

until noon time in those days hoping the temperature would rise so that we could create decent working conditions to go to work. I took my mother's cutglass pitcher across with hot coffee, and naturally it broke. We don't need that today. That was 45 years ago. Today I am 50 years old, and I was thinking on the plane coming down here this morning that it seems a shame that we, as a firm and we as an association have pioneered many of the steps in the construction industry to make it possible to work and one of the reasons I suppose that I am vitally interested, myself, is that I can remember as a young man not working because of seasonality. I can remember my father not working. I can remember my uncles not working.

I don't want my people to go through the same experiences that we had. We employ an average of 300 men a week during the year. When a man that works for me gets up at 5:30 or 6 o'clock in the morning to go to work, he gets up because he wants to work. Otherwise he would stay in his bed.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon me and others like me in our organization to do everything possible to make it possible for this man to work.

I don't think this is an unreasonable attitude. But I think it is high time that generally speaking in the construction industry some cognizance was taken of this instead of accepting the fact that it rained today and the men can't work. It is cold today; the men can't work. It is snowing; they can't work. It is too hot; they can't work.

It is time, gentlemen, that we do something for them. That is that phase of it.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Steiger.

Mr. STEIGER. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

I have been fascinated by both your formal testimony, and more so by what you have said in your informal remarks. Let me ask, are you familiar with the so-called Prouty bill that has been introduced in the Senate on this same subject?

Mr. VELARDO. I have heard it mentioned but I am not familiar with it.

Mr. STEIGER. In the Prouty bill they establish a Federal Construction Advisory Commission composed of the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of HEW, Secretary of HUD, General Services Administration, and Budget Bureau Director, plus representatives of labor and management of the construction industry and representatives of the technical and engineering professions.

Would you think that this legislation now pending ought perhaps to be expanded to include such a council in order to bring together not only all the Federal agencies involved but as well those representatives of the private sector that do the work for the Federal agencies?

Mr. VELARDO. I would say yes.

Mr. STEIGER. In your packet of material that you have presented to us, you include this book by the Secretary of Commerce on weather and the construction industry. Are you prepared to submit, or are you aware of any further booklets, pamphlets, or information that the Secretary of Commerce has put together on this question?

Mr. VELARDO. I don't know particularly that the Secretary of Commerce has put together any additional ones. We tried to take advantage of what there is now and, gentlemen, we could fill a trunk with the pamphlets that we could present.