

# Apartment Approval Sought

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Manor.

Final approval of the entire project to permit conversion of the former Hotel Samuels Building in Jamestown to apartments for the elderly is hoped for soon, according to Congressman Stanley N. Lundine.

The Jamestown lawmaker said he has attempted to expedite necessary federal approvals for the project for which grant money has been set aside and the proposed conversion is expected to begin this year. The project is sponsored by Covenant

Manor.

On another matter, Lundine called attention to the scheduled hearing in Jamestown Aug. 17 by the House Select Committee on the Aging. He said the group's purpose will be to investigate housing and health care facilities and needs in a small city-rural environment.

Lundine said he feels Jamestown is a particularly appropriate site for such a hearing which will be held at the Ecumenical Campus which was built

without federal support. He noted considerable expertise on the hearing subject is available locally.

Turning to welfare program reform, Lundine said he will review President Carter's proposals and will support fundamental changes in the law. The legislator said he will assess the program on the basis of whether he feels it represents a rational national policy.

Lundine said he feels the states should be eliminated from welfare bureaucracy,

advocating federal policy and local administration.

He noted he believes federal assumption of home relief costs now shared equally by states and localities will prove helpful to New York State where many counties face near bankruptcy due to rising welfare costs.

Commenting on the postal service, Lundine said it is "clearly in trouble" and making it similar to a private corporation has been a "spectacular failure."

The congressman said the report of a special committee studying the situation reported many problems and few solutions. He said the country is entering an area of rapid communication and how the postal service fits into it is a major issue.

Lundine said the national economy is improving markedly but not satisfactorily, although inflation has been reduced to about 6 per cent a year. He said the improved national economy has had a generally favorable impact on the Southern Tier whose situation, however, has been spotty with some areas showing improvement while others decline.