

**GLOOMY OUTLOOK**

**Territorial Government Only Hope of Hawaiians**

By WILLARD D. EBERHART

Honolulu, T. H., Sept. 14 (UP)—The Hawaiian stevedoring industry looked to the territorial government today as Hawaii's "immediate hope" following the collapse of negotiations in New York.

The industry pointed to the "constantly increased tonnage" being handled by the government's stevedoring agency in the four-month strike.

"Our business continues to suffer," said Alexander G. Budge, president of Castle and Cooke, Ltd., owner of Hawaii's largest stevedoring company. "But as ship movements increase, there's hope for Hawaii-an business to return to better conditions in coming weeks."

The man in the street has resigned himself to making the most of the situation while the union and the industry stage their battle.

Since 2000 longshoremen went on strike May 1 for a 32-cent hourly wage increase, Hawaiian unemployment has soared to more than 25,000. Federal officials, confronted with an unemployment rate of 13 percent, want Hawaii called a "disaster area."

Strike losses have mounted to more than \$100,000,000. Half of the sugar crop, one of the pillars of the islands' economy, is stored behind the longshore picket line. The pineapple crop is tied up just as tightly.

The tourist trade, another factor in the economic picture, has slumped 37 percent despite efforts of the visitors bureau to convince mainlanders the strike has not cut off all food imports.

The chief aim of the strike is to stall exports of sugar and pineapple. Otherwise, the islands are not suffering physically. Supplies have been coming in on small freighters, barges, relief vessels and Isthmian and Waterman freighters.

But the cost of food has risen 4.4 percent. Isthmian freighters have exported several loads of sugar and pineapple since the territory began stevedoring operations, but they are no more than a nibble at the 450,000 tons of sugar and 12,000,000 cases of pineapple stored in every available space.

Future shipping depends on a federal court decision on a union suit which seeks to close government dock operations by injunction.

Early last month, the territorial legislature enacted a law permitting the government to seize stevedoring companies, operate them at a profit for the companies and employ strikers.

Gov. Ingram Stainback declared the ports open as a result. But the CIO longshoremen refused to work for the government and sued the territory as soon as non-union longshoremen boarded ships.

With 15 ships on regular runs and American President liners no longer docking in Hawaii, a decision against the law would seal the islands to shipping.

The only exception would be the "escrow fleet" which is unloaded by the CIO at the pre-strike wage plus 32 cents, placed in escrow pending final settlement.

In adult life, the oyster usually is attached to some hard object. This may be a shell, either live or empty, or it may be attached to the piling under a pier.

He said the AMA, representing 9,500 cities and towns, has discussed the situation thoroughly. Its members have agreed to keep each other informed about attempts by the Costello syndicate to gain political power and influence in large-city governments.

The mayor referred to reports that Costello is attempting to "muscle-in" on political affairs in New Orleans, Los Angeles and Chicago.

Morrison emphasized that he was speaking as president of the Municipal association. He said:

"A national and international syndicate which is reportedly headed by Costello is attempting to seize political power in key cities of the nation."

Morrison urged "immediate and energetic action" by federal law enforcement agencies to "aid cities faced with this situation." He also said a "thorough probe of Costello's activities is in order."

The annual oyster harvest in the United States yields about 63,000,000 pounds of food.

**Costello Probe Asked by Cities**

New Orleans, La., Sept. 14 (UP)—Mayor DeLesseps S. Morrison, speaking as head of the powerful American Municipal association, today called on the federal government to investigate Frankie Costello and reports that he plans to "move in" on the governments of several large U. S. cities.



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