

Evans May Turn To Nixon in Dock Strike

Why Russ Railroaded Treaty With India



Bridges, Governor Confer

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OLYMPIA — Gov. Dan Evans said yesterday he is still convinced that negotiations to end the longshore strike "are not going fast enough."

He had a telephone call Wednesday from Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, to whom Evans sent a telegram earlier this week asking for a speedy solution to the strike.

"He explained their progress," Evans said, "but I told him my problem is the economy of the state and the strike's effect on those who are not directly involved."

Although the strike, which began July 1, has sent economic shock waves through all the state's economy, it most drastically threatens the \$108 million Eastern Washington wheat crop, 85 per cent of which normally is shipped overseas.

Evans said at a press conference that if he has no assurance of a settlement soon, he will ask the Nixon administration to take action.

One possibility, the most likely one, is the Taft-Hartley Act, with its 80-day "cooling off period" which allows work to continue while talks go on.

"There is no question that there is a

tendency during the cooling off to slow down and delay negotiations," Evans said. "But in this case, the cooling off would enable movement of a good percentage of the wheat crop."

If Nixon doesn't invoke the Taft-Hartley Act, Evans said, he'll ask for special legislation from Congress.

Sen. Warren Magnuson said Wednesday that the "first remedy" is for Nixon is to invoke the act.

Evans said he has not yet received answers to his other telegrams, to Edward Flynn, president of the Pacific Maritime Association, and Curtis Counts, chief of the U.S. Mediation and Conciliation Service.

But he will try to contact them before the weekend, Evans said, "for the viewpoints of both sides" and then "make a decision on the request."

Evans said he also has had no direct word from the federal government on his package of suggestions for helping to alleviate the state's job slump.

But he said his agency directors had been "in contact" with federal officials, and have received inquiries on how long it would take to put to work \$150 million in highway funds now frozen by the administration.

"We said we felt we could put the entire \$150 million to work this fiscal year," Evans said.