

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 5

February 10, 2006

TO ALL LOCAL CHAIRPERSONS:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

As an on-going process in the General Chairman's office, we send out Circular Letters as circumstances dictate in regard to issues that are of importance to all of our Membership. We are requesting that you read these documents at your Union Meetings for the Membership's benefit and also place them on bulletin boards for those Members who cannot attend the Union Meeting. Incorporated below are issues of importance for our Membership.

ES **NMB Response to Members Contact:**

In response to the letters and emails addressed to the National Mediation Board, the Director of Mediation Services advised many members that the National Carriers Conference Committee had stated that they were not requesting a release from mediation. UTU President Paul Thompson has advised that the NCCC has not withdrawn their intention of requesting a release from mediation. The attached letter from President Thompson reveals the collusion between the NMB and the NCCC. Regardless of the public expressions by the NMB or NCCC, rail labor cannot accept their statements at face value.

Thanks for a job well done to those who participated in the lobbying effort with the NMB. Your efforts will be needed again.

ES **Trip Rate Negotiations:**

The carrier has served notice to establish trip rates in accord with Article V, Part B, Section 2 of the August 20, 2002 National Agreement. The runs/pools involved are Proviso - Butler; South St. Paul - Adams; Adams - Proviso. The negotiations are ongoing and no date has been agreed upon for implementation.

Trusting this information will aid you in keeping our Membership informed of issues confronting us and with best personal wishes, I remain

Fraternal ly yours,



Michael J. Reedy
General Chairman, G. C. A.

MJR: j g

cc: Paul Thompson, President - UTU
Rick Marceau, Assistant President - UTU
Dan Johnson, III - General Secretary/Treasurer - UTU
Joe Szabo, Director Illinois State Legislative Board - UTU
Pat Hendricks, Director Iowa State Legislative Board - UTU
Phil Qualy, Director Minnesota State Legislative Board - UTU
Ray Lineweber, Director Nebraska State Legislative Board - UTU
Tom Dwyer, III, Director Wisconsin State Legislative Board - UTU