

What 65c?

BY RADIO PROGRAMS AND NEWSPAPER STATEMENTS the Hawaii Sugar Planters Association and the Hawaii Employers Council have indicated that they are willing to meet the 65 cent minimum cash wage demand the ILWU has made in behalf of 25,000 workers in Hawaii's sugar industry.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS:

1. Workers in the industry have been offered from .00 to .06½ cents per hour increase in wages—**NOT ONE CENT MORE!**

2. A large percentage of the sugar workers would not receive one cent under the proposal submitted to the ILWU. In fact, many sugar workers are today receiving more than the job rates offered by the industry.

WHERE DOES THE 65 CENTS SHOW UP? It's really hard to pin this industry proposition down—it's one of those "now you see it, now you don't" set-ups. But it goes something like this:

1. The industry will discontinue furnishing perquisites (housing, medical attention, fuel and water) on the present basis.

2. Basic wage in the sugar industry exclusive of Hawaii is now 43½ cents per hour. The industry will increase this basic rate by .06½ cents making the base rate 50 cents per hour.

3. Then the industry raises the 50 cent base rate to 65 cents.

4. And finally sugar workers are charged an average of fifteen cents per hour for former perquisites.

And further, the industry proposal would force workers on the island of Hawaii to work 2½ cents per hour less than workers on Oahu, Maui and Kauai!

SUCH A SCHEME, THE INDUSTRY SAYS, MEETS THE DEMANDS OF THE ILWU.

The ILWU is not playing games! It will not be taken in by a lot of mathematical mumbo-jumbo. The HSPA-Employers Council offer is ridiculous and is not worthy of serious consideration. It is provocative!

UNDER THE LAW plantations cannot discontinue furnishing perquisites on the present basis. They are required by the "wage determination" of the Department of Agriculture to furnish "customary perquisites." Included in the industry proposal is a clause requesting the ILWU to sanction the proposed perquisite deal. It reads as follows: "The Union agrees to cooperate with the Company in seeking to have the wage determination of the Department of Agriculture amended so as to permit the conversion."

NOTE:

1. The wage rates proposed by the industry for sugar workers on the island of Hawaii are 2½ cents per hour lower than wages proposed for the same jobs on the islands of Kauai, Maui and Oahu.

2. Workers in the pineapple industry receive 15 cents

THE ILWU IS WILLING TO COOPERATE with the sugar industry in eliminating pseudo paternalism but it insists that it be done on a basis of realism and not be used to confuse the public or workers in the industry.

If the industry can set an arbitrary value of perquisites at 15 cents per hour and then talk of a "minimum cash wage of 65 cents," why can't it determine the value of perquisites to be 40 cents per hour. It can then talk of a 90 cent hourly minimum wage.

BY A 65 CENTS MAXIMUM CASH WAGE, THE ILWU MEANS EXCLUSIVE OF PERQUISITES. The industry is well aware of this, because our original proposal was explicit on this issue. And further, we have emphasized this in every meeting with industry representatives.

The statements issued by the industry are provocative, misleading and are considered to indicate bad faith on the part of the industry in dealing with the ILWU.

A STRIKE WILL BE CALLED SEPTEMBER 1 AT 12:01 A. M. unless the sugar industry materially changes its position on this and other issues. The ILWU is willing to bargain collectively and in good faith, but it insists that the employers do the same.

PINEAPPLE PAYS A 65 CENT MINIMUM CASH WAGE!

Listed below are some of the wage rates proposed by the industry. They are compared to wages being paid in Hawaii's second largest industry, Pineapple.

PINEAPPLE WAGES

(Presently Being Paid)

Camp Yard Man.....	\$0.65	per hour
Weeder.....	.65	per hour
Truck Helper.....	.70	per hour
Plant Sprayer.....	.70	per hour
Construction Laborer.....	.70	per hour
Trade Helper.....	.70	per hour
Trade Trainee Second Class.....	.75½	per hour
Trade Trainee First Class.....	.81½	per hour
Medium Truck Driver.....	.81½	per hour
Heavy Truck Driver.....	.88½	per hour
Tractor Operator First Class.....	.88½	per hour

SUGAR WAGES

(Proposed by Industry)

Yard Man.....	\$0.50	per hour
Weeder.....	.50	per hour
Truck Helper.....	.54	per hour
Hose Sprayer.....	.54	per hour
Construction Worker "A".....	.58	per hour
Trade Helper "C".....	.54	per hour
Trade Helper "B".....	.58	per hour
Trade Helper "A".....	.68	per hour
Cane Truck Driver—Medium.....	.63	per hour
Cane Truck Driver (7½ tons pay load and over).....	.68	per hour
Tractor Driver "A".....	.73½	per hour

per hour in lieu of perquisites in addition to the wages set forth above.

3. Sugar is subsidized to the tune of several millions of dollars by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Commodity Credit Corporation—pineapple is not subsidized!

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S AND WAREHOUSEMEN'S UNION (CIO)

TERRITORIAL STRIKE STRATEGY COMMITTEE