

SUGAR WORKER

STRIKE

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No Accord At Midnight Deadline

Union Spokesman
Says Territory-wide
Tieup is Underway;
Plan Meetings Today

Sugar workers throughout Hawaii went on strike at 12:01 a. m. today, shutting down 33 plantations.

Officials of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's union left their headquarters before midnight saying they had ceased to expect any further counter offers from the sugar industry. A sign on the union bulletin board read:

"The sugar strike is on."

Meetings of sugar workers will be held on all Oahu plantations at 9 a. m. today, union officials announced. High union officials will be speakers at the meetings.

Both Sides Stand By

Negotiators for both industry and labor stood by through the night awaiting any last minute compromise offer. But it was a faint hope. Earlier in the day sugar spokesmen had made seven counter-proposals. They were rejected by the union.

Then at 3:30 p. m., negotiators met in their last scheduled collective bargaining session. A union spokesman asked management representatives if they had anything more to say. The latter replied that they had made their offer with seven counter-proposals in the morning session.

Bargaining Ended

That ended the formal attempts at collective bargaining. Union chiefs withdrew, still professing to be ready to resume bargaining at any time.

"We notified the employer representatives that the union was and is prepared to make modifications and compromises of every single proposal, so long as we have the assurance that these proposals would be considered and that the employers were prepared to enter into collective bargaining," said Louis Goldblatt, international ILWU secretary-treasurer.

New industry proposals, made Saturday morning, "were arrived at by management after 36 hours of continuous industry meet-

Hawaii Sugar Workers Strike As Deadline Passes

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"The union's continued refusal to offer counter-proposals to industry's original proposals and the seven additional counter-proposals made Saturday morning is direct proof that the ILWU refuses to accept its own responsibility in recognizing the economic position of the industry in Hawaii and its importance to the whole Territory," he said.

ings," according to Dwight C. Steele, executive vice-president of the Hawaii Employers Council.

The proposals included additional management-industry offers on seniority, a "no discrimination" clause, temporary transfers, call-outs, selection of a panel of five arbitrators, and holiday pay.

The industry also renewed its pledge that it would consider sick leave provisions contingent upon the union's acceptance of the plan to convert perquisites to cash payments.

The industry "also told the union that no individual worker would suffer a net loss in earnings as a result of the conversion perquisite plan," Mr. Steele said.

No Agreement

Mr. Goldblatt said the union "could make no counter-proposals" and rejected the industry counter-proposals.

Mr. Steele said the industry had no further proposals to make on the subject of wages, union shop, the 40-hour work week and the administration of the so-called perquisite funds.

"Mr. Goldblatt's suggestions at

one time took the form of a request that the employes would take all industry profits on work over and above the 40 hour week," an industry spokesman continued.

The meeting, closed to the public and press, was attended by more than 80 representatives of both management and the union.

As the meeting closed both parties agreed that they were "still far apart," both gave assurances that they were desirous and willing to continue collective bargaining. The union asked for a recess until 3:30 p.m.