

straighten that out. I do realize now, having looked back, that even in Florida, often the plans have been lying around for a few months before the appropriations become available to begin construction.

I don't know why we can't straighten that out.

Mr. HAGGERTY. You have a problem around Louisiana and Florida and so forth where they spent billions on erection of chemical plants all at one time and, of course, requiring about 1,000 pipefitters and you just didn't have 1,000 pipefitters available in that area so that we had to go out and dig them out.

If that had been planned between those companies that would have been better but, of course, the American system doesn't permit that.

Mr. GIBBONS. Do you think the extension of the working year would have a beneficial effect on wage settlements and so forth?

Mr. HAGGERTY. Yes. One of the considerations of the committee and the organization involved in these negotiations is wage conditions and so forth.

Mr. GIBBONS. It is certainly not a very good idea to have skilled people idle when they ought to have the opportunity.

Mr. HAGGERTY. They get a bad habit.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Steiger.

Mr. STEIGER. I have no questions.

I want to associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Michigan and the idea of trying to put the two bills together because I think there are some things in the Prouty bill that really we ought to try and work into the O'Hara bill as introduced.

I appreciate Mr. Haggerty's comments on both pieces of legislation.

Mr. GIBBONS. All right.

Mr. Hathaway?

Mr. HATHAWAY. Thank you, Mr. Gibbons.

Mr. Haggerty, I wonder are there any problems with respect to migration of construction workers so that even if we provide incentives for them to work in a cold climate such as Maine they would be leaving for warmer climates in the winter anyway and we wouldn't find any workers?

Mr. HAGGERTY. They would probably if the jobs weren't scheduled in such a way as to be an incentive to keep them there. We are hopeful that a study of this whole problem can be made in places like Maine. I learned my trade in the city of Boston which is almost as tough a climate as Maine but a little bit warmer and I worked in Maine, and New Hampshire, and Vermont in the winter where they put on salamanders, which is an old can full of coke which resulted in many people getting dizzy and falling down and so forth.

The last hotel I worked on was in Vermont—it is a long time ago—and I am not looking forward to going back to it, by the way. They wanted to get it done in a hurry and money meant nothing. So importation of mechanics from Boston, Providence, and so forth was wholesale and they closed the building in as fast as they could and kept it going all winter long. That can be done but it is expensive.

Mr. HATHAWAY. Does your research indicate that they can dig foundations, for example, in Presque Isle, Maine, in January?

Mr. HAGGERTY. If they start early enough and go through the frost-line they can do it with the machines they have today and the methods; yes.