

Now I would like to ask you this question.

I understand that parity has consistently been below 80 for the last 6 years. With that in mind, how do we arrive at net income per farm more than 10 percent above?

Secretary FOWLER. I understand Chairman Ackley ran into this one up here the other day, and he is preparing a report and analysis on this question. If you will permit me to collaborate with him, we will try to supply an answer too.

Senator MILLER. Yes, sir, and if perchance you should disagree with Mr. Ackley, I would appreciate your independent views, Mr. Secretary.

Secretary FOWLER. You certainly will have them.

Senator MILLER. Now another figure that was used here is unemployment averaging below 4 percent. Mr. Secretary, that may be an achievement, but in order to get to that 4-percent figure, I think we ought to look at some things which I do not personally think are achievements.

One of these is the fact that there are 446,000 more employees, civilian employees, in the Federal Government than there were 6 years ago.

Another on the war side, there are 860,000 more men in the Armed Forces today than there were 6 years ago, and I have heard various estimates that at least 1 million, or perhaps more people, are working in defense plants because of the war.

Now if these figures were not present, I think the unemployment figure would run around 5½ to 6 percent. I just put these in the record so we can take economic achievements in perspective.

Secretary FOWLER. I don't accept for a moment, Senator Miller, the proposition that is implicit in your statement that if it were not for the war, these people would be unemployed.

As is shown by its remarkable peacetime performance in job creation in the period 1961 through the middle of 1965, I think the American economy, absent the war, will find ample place for them when they return. And I don't believe that figure would be 5½ percent unemployed. I think it would be about where it is.

Senator MILLER. Mr. Secretary, I hope you are right, but there is nothing that you can use to prove this.

Secretary FOWLER. Nor the other way.

Senator MILLER. Nor the other way, except for the fact that we do have these figures presently and I can prove them. I think that they ought to be in the record, so that people can consider these economic achievements in perspective. That is all I want to do, so that people can consider these economic achievements in perspective; so that people will know what is going on.

Secretary FOWLER. Senator Miller, I think it is a very dangerous thing to imply, to give rise to any consideration that the conduct of this war is what is keeping the American economy prosperous. I don't believe that to be the case.

Senator MILLER. Mr. Secretary, I have stated the same thing myself publicly on a number of occasions, but what I am getting at is this, Mr. Secretary: