

who are directly involved in the production of those trucks.

It wouldn't apply to the fellow who is sweeping up around the area in which the production takes place. It wouldn't apply to the fellow who is the timekeeper on the job. It wouldn't apply to the guards standing at the gate of the plant. It seems to me that it ought to be broadened so that it does apply to them. Perhaps it would apply in a Government-owned plant. I believe, that is the position you are taking, where the plant itself was operated under contract. But in a privately owned facility, such as the Dodge plant in my district producing trucks for the Army, it wouldn't apply to those categories of employees.

I had not thought of taking up that question at this time. It will have to wait its turn.

Mr. DONAHUE. I think the Department would be sympathetic to any constructive proposal to try to sensibly broaden the reach of the Walsh-Healey Act.

Mr. O'HARA. I have a question which bothers me a little bit, and perhaps you and I can discuss it. I am rather naive now, but I was even more naive when I first came to Congress and realized that the prevailing wage laws with respect to Government contracts didn't apply to service contracts. It was first brought to my attention where wage. It was then that I first realized, after checking with your Department, that these service-type contracts were not covered by the minimum wage protection.

Then of course I learned of the ramifications of that fact, in other areas. Most of these areas were much more important in terms of numbers involved and so forth than the carriage of mail. But, nevertheless, it bothers me to find that we aren't trying to cover contracts for the carriage of mail.

I wonder why we aren't doing so.

Mr. DONAHUE. To give you the most candid answer in the world, we are not doing it because we wanted to insure that we could present to the Congress a bill which was not opposed by all of the procurement agencies of the Government. Recognizing at the same time it is the prerogative and, indeed, the duty of this committee to give careful consideration to the proposal we have made and to exercise its will on the bill and use its best judgment in gearing its coverage to the consensus of the committee.