

You know under the law we cannot force you to do that, don't you?

Mr. WOLFE. I do not believe that there is a statutory authority to force us. I can say this, that your wishes will be given most profound consideration by those people who represent the railroad industry.

Mr. WATKINS. I would hope that you could.

Mr. WOLFE. We will do that, Mr. Watkins, and we have done it all the way through.

Mr. WATKINS. As I say, I don't think two Georgia mules could pull you back together.

Mr. WOLFE. I am more acquainted with Missouri mules.

Mr. WATKINS. I think you have failed. I don't think you are lily white in this thing. I think both of you have failed. You are dropping this ball in our laps.

I want to say this, too, that I think our Government has failed. You can take that from the White House on down. They permitted you 47 days to do nothing. I am ready to assume my responsibility when the time comes. But I want it known that I think other people will have failed, the higher ups have failed.

I think it is being dumped back into the lap of every Member of this Congress who has to run next year, too.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Ottinger.

Mr. OTTINGER. Assuming we don't get a settlement of the issues by voluntary arbitration, I would certainly take strong issue with the various alternatives presented to Congress today.

With respect to the so-called "seizure," you say it is one sided and all the pressures are brought to bear against the management, that the purpose of such legislation is to compel capitulation on the part of the carriers to the unreasonable demands of the unions.

That is hardly an impartial statement to start out with. But certainly the chief bargaining tool which the unions have is the right to strike.

It seems to me that the seizure proposals that have been made offer an evenhanded disposition—providing a penalty against the companies by taking away their rights to manage and make changes in operation, and taking away, equally, the unions' right to strike.

It leaves the settlement to be made by collective bargaining. It doesn't impose any kind of settlement upon the management. I would like to know why you think this would force management to capitulate, if seizure is the method that Congress would choose?

Mr. GREENOUGH. Seizure in itself would solve nothing. As you have said, it seizes the rights of management and the rights of labor, but it does not help find a settlement.

Mr. OTTINGER. I think it helps greatly to find a settlement, because it puts increasing pressure on both sides to reach a settlement. Management is deprived of its prerogatives for a longer time, and it would be more and more anxious to settle. As the workers do not receive the benefits of an increase in their wages and living conditions, they are increasingly compelled to settle.

It seems to me it puts equal pressure on the parties to bargain to a settlement.

Mr. GREENOUGH. I don't see it that way, obviously.

It puts no pressure on the labor unions. Whatever settlement they achieve, it has been historical, is retroactive. They lose the use of their money perhaps for a little while, but that is all. They lose nothing under that situation.