

Mr. SISK. Very well, Dr. Ralston, do you have a prepared statement? If so, it will be made a part of the record and you can read it or proceed as you see fit.

**STATEMENT OF DR. N. P. RALSTON, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR,
FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Dr. RALSTON. Thank you, very much, sir. I would like to present the written statement for the record and very briefly summarize what we have in the statement, and then if there are questions I will be pleased to attempt to answer those.

I might say that the Department of Agriculture fully supports this amendment to the District of Columbia Public Education Act establishing the Federal City College and land-grant institution of higher learning.

Two parts of that amendment are of concern and interest to the Department of Agriculture because we have jurisdiction over two of these parts, namely, the Smith-Lever Act which authorizes the work by the cooperative extension service; and secondly, the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1967 which does not have nearly the scope and direction that the Smith-Lever Act does have to this particular piece of legislation.

I want merely to say that Secretary Freeman in a recent address at Fairleigh-Dickinson University stated I think rather clearly and succinctly his position, to quote:

Research and education are not enough. The city system should include an urban extension service, made up of trained men and women, who, like the county agent, carry the results of applied research to its actual users—the people who need help. The extension agents would serve in another major fashion. They would report the needs of the people back to local governments and to universities for research and action.

I think this is an extremely important relationship that we build between the people of an area and the university that is serving those people so that we have a good strong communications so they reflect their feelings back and forth, and I think provide much greater service for the people which the university is serving. The Smith-Lever Act, I think, you are familiar with. If there are questions on the Agricultural Marketing Act, I will be happy to answer questions on that.

I think Congressman Zwach indicated some of the scope of the cooperative extension work in some of the other urban areas of the country. Very frankly, we are just sort of scratching the surface. These are really developmental efforts in many of these cities that we are doing, but we are finding that the techniques and methods that we have used for many years can be adapted and are working in the real hard-core areas of America, of course urban cities, and we think it is a useful technique for helping these people move ahead.

Now just a word about the cooperating university.

I have already indicated that the university area needs to be very close to its people, and we think the Extension Service would be one way of helping to bridge this gap. We believe that the fact that the staff of the university, good staff of the university would lend a great deal of prestige to helping the people advance in the community. We could cite many instances where a professional person from a university has gone into a community and worked with a young person