

Railroad has been going for 4 years and there is no conclusion. Why is that?

Mr. O'NEILL. There has been a strike for 4 years.

Mr. ROGERS. But I mean even a notice since that.

Mr. O'NEILL. There have been notices by the railroads to change the agreements.

Mr. ROGERS. Why hasn't this been handled as you normally handle others?

Mr. O'NEILL. We have handled all of the carriers' notices on several of the crafts and cut them loose.

Mr. ROGERS. I understand that. But you haven't handled this last notice that they have been given. I wondered why, after 4 years. Is there a good reason for this?

Mr. O'NEILL. I don't think it has been 4 years. There has been a strike on for 4 years. A year after the strike started the carriers served notices to change the agreements.

Mr. ROGERS. Isn't this true: The railroads served a wage and notice rule in September 1963. That is not quite 4 years, but it is almost.

Mr. O'NEILL. That is right.

Mr. ROGERS. Why hasn't that been handled by your organization?

Mr. O'NEILL. It has been handled, sir.

Mr. ROGERS. It hasn't been brought to a conclusion.

Mr. O'NEILL. That is correct. There is already a strike down there.

Mr. ROGERS. But that is a different matter. It is not involved with this wage notice, as I understand it.

Mr. O'NEILL. That is correct.

Mr. ROGERS. I would like an explanation be given to us as to why you do not handle these in the same way.

Mr. O'NEILL. We have handled them extensively.

Mr. ROGERS. I would like to know about this. You say normally it takes 6 months. Here is one that has been going for 4 years. I think someone is entitled to an explanation of that.

Mr. O'NEILL. Mr. Thornton and Mr. Wyckoff were in my office just last week about this matter.

Mr. ROGERS. I would like it publicly known. You may not be able to give it to us now, but if you could give it for the record, I think it would be helpful.

Mr. O'NEILL. I will certainly do that.

(The information requested follows:)

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD,
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN,
Washington, D.C., May 17, 1967.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: At a hearing before your distinguished Committee on May 11, 1967, Congressman Rogers of Florida made an inquiry as to the status of some cases presently in mediation on the Florida East Coast Railway. The thrust of his inquiry was the length of time that this Board had taken to handle carrier requests for changes in wages, hours and conditions of employment. A portion of the record is as follows:

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