

Sections 4 and 5 were added at the request of the District of Columbia; section 4 to take care of any easements or other similar rights in the District of Columbia that might appear during construction and to prevent any possible unforeseen conflicts of jurisdiction; section 5 to make clear what was intended at all events by the trustees, that is that the District of Columbia will be put at no expense in relocating or protecting utilities, either public or private, occasioned by the construction.

Mr. Chairman, if there are any questions I shall try to answer them or to secure the answer for you. Thank you, very much, for affording me this opportunity to be heard.

Mr. GRAY. Fine, Mr. Walker. That was an outstanding statement, very concise, and to the point.

Let me ask you just a couple of brief questions before we go on to Mr. Feidler. What do you envision in the way of size of this building? I do not think you gave us the square footage.

Mr. WALKER. We are thinking in terms of 300,000 square feet.

Mr. GRAY. In the new building?

Mr. WALKER. Yes.

Mr. GRAY. That will be equivalent in size to Union Station.

Mr. WALKER. Is that 300,000 square feet?

Mr. GRAY. 330,000 square feet.

Mr. WALKER. The building will be lower than the National Gallery of Art and it will harmonize with the gallery and the Capital complex of buildings. We shall insist upon that with the architect who will be chosen. We have not chosen an architect as yet.

Mr. GRAY. You have no plans at this time?

Mr. WALKER. We have none. We do not want to pick an architect and have him draw plans until we know that we can build our building.

Mr. GRAY. In any event it will be compatible?

Mr. WALKER. It must be compatible.

Mr. GRAY. Standing on the balcony of the Capitol Building the one thing that really stands out is the very prominent round top of the National Gallery of Art Building. I have conducted in 14 years here, thousands of people through the Capitol and they always inquire of me: What is the beautiful building with the round top on it?

Mr. WALKER. I am glad to hear that. We are proud of that building and do not want to spoil it.

Mr. GRAY. I want to say I hope this will be compatible. Let me ask you one other question. What you are doing now with this land bounded by Fourth Street, Pennsylvania Avenue, Third and Madison Drive? Is that open space?

Mr. WALKER. This is open space. At the present time it is occupied by tennis courts and the property is under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. The tennis courts are under the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia. There is a corresponding space across the Mall where these tennis courts could be relocated if that is the desire of the Department of the Interior and the District of Columbia.

Mr. GRAY. Are you getting any opposition from these people?

Mr. WALKER. No. The Interior Department is very enthusiastic about the proposed legislation, and the District of Columbia has signified the approval thereof.