

far as objectives are concerned. You do, however, feel that the President's Mediation Panel recommendations at the first step had some merit. But you are looking beyond the first step, as I understand it. Is that right?

Mr. RAMSEY. The first step?

Mr. NELSEN. Yes. The first escalation. You are looking ahead to the 18-month period.

Mr. RAMSEY. Do you mean the five, five, and five they recommend?

Mr. NELSEN. Yes.

Mr. RAMSEY. We thought it had some merit; yes, sir.

Mr. NELSEN. Coming to the seizure part of it, this is something I think we all look upon with some fear. If you are to retain your right in the area of collective bargaining, wouldn't you have lost it if there were seizure? Wouldn't everybody have lost their right of negotiation?

Mr. RAMSEY. We would lose it for the period of the seizure; yes, sir.

Mr. FRIEDEL (presiding). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. NELSEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Mr. Dingell.

Mr. DINGELL. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I would like you to tell us, Mr. Ramsey, whether the communication received by myself and other members of this committee from the Railway Labor Executives Association, signed by Mr. G. E. Leighty, dated May 19, 1967, represents generally your views and whether the proposal with regard to movement of essential shipments on a voluntary basis by the unions and management represents your viewpoint, and the viewpoint of the organizations you represent.

Mr. RAMSEY. Are you referring to the letter he sent the other day?

Mr. DINGELL. Yes. That was the letter of May 19, enclosing the statement, reiterating it rather substantially. It was the letter addressed to Chairman Staggers, of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Mr. RAMSEY. I think Mr. Leighty as chairman of the RLEA presented the views of all of the railway unions in that statement, and his analysis of how it could be accomplished, what could be moved and would be moved.

Mr. DINGELL. In other words, the statement, you believe, would be and could be carried out were the situation to arrive at that point?

Mr. RAMSEY. I would have to admit, of course, that it would take a little work and a little judgment on the part of the responsible parties to work out a complete program.

Mr. DINGELL. Now with regard to some other matters before this committee, I believe Mr. Leighty agreed at the time he was present the other day to submit to this committee statements with regard to the relative wages and wage scales between the various crafts in the railroad industry and similar positions and similar crafts in other industries.

I would assume that there is nothing that you would choose to add or could add to the submissions that he will be making in response to the question by me and other members of the committee?

Mr. RAMSEY. Mr. Dingell, I haven't had access to what Mr. Leighty might intend to furnish to you. We may see it sometime during the day, but I would advise you this, and I think Mr. Leighty made this very clear the other day in his statement, that he, of course, as chair-