

terms of looking at least in a cursory manner into the economic effects in areas which are affected by seasonality. This would do much toward selling the bill or at least toward selling the necessity of doing something about this situation.

Mr. O'HARA. I would agree with that. It was pointed out here yesterday that the total additional cost of year-round construction would probably be considerably less than the amount paid in unemployment benefits to the construction workers alone.

Mr. MURPHY. There is no question about it.

Mr. O'HARA. Without looking to any other economic benefits.

Mr. MURPHY. Just to give you the cost of one item of construction of covering in a job at the construction of the Fine Arts Building at Northern Michigan University, the contractor erected scaffolding and placed a plastic covering over it in 2 weeks. Steam heaters were used to heat the three-story building to 50° F., even when outside temperatures were 35° below zero. The contractor estimated that his heating costs were \$30 a day.

This is not impractical. It has been done and done and done but it is a question of if we can show the way by the public agencies, the private agencies will follow.

Mr. MEEDS. It happens that Canada has done quite a bit in this regard and I assume that necessity is the mother of invention.

Mr. MURPHY. They would be out of work all winter in Canada.

Mr. MEEDS. Has the Canadian Government made any studies?

Mr. MURPHY. Yes; they have made studies and also subsidized buildings. We are talking about everybody having their own home. President Johnson the other day came out with a demand that somebody build a home for \$6,500 or \$7,500. We do have plans to that effect.

We can build them a brick home for \$7,500. Now, the Canadian Government says to the homeowner, "If you build in the winter season we will give each homeowner \$500 toward his efforts." So this would be a stimulus to the homebuilding program that we are all talking about.

Everybody wants their own home, and by saying "build it in the wintertime and you get \$500," and you could do it as a tax deduction or something of that nature, it would certainly stimulate building construction in the winter.

Mr. MEEDS. This tends to level out the economy, too.

Mr. MURPHY. No question about it.

Mr. MEEDS. I believe that is all I have, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. O'HARA. Mr. Murphy, I want to thank you again and in all fairness I want to mention that this problem of seasonality is neither a new one nor a new one to me because a number of my friends in the construction industry including officials of your organization and members of your organization have been after me for years saying that something ought to be done.

Mr. MURPHY. I know that.

Mr. O'HARA. I feel a little remiss that I didn't take a little more initiative in this field but waited until some of the other organizations in the building construction trades contacted me.

It certainly is an old problem, but like many other old ways of doing things we have to keep looking at it, examining it to see if it is adequate to our modern situation and the problems we face today.