

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. He wishes to include in the transcript of these hearings a presentation on the proposed legislation that he would seek, permanent legislation, to avert problems of this kind.

The CHAIRMAN. Whose analysis?

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. His own analysis. He will have it ready tomorrow. He is fearful that the hearings may end this week.

The CHAIRMAN. We don't mind a bill being put in because it is a matter of record. But I don't want an interpretation that he has not seen, and that he has not prepared, in the record. I will object to it.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. I can't think of a more formidable objection. I would like the record to show that the request came from Mr. Pickle himself, however.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that all?

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Macdonald.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to comment to Mr. Gilbert that the thing that concerns the Members of Congress, including myself, is the tremendous problem that we will be faced with in the event of a nationwide strike in the railroad industry, not only dealing with the problem you cite, but also the other problems immediately in the picture.

Now you indicate a preference of seizure to a strike going into effect, do you not?

I did not put it exactly right. If a strike does not take place, you would suggest, as an alternative, a seizure?

Mr. GILBERT. If they are going to stop the employees from the exercise of their self-help, then they should not be half fair about it. Also, to stop the industry from operating as a free enterprise during the period of time that the employees are denied certain rights as citizens.

Mr. MACDONALD. Now you indicated that the railroads do not think that the country can stand a nationwide strike. Do you think the country can stand it?

Mr. GILBERT. I did not say it was the railroads. Somebody keeps telling them, you know, this country can't stand a railroad strike. I am talking about people in Government who keep saying that. I have heard that too often in the years preceding the compulsory arbitration. Every time it was uttered by a person in Government, then the railroad representatives relax, because they knew they didn't have to do anything and the employees weren't free to do anything either.

Mr. MACDONALD. Do you think the Nation can stand a strike?

Mr. GILBERT. As I understand the situation, Congressman, the organizations involved have offered to carry on the transportation of necessary materials to keep the war effort going and for other matters such as we did, for example, in 1966, which is not an unusual proposal made by the organizations who are to exercise their self-help.

During that time our war effort would not be hampered and some of the freedoms that those boys across there are fighting for might be maintained for them when they return to this country, because there are many of them involved whose organizations are trying to preserve the conditions of employment as well as their wages in their absence.

That is something that was put pretty forcefully to me not long ago at a meeting I attended with some of our veterans who have served in other wars.