

have had insofar as placing a person in a position to go out and to acquire the property so to be in substantially as good a position as he was prior to the taking?

Mr. MITCHELL. I would say, Senator Hansen, that I do not know of any case where an individual has moved from a dwelling because of urban renewal or redevelopment or some other kind of a program and has been able to get enough money as a result of the sale to purchase free and clear another place to live or conduct a business, so that, so far as I know, and admit I do not know the whole story, but I do have some extensive first-hand knowledge, I do not know of any instance where an individual has been put in the same position that he was as to occupancy and ownership after he has been displaced, even though he has received compensation.

Senator HANSEN. I just have one further question. I suspect that a person having to make this transition, having been forced against his wishes to sell his home or his business, would find that he is also confronted with a number of other costs when he tries to reestablish himself in another area—the cost of moving his family, his furniture, and trying to build up a new clientele.

I think it would be helpful to the committee if we had some reading based upon an accumulation of experiences that would spell out all the problems confronting people who are forced to move. Would you not share my feeling on that, Mr. Chairman?

Senator MUSKIE. Yes, to the extent that that information has been accumulated and is analyzed.

Senator HANSEN. Whatever there is, and I have no way of knowing, but I think it would help to present a total picture for us.

Mr. MITCHELL. I agree, Senator Hansen. I would think it would do two things: first, it ought to be in the hands of the various Government agencies who have been handling these transactions, and if it is not in their hands it means that they have not been giving the people the service they ought to have given. If it is in their hands, I think it will show pretty much what I have said, and it would be a very reliable figure.

It might cause a lot of people to understand, again, the importance of this bill. So I hope —

Senator MUSKIE. I would have my doubts that there is available in Government agencies anything that would reflect the statement you have made, Clarence, that you cannot recall an instance in which anyone has been made whole.

If any Government agency had such a document and statistic, it simply has been remiss in not presenting it to the Congress before.

Senator BAKER. Mr. Chairman, may I say in that same general respect, I have an idea that the administrative agencies of the Government could supply this information. The Government could supply information on the practice of making one offer for the acquisition of the property, and then reducing that offer if the landowner elects to litigate. It seems to me that the Government is dealing in a most cavalier manner in situations when, say, an arbitrary amount of \$10,000 is offered for voluntary acquisition, the landowner does not accept it, and they reduce the offer or the tender to say, \$6,000 upon going to court.