

RAILROAD LABOR DISPUTE

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Harley O. Staggers (chairman) presiding.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order, please.

We will resume our hearings on House Joint Resolution 559.

We have for the first witness this morning Mr. George E. Leighty, chairman, Railway Labor Executives' Association. Accompanying him is Mr. Lester P. Schoene, counsel, Railway Labor Executives' Association.

I notice that your statement is a lengthy one, Mr. Leighty. Is it possible to summarize it for the record?

STATEMENT OF GEORGE E. LEIGHTY, CHAIRMAN, RAILWAY LABOR EXECUTIVES' ASSOCIATION; ACCOMPANIED BY LESTER P. SCHOENE, GENERAL COUNSEL; AND MICHAEL MARSH, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Mr. LEIGHTY. I would say that the items are very important. We have briefed them as much as we could. I would prefer to read the statement.

The CHAIRMAN. Very well, sir. You may proceed.

Mr. LEIGHTY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is George E. Leighty, and I am chairman of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, with headquarters at 400 First Street NW., Washington, D.C. This association speaks for 23 standard railway labor organizations representing nearly all the Nation's railroad employees.

Seated with me is Mr. Lester P. Schoene, the RLEA's general counsel, who will also testify as a witness. On my other side is Mr. Michael Marsh, director of research of the RLEA.

In addition to my post with the RLEA, I am president of one of the railway labor unions, the Transportation-Communication Employees Union. Since 1946, I have served as chairman of the national negotiating committee of the cooperating nonoperating railway unions.

My experience in the railroad industry goes back about 50 years, and I believe I know this industry as well as any man, not only from the standpoint of its labor relations, but from the standpoint of its operating practices.