

Bridges Says Rossi Collected Metal for Italy in 1935

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Longshoremen Forced
To Load Scrap on Ships,
C. I. O. Leader Declares

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 27.—Harry Bridges, Pacific Coast C. I. O. longshoreman leader, told a State Assembly Committee yesterday that a great quantity of scrap metal, which he said was collected by San Francisco garbage men with the full approval of Mayor Angelo Rossi, had been sent to Italy in 1935 for use in the Abyssinian campaign.

"This scrap metal was brought down to the water front," Mr. Bridges wrote in a letter to the Tenney Committee, investigating alleged pro-Fascism, "and for a period of two months the longshoremen of San Francisco refused to load this cargo onto the ships that were waiting for it."

Scrap Loaded on Ship.

Mr. Bridges explained the longshoremen "disapproved not only of the Fascist regime but also of the purposes to which it was to be put."

Finally, Mr. Bridges said, Mayor Rossi himself ordered the longshoremen to load the scrap.

"He said that if the longshoremen refused to do so, he would furnish any number of policemen required to break any resistance on the part of the longshoremen."

The scrap then was loaded on the ships.

Rossi Denies Giving Salute.

With tears in his eyes, white-haired Mayor Rossi denied yesterday that he ever had given the Fascist salute, as charged, and told the committee in impassioned words of his "love and affection for the United States I learned at my mother's knee."

"I have a passionate and unqualified affection for this democratic republic in which I was born," the Mayor declared.

Carmelo Zito, editor of an Italian-language newspaper here, told the committee yesterday that the Mayor and several other prominent San Franciscans of Italian origin had given the Fascist salute at "several meetings."