

Republic of Haiti, Baset by Poverty, Disease, Ignorance, Suffering, Seeks 'Survival' Loan From United States

By DAVID FERNISLER
WASHINGTON—The Republic of Haiti is asking the United States for a \$3,000,000 "survival" loan to revive her once-prosperous agriculture.

The Institute of Inter-American Affairs, a State Department Agency, says its a question of survival in Haiti. The Institute believes the loan sound.

Four hours by air from Miami, this country of 3,000,000, free since 1804, is beset by poverty, disease, despair, ignorance and suffering unmatched in other parts of the Caribbean. The nation has about 10,700 square miles of territory. Mountains and hillsides, long since stripped of timber that would bring dollars, make about 8,000 square miles unsuitable for farming.

Vexed through a quarter of a century by \$24,000,000 in 6 per cent loans floated in this country, the little nation lifted itself out of the dilemma with shoe-string bonds, got on its own financial feet and now offers a \$3,000,000 food production plan which the Institute says will pay out in 20 years.

Haitians have endured long years of revolution, dictatorship and occupation. U. S. Marines landed in 1919 to protect American investments. They stayed until 1934. We regulated economic life to safeguard our bondholders. We controlled the customs. Our own rates of interest dropped, but Haiti continued to pay us 6 per cent.

The turn came in 1946. A people's government staggered out of the revolution which chased President Elie Lesoot to Canada. The Communist party there had been attacking the Good Neighbor policy as "the most cruel policy" in the world. But for the sake of national unity the Communist party of Haiti disbanded.

Deumarsias Estime, a business man who had long been fighting absentee ownership—investments in Haiti by U. S. financiers—became president. He found his hands tied. On a 1922 loan floated by U. S. banks, the nation had already repaid \$17,500,000 as well as \$21,000,000 in that 6 per cent interest. Amortization and interest took first cut out of the budget despite all sorts of claims of graft against us. The country could incur no new funded indebtedness without our permission.

Argentina and the Dominican Republic were both extremely sympathetic, but we had tied a financial knot and we held it tight.

With his back against the wall, Estime asked the U. S. for a loan of \$20,000,000 and got nothing. He wanted to pay off the remaining \$7,000,000 of that 6 per cent debt. He wanted to put agriculture on its feet. He wanted to encourage industrialization, sanitation and education.

Feeling against the U. S. flamed hot and high over that refusal. So hot and so high that the Haitians raised the money themselves. Taxi drivers and waiters bought 20-cent bonds. The rich threw in plenty. A prize

Canine Caddy Expert At Retrieving Balls

WAYNESBORO, Pa., Sept. 13. (AP)—A little dog named Brownie is the answer to a golfer's dream. The seven-year-old Belgian heeler is a retriever of lost golf balls and within three months has found close to 120.

The dog's master, Chester B. Snively, has no idea how it all began. He says she romped up to him one day at Waynesboro Country club with a ball clenched between her teeth.

Oddly enough, the dog ignores balls in play on the open fairway. Her retrieving record, Snively says, is 18 in one hour.

Ernie Pearson Retains Golf Club Championship

Ernie Pearson retained his Roseburg Country Club championship by defeating Maurice L. Hallmark in the championship playoff last weekend. Pearson, however, lost out in the Calcutta finals to Al Henninger in the first flight play.

In the Calcutta matches Pete

Pearson beat Bob Harris in the first flight, so Henninger and Pearson will be matched for the top prize this week.

Charley Kash defeated Pete Pearson for the winner's cup in the first flight of the championship play. In the second flight, Lee Wimberly will play the winner of the Bill Courter-Riley match. Fred Sears defeated Fay Osterhaut for the third flight championship.

The Calcutta consolation prize was won by Clyde Knight over Charley Kash.

Portland Commission Will Improve Airport

PORTLAND, Sept. 11.—(AP)—The Port of Portland Commission went ahead with plans today to spend \$2,000,000 in improving the Portland airport, providing an 8,500-foot runway.

Henry L. Corbett, commission president, said a bond issue probably would finance the work, which he said might be finished within a year.

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Vital Statistics

MARRIAGE LICENSES
HANSEN-PONTON — Robert Vern Hansen, Glide and Mary Jane Ponton, Cottage Grove.

MILLER-FUGATE — Michael Miller and Lela Fugate, both of Oakland.

TAYLOR-THOMAS — Jack Worth Taylor, Glide, and Rita Margaret Thomas, Portland.

EARL-COOKSON — Lyle Eldon Earl and Margaret La Verne Cookson, both of Reedsport.

LANGDON-HUCKINS — Robert Stanley Langdon, Yoncalla, and Patricia Antoinette Huckins, Drain.

Reedsport Mills Lose Time Due Low Humidity

Some of the logging camps in the Reedsport vicinity have lost considerable time during the past week, due to low humidity. Those located nearest the coast, where the fog comes in every night, were not troubled so much. Both the Bridge Mill in Reedsport and the Girdner Lumber Company mill in Gardiner, both operated by Long-Bell, were closed down Friday. General repair work was done, and the refuse burner at the Bridge Mill was repaired.

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Pigeon Hunting Good In Smith River Area

The 15 day open season for pigeon hunting will close Sept. 15. Exceptionally good kills have

been made on Smith River by local hunters, with only fair results reported from other localities nearby. Several elk were killed during the short special elk season in this vicinity.

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HOW THE OIL COMPANIES ARRIVED AT A 12-1/2 CENT AN HOUR OFFER

Over the years, oil industry wage levels have compared most favorably with those in other industries. Today . . . from casual labor to skilled craftsmen . . . wage rates are as high, or higher, than those in other manufacturing industries.

LATEST WAGE OFFER CAREFULLY CONSIDERED

When we offered 12 1/2 cents an hour wage increase to the oil workers, we didn't just pull that figure out of the air. We studied these items carefully:

1. The increase in today's cost of living.
2. Oil industry wages compared with other industry.
3. Latest oil industry wage increases in other sections of the country.
4. The effect of inflationary wage increases on the public.

Let's look at each one of these items:

WAGE SCHEDULE OFFERED IS AHEAD OF INCREASE IN LIVING COSTS

Latest government figures show that the cost of living has gone up 72% since 1941. Oil workers pay increases, including the latest schedule offered, would amount to an 83% increase—eleven percentage points ahead of the cost of living increase.

Since the end of the war, oil workers wage increases—including our latest offer—add up to an increase of \$5.22 a day. Our latest offer of 12 1/2 cents an hour actually amounted to a full \$1.00 a day raise.

OIL WORKERS GET MORE PAY THAN MOST

Including the latest increase offered, the average oil worker's pay per day—for those affected by present negotiations—would amount to \$14.39. This includes casual labor and skilled labor. It

does not include overtime pay or the wages of supervisory employees.

Average daily wages in other representative industries—including overtime:

Food Processing	\$11.52
Industrial Chemicals	\$12.64
Iron and Steel Products	\$12.48
Automobiles	\$12.56

(Figures are from the State of California Department of Labor Statistics Bulletin—Number 288—July 1948.)

WAGE INCREASE OFFERED MEETS THAT ACCEPTED BY OIL INDUSTRY ELSEWHERE

The wage increase offered brings the total increase per hour to 65.4 cents since the end of the war. This equals the increase accepted by the oil workers union in other parts of the country.

WAGE INCREASES BOOST INFLATIONARY SPIRAL

To agree to an excessive and inflationary wage increase in one industry exerts pressure on all other industries. Everyone is painfully aware that increases in wages are followed by further increases in the prices of all things we buy. It would be a disservice to the public—and to our employees who are part of the public—to contribute unnecessarily to the inflationary spiral.

THE OIL STRIKE CAN BE SETTLED QUICKLY AND FAIRLY

The individual companies are continuing negotiations with the OWIU-CIO in good faith—as always. We sincerely believe the offer we made to be fair on the basis of the documented facts outlined above. We believe it is in the best interests of the public and our employees themselves to get this strike settled quickly and fairly to everyone concerned.

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- TIDE WATER ASSOCIATED OIL CO.
- SHELL OIL CO., INCORPORATED
- RICHFIELD OIL CORPORATION
- UNION OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA
- THE TEXAS COMPANY

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