the old folks who remember what the farm was like. Even the younger people between 21 and 29 years of age substantially had the same reply. So I would hope that not only would this committee pass this legislation to help those who are already there, but I would hope that this committee might give serious thought to the housing blight and depressed conditions in the rural areas, to the lack of economic opportunity, to those things that truly caused the Watts riot of Los Angeles where untrained, unemployed people went to look for greener pastures and didn't find them.