

THE OIL STRIKE

This is the first time on the Pacific Coast that the public is in serious danger of being inconvenienced by a strike in the oil industry.

If the oil workers strike continues, supplies of gasoline, motor oil and other petroleum products will be severely curtailed up and down the Coast.

We want you to know that we sincerely regret any inconvenience to you. Here are the facts behind our wage increase offer which representatives of the OWIU-CIO have declined.

Why a 12½ Cent An Hour Increase Is Fair

The OWIU-CIO has been offered a 12½ cent an hour wage increase retroactive to July 3. This will bring the total wage increases to oil workers since the end of the war to 65.3 cents an hour, or an increase of \$5.22 a day.

Actually, this new offer amounts to a full dollar a day more and, with previous increases, more than compensates for the rise in the cost of living.

Latest government figures show that the cost of living has gone up 72 per cent since 1941. The wage schedule offered is 83 per cent above 1941 rates.

It has always been oil industry policy to pay high wages, and refinery workers today rank with the highest paid manufacturing workers.

Equivalent Increase Accepted In Other Parts of Country

The oil industry in the West produces and markets on the Coast and must meet Coast conditions. But it has been used as an argument that our wage rates are not as high as those in the East.

Actually, a careful check shows that the increase just offered, together with others granted since the war - totaling 65.3 cents an hour, or \$5.22 per day - puts us in line with those accepted by the Oil Workers Union in other parts of the country.

We Are Ready to Continue Meetings With the Union at Any Time

We have always worked conscientiously and bargained in good faith with the OWIU-CIO. We sincerely hope the strike can be settled fairly and equitably.

Industry Reserves Available for Emergency Use

Although a prolonged strike would seriously affect the amount of petroleum products available to the public, there are emergency supplies set

aside in every community to serve police and fire departments, hospitals and other agencies vital to the public welfare.

Standard Oil Company of California

The Texas Company

Shell Oil Company, Incorporated

Richfield Oil Corporation

Tide Water Associated Oil Company

Union Oil Company of California