More Federal Intervention Expected As Labor Turmoil Sweeps Over U.S.

tervention, pressures to automate and some very human fears are increasingly important factors in labor-management relations. They help explain the length and bit-terness of many of the strikes that plague the nation now or threaten to in the future. Ray Cromley takes you behind the picket lines and the public postures in this exclusive report and analysis of a critical domestic problem.

By RAY CROMLEY Newspaper Enterprise Assn. WASHINGTON (NEA)-You can expect more government inter-

vention in major labor disputes. Says one labor man: "Now that the pattern has been

set there's no stopping it. In ma-jor strikes, the side that's weakest will hold out for intervention, fig uring it will get more that way, Says a management man: 'One side or another will hold

out until the government steps in, because then it can tell its people See, we battled to the last ditch but you can't fight the govern-The worry on both sides and

among neutral observers is that waiting for intervention may lead In longer disputes and more un-reasonable demands. But even now, Washington offi-

cials are discussing detailed concepts for standby legislation which could be presented if and when the political time is ripe — al-though possibly not this year. Principal likely provisions would give the president power to: Set up a fact-finding board that

bound plant or industry.

Some officials are also arguing

President Kennedy is already using, unofficially, the fact-findusing, unofficially, the fact-find then its the dilemma the Presi-ing mediation board idea without dent faces:

ate unhappiness among many officials, even in the Labor Depart-Secretary Goldberg, for all his tices. He says he won't okay any



RETRAINING - Some union leaders have decided that retraining is not the automation problems. Here some workers are being trained in Grand Raswer to a pids, Mich.

lems. We still have them with us could recommend settlement They still have to be solved. And by sending the Secretary of Labor Order a strike postponed on his out time and again to settle dis-own say-so instead of asking the putes, we've blunted the instrukeep having to add one more gimmick on top of the last."

What worries the Administra

On the one hand, his tough Even as they're working on new minded Defense Secretary Rob- That day is going, rules for more power, there's pri- ect S. McNamara, to eke the ect S. McNamara, to each maily cut the work force strong most out of the billions he spends, maily cut the work force strong is quietly ordering defense suply, mean the firing of many men, is quietly ordering defense suply, mean the firing of many men.

That's the other horn of Mr. ment, over the results of govern- pliers to cut down on all excess ment intervention thus far. Says overhead, including "make-work" one department official bluntly: and other "wasteful" labor prac-

DOCK WORKERS - The West Coast longshoremen gave the shipping industry the right to automate. Unions no wonder if this has set a contract pattern for the future

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foreign nations.

For years, management could no one in government fully un pass on new "make-work" costs to derstands. But Labor Departmen

other U.S. officials are encour-aging workers to push for con-

eplaced by machines, ing them he won't pay for 'make-employment dropped work' practices, the Labor De- to 160,000 in 20 years, partment is quietly backing labor in its stand for "job security."

This dilemma is going to get

ore and more the chief issue doesn't know anything else. o he job security.

Many workmen are now determployes replaced by machines -not wages-security. And he's hey are going to fight to keep scared."

voluntarily quit.

agreements that please labor unions and Depart-

genius in settling disputes, actu-ally postponed a lot of the prob-ment payments. United Steel Workers and the pac-between the West Coast longshore between the West Coast longshore Mr. Kennedy himself has put men and the shipping industry

out the word that industry should These give management the right automate much more rapidly to to automate; they guarantee tha stimulate the economy, increase jobs won't be eliminated by those employment and compete with changes; there is a snaring of the results of productivity increases.

Many U.S. business managers. In an interview, Secretary of faced with rough domestic and for Lobor Willard Wirtz specifical eign competition, have become named these two agreements Some officials are also arguing for standby power to order compulsory arbitration in some cases. President Kennedy is already can only lead to trouble. Here or they will stagnate and wither strikes is a tremendous force that they must auto-typical of what he would like to convinced that they must auto-typical of what he would like to convinced that they must auto-typical of what he would like to convince that they must have more see industry and labor work out authority to change work rules or they will stagnate and wither.

> the consumer in higher prices, men already realize that these new strikes are going to be more All these decisions would nor-mally cut the work force strong-years, simply because they are based on fear.

> There is a growing belief it Gennedy's dilemma. In the large unem-Even as the Administration is ployment is here to stay, that outting heavy pressure on busi-ness to become more efficient, one else is going to solve this other U.S. officials are encour-problem in the foreseeable future. Many working men believe tracts that would prevent busi-therefore, that if they lose the ness managers from firing men job they hold, they'll never fine another. They see automatic erasing millions of jobs. They se nanagers. As McNamara is tell-the coal industry as typical. Here

Says one union man: "Take a 55-year-old longshore man, who's been on the docks a his life. Fire him and what doe Union men interviewed say that he do? What can he do? He

major labor disputes is going. He can't be trained for an thing else or thinks he can't. S if he loses his job he figures ined to fight hitterly to prevent he's on the dump heap. So he's mpanies from firing established interested above all in security

featherbedding" and "make- Many union men have decided ork" practices. When they've that retraining programs aren d every legal step, which the answer. Where retraining ay take years in each case, being tried, they say, only a small sey'll fight for labor contracts fraction of the men are found suit-hich guarantee workmen their able. In many cases where men s against technological change can be retrained, another unio ow the company to reduce has jurisdiction over those jobs work force only as sales slack. It wants to preserve them for its as men retire from old own members. It doesn't want

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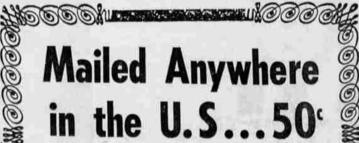
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