

Mr. WOLFE. There is the pressure that always confronts people who have the responsibility of making agreements. Now, regardless—

Mr. ADAMS. Just a moment before you go any further.

In the normal bargaining situation, you have the parties faced with the ultimate in economic weapons. In other words, the pressure that is upon the railroads is "We don't want to have a strike."

The pressure that is on the men is, "We have to bargain in here and they may either lock us out or they can hold out on us as long as they can. We have this ultimate factor and, therefore, we have to bargain."

In this situation, we are holding the union by injunction. We are not going to let them strike. We are attempting to set up some kind of an award. You are on the record, and I know you don't deny it, that the railroad industry wants and likes to have compulsory arbitration awards. If we don't come down with something that is hostile to your position, you are in the best of possible worlds. Why should you bargain?

Mr. WOLFE. We are not in the best of possible worlds at all. Nothing could be further from the fact.

Mr. ADAMS. Tell me what would make you bargain if we do this.

Mr. WOLFE. Any time the unions demand something and we fail to make an agreement, and we risk permitting that issue to go before someone else, then we are taking the most desperate kind of a gamble. We have no idea just what the result will be.

Mr. ADAMS. You do in this case, do you not?

Mr. WOLFE. I beg your pardon?

Mr. ADAMS. You do in this case. You know what the result is going to be because you have been told by the Emergency Board, by the Special Panel, and House Joint Resolution 559 says that you shall build on that.

Mr. WOLFE. No, that isn't what it says at all. It says it may be modified. That doesn't necessarily mean you are going to build on it.

Mr. ADAMS. In other words, you are telling me that the chance of some modification from the compulsory arbitration or the compulsory statement that has been made is enough pressure on you to move you into a bargaining position when you have already explained to me when you were here before that you have reached a fixed position and although there may be some question about it, you are not going anyplace from that fixed position?

Mr. WOLFE. I don't say that at all. I don't think anyone else has a right to say it. You can guess that. You may dream it up. But there is nothing to support your guess.

Mr. ADAMS. Well, there is this to support it. First is the position the railroads have taken with Public Law 88-108, which was to freeze the award beyond the 2-year period. That is the first thing that supports my guess, or call it whatever you want.

The second thing is the history of the bargaining at this point, as has been brought out by the chairman and by several other members, that the Emergency Board said there was no bargaining until they met. You may disagree with that, but it supports my position.

Third, we are here today because the parties cannot reach the final point. The facts as brought out by Mr. Springer indicate that you are quite close together. What we are trying to determine as a committee