

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I might say, Senator, it may be the pressures of population have called attention to the value of this property. In the 16 years I have been in Congress, I have never seen such a spontaneous outpouring of interest and effort by the population in the area and such full support. We are anxious to get the highest level of support for this and this is the reason we hope to get affirmative action from the Congress to protect this.

Senator JORDAN. We from the west can attest to the value of this kind of resource preservation.

Senator HANSEN. If I may be permitted an observation, let me add my words of approval and pleasure to those already indicated by the junior Senator from Idaho, Mr. Jordan. I too recognize the value of making available to people areas for renewal of spirit as well as the body close to where the people are. I think this is one of the prime conclusions reached by the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission several years ago headed up by Laurance Rockefeller. As you know, his committee concluded that the prime need in this country was to make areas such as this available close to where the people are. This, in the judgment of the committee as I took their report came first.

I hope that we might get some comment as well on the second point made by the Congressman from New Jersey to consider, if we could, the possibility of two areas so as not to make necessary the obliteration of the road.

While I am not familiar with the traffic pattern in this part of the State, just off-hand it occurs to me that if this section of the road dividing the two sections of the proposed wilderness were to be closed, the roads now extending to the proposed wilderness area might become less valuable.

I agree with you that this road would deprive us of the concept of the wilderness area. I would hope we might review alternatives and see what we can do with respect to the roads going through there and no further. It seems that two sections of wilderness area would be more accessible to the people.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I am sure some of my neighbors are anxious to testify on this bill and the subject you raise. This is an unpaved road. There are some who would be reluctant to see it go, but if it should be necessary to close it, the officials are ready to do so.

Senator HANSEN. You have answered part of my question. I had assumed that this was probably a divided highway.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. No, it is not. We need more of those, though.

The representatives from the park system are going to talk of additional lands acquired by the State and county. We are pursuing a program for acquiring lands which will supplement these Federal lands.

I don't want to take any more of your time than necessary, so we will proceed. I think Dr. Oxnam of Drew University would like to speak first.

Senator CHURCH. Why don't we proceed down the list of those that came forward. The first is Dr. Oxnam.

STATEMENT OF DR. ROBERT B. OXNAM, PRESIDENT DREW UNIVERSITY

Dr. OXNAM. I sincerely wish it were possible to show you the film produced by WNBC for last Sunday evening's "New York Illus-