Coast Dock Agreement

Caucus to Meet; Then Coast Votes

SAN FRANCISCO — A tentative contract settlement was reached here by ILWU and PMA negotiators, subject to Caucus approval and rank and file ratification. The strike is won.

The agreement was concluded, after marathon negotiations, running over the weekend and late into the night, at 11 a.m., Tuesday, February 13.

The tentative settlement will be presented to the Coast Caucus, scheduled to convene Thursday, February 12, at 10 a.m., in the International building.

The Arbitrating Committee's vote overwhelmingly to recommend adoption of the agreement by the Caucus, and a "YES" vote in subsequent rank and file referendum.

Negotiations were renewed on January 31, two weeks after longshoremen and clerks hit the bricks again on January 17.

KAGEL MEDIATES

When negotiations appeared deadlocked, on Wednesday, February 12, both sides agreed to call in coast arbitrator Sam Kagel to act as mediator. Kagel convened.

Pine Pact Reached;
Sugar Talks Tough

HONOLULU — ILWU Local 142's pineapple negotiating subcommittee last week announced that it had reached agreement with growers on a new contract.

Terms of the new pact were withheld pending reports to the membership and a ratification vote.

Sugar negotiations, in the meantime, toughened up as Local 142's sugar workers authorized their own negotiating subcommittee to call a strike if necessary. The vote was 97.3 percent in favor of strike authorization.

Local 142 sugar negotiators and employers issued a joint release in which they announced agreement to extend the present contract until midnight, February 20.

Both sugar and pine contracts officially expired January 31.

Arbitration

quoted a survey taken by Nixon's own labor department in 1970 which indicated that past dock strikes had not caused national emergencies or permanent loss of markets.

HAWAII

Bridges also pointed out that the joint resolution would apply to Hawaii, even though there had been no strike in the islands.

"In Hawaii," Bridges said, "our union made special provisions to handle the principal export crop, sugar. It permitted special voyages to bring such supplies as were necessary.

"There is no emergency in Hawaii. There never has been an emergency in Hawaii. The emergency has been manufactured in the feeble minds of some of the members of Congress from that state — and in the mind of the present assistant secretary of labor who was formerly employed by the Hawaii Employers Council."

Finally, Bridges pointed out that ILWU, recognizing the need of farmers to export their goods, had begun separate negotiations with Pacific Coast grain elevator operators.

"Now, of course," he concluded, "there are hardships to the importers of foreign automobiles and the importers of Scotch whiskey, but I hardly think that the lack of imports of these commodities constitute —

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