



Welfare recipients barely get enough money for food and rent. What do the rich do with all the tax giveaways and special benefits they get from the government? Here, the lush estate of multi-millionaire Walter Annenberg implanted in the desert near Palm Springs. It sports a full golf course and wood-burning fireplaces (with central air-conditioning, of course).

More chiseling goes on under the innocuous name of "depletion allowances," which are given to owners of oil wells, gas fields, metal mines, coal and sulphur deposits—to name some. Depletion allowances take billions more from the U.S. treasury. Those billions could be used to ease the burden on the poor instead of making the rich richer.

Welfare for Slumlords

Another feeder at the public trough must be mentioned here; though his take does not compare with the colossal steals of the oil barons and the agri-corporations, it is more visibly repulsive. He is the slumlord and the owner of flea-bag hotels that should have been dynamited and torn down years ago. He is the modern prototype of the landlord of the 1930s, who put tenants' furniture out on the street if the rent was five days late.

Now he gets his check direct from the Welfare Department in many states, and lets his tenants keep the rats, roaches, leaking water pipes, falling ceilings and cold radiators without charge. The Welfare Department, as it is now constituted, is the slumlord's best friend.

In 1973 the Broadway Central, a New York welfare hotel, collapsed around its occupants, killing four people. But the owners admitted they made a profit of \$135,000 a year from their death trap.

Should all these handouts be listed without mentioning the case of that outstanding welfare cheat of our era—the man who cannily resigned from the presidency on the eve of his impeachment—Richard M. Nixon? That man is still receiving from American taxpayers a lifetime pension of \$60,000 a year, free mailing privileges, free office space and up to \$90,000 for office help. And, in case he dies before his wife does, besides the income she will inherit from his multi-million-dollar estate, she will get \$20,000 annually from the rest of us.