

We have a country that is big. It is four time zones across. It will stretch from Canada to Mexico and Atlantic to Pacific. It has two oceans and three seas. If New York City had that much land to take care of it would take an awful lot of money. This vastness, and the simple communication and simple transportation is not there. In highways alone we are many years behind. We do not get any of the interstate highway funds. I am sure you understand that. We have a mass transportation system called the Marine Highway that is 100 percent paid for and subsidized by the State of Alaska. Yet there should be highways up the coast, but it would cost billions to do that. We do not get any help for those things. We think they are a part of the problem and part of the responsibility of Government, because I don't care if there are 280,000 people or 280 million, percentagewise we pay the same taxes to the Interstate Highway Commissions. We do the same things. I feel very strongly on this.

Mr. TUNNEY. Yes, but one of the things I think has to be brought out here is the fact that because of the very few citizens you have in Alaska, you are not capable of doing these things that you talk about. Many States pay into the Federal Treasury a lot more—the citizens of the States—than they receive from the Federal Treasury.

Governor HICKEL. I agree.

Mr. TUNNEY. It is those citizens in California, New York, Florida, and all the other States in the Midwest that are paying more to the Federal Treasury than they are receiving, are helping to sustain Alaska's development and growth today.

Governor HICKEL. That is right. The same thing happened in California. Give us the same tools today that you had in the West and we will build that country. We do not get the mineral rights for the lands. When they built the railroad going out West, they got the fee simple title including the mineral rights. Give us that same thing and we will build the railroads today. We do not have the same tools you had a hundred years ago. You never had an income tax then.

Mr. TUNNEY. What kind of per capita investment is involved? That is the basic question.

Governor HICKEL. I think it is relative. A hundred years ago in California it was just as difficult as it is today in Alaska. You had to have help from the East at that time. But you were given your land. You were given the right to these mineral rights privately and you could go and do these things. We cannot do it.

Mr. TUNNEY. I am not talking about the giving of the land. I am talking about the \$500 million.

Governor HICKEL. I am talking about the private industry a hundred years ago, Chairman Aspinall, compared to today.

Mr. ASPINALL. Governor, we are having a Public Land Law Review Commission Study of this whole thing.

I think perhaps we will be able at that time to front up this question of values better than we are at the present time.

Governor HICKEL. That is fine. I am just here to answer questions.

Mr. TUNNEY. I appreciate the chairman's remarks, and I think maybe I will defer further questions until the Public Lands Law Review Commission comes up with its findings.

Mr. POLLOCK. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment, that we have many witnesses and very little time. I am extremely concerned