

will just go on increasing, since it is impossible to increase the amount of land. But the pressures upon it continue to mount with the growing population, so that the earlier we move, the better off we are going to be. You would agree with that; wouldn't you?

Mr. STAISEY. I would agree with that.

Senator CHURCH. Has this particular fund had the effect of enlarging the activity of the State of Pennsylvania and the counties in the field of outdoor recreation?

I ask you that because Pennsylvania is a State that has had a tradition of concern where outdoor recreation and outdoor parks and that kind of facility are concerned. So I would just like to know what the impact of this fund has been in Pennsylvania.

Mr. STAISEY. I think it has had a great impact, Senator. I indicated two bills that I was cosponsor of, and it has had an impact in another way, too. I think of all the levels of government, the one that has the greatest potential for growth is county government. For example, in Allegheny County we have 129 separate, independent municipalities, and the county government is the one agency of government that is common to all of them.

There is being imposed upon us now additional responsibility, and there is a tendency to shove recreation into the background. For example, we are going to be called upon in the next 2 years to spend \$32 million for three community colleges. For the first time, our county is in the business of higher education. We are being called upon to prepare a rapid transit program for all of Allegheny County in the southwestern part of our State, which will run our people \$800 million to \$1 billion.

We are called upon now, and we just established 2 weeks ago, a new agency of mental health and mental retardation. And we participated in the OEO programs.

The activities, you see, in the county are increasing all the time, and there is a tendency to shuttle recreation and conservation into the background for needs to which we are assigning higher priority.

Therefore, with the State participating and the Federal Government urging us on through our regional planning, it has made our people awaken and realize this is a very essential activity.

Senator CHURCH. Thank you, Mr. Staisey.

Senator ANDERSON. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have no questions.

Senator HANSEN. First, let me compliment you on a very excellent statement. I know about county commissioners, and I may appreciate more than some may the problems you have addressed yourself to this morning.

I would make one observation, though. In my county in western Wyoming we were concerned about, at one time, what we considered to be excess Federal ownership. Our county is about 97 percent federally owned, so in that regard, our situations weren't quite the same.

You speak, though, about the fact that there are 29 municipalities, if I understood you correctly, within your county. You are facing the costs that will result from the establishment of three community colleges. You speak also about your rapid transit system along with other projects.