

tax too much. I think that our welfare system is really a tragedy; that is, that we have let it go as far as it has, particularly AFDC. I think we need a family allowance plan, and I would put 25 percent into that area.

Then I would put the other 25 percent into revenue sharing. I would put it all in the public sector. The reason that I would put 25 percent into revenue sharing is that I think it is essential, too. Unless we build stronger vessels of State government and local government, our goals at home are not going to be achieved. I think the wave of the future is going to be sort of pragmatic decentralism. That is the way we are going to be able really to deal with the problems we are so frustrated about at this table.

Mr. SOMERS. I think that for the foreseeable future, poverty will be a sufficient goal for the use of any fiscal dividend. I think a concentration on that group of problems would be the most desirable, and that, of course, means housing, education in the broader sense, also special training, and jobs. I think that the crucial problems arise in the area of poverty, and a sufficient devotion of the fiscal dividend to that end would be the most useful way of utilizing the extra moneyp.

Mrs. GRIFFITH. I want to thank all of you.

I would like to point out that this subcommittee is preparing a compendium of the negative income tax and other alternative methods of providing a guaranteed annual income. Later we will have hearings on this problem.

I would like to say in response to your statements that I agree that problems of getting the information around, even within Congress, on what to do about anything is really a tremendous problem. When I first came to this Congress, I sat in on hearings on civil defense that Chet Holifield was running. Every weekend when I went home, I explained to my husband how horrible everything was going to be if we were hit by a bomb. Every time I made a speech I talked about it. Finally, he said to me, "You know, people do not care to hear that. It is all in Dick Tracy, anyhow, so you ought to quit talking about it. Nobody wants to know that they are going to live down in the earth, and other such things."

So, in fact, a good many years afterward someone made a speech one afternoon and Congress was horrified to realize that this is what the bomb would do. Here were Members sitting here who really did not understand what would happen if such an attack took place.

Now, I think this happens, also, on all the rest of it. The Ways and Means Committee has spent many months struggling with the social security bill. It seems out of all proportion until you realize that we are taxing away in this bill, we are taxing away from the American people at an annual rate now of some \$24 billion. But in addition to that, we are expending not only that money but another \$6 billion on welfare, in one bill. We really have not had time to consider the \$79 billion that is being spent on Vietnam. So that it is hard to get information around.

But I think then, when you look at the problems of this revenue sharing and consider the method by which we arrive at political decisions, and then put it back into a State legislature and consider the methods by which they arrive at political decisions, you can conceive better the enormity of the problem.