

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Macdonald.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I don't have any direct question, sir, but there was one matter that you spoke of which other members of the committee have mentioned. It sort of puts the people who don't believe in compulsory arbitration to appear as if we were not supporting our fighting men in Vietnam, and throughout the world, for that matter.

I would like to point out to those people who have made the statement that obviously, I can say also as a member of the Reserve, having served my time in World War II, I can say that obviously nobody in this room wants to see any military personnel deprived of any material they should have that would hamper our war effort.

On the other hand, I think it is well to bear in mind, and I am sure you will agree with me, that as far as I have been told what we are doing in Vietnam is trying to uphold a democratic form of government. That is what we are told our boys are doing that far away from home. They are fighting in a faraway place so that a democratic form of government will be put into effect.

I, for one, feel very strongly that telling men that they have to work when they have gone through bargaining, at the end of the bargaining for the Government to say, "We don't care what you say, you are going to go to work," doesn't seem to me to be a very democratic form of government.

As a matter of fact, I would think it is one of the least democratic ways that this dispute can be solved. I would repeat to you that I don't understand why the parties to this dispute don't conduct volunteer, binding arbitration and keep the Government where it belongs—out of collective bargaining.

That is an answer not only to what you said, sir, but also members of the committee who intimated that if you weren't for compulsory arbitration you were somewhat of a nonpatriot.

What really surprised me was your saying that as president of a railroad you are so detached from the give and take of this dispute that you do not know what is going on in that field.

Has Mr. Wolfe completely taken over the running of all the railroads that are in this dispute?

Mr. RICE. Mr. Wolfe is the spokesman——

Mr. MACDONALD. I respect Mr. Wolfe and he knows it. He and I sat together and hammered out a bill last year that was satisfactory to the railroads and very helpful to railroad retirement. I know Mr. Wolfe and I respect him. This is not criticism of him.

But it is indirectly a criticism of those presidents who feel so detached from the day in and day out battle that they just turn over these negotiations, even though it is your railroad that will be struck. It is not Mr. Wolfe's.

I don't understand how you can be that detached from the battle. Mr. RICE. If you gained that impression from what I said, I have misled you badly. I am speaking for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and I am not speaking for the railroad industry. I am citing my experiences and my feelings.

Mr. MACDONALD. You said, sir, and I am sure the record will bear me out, in answer to Mr. Springer's remarks, that you didn't know what was going on in the negotiations.