

is with this legislation, what we will have to do to make both parties bargain.

We are ready to do it to the unions, to enjoin them, and maybe we are ready to go with an award system in this temporary legislation which they don't like.

All I am asking you is, and you have answered it, whether you think the fact that the award may be modified is enough pressure on you to make you collectively bargain.

Mr. WOLFE. Yes, I do.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Nelsen, Mr. Watson wanted to ask a question. Will you yield to him?

Mr. NELSEN. I will yield.

Mr. WATSON. I passed on the first time around. May I ask two or three questions?

Mr. NELSEN. On your time, yes.

Mr. WATSON. Yes, on my time.

I am sure, Mr. Wolfe, all of us are disturbed about the absence of apparently any mediation efforts at this time, so I am going to restrict my questioning to that.

As I recall, you made definite progress with the help of the Mediation Board in narrowing the issues in dispute.

Mr. WOLFE. I think the real progress—

Mr. WATSON. Did you or did you not make progress under the Mediation Board?

Mr. WOLFE. I think we made some progress.

Mr. WATSON. Some progress in narrowing the issues?

Mr. WOLFE. Well, the real progress, Mr. Watson, was made before the Emergency Board, when the Emergency Board rejected a great many proposals, and I think that most of those have been more or less abandoned with the dispute in its present posture.

Mr. WATSON. And I believe further you said you were successful in narrowing the issues in dispute with the special board, the Fahy Panel.

Mr. WOLFE. To this extent: The special panel, the Fahy Panel, recommended a 6-percent across-the-board increase for 18 months and we accepted it.

Mr. WATSON. Did I understand you earlier to say that in the absence of any third party help at this time, you believe it would be fruitless or meaningless for the parties to get together at this time?

Mr. WOLFE. Yes, I base that not only upon my own knowledge of the case, but also the statements made by Secretary of Labor Wirtz before this committee, and others.

Mr. WATSON. Through the efforts of the parties, plus the third party interest, these Boards, you have been successful in narrowing the issues.

Now we are at the point where apparently no effort is being made by either party to the dispute to mediate. You have not had any vis-a-vis contact since April 25, I believe.

Mr. WOLFE. That is correct.

Mr. WATSON. Believing that you do not want compulsory arbitration, even of a temporary nature, and we know from the expression of organized labor that they do not want it, I am sure from the questions that the committee members have asked that they do not want it unless it is absolutely necessary, do you believe it would be helpful at this point for us to give both parties a last chance to prove whether