

APR 18 1963

# 49 Sterling Ballots Certified By NLRB

The National Labor Relations Board has certified 49 ballots which were challenged after an election March 5 at Jamestown Sterling Corp. but has deferred an official count.

No date has been set for an official count of the votes impounded by the NLRB which ordered the ballot box sealed after 118 of 198 votes cast were challenged.

The election was ordered by the NLRB to determine whether the workers would be represented by United Furniture Workers of America.

Jamestown Sterling union employees have been on strike since Oct. 3, 1962, but production has been continued at the plant with non-union workers.

The union challenged 49 of the votes, contending they were cast by employees who were not permanent replacements for strikers.

The NLRB denied the union's contention.

Challenges against 46 other votes have been sustained, according to Merle D. Vincent Jr., regional director of the NLRB. He said the 46 votes will not be counted because they were cast by permanently replaced strikers.

Officials of the labor board also ruled out nine other votes, saying they represented workers on jobs which had been abolished or combined. On one other vote a challenge was sustained following a contention that the vote was cast by an employee who had been replaced last August.

Rulings on 13 other votes, by the NLRB, have been deferred by Mr. Vincent. Another group of 56 votes also will be counted.

Union and company officials have been given 10 days in which to appeal the regional NLRB ruling to the Washington, D.C., board.

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