

Reverend SHOCKLEE. The problem you have to understand, though, you don't get the volume for the numbers of people. Pruitt-Igoe has 10,500 people living there. As we said, 62 percent have family incomes of less than \$3,000 a year. Three thousand a year is about half the average, so for practical purposes we have 5,000 people who have a buying power, while there are 10,500 people living there, for practical purposes we have a buying power of 5,000 people, so this enters into the picture why another store might not come without some kind of subsidization, tax exemptions.

Mr. MYERS. Don't they have food stamps in this area?

Reverend SHOCKLEE. Oh, yes.

Mr. MYERS. Isn't that subsidy right there, where it raises the food-buying power of the public?

Reverend SHOCKLEE. The food stamps are limited to certain items, they have to be edible, they have to be from the United States, but where we think of food—

Mr. MYERS. That's subsidizing, it is purchasing power that's what it is intended to be.

Reverend SHOCKLEE. There are lots of other things there. Frankly, the food stamps are sponsored by the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. MYERS. I am on the Agriculture Committee, also.

Reverend SHOCKLEE. This is obviously to help the farmers.

Mr. MYERS. No, not the food stamp. They had the commodity originally, but it has gotten away from that now. This new act wasn't to subsidize the farmer.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Not to let the record be confused, when the food stamp program was started it was started to dispose of surplus products. I was on the agriculture subcommittee that reported out the food stamp bill. We are all right on this one; since then it has been such a widely accepted program in the interest of improving the quality of life in the United States it is now fully accepted as being of help to low-income people and not necessarily the farmer. The farmer is still the residual beneficiary because he is moving more food.

Mr. MYERS. Of course, farming is—we aren't going to get into discussion here of farming being a basic industry, but about anything you do will help industry, but this is really the design of our new program now which I hope will—is to help people rather because we still have some commodity programs.

Reverend SHOCKLEE. Some subsidization, or increased food stamps made available. Frequently, you know, some people are so poor they don't have the money to buy the stamps to get the food, which doesn't help the situation whatsoever. But I am all for food stamps and I am glad to hear you are on the committee. I am for it 100 percent. I hope there are greater increases in them and more people took advantage of them. This is one form of subsidizing the industry to get people interested in the community, and they do have a choice, they can go to Kroger or they can go to any store which will accept the food stamps.

Mr. MYERS. Where do they get the food stamps in your area?

Reverend SHOCKLEE. We have to apply out at the welfare office and then—

Mr. MYERS. Where is the welfare office?

Reverend SHOCKLEE. Delmar and Euclid. About 4800 West.