

dent of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and such correspondence should be sent to 1528 Standard Building, Cleveland 13, Ohio.

Fraternally yours,

W. P. KENNEDY, *President.*

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN,

December 21, 1959.

(City and State)

(Name of Railroad Official)

(Title)

(Name of Railroad)

(Street Address)

(City and State)

DEAR SIR: This has reference to your request for national handling on the issues that have been raised by the various notices we received from you under date of November 2, 1959.

Inasmuch as no agreement was reached in our conferences on the notices served by you on the General Grievance Committee of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen on the _____ Railroad, dated November 2, 1959, this is to advise we are willing to refer these matters to a National Conference Committee which will be established in conformity with the laws of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. You will be informed of the membership of such committee at an early date.

It is our understanding from the communication which accompanied your notice of November 2, 1959, that you have delegated authority to a National Conference Committee to represent you in future negotiations. Will you please advise if this is correct?

It should also be understood that the right is reserved to serve counter-proposals at some future date for national handling.

Very truly yours,

General Chairman.

Mr. KEITH. I asked representatives of management in this dispute as to whether or not there were any lines that could be struck without actually constituting a national emergency.

It was my recollection that their answer was in the negative that there were no rail lines with which they were acquainted which could provide for alternative services that would satisfy the requirements of our national welfare.

Mr. LUNA. Mr. Congressman, that is what we were trying to do in this last dispute, take parallel lines. They took us to the court. That is where they said we had to handle them all. Their position was that we were whipsawing.

Mr. KEITH. Was that where this letter came into prominence?

Mr. LUNA. No, that was the one before this, sir.

Mr. KEITH. But there are in your view many instances of parallel lines where a strike would in no way contribute to a national emergency?

Mr. LUNA. Yes, sir, lots of parallel lines. Lots of industries are served by two and three railroads, big industries.

Mr. KEITH. That is all the questions I have, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Brown.

Mr. BROWN. To continue with Mr. Keith's point, would this possibility of striking just one line or two lines at a time then in your opin-