funded and goes into operation and begins to prove it can do something for the poor people, and then all of a sudden when it comes up next year for funding or renewal they hear from Washington that there are no funds available.

At this point, the fiat which you build up in people begins to dissipate because it repeats a pattern which they have known only too well, the pattern of promises made and broken, and we cannot break fiat with the poor.

You and I perhaps because we have a certain amount of inner stability can have promises broken and not feel that necessarily we have to lose fiat in a given individual or program or operation, but the poor who have had this and who have known this as a stable aspect of their lives—promises made and broken—at that point you have a long way to go to get their fiat again. This is what the OEO has done. It has kindled the fiat in millions of people about the possibility that they can escape from poverty, and this is why we say that we cannot break this fiat because if then we do, then the motivation, and there has to be human motivation if you are going to get out of the rut that you are in if you are a poor person, and there has to be a great deal of motivation.

This human motivation that energizes the individual to do those things he can do through the program presented disappears, evaporates. At that point you have what amounts to a vegetable and society is then responsible for him and will continue to be responsible for him. Poverty breeds poverty and you may be responsible for his children and grandchildren.

Mr. MEEDS. So the loss of the faith of the poor in this rather dynamic program would certainly have this effect.

Mr. ROTHMAN. Yes, indeed.

Mr. MEEDS. As you perhaps put it, one, with the poor; and two, with a program which is a motivational program, other than some ordinary program for middle class America in which it would be damaging enough to get their hopes up and then drop them; but in this type of program it can be at least doubly damaging, could it not?

Mr. ROTHMAN. I think it could be fatal in terms of the groups we are working with in trying to train and motivation so ultimately they can become productive citizens.

Mr. MEEDS. If we spin off these agencies which have been under one roof or one umbrella and lose the momentum of this program, the very thing you are talking about here could very well inure, could it not?

Mr. ROTHMAN. Yes, sir, this is why we say at this time there should be no spin offs.

We are taking this position and we don't take it for all time. Perhaps there may come a time when we say OK, the job is well enough along it may very well be that we will agree that this, that or the other program belongs someplace else, but not now and not in the foreseeable future, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. Thank you very much.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. O'Hara.

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Chairman, I want to apologize to the witnesses for missing their testimony which I am sure was very interesting. It was on our side.