

tion down. We are reaching in the same direction of how best to solve, not whether to solve.

Dr. SMITH. Oddly enough, we took the position that we didn't think it would be helpful to have a separate Office of Economic Opportunity originally. Now that we have it, however, we don't want to go through this agony again. We would rather keep it for a while, and give it an opportunity to function.

Mr. DELLENBACK. With all its imperfections.

Dr. SMITH. With all its imperfections.

Mr. DELLENBACK. And there are imperfections.

Dr. SMITH. I am ready to accept almost anything, rather than go through the terrors of reorganization. We have just begun to understand what we have got.

Mr. DELLENBACK. May I then interpret your remarks that the Office of Economic Opportunity is this "almost anything" that you are willing to accept rather than abandon it at this stage?

Dr. SMITH. Well, I would say that that is almost a lawyer's observation of a client, but I would say that we would be willing to accept the continuance of the Office of Economic Opportunity with its difficulties and imperfections known, and even yet to be established, rather than changing the operation at this juncture.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Partly because of uncertainty, really, as to what would follow.

Dr. SMITH. It is not only the uncertainty; but one of certainty. I am just as sure as I am sitting here as to what will happen. Part —

Mr. DELLENBACK. Of course, we speculate as to what will happen. This is a difficult one.

Dr. Smith, we do have one more witness who has sat patiently with us.

Dr. SMITH. He is a great friend and a colleague, and I have probably knocked him out of a cab now, so I had better leave.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Dr. Smith, we thank you very much.

Dr. SMITH. Thank you, sir.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I do personally appreciate this type of contribution. As you know, my area is deeply involved in problems of the outdoors, and I welcome this sort of testimony.

Dr. SMITH. Congressman, I wonder, a number of conservation organizations have asked me if they could submit articles that would be included in the record, close to where our discussion with Mr. Pomeroy and myself. Mr. Brandorg of the Wilderness Society, and Mr. Pool and others.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I am sure if you submit these statements the chairman will have no objection to their being entered in the record.

Dr. SMITH. Thank you.

(The information referred to follows:)

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY,
Washington, D.C., July 20, 1967.

Hon. CARL B. PERKINS,
Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PERKINS: The Wilderness Society, a national non-profit conservation organization, is broadly interested in increasing public appreciation of the value of wilderness preservation and conservation of our natural environment for the benefit of future generations. The Society is actively supporting the efforts of the Federal natural-resources management agencies to implement