

to do what in the job. So we needed everybody and we have everybody and this is the first time in the history of this industry that we have everybody, the first time.

Did we mention that we also have the block manufacturers in there? This is the first time in the history of the industry that we have everybody.

Mr. STEIGER. I won't take up any more time because Mr. Hathaway, I am sure, has questions. We could go on for a good, long time. Thank you for coming today.

Mr. VELARDO. It is my pleasure, believe me.

Mr. HATHAWAY. I take, from your answer to Mr. Gibbons as to what role the Federal Government could play, that you would support some sort of Federal board or commission that would schedule Federal construction.

Mr. VELARDO. I certainly would.

Mr. HATHAWAY. Are there any ideas as to Federal subsidies that might be helpful?

Mr. VELARDO. Yes; I think the clarification of specifications, I think that study go along with us. We will have a recommended manual of procedure ready this year which we will make available to all of the engineering associations, the architectural associations, and the Government associations, and within each group, of course, everybody has their own idea of how to combat given situations.

We would like then the Federal Government to take an interest in resolving some of these historic prohibitions against all-weather construction. If there is a do or do not item in the specification, let there be a reason for it. If it says, "Do not work at a certain temperature," and there is no reason for it, let us get rid of it.

Now, the Federal Government with the volume of construction that they do and that they become interested in financially is in an excellent position to clean up the specifications. My area of the country is a marvelous area but has tradition up to here. We need a common-sense approach to the problem and I think with your help, gentlemen, we can get it and make this a better industry for everybody.

I am sure you all know the large part that the construction industry plays in the economy of the country. I can remember when I was a little kid going to the corner and getting a newspaper and as long as construction stays up there is nothing wrong with the country.

We would support certainly any effort by the Federal Government to clarify some of these situations and provide some direction because it seems with what we are trying to do we can't get it anywhere else.

Mr. HATHAWAY. Thank you very much.

Mr. VELARDO. You are welcome.

Mr. GIBBONS. Well, sir, it has been a great pleasure to have you with us.

Mr. VELARDO. It has been my pleasure to be here.

Mr. GIBBONS. We appreciate the enlightenment.

Mr. VELARDO. You are entirely welcome, sir.

Mr. GIBBONS. The chairman is going to ask unanimous consent to insert in the record following the remarks of Mr. Whitlock yesterday a speech delivered by Mr. Otto Nelson, former vice president of the New York Life Insurance Co. at the Building Research Advisory Board's conference on May 1 of this year.