

The Other Program For New York: Shrink, Cut, Move Out

Sen. William Proxmire has this to say about New York City in an interview in the June 18 New York Times:

Proxmire: It's fascinating that we've had a discussion so long without mentioning the taxpayer revolt, the Jarvis-Gann Amendment. That was not just a revolt against the property tax. It was also a revolt against federal spending as well as state and local spending. So I think we're going to have to do much less for the cities; and what we do use is going to have to be spent to provide assistance to those who cannot help themselves . . .

Q: What if it is impossible to find jobs for the poor where they live?

Proxmire: Well, I see no objection — That's why I say the cities may be smaller. It may be a good idea to encourage them to move out.

Q: How are we going to deal with cities which are going to decrease in size and therefore need smaller work forces, but are stuck with big fixed expenses?

Proxmire: No. You don't do it the way we did with respect to New York City. You don't do it by saying "We'll help you out . . ." The tough, hard necessities are going to require them to do a better job. That kind of thing wonderfully concentrates the mind, they say. They'll have to get along with fewer civil servants, fewer services . . .

industrial and agricultural programs. They have the capital to do this. Their oil is going to run out in 15-20 years. Reactors could be combined with gas turbines. That is already a state of the art system.

Gallagher: The core of any development program is the nuplex concept — the ability to bring to bear the cheapest and densest flow of energy. An underdeveloped country is buying the capability to develop. They are buying the capacity for agricultural and industrial development programs; the concept is expressed in Mexican President Lopez Portillo's goal of eliminating the Mexican peasantry by the year 2000 and turning them into an industrial workforce. A development strategy shows that the Public Service Commission's 2 percent a year energy growth projections can't be used, even if that does represent the last few years' statistics.

The History of Humanist City Building

Criton Zoakos, Director of Intelligence, U.S. Labor Party, closed the conference with the following remarks.

You may be thinking, "How can we do all that we discussed today?" Let me say that cities were built by men with a great purpose. They are built by a group of civic-minded leaders for a specific purpose, and when the purpose fails, the city fails, as the Baghdad Caliphate failed in the ninth century because of the collapse of trade. Alexander the Great waged his military campaigns to build cities. Cities tend to create human beings of superior intelligence.

After the lights went out in Europe with the Stuart Restoration, the humanist city builders came to America and established cities. John Winthrop saw America as a beacon to light the darkness of Europe.

Cities don't get built accidentally and don't collapse accidentally. Today, there cannot be American prosperity unless there is world prosperity. This means customers abroad. Most of the world today is not ready for American exports. This is really, in a sense, a question of who is qualified to handle machine tools. New York will be like a military command center, mobilizing to develop other cities. The purpose of New York is to be the gate of American high-technology exports around the world.

"Energy Problems Are Driving People And Industry Out"

*From the remarks by Eric Lerner,
Director of Physics of the Fusion Energy Foundation:*

It is apparent to New York's citizens and business community alike that electrical energy in the city is the most expensive and least reliable in the country. Con Edison's baseload generating capacity is overwhelmingly oil-burning, and fuel costs have quadrupled since Kissinger's 1973 oil war in the Middle East. The economic repercussions of the July 1977 New York City blackout are still being felt. Both the expense

plans of every nation in the world. Every nation already sees the American role as a top priority in formulating its policies.

Simpson: My concern is that in an unstable, underdeveloped country, they would not have the demand for our conventional 1100 megawatt nuclear plant, and that this would not produce revenues for it to be profitable. . .

Hall: The Babcock and Wilcox Corporation has developed a 300 Megawatt nuclear reactor. It is true that larger size reactors produce economy, and allow for pooling. But if there is a set of circumstances to create a demand for this size, Babcock and Wilcox is providing an answer. American industry is well ahead of their government on this.

Simpson: Who says 300 megawatt reactors are economically feasible?

Hall: Even though the cost per kilowatt would be higher, there would be off-setting savings in the transmission lines. There is a need for different size reactors for different situations.

Simpson: But the problem is that the utilities are committed to 1000-1200 megawatt reactors . . .

Gilbertson: The reactors which the Saudis and Iranians are talking about buying are in combination with