

many cases questions will bring out things better than what a statement will give.

Mr. GIBBONS. Let me say that we don't on this committee particularly worry too much about the niceties of international relations. We are all stuck with this continent. You have the colder part than we have and perhaps could give us some good information as to what you have done.

You may proceed as you wish.

Mr. BONE. There is a fairly long statement here and I will read part of it and just call attention to other parts.

(The statement of Mr. Bone follows:)

STATEMENT BY ALLAN TURNER BONE, B. SC., MEIC, MONTREAL, CANADA

My name is Allan Turner Bone. For the past seven years I have acted as chairman of the National Joint Committee on Wintertime Construction. This is a body comprised of representatives of national organizations of construction employers and unions, architects, consulting engineers, business and finance. Representatives of Canadian Government Departments and Agencies are Associate Members of the Committee. Its prime purpose is to promote higher levels of wintertime construction and employment, primarily by means of recommendations to its constituent bodies, the Canadian Government and other organizations.

The formation of the National Joint Committee took place in 1955, under the sponsorship of the Canadian Construction Association, of which I am a past-president. This is a nation-wide and industry-wide association of construction employers—general building contractors, road builders and heavy construction firms, trade contractors and manufacturers and suppliers of construction materials and equipment—plus a hundred affiliated regional or specialty associations.

My own background is that of a general contractor. After graduating in civil engineering at McGill, in 1916 much of my work was with the George A. Fuller Company of Canada Ltd. When this subsidiary was closed down in 1932, its manager, the late J.L.E. Price and a number of us established a company bearing his name. I became its president upon his death in 1945 and retired a year ago. The company operates throughout Eastern Canada. Its head office is Montreal, where the temperature frequently falls below zero during the winter and we may have to contend with the combination of, say, -25° F. and strong winds. A good deal of our company's work has been carried out in Newfoundland, which is also well-known for its fresh, invigorating winters.

The invitation to appear before you today is greatly appreciated. We do not presume to have all of the answers but our experience is summed up in the CCA Policy Statement.

"The Association believes that wintertime construction has not only been proved to be practicable by the industry but that an increased volume and its accompanying employment are essential to the strengthening of the Canadian economy. With modern techniques and materials and with proper planning and supervision there is no loss in quality and most types of work can be carried out at comparable net cost to the owner."

Much of the problem has been due to the out-moded prejudice against wintertime construction. The use of incentives and a continuing publicity and educational program, however, have been very helpful in reducing this resistance.

It is my intention to describe briefly some of the construction techniques, some of the means taken to encourage greater use of them, and some of the economics of the whole matter; and then to endeavour to answer any questions that you may have.

CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

Firstly, I should stress that there is nothing really new about the basic techniques of building in the wintertime. They have been known for many years. However, the demands for larger construction programs during World War II and the post-war period were such that we could not afford the luxury of closing down for a three-to-five month period in many parts of our country.

Moreover, a large proportion—upwards of a third—of those claiming unemployment insurance benefits under the Canadian social security program during the winter months were classified as construction workers. (Previously many