that face the Congress, or face the Nation. And I know of no problem that is more immediate or critical than this question of how much of our expenditures are we going to finance through additional debt.

Mr. KENNEDY. The budget as we recommended, Mr. Curtis, would still give the President's initial forecast 18 months ahead of time of what the level of expenditures would be. But conditions and programs change in the interim. And we realize that and recommend publicizing interim changes and reports——

Representative CURTIS. On the item we are talking about—expenditures.

Mr. KENNEDY. On expenditures—so you would have a review of the budget. And we did not go into the detail of how often that would be made. But there is a scorekeeping problem that the public has and the Congress has with the executive branch. And for that reason, we should think that the interim reports and reconciliation would be important.

Representative CURTIS. I would hope above all that the Congress, collectively, as well as the general public, including the editors of the New York Times, would become more familiar with the relationship and the difference between appropriation and expenditures, particularly with the level of expenditures.

The Executive has control over that. The Congress only indirectly. And the immediate problem, right now, on cutting back expenditures is in the power of the Executive.

Now, one collateral point on this.

The unspent authorization enacted in prior years of $125.6 billion—they anticipate in this message $39.3 billion of that to be used in 1988. But then when we look to see when the balance of that—let's see—roughly $89 billion, about $90 billion is to be spend, in which fiscal year, and how it is programed, there is no data in the budget at all. There is no data in the budget in respect to the remainder of the $144 billion of new authority expenditures in future years of $48.3 billion—that is, when it is programed for expenditures. We do not have that data.

I have been asking the Director of the Budget for this kind of information. Because you see, the President will have—again referring to this chart—at the end of fiscal 1968, unspent authorizations for expenditures in future years of—adding the $39.3 billion to the $48.3 billion—$132.8 billion power to spend. But we do not have it programed by fiscal year as to when those expenditures are.

Mr. KENNEDY. We considered very carefully these forward projections. You come up against some real problems of trying to forecast. We come out with a recommendation that efforts be made to forecast ahead, and suggested a private or outside Commission—The Brookings Institution or somebody else—take a look at these. Or the staff of the Bureau of the Budget can prepare some longer term projections, which we feel, as you do, are desirable.

You come up against a problem of asking the Executive to forecast a budget 5 years in advance, or some period in advance, and you build in inflexibility and problems of commitment to a program that might later be changed advantageously, and it makes a difficult decision for the President to accept such a concept.

Representative CURTIS. I see my time has expired. I will come back to that. I will only make this observation. If these programs are