

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Let me suggest to you that you pursue your objective. I have a feeling that as time goes on and as we evolve and unfold and complete the program we have in mind, that some of us have in mind, that we are going to attract not 15 million but 20 or 25 million people a year to this complex. So we are going to need everything that you can produce through private enterprise.

Mr. OWEN. Thank you, sir.

We have visions that this will tie in with surface buses at Seventh and Ninth Streets, that will go through the complex, and likewise it will tie in with the subway system. We have been in communication with the Metropolitan Washington Transportation Authority, and that can be worked out.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Mr. Chairman, I think this man has some good ideas, and I think he ought to be encouraged.

I think it ought to fit in with the total plan. I am aware, as you must be, that the Union Station will finally become not a major, but one of the majors at most, but it could be an important satellite to the total program for the Visitor Center in the future.

Mr. OWEN. As you mentioned, there will be other visitor centers throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Do you have any plans to furnish a headquarters for people who would come by bus, by your bus, to visit the District, to be oriented before they go on tour of the Capital, so you would not be adding to the problem of Union Station for instance?

Mr. OWEN. I believe such service would be available. In connection with the industrial exposition. We have planned auditoriums for that particular purpose, to educate the public who come to this city, and there are many of them, not only the public but the foreign visitors themselves, how the American industry works, and free enterprise system.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Would you be willing—I am talking about the Visitors Committee—for this committee to become a permanent committee to deal with the problem of visitors, to fit into a total program as a part of the Visitors Center Committee program?

Mr. OWEN. We would certainly—

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Or Interior Department, whoever supervises it.

Mr. OWEN. We would certainly be able to cooperate.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. That would mean consulting with us on providing space for visitors, maybe an auditorium where they could see a movie before a tour.

Mr. OWEN. That could be worked out.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. And facilities where they could get transportation from that site.

Mr. OWEN. We have an auditorium planned for this particular contract.

Mr. SCHWENGEL. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you for coming here and giving us this idea. I had heard some rumors about some other plans, and I guess this must be because of the rumor I heard.

Mr. GRAY. Mr. McEwen.

Mr. McEwen. Mr. Owen the buildings that are in this area now, they would be removed?

Mr. OWEN. Yes, sir, they would be removed.