

whether we have underdone, or for that matter overdone our efforts to meet need in various areas. By and large I think the proposals that we have made involve a very substantial liberalization of relocation arrangements for the great majority of agencies involved.

Senator MUSKIE. I notice especially your recommendation that a lump sum of up to \$5,000 be added to the fair market value for homes, et cetera, in certain price categories. This is a move in that direction.

Mr. HUGHES. Yes.

Senator MUSKIE. I think it has been our attitude too much in the past as we buy up land for public purposes to try to get it as cheaply as we can at the expense of the people who are being displaced by this action. I think it really is unconscionable to expect them to bear the lion's share or a major share of the burden of public programs.

Mr. HUGHES. This has been a problem, I think, both in the relocation area, Mr. Chairman, and in the property acquisition area.

Senator MUSKIE. Yes.

Mr. HUGHES. The traditional posture of the Government in many ways has not been the posture of the sovereign. It has been a business posture, a hard bargaining posture. Obviously the Government needs to protect its own interests and the interests of the public at large. But it seemed to us as we dealt both with the problem of relocation and with the problem of acquisition of property, that the Government also has a responsibility to be fair and not to take advantage.

Senator MUSKIE. Or even to drive a hard bargain.

Mr. HUGHES. To drive a fair bargain.

Senator MUSKIE. To drive a fair bargain.

Mr. HUGHES. But not a hard bargain, that is correct. The Bureau of the Budget has a somewhat split personality on this matter.

Senator MUSKIE. I am sure you do.

Mr. HUGHES. The "one-price" comment which I made in the statement I think reflects some traditional agency concern in this area, and some of the agencies feel they are in kind of a logical dilemma. If they have started out negotiating at a fair price, why isn't that the price, and what is the use of bargaining, and so on. You can understand the difficulty.

Senator MUSKIE. Is there likely to be a problem of coordination among the departments and agencies with respect to their relocation activities? If so, how do you propose to handle it?

Mr. HUGHES. There have been some problems, Mr. Chairman, but we think we have it reasonably well in hand at this point. We have worked extensively with the agencies on this as well as on the property acquisition problem. They, too, understand the reasons why the Government should buy land for highways and pay relocation costs on the same terms and on the same set of principles as it busy areas for urban renewal or airports or Corps of Engineers project.

Senator MUSKIE. To summarize your position on this bill, your reservations and objections include: one, the consolidation of programs; two, the 5-year termination provision and the review of grants-in-aid section; and three, your recommendation as to the relocation section. That is about it, is it? Other than that, you support the bill?

Mr. HUGHES. I think that is substantially it, Mr. Chairman, yes, and even in those areas—relocation, and in the grant consolidation area, for example—we would like to work with you and the staff to see