

Coast Employer Sees Bitter Labor Trouble Closing Ports Long

Coastwise Shutdown Is Seen in Fall When Union Pacts Come Up Again

By the Associated Press.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Calif., July 18.—Ominous prediction of labor trouble along Pacific Coast water fronts this fall, likely to result in a drawn-out shutdown of coast ports, was pondered today by the Third Annual Stanford Business Conference.

F. P. Foisie, president of the Coast Water Front Employers' Association, said several union contracts would come up for renewal this fall.

"We are going to have trouble," he declared. "Unions have indicated they will demand further concessions, but we will make none until they show they intend to keep their agreements. They have to show that on the job."

After outlining what he said were the experiences of ship operators "in five years of disastrous labor strife," Mr. Foisie asserted, "the shipping interests have disclosed that if they must take continued losses, they prefer to take them all at once in one staggering blow."

He predicted there would be a coastwise shutdown of ports likely to "last a long time."

Asked about prospects of change in union leadership by a questioner who mentioned Harry Bridges, Coast head of the longshoremen, who is defendant in a San Francisco deportation hearing, Mr. Foisie said there were signs of growing strength in the "better elements" of the unions, but asserted "the only thing that will do any good is for Bridges and his crowd to be discredited. Thank God," he said, "that day seems to be approaching. But remember, Bridges is only the symbol, not the head."

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