

EL COMITE DE SUELDO NO HA RENDIDO INFORME TODAVIA

BALBOA, Oct. 22.—Informe sobre una reunión celebrada el 21 de Octubre de 1946, con el Gobernador Suplente F. J. Newcomer y el Secretario Ejecutivo, F. H. Wang.

Presentes para la Unión: Robert Weinstein, Director Internacional de Organización J. L. Strobel, Vice-Presidente Internacional Edward Cheresh, Director Regional. Edward Gaskin, representante del Local 713. Guillermo Rojas representante del Local 713. Carlyle Clarke, representante del Local 713.

1.—Procedimiento de Quejas: La Unión informó al Gobernador Newcomer que la Unión deseaba devolver para el estudio del gobernador el plazo de tiempo de 8 días en la primera etapa, y el plazo de tiempo de 3 días en la segunda etapa. El gobernador acordó que la redacción será revisada para hacer claro que son plazos máximos de tiempo y que las quejas deben ser solucionadas

antes del vencimiento del plazo de tiempo si es posible.

La Unión propuso también que en la etapa 1 y etapa 2 se permite que el empleado escoja como su representante a cualquiera persona mas bien que un “empleado compañero”. El Gobernador Newcomer tomó esto bajo deliberación.

La Unión propuso que después de la etapa 4, o al menos durante alguna etapa del procedimiento de quejas, que se establezcan juntas tripartitas, o juntas tripartitas o departamentales, para hacer la decisión final o una recomendación al Gobernador acerca de las quejas de que se trataron. Estas juntas tripartitas debían estar compuestas de una representante de la administración, un representante escogido por la Unión, y un tercer representante acordado por los otros dos representantes. El Gobernador tomó esto bajo deliberación.

Fue acordado que la Unión

someterá a los arriba mencionados puntos a la Oficina Ejecutiva por escrito.

2.—Sueldos: La Unión reiteró su propuesta sobre sueldos, y averiguó si el comité especial estudiando sueldos en la Zona del Canal había hecho algo. El Gobernador dijo que el Comité estaba estudiando el asunto y no había sometido ningún informe todavía. La Unión pidió permiso para presentar al comité dando hechos y razones por los cuales la propuesta de Unión acerca de sueldos más altos debía ser aceptada. El Gobernador sugirió que la Unión escriba al Gobernador Mehaffey solicitando una audiencia ante el Comité especial de sueldos.

3.—Lo calidad para oficina y equipo: La Unión informó que a pesar de que la Oficina Ejecutiva se acordó en proveer a la Unión con localidad para oficina hace tres meses, el lado Pacífico está sin localidad todavía. El lado Atlántico tiene localidad en Colón. El Gobernador Newcomer informó que investigará el asunto. También se acordó de que la Unión hablaría con el Coronel Lewis.

Relativo al equipo de oficina, el Gobernador informó que existía poca posibilidad de poder conseguirlo.

La Unión informó que los edificios 905-D, 920 serían aceptables.

4.—Jubilación: El Gobernador informó que el Gobierno estaba estudiando el sistema de jubilación todavía. Agregó que ha sido descontinuado el sistema viejo de considerar los haberes del empleado jubilado del rol de plata para poder determinar la cantidad de la compensación y el empleado recibe ahora B.1.00 por cada año de trabaja hasta un máximo de B.25. La Unión solicitó que se suprima la suma límite de B.25 pero el Gobernador informó que este límite fue fijado por una acción del Congreso y que no podía ser excedido a menos que se hace una legislación nueva. La Unión informó que introducirá una legislación en el Congreso acerca de este asunto.

La Unión propuso también que le den permiso a los empleados jubilados para que continúen viviendo en la Zona y para que gocen de los privilegios de comisariato. El Gobernador informó que esto no se podía hacer en cuanto a que sería una violación del tratado de 1903 (revisado en 1936) entre los Estados Unidos y la República de Panamá.

(Pasa a la Pág. 3)

EL BALBOA QUE PAGAMOS

Por Teodoro Nolan, Secretario de Finanzas

Durante los últimos dos meses los Trabajadores antillanos y panameños han hecho un esfuerzo para levantar su nivel de vida. Esto ha sido un esfuerzo galante. Durante este tiempo hemos podido acumular un total de aproximadamente (30.500) treinta mil quinientos Balboas. Esto ha sido un gran sacrificio para gentes tan pobres como nosotros, pero en realidad no ha sido así para mayoría, porque algunos lo ven como un deber y otros como un placer. Los delegados demuestran una determinación que indica que su voluntad es fuerte y decidida. Se entiende que una organización de este tamaño tiene que tener fondos adecuados para poder sobrevivir, o valer la pena; y eso se logra con actividades para el bienestar de sus miembros, pagando sus cuotas y aumentando su posibilidades de seguir pagándolas. Y solamente podemos ser considerados dignos de confianza.

Hay varios que no saben que se hace con el Balboa que pagan. Aquí les damos un informe acerca de este asunto. Una mitad del Balboa va a la Oficina Internacional, quien nos da el respaldo que nos negaba otros. Como ejemplo de este respaldo tenemos al hermano Golsmith, hace unos meses; y ahora a los hermanos Weinstein y Strobel; este respaldo será más todavía cuando dentro de poco tiempo sus delegados reciben el respaldo del trabajo hecho por ellos y nuestros representantes locales y además de eso tendremos lo que hará el Congreso de los Estados Unidos a favor de nosotros. Esta es la clase de respaldo que anhelábamos hace muchos años y ahora lo tenemos, gracias a la existencia de hombres liberales.

Una cuarta parte de nuestro Balboa quedará aquí para cubrir los gastos de nuestra Unión.

Con esto esperamos mantener nuestra Oficina Central, conseguir equipo de oficina necesarios porque sin estos implementos no podemos negociar; También queremos mejorar las condiciones económicas de los hermanos y hermanas que trabajan para la Unión. Además de eso tenemos que sufragar los gastos de nuestros representantes que van de comunidades en comunidades en asuntos de la Unión.

Esperamos guardar la otra parte en el banco. Porque queremos estar preparados para ocupar nuestra parte entre los potentes del mundo, y ser reconocidos entre ellos.

Mientras hablo de seguridad económica, me acuerdo de un trabajador viejo que dice que conocía cierto director de cierto periódico. Este trabajador esta bajo la opinión de que a pesar de que este director presta buen servicio a su jefe, se está pasando dificultad en el campo del trabajo; porque apenas termina de escribir buenas recomendaciones a favor de su jefe y malas recomendaciones en contra de la gran masa de trabajadores en el Istmo de Panamá, el mismo jefe demuestra su disgusto y desconfiando así a los esfuerzos hechos en su favor. Le recomiendo a este director que se una a la CIO para que puede tener su protección contra las injusticias de su jefe.

En resumen una mitad del Balboa va a la Oficina Internacional, una cuarta parte se usa para nuestros gastos de aquí y la otra cuarta parte para nuestros ahorros. Si fuéramos buenos panameños como los hermanos Weinstein y Strobel - son panameños porque un buen nacional de cualquier país en un buen nacional de cualquier otro país, uniríamos nuestros esfuerzos para procurar una seguridad social decente para los ciudadanos panameños.

¿QUIEN ES EL JEFE?

En la División del Comisariato hay un jefe cuyas ideas Hitlerianas le traera su derrota con el tiempo. En este caso este jefe obliga a sus empleados a calificar el uno al otro, escribir cartas insignificantes guardadas como parte del informe del empleado; y es muy incapaz de dar algun consejo

o contestación alguna pregunta que se le hace los empleados o clientes sin tener que consultar con alguien en otra parte. (Qué situación más lamentable).

Pueden los empleados de esta división gozar de libertad (Pasa a la Pág. 3)

UNA POLITICA LOGICA

Por THOMPSON

La Federación Americana y su afiliado el Metal Trades Council establecieron un nuevo record en lo que se refiere a actividades anti-Americanas cuando adoptaron resoluciones discriminatorias contra los empleados del Rol de Plata de la Zona del Canal.

El Metal Trades adoptó una resolución que favorece la reclamación de los Artesanos del Rol de Plata a Ayudantes, y la Federación Americana o sea la oficina central del Metal Trades, adoptó otra resolución en la cual recomienda la preferencia para ciudadanos americanos, en trabajos especiales y para oficinistas.

Los Estados Unidos de Norte América deben además de enseñar los principios de la hermandad del hombre, iluminar a los miembros de la Federación acerca de los principios de la democracia. Las uniones tienen una gran oportunidad para fomentar principios nobles pero también podrían usar esa oportunidad para hacer daños a los trabajadores.

Este grupo debe darse cuenta de que el hecho de ser ciudadano Americano por si no le va a conseguir el respeto ni las simpatías del mundo. Es

preciso que aprendan a respetar los derechos humanos.

El desarrollo de la doctrina de arbitración internacional, cuando se considera del punto de vista de los beneficios finales que ha de recibir la humanidad, es esencial para una paz duradera. Cuando se proponen resoluciones indiscretas con el solo objeto de perjudicar a la humanidad, se siembra una semilla repugnante que puede destruir la buena voluntad creada por hombres de buena conducta.

Un gran número de movimientos que han tenido por objeto ayudar al prójimo han sido completamente destruidos por individuos quienes han querido usurpar el poder, cuyas ambiciones han sido ocupar altos puestos solamente para satisfacer su vanidad. Estos individuos han sacrificado la verdad, el honor y la justicia y han ultrajado todos los principios de estos movimientos.

Aquellos líderes son falsos y no pueden representar ninguna unión. Este grupo que se dice Unión de Trabajadores se esta muriendo de estos venenos mortales: CODICIA Y PREJUCIO.

• Eficiencia

• Zapatos a la medida

• Reparación de zapatos

• Puntualidad

• Precios bajos

CASA DALLIA

HARTSWELL Y JACOBS, Prop.

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Publicado Todos los Miércoles Por El
CAPITULO 713, TRABAJADORES PUBLICOS UNIDOS—CIO
En El Interés De La Clase Trabajadora.

Eustace O. Williams Director
Frank Thompson Circulación
Impreso en la Imprenta de "La Academia"
Inscrito en la Alcaldía de acuerdo con la Ley de Prensa.
Panamá, R. de P.

Reconocido por la Cámara de Comercio de Panama.
Apartado 1709, Panamá, R. de P. - Drawer "R", Balboa, C. Z.

Vol. I. Panamá, R. de P. No 17

Nueva Directiva Eligióse

Todos los delegados presentes mas la Junta Directiva saliente, y todos los miembros de la Unión, esperamos confiados que los destinos de nuestra organización serán bien manejados por los nuevos dirigentes, a quienes deseamos muchos éxitos. La tarea de nuestro joven movimiento obrero en la Zona del Canal, con tantos y tan poderosos enemigos, desembozados y encubiertos, es ingente. Pedimos a todos los compañeros, sin distinción de raza, nacionalidad, ideas religiosas o políticas, apollar sin

IMPORTANTE:

A TODOS LOS DELEGADOS:
Tenga la bondad de apuntar las quejas de casos específicos de empleados inviduales sobre los SIGUIENTES TÓPICOS SOLAMENTE;

1.—Casos de empleados que trabajan más de 40 horas por semana. Indicar si tales empleados reciben pago regular para sobretiempo arriba de 40 horas, tiempo y medio, tiempo libre compensatorio, o ninguna compensación.

2.—Casos de empleados que reciben vacaciones a base de días calendarios, contado así los sábados y domingos como parte de las vacaciones. De números exactos acerca de vacaciones ganadas por el empleado y el número de días que actualmente recibe.

3.—Casos de empleados cuyos sueldos han sido rebejados mediante reclasificación, tales como de artesano a ayudante o otros casos, donde no hubo CAMBIO DE NATURALEZA DEL TRABAJO HECHO. Dé la fecha en que el rebajo de sueldo se efectuó. Dé el viejo sueldo y el nuevo sueldo y clasificaciones del trabajo.

reservas a los nuevos dirigentes, tanto del atlántico como de toda la Zona del Canal, para ser dignos compañeros del resto de los 6.000.000 del CIO.

El problema de mayor importancia en nuestra vida nacional, es el viejo tema de la discriminación racial en la Zona del Canal de Panamá, declaró Aristides Wilson en la Conferencia de la Oficina Internacional del Trabajo, en Montreal, Canadá.

Panamá, Oct. 23 de 1946.

Acaban de regresar de el Canadá, los delegados de la Federación Sindical de Trabajadores de Panamá, señores Luis Avila, Presidente de la misma y Aristides Wilson, a donde fueron a tomar parte en la Conferencia anual de la Oficina Internacional del Trabajo. De el último de los delegados citados, copiamos las partes mas pertinentes de su importante discurso, relacionado con las condiciones de trabajo imperantes en la Zona del Canal.

"Junto con la situación de los obreros de Panamá, nos preocupa el problema de mayor importancia en nuestra vida nacional, el viejo tema de la discriminación racial que impera en la Zona del Canal, territorio bajo jurisdicción del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Muchos delegados presentes recordarán las veces que hemos planteado este problema en Conferencias pasadas y hemos señalado a la vez las soluciones. La de Filadelfia así lo demuestra. No deseo entrar en detalles sobre lo que es esta odiosa discriminación; en otras ocasiones detalladamente lo hemos expuesto. Los obreros panameños y latinoamericanos, blancos, negros o mestizos, son

(Pasa a la Pág. 3)

Charla por el Delegado Jefe

25 de Oct. de 1946.

Delegados visitantes de la Unión de Trabajadores Públicos Unidos de América-CIO en los Estados Unidos, Oficiales y Miembros de nuestra Unión Local No.713,

Saludos!

Hace tres meses, el 28 de Julio de 1946, una Carta de Afiliación fue presentada a la Unión de Trabajadores de la Zona del Canal por el hermano Len Goldsmith representante de los Trabajadores Públicos Unidos de AméricaCIO, esto nos dió derecho de trabajar bajo la dirección de los Trabajadores Públicos Unidos de América-CIO como Local No. 713.

En este tiempo había (3) Cabildos ya formados: el de Balboa, el de Cristóbal y el de los Maestros. Debido al tamaño de los Cabildos de Balboa

y Cristóbal fue necesario reducirlos a cabildos más pequeños, esto tiende a eliminar la dificultad que teníamos al celebrar reuniones grandes, y favorece la celebración de reuniones pequeñas, para así ayudar a los miembros en obtener mas instrucción en cuanto a la base fundamental de uestra Unión. Hay actualmente (8) Cabildos: el de Balboa, el de los Maestros, el de Red Tank, el de Paraíso, el de Gamboa y el de la Chorrera en el lado pacífico; y el de Cristóbal y de Gtún en el lado atlántico. Estos Cabildos se reunieron recientemente y llevó a cabo las elecciones de Oficiales y Delegados, que se reunirán pronto en una convención con el propósito de elegir los Oficiales de la Junta Ejecutiva del Local No. 713.

De cuando en cuando ha exis-

tido mis entendimientos acerca de los Oficiales del Cabildo y los Oficiales del Local No. 713. Lo siguiente explicará la diferencia:

Los miembros de las distintas Unidades eligen sus delegados; los Delegados eligen el Delegado de Taller, todos los Delegados del Cabildo eligen los Oficiales y Delegados del Cabildo. Los Oficiales y Delegados elegidos en los distintos Cabildos se reunirán en una convención para elegir los Oficiales y Miembros de la Junta Ejecutiva del Local No. 713. Por eso los Oficiales y Miembros elegidos en la Convención será el factor mas patente del Local No. 713.

Las elecciones de los Oficiales del Local No. 713 serán llevadas a cabo pronto, la fecha, lugar y tiempo serán anunciados mas tarde.

COMENTARIOS

¡ "Es un insulto a los trabajadores panameños y latinoamericanos, tanto como al pueblo panameño, todo, las preaenciones del American Federation of Labor", nos declaró el Secretario General de la Federación Sindical Obrera y Campesina de Colón, afiliada a la F. S. T. P.

Colon, Octubre 23 de 1946.

"El conjunto de resoluciones cuya síntesis publicó la Estrella de Panamá en días pasados, aprovadas por la Convención de la Federación Norteamericana del Trabajo, son un insulto a los trabajadores panameños, latinoamericanos y negros, tanto como para el resto de la población de nuestro país" nos declaró el Secretario General de la Federación Sindical de Obreros y Campesinos de la Provincia de Colón, Sr. Feliciano Lara en días pasados. Y luego continuó:— "Es muy de los fascitizantes señores de la Metal Trades Council, agentes en el Canal, de esa fatídica central burocrática y amarilla que se llama Federación Norteamericana del Trabajo, proponer esa clase de resoluciones a su Convención Nacional".

Con esas actitudes se siguen desenmascarando ante los ojos del resto de los trabajadores de todo el conti-

nente, ante quienes han venido ultimamente ensayando coqueteos y poses de "buenos vecinos" en el campo obrero, para tratar de formar una central obrera rival de la Confederación de Trabajadores de América Latina, que jefatura Vicente Lombardo Toledano. Los Panameños y demás trabajadores que aquí viven, tienen tanto derecho a trabajar en la Zona del Canal, como los norteamericanos, si es que se van a respetar los principios democráticos y de buena vecindad, tanto como los tratados exis-

tentes entre los Gobierno Panameño y Norteamericano. En lo referente a establecimientos comerciales que piden se establezcan en la Zona del Canal, es también otra violación de los tratados existentes entre ambos países y un atentado contra el comercio de nuestro país, el cual debe reaccionar inmediatamente". Por lo visto, los señores de la Federación Norteamericana del Trabajo, siguen creyendo que nuestro país es una colonia de su imperialismo y nosotros un pueblo de raza inferior".

QUO VADIS

Acaba de pasar la Federación Obrera Americana, por recomendación de los Metalúrgicos de la Zona del Canal (Metal Trades Council) una Resolución discriminatorio contra los obreros panameños, latinos americanos, y antillanos, empleados de todas las dependencias de la Zona del Canal, que postergara a todos nosotros de ocupar puestos profesionales, semi-profesionales, y de oficina, las cuales deben ser desempeñados solamente por ciudadanos norteamericanos.

En este momento en que el gobierno norteamericano, está tratando de adquirir posesiones de defensa en el Caribe, Centro y Sur América para la defensa del Canal de Panamá, construido en nuestro territorio propio o cedido por un tratado leonino y en que trata el gobier-

no de Truman en celebrar un nuevo tratado con los panameños para construir un nuevo canal al nivel del mar que debe pasar por la Nueva Arraiján, la Federación Obrero Americana, y el Metal Trades Council de la Zona del Canal, poniendo en práctica el mismo sistema usual del difunto Hitler, impone una resolución en la cual solo los norteamericanos tendrá derechos a la vida en los trabajo de la Zona del Canal y en las bases afuera el área del Canal de Panamá.

¿Cuál será la opinión de nuestro gobernante, y de los gobernantes de Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Cubar, Perú, Chile, Argentina, Brasil, Guatemala, Costa, Rica, Salvador, Honduras y Nicaragua, respecto esta resolución?

Luis A. Víctor.

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Relámpagos de Santa Ana

por Varga Villa

Hay un dicho verdadero: "El que con hierro mata, a hierro muere". "Lo que se siembra, se cosecha".

La presencia de los dos representantes de alto calibre a nuestro país, los hermanos Weinstein y Strobel, es un triunfo para nuestra organización, y en prueba más evidente fué el éxito de nuestro meeting del Viernes 25 en el Estadio Olímpico.

El periodismo es un apostolado — no es toda persona que tle el "Don" de ocupar este sitio, que necesita forzosamente disposiciones intelectuales, nociones de periodismo, cultura, dignidad, moralidad en unión de una honradez sin límite. Algunos ignasos creen que el periodismo pertenece a las almas degeneradas, sin tener en cuenta que el periodismo es el Tercer Poder del Mundo.

Para nosotros ha sido gran satisfacción de haber tenido noticias de nuestro hermano Len Goldsmith, quien antes del fin de año, estará con nosotros de nuevo. Len Goldsmith es un admirador de Lombardo Toledano.

La Resolución de la Federación Obrera Americana, inspirada por los Metal Trades Council, enemigos de los panameños, y de toda la humanidad es una labor indigna que ellos han puesto en práctica toda la vida contra nosotros y de todos de las Américas.

Esta resolución reaccionaria demuestra claramente, que la American Federation of Labor, es criada, y levantada sobre bases del Nazismo. La pretensión de los Metal Trades Council de imponernos el yugo de esclavitud, y someternos al hambre y la miseria, data desde hacen muchos años, y la actitud de ellos para nosotros, ha criado en todos los países de América, un sentimiento de desconfianza. Pretender la Federación Americana del Trabajo, y los METAL TRADES COUNCIL, que ellos podrán imponer en el Caribe, Centro y Sur América el Garrote del Verdugo porque su gobierno tiene en su poder la BOMBA ATOMICA, para destruirnos si no nos entregamos a los caprichos de este sector IMPERIALISTA, es una de las equívocas más grandes.

Las naciones son como el individuo, y la prueba evidente vemos hoy. Hoy los Estados Unidos de Norte América se conden lo más fuerte del Mundo, y lo más Poderoso, y por eso un sector de sus ciudadanos METAL TRADES COUNCIL abusando de ese PODERIO, intenta REDUCIR a los Panameños en cenizas. Nosotros pues que siempre hemos sido la cenicienta de los METAL TRADES COUNCIL, nos acogemos a la fábula del LEON Y EL RATON.

—:0:—

No ha faltado agrupaciones aquí en nuestro medio, y fuera de nuestro territorio, quienes no hayan intentado de darle golpe de muerte a nuestra organización con discusiones estériles, dispuestos a toda suerte.

Ahora cabe preguntar: Desde que se fundó el Mundo y Jesucrito esparció sus doctrinas sanas por todas partes, que organización en el mundo, se ha atrevido fundar una entidad, sobre bases tan bien definidas y de un Apostolado tan sincero como el CIO. Si hacemos un análisis de todas las instituciones cristianas, logias secretas, que se han iniciado sobre lasos de DISCRIMINACION RACIAL, COLOR Y NACIONALIDAD, tenemós pues que admitir que el Congreso de Organizaciones Industriales, es el espíritu, el alma, y el corazón de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Nada pues en esta ERA, podrá detener las doctrinas de esta Organización que se extiende de la tierra de Norte América hasta el confín del Universo.

QUIEN ES EL JEFE.....

(Viene de Pag. 1)

alguna, o sentirse libres para trabajar? Este hombre ha dado evidencia de una percepción, juicio, y habilidad administrativo pobre.

Ya es tiempo que los encargados de los departamentos coloquen a homres concienzudos

en puestos de esta clase, para que las relaciones entre el jefe y los empleados estén arriba del nivel ordinario y formar al mismo tiempo un factor q' contribuya a efectuar con el tiempo un mejor entendimiento entre todos.

El Comité de.....

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

La Unión recomendó que se ponga en efecto un sistema de jubilación del tipo contributivo, por medio del cual el empleado y el jefe contribuyen i-

gualmente al fondo de jubilación, y con los beneficios computados sobre una base fija, actuaría, y con la provisión de que si los empleados salgan del

empleo del gobierno antes de la edad de jubilación que se les permita retirar en bulto con interés propio las que han contribuido. El Gobernador Newcomer informó que tanto este plan como otros han sido tópicos de estudio del gobierno, pero en cualquier caso, una, tanto este plan como otros han sido tópicos de estudio del gobierno, pero en cualquier caso, una legislación del Congreso sería necesaria para ponerlos en efecto.

La Unión sugirió que sería una buena idea para que el Gobernador y la Unión colaboren en elaborar una pensión o plan de jubilación que podía ser introducido como un proyecto de ley en el Congreso. El Gobernador Newcomer informó que tomara este asunto bajo deliberación.

5.—Semana de 40 horas: La Unión indicó que no existía uniformidad relativo a la semana de trabajo y el sobresueldo. El Gobernador Newcomer informó que la Zona del Canal había establecido el principio de una semana de 40 horas, esto fue hecho para evitar un rebajo del sueldo. El Gobernador agregó que los recientes aumentos de sueldos puestos en efecto han sido gradamente combinado en la reducción de horas a 40 horas para establecer un horario de 40 horas, muchos 56 horas, y algunos hasta 84 horas. En algunos casos, el sobretiempo y medio, y en otros casos en tiempo libre compensatorio. El Gobernador solicitó que la Unión presente un informe citando casos actuales y que el asunto se pondrá entonces bajo deliberación.

6.—Sueldo de vacaciones: La Unión indicó que se administra impropriadamente el pago de vacaciones. El sueldo de vacaciones se gana a base de la cantidad de tiempo actualmente trabajado, pero es dado a los empleados a base de días calendarios, contando sábados y domingos que son regularmente días libres y que no debían ser contados como vacaciones. El Coronel Wang pidió que la Unión de casos actuales y que el asunto será investigado.

7.—Rebajo de Sueldo: La Unión indicó que un número de empleados han tenido rebajos de sueldos por haber sido reclificado de artesano a ayudante o a algún cambio parecido, mientras su trabajo queda exactamente lo mismo La Unión informó que si fuera el caso de un cambio en la naturaleza del trabajo de estos empleados, sería distinto; sin embargo, en estos casos el trabajo quedo lo mismo y por eso no puede haber excusa para el rebajo del sueldo. El Gobernador y el Coronel Wang informó que ellos no sabían de tales casos. La Unión citó la resolución de la FAT Metal Trades Council pidiendo la reclasificación de artesanos a ayudantes e indicó que varios jefes que tienen el poder de hacer tales cambios son miembros del Metal Trades Council y podían estar llevando a cabo la recomendación de su organización en sus propios departamentos independientemente.

Se acordó que la Unión presentará casos actuales de rebajos de sueldos al Coronel Wang y el asunto se investigará.

Fraternalmente suyo,
J. L. STROBEL,
Vice Presidente Internacional

El Discurso del Presidente

Hermanos y hermanas

Este momento es para mí más grande de la vida de ver que mi grano de arena ha ayudado a todos los trabajadores que están convencidos que era necesaria esta unión, para buscar un salario y un mejor trato; porque en estos momentos actuales la vida cada día se pone más cara y los salarios de miles de hombres no les es suficiente para vivir. Yo lucharé para que todos los miembros de esta unión tengan una beneficencia para

en caso de muerte, enfermedad, accidente y muchas cosas mas que son necesarias para la vida del trabajador; porque en muchos trabajadores cuando se encuentran en uno de estos casos, han tenido que empeñarse hasta por un año, que ha sido para ellos como un pulpo chupando la pobre sangre del trabajador. Por eso la injusticia siempre trae la rebeldía de los trabajadores. He dicho.

NUEVA DIRECTIVA.....
(Viene de Pag. 2)

terriblemente discriminados por la organización de blancos, similar al Klu Klu Klan de los Estados Unidos; la Metal Trade Council, filial de la Federación Norteamericana del Trabajo. Los miles de obreros de la Zona del Canal, los del llamado Silver Roll, desean el cumplimiento del principio de salario igual por trabajo igual. No quieren mas discriminación en los salarios; nada de veinticinco centavos por hora para unos y dos balboas por el mismo tiempo y el mismo trabajo para otros. Por ello y por otro cúmulo de motivos se han organizado. La Unión de Trabajadores de la Zona del Canal cuenta con mas de 20.000 miembros, hoy adheridos a la organización Trabajadores Públicos Unidos del Congreso de Organizaciones Industriales de los Estados Unidos.

Todos los trabajadores de Panamá, estamos ansiosos porque sea abolido este crimen social, que no es solo el problema de decenas de miles de trabajadores de la Zona del Canal; es problema también para el pueblo y Gobierno de Panamá; es problema para todos los obreros de Latino América, y por último, es problema también para los obreros y hombres progresistas de los Estados Unidos, seguidores de la política del Buen Vecino, del gran líder Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Con esas condecoraciones abrigamos esperanzas de que esta terrible discriminación sea eliminada, terminando así una historia negra de un grupo de hombres que no merecen ser llamados norteamericanos. Nos referimos a los hombres del Metal Trade Council.

Por las gestiones que está efectuando nuestro Gobierno, por los esfuerzos de la Federación Sindical de Trabajadores de Panamá, por las denuncias hechas por la "United Public Workers of America"—C. I. O.—en Washington, esperamos los Delegados de Panamá, poder traer a la próxima Conferencia, el grato anuncio de que ha sido eliminada esta iniqua discriminación...."

Las pretensiones de los señores del Metal Trade Council y de la A. F. of L., son una bofetada a los demás obreros negros, latinoamericanos y panameños. Violentas censuras también entre los comerciantes y clases medias.

COLON, Oct. 23, 1934— En todos los sectores obreros, tanto de la Zona del Canal como de Colón, así como entre el de la clase de los comerciantes y demás de esta población, han caído como una bomba atómi-

ca, la serie de resoluciones que publicó la prensa en estos días, adoptadas por la Convención de la Federación Norteamericana del Trabajo, especialmente la que recomienda al Congreso de los Estados Unidos, legisle en el sentido de "dar preferencia a los ciudadanos norteamericanos en las posiciones clericales y de trabajo, para obreros expertos y semi-expertos que tiene el Gobierno en el Istmo de Panamá". La continuación de esa política, que ha sido la misma propugnada y sostenida por el Metal Trade Council desde hace años, como se podrá ver, es diametralmente opuesta a la que propugna nuestra poderosa central, el Congreso de Organizaciones Industriales, con sede también en Washington. Es extraordinariamente discriminatoria contra los hombres de trabajo no norteamericanos, es decir los panameños, latinoamericanos y negros.

La Zona del Canal de Panamá, es una faja alquilada por el Gobierno de esta República al de los Estados Unidos para "el establecimiento, mantenimiento, control y defensa del mismo". Desde luego los trabajadores panameños y demás que viven en este país, no pueden ser considerados como extranjeros en su propia casa.

El chovinismo que en el campo obrero vienen a sembrar estas medidas reaccionarias y ultranacionalistas de los señores agentes del imperialismo y el capitalismo norteamericano, no pueden menos que justificar una vez mas, nuestra resolución de reforzar nuestra sección 713, de T. P. U., de los obreros empleados de la Zona del Canal, afiliada al Congreso de Organizaciones Industriales, y la cual está a su vez anexada a la Federación Sindical Mundial, con sede en París. Aliados con el proletariado organizado de todas partes del mundo, pero firmemente enraizados en todos los lugares de trabajo, podremos, no cabe duda, conseguir los beneficios que a la clase obrera toda, puede dar, debe dar y dará, la democracia bien entendida.

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WE CAN MAKE THIS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN....

BOB WEINSTEIN

Rport of Hearing Before Budget Bureau

In Connection with the Hearings Before the U.S. Bureau of the Budget On the Budget for the Panama Canal Zone. October 9, 1946.

The United Public Workers of America, CIO, presents this statement on behalf of the many thousands of employees of the United States Government employed in the Panama Canal Zone who are members of our organization. The rea-

is 25 percent higher than that in the Continental United States, since the "gold" workers are paid 25 percent more than prevailing federal salary scales. Thus the average pay for the latter is \$3900 per year.

We are not now in position to submit actual figures on the cost of living in the Zone proper. However, the data given below in Table II depict the

TABLE I
AVERAGE WAGES PAID IN THE PANAMA CANAL ZONE
BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT
Based on the Budget of the United States
Estimates for Fiscal Year 1947

	Number Employees	Total Annual Wage	A. A. W.	A. M. W.	A. W. W.
Maintenance & Operation	12,144	\$ 8,928,682	\$ 735	\$ 61	\$ 14
Sanitation	1,817	1,107,500	610	51	12
Civil Government	302	243,177	805	67	15
Clubhouses	1,989	886,749	446	37	9
TOTAL	16,252	\$ 11,166,108	\$ 687	\$ 57	\$ 13

*N.E.—Number Employees; T.A.W.—Total Annual Wage; A.A.W.—Average Annual Wage.

NOTE—There are 5,965 permanent employees of the War Department whose total annual wage is \$23,296,022, an average wage of \$3,900, or an average weekly wage of \$75..

sions offered for effecting substantial increases in the wages and salaries of the so-called "silver" workers are submitted as equally valid with respect to the budgets for the War Department and the Panama Railroad Company, both of which are currently under consideration.

We urge upon the President of the United States and the Bureau of the Budget the adoption of a budget which would provide a minimum rate of pay of 40 cents an hour — the same as that called for by the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act. This minimum (which is so low that it is to be found only rarely within the continental United States) is higher than the average rate for all "silver" workers in the Zone is about \$13 a week—\$57 a month. This figure is based on the budget estimates for 1947, as indicated in Table I above

On the basis of this table, the average hourly wage is 30 cents, or 10 cents below the legally specified minimum in the United States.

It cannot be argued that these wage scales are justified by a low cost of living. In fact, it may be inferred that the cost of living in the Zone

ies.

From the same source, we find that housing costs in Panama run from \$80 to \$150 per month for an unfurnished apartment. We find that attendance at grammar school in the Zone costs \$4 per month per child, and at high school \$8 per month.

It is therefore clear from the statistics that the conditions of existence of almost 30,000 employees of the Government of the United States are deplorably sub-standard. From the accounts of our members in the Zone and our representatives who have visited there, these conditions are such as would in fact not be tolerated in this country. Slum housing, for example, with five people in a single room without running water and with community toilets. Or the excessive disease and mortality rates.

These conditions arise directly out of the incredibly low wage scales. They cast discredit upon our government, not only in Panama, but throughout Latin America. President Taft's statement that American policy in Panama is the mirror of our policy in Latin America has not been forgotten.

TABLE II
RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN PANAMA
Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce, Office of International Trade, "International Reference Series, Vol. III, No. 24, July 1946" A

Item	Unit	Price
Bacon	Pound	\$ 70
Bread	"	.10
Butter	"	.55
Coffee	"	.40
Eggs	Dozen	1.00
Fish, fresh	Pound	.30
Cream Beans, fresh	"	.15
Lamb Chops	"	.65
Lard	"	.35
Milk	Quart	22½
Flour	Pound	.07½
Jam	"	1.20
Evaporated Milk	14—oz. can	.17
Soap, powdered	"	.45
Cheese, American	Pound	.80
Chickens, dressed	"	.70
Pork Chops	"	.70
Potatoes	"	.12½
Rice	"	.10
Tea	"	2.25
Dried Beans	"	12½

A Based on reports from the United States Embassy in Panama City.

Panama, October 25.—The meeting was scheduled for 7:30 but from 6:00 people started drifting in by twos and fours. By 7:15, there were hardly any seats left, and those were away over to the right or left of the Stadium. The playing of the national anthems of Panama and the United States was the signal that the meeting was under way. Selected as MC for the night, Luis A. Victor kept the crowd laughing at his wisecracks. After Brothers Atherton, Arauz, Nolan, and Burke spoke, Eddie Cheresh introduced Jack Strobel.

Strobel, speaking for the International body of the CIO promised that the CIO won't let us down. As proof that the CIO means business, he said that he had been sent to stay in Panama for at least six months, or as long as necessary, to help us. And, said he, that was not all. They were quite ready to initiate legislation in Congress, or any other support necessary for our success. Above everything, he implored us to stick together... regardless. The long standing problems, the problems of 20, 30, & 40 years, cannot be solved overnight. They will take time and our patience.

He knows why we joined up with the CIO. We want better wages, we want better housing, and above all, we want to end this undesirable racial discrimination. He knew all these things and he has gotten down to work. He has already conferred with the executive office at Balboa Heights. General Newcomer and Col. Wang discussed with him a grievance procedure, wage increases, office space, & a pension system. He was not surprised if progress was very slow. He would have been surprised if it had not. He closed his talk asking us all to work with him while he worked with us.

The next speaker, Bob Weinstein, came in like a heavyweight boxer of the Joe Louis class. He pointed out that most people in the U. S. think of the Panama Canal as a place where ships go thru one end and come out at the other while a couple of people push a few buttons. They don't realize so many people live down here. And that such a large number of people employed by the U. S. govt. were afforded such an un-American standard of living. Said he, "Discrimination takes the strangest forms, but I have never seen a dark skinned

person who did not eat the same as a white man does."

Before the CIO started its drive here, hardly anybody in the U. S. knew about the PC, but now, everybody wants to know—"What is happening in the Canal Zone?" Even as far as Hawaii, the question is the same. And we will give them the answer—with this new instrument of ours—the union.

"But if you never got a raise," he continued, "if you never got shorter hours, you would still have the satisfaction of walking with your head up, like a man!" He pointed out how much our children's future was tied up on a \$13. per-week salary. How they lacked the proper education, proper food, the proper clothes. That was the purpose of the CIO: to put meat in the icebox carpets on the floor, bread on the table, and pictures on the wall. He, too, implored us to be patient. He feared not for the enemies from outside. He feared of what might happen from within. "Don't let them split you—Panamanians on one side, and West Indians on the other," he said. In his interview with General Newcomer, he asked for higher wages for us and pointed out that even if we got it, we have already spent it since prices had gone sky high. They also discussed a pension system, a grievance procedure, and asked that someone from our group sit in on the Wage Board. While in Washington, he visited the Budget Bureau and asked for improvements for "silver" workers on the Canal Zone. When he returns, he will go to the National Convention of CIO, make his recommendations. They and the PAC will initiate or introduce legislation in Congress. He will even propose that someone from here go up to testify in Congress. He closed by asking us all to support our union officers and stand behind the union program. Said he, "We can make this a better place to live in."

The next speaker, personal representative of His Excellency President Enrique A. Jimenez, Don Antonio Moscoso B. was warmly applauded when he pointed out that he was once of the laboring class, just another guy with his working tools down at Albrook Field, and around Corundu. Forcefully he contrasted the attitude of certain unfriendly Americans here and in the U. S. with the other friendly, fairminded

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Published every Wednesday by Local 713,
United Public Workers, C. I. O.

Eustace O. Williams Editor

Frank Thompson Circulation

Aptdo. 1709, Panama, R. P. — Drawer "R", Balboa, C. Z.

VOL. I PANAMA, R. P. Nº 17

Editorial—

In a few days we shall be celebrating the Third of November, Panama's Classic Day. The people and the Government of that great country will engage in a series of festivities commemorating their independence from the mother country. Everybody will be happy but some people, in their happiness, will reflect. They will reflect on the ambitions, aspirations, and struggles of Panama from the first blow for independence to the present day. And they will be proud of her achievements. They will want to jealously guard the things already gained.

To us, an achievement of major importance is the growth of labor organizations and trade unions in the republic. It is a sign that Panama is continuing to grow. The people have begun to taste the benefit of trade unionism and they want more.

Panama's trade unionism would expect a sympathetic and cooperative attitude from the trade unionists of neighboring countries and territories. It is only logical to expect this.

Recently, as everybody knows, the AFL went on record as favoring legislation to throw out "aliens" from all "skilled, semi-skilled, and office jobs on the Canal Zone." The classification of "allien" of course includes Panamanian citizens. This is a direct threat to the interests of all "aliens" on the Canal Zone and in Panama and creates the possibility of a reversal of all the things already gained by these people. President Enrique Jimenez regards the action as "absurd" and quotes the treaty of 1936 between the United States and Panama as contrary to the request of the AFL. He feels confident that the fairness of the American people will not permit this regrettable action on the part of the AFL to go through. Everyone should share that confidence.

Today, in preparing for the celebration of the day of days for Panama, Independence Day, some of us will reflect on these things and ponder.



BY MILITANT

The leaders of the A. F. of L., "American veteran labor organization", seems, like some people, to be very absent minded. Did someone ask why? Well, here's the reason for such a statement. On October 12, it was reported by a local daily that the A. F. of L. intended to organize "Latin Workers." Then, on October 20, eight days after, this same paper carried a news item to the effect that the A. F. of L. had passed resolutions which they hoped to have adopted in the Congress of the United States. Among these resolutions was one which would permit the employment of Americans only in skilled, semi-skilled, and office positions on the Canal Zone. The, undoubtedly, at the request of the Metal Trades Council, an organization which, if I am not mistaken, it was proposed by the editor of the paper carrying the news item, should accept Panamanians as members on an equal basis with "North

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Junior CIO

By HUGH ADAMS

The children of La Boca have been saying that couple of months ago they had to go to Balboa to get first aid and medicine. When they used to go to Balboa Dispensary, they were separated from the 'Gold' people. Now that La Boca has a dispensary with no discrimination in it, they say it is plenty better.

The houses of La Boca are dirty. The "gold" community houses are painted inside and outside. The Silver people have to purchase paint and paint the inside of their apartment. The outside is now being painted.

A boy who had to leave school to work on account of his parents low wages said this, "For forty years or more, Silver employees of the Canal Zone have been waiting for the ugly gold and silver signs to come down but the waiting is finished. This is the time action will take place."

In some working division the gold and silver signs have been removed from drinking fountains. But the "gold" people put something in its place that means the same thing. Having Gold drink at fountains painted in white and Silver people to drink at fountains painted in blue. What do you think of that? I think the "gold" person who thought of that really is a smart Aleck.

This boy also said that he wants the silver people to have 100% membership in the CIO. Can this happen? Let's see if we can all make it happen and we will have a larger union.

"THE HOT CORNER"

By DRAWDE

We started a game of ball forty-two years ago, and we are just around the "hot corner," or third base. For sixteen years many pitchers faced us, and during the course of that period, we managed to get to first base on a "scratch hit." The pitcher then tightened up, and the infield closed in for our next batter. The runner and batter got the signal from the dug-out for a hit and run play. Expecting a bunt, the pitcher made the delivery. The latter hit to short. short to first, batter out. First threw to second for a double play, the ball dropped and the runner was safe on an "error". One man on second base and one out, was our situation in 1920 We all know what happened then: the big strike, the failure on account of not being properly organized by a Metal Trades Scab, who fleeced sands of dollars. He returned to the US to his own backyard, happy and contented, while the poor unfortunate people were thrown out of their quarters by the U. S. Army with fixed bayonets. They were moved to the border of the Republic of Panama where they were met by the authorities of Panama to see that duty be paid on all their household goods and proper security of obtaining quarters before they were able to cross the border.

A consultation was held in the dug-out for a period of time to detrmine our next batter. Our next batter was the P. C. W. IEA, and every

(TURN TO PAGE 3)

"OPERATION PANAMA"

by Ed. Cheresh

NOTE:—This is a continuation of the famous Wallace Speech. We apologize for the omission of this note in last week's issue.

IMPORTANCE OF CHINA

China is a special case and although she holds the longest frontier in the world with Russia, the interests of world peace demand that China remain free from any sphere of influence, either politically or economically. We insist that the door to trade and economic development opportunities be left wide open in China as in all the world. However, the open door to trade and opportunities for economic development in China are meaningless unless there is a unified and peaceful China—built on the co-operation of the various groups in that country and based on a hands-off policy of the outside powers.

We are still arming to the hilt. Our excessive expenses for military purposes are the chief cause for our unbalanced budget. If taxes are to be lightened we must have the basis of a real peace with Russia—a peace that cannot be broken by extremist propagandists. We do not want our course determined for us by master minds operating out of London, Moscow or Nanking.

Russian ideas of social-economic justice are going to govern nearly a third of the world. Our ideas of free enterprise democracy will govern much of the rest. The two ideas will endeavor to prove which can deliver the most satisfaction to the common man in their respective areas of political dominance. But by mutual agreement, this competition should be put on a friendly basis and the Russians should stop conniving against us in certain areas of the world just as we should stop scheming against them in other parts of the world. Let the results of the two systems speak for themselves.

ALWAYS WILL BE IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT

Meanwhile, the Russians should stop teaching that their form of Communism must, by force if necessary, ultimately triumph over democratic capitalim—while we should close our ears to those among us who would have us believe that Russian Communism and our free enterprise system cannot live, one with another, in a profitable and productive peace.

Under friendly peaceful competition the Russian world and the American world will gradually become more alike. The Russians will be forced to grant more and more of the personal freedoms; and we shall become more and more absorbed with the problems of social-economic justice.

Russia must be convinced that we are not planning for war against her and we must be certain that Russia is not carrying on territorial expansion or world domination through native Communists faithfully following every twist and turn in the Moscow party line. But in this competition, we must insist on an open door for trade throughout the world. There will always be an ideological conflict—but that is no reason why diplomats cannot work out a basis for both systems to live safely in the world side by side.

ONLY UN SHOULD HAVE A-BOMBS

Once the fears of Russia and the United States Senate have been allayed by practical regional political reservation, I am sure that concern over the veto power would be greatly diminished. Then the United Nations would have a really great power in those areas which are truly international and not regional. In the world-wide, as distinguished from the regional field, the armed might of the United Nations should be so great as to make opposition useless. Only the United Nations should have atomic bombs and its military establishment should give special emphasis to air power. It should have control of the strategically located air bases with which the United States and Britain have encircled the world. And not only should individual nations be prohibited from manufacturing atomic bombs, guided missiles and military aircraft for bombing purposes, but no nation should be allowed to spend on its military establishment more than perhaps 15 per cent of its budget.

Practically and immediately, we must recognize that we are not yet ready for World Federation. Realistically, the most we can hope for now is a safe reduction in military expense and a long period of peace based on mutual trust between the Big Three.

During this period, every effort should be made to develop as rapidly as possible a body of international law based on moral principles and not on the Machiavellian principles of deceit, force and distrust—which, if continued, will lead the modern world to rapid disintegration.

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SPORT NEWS

BOXING

La Boca was high-point scorer in the Canal Zone Inter-school Boxing Tournament which was conducted before a capacity crowd at the Paraiso Gymnasium.

The sluggers from Silver City, Gatun, Gamboa, Red Tank, Paraiso, and La Boca kept the fans on their feet with torrid rounds of mitt slinging that featured four knockouts on the thirteen-bout card.

The results: L. Sealey (R. T.) outpointed N. Arroche (Gam.); F. Rose (Gam) kayoed L. Thomas (R. T.); S. Lowe (S. C.) kayoed A. Gibbs (Gam) R. Scott (Gam.) decisioned J. Scott (S. C.); R. Inniss (L. B.) won by decision; C. Belamy (L. B.) kayoed D. Timm (S. C.); H. Herbert (Gam.) won by forfeit over R. Ampudio (Gat.); W. Edwards (L. B.) outpointed R. Reece (Gat); G. Weir (Gat.) kayoed Phil Walker (L. B.); H. Flatts (Gat.) knocked out R. King (L. B.); R. Belgrave (L. B.) decisioned B. Smith (S. C.); O. Wallace (S. C. outpointed Davis (R. T.); Sammy Haywood (L. B.) won by forfeit over Andrew Burgess (R. T.)

BOXING... Wilfredo Brewster is the drawing card in the amateur tournament. He is the best prospect since Al Brown.. STANLEY MCKAY lost a heart-breaking decision last Tuesday. Much more will be heard from this fighter. He is going place... J. J. ALVARADO, with his madcap antics, packs an awful wallop... HUMBERTO ALEMAN, Kid Zeffine's pupil, is rugged and fast.

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CYLING... OSCAR LAYNE is still monarch of the wheelmen. He is favorite to triumph in the sprints in the Central American Olympic....CHARLIE THOMPSON is unchallenged as runner-up to the champion... KENNETH STERLING has made a marvelous comeback and should be pressing Layne within a few months...FILOS WARD is the find of the year. His stunning victories in the La Boca Memorial Day Classic and in the recent Panama-Colon marathon have placed him among the top men.

BASEBALL

Managers of Panama's Professional Baseball League have begun their moves and counter-moves to strengthen their line up for the 1947 season.

The champion General Electric ball hawks had planned to stand pat on their squad of last season but the loss of Pat Scantlebury and Barney Brown has forced Stanford Graham to send the s.q.s. to the United States for replacements.

Chesterfield will be the team to beat during the next season. Carlos Eleta has untied the purse strings in his determination to have a pennant-winning squad. In addition to the best of the amateur crop such as Bernal, Griffith, Campbell, and Gilkes, the Chesterfield will be riding high with many imported players.

C.P.R. is angling for replacements from the Dominican

Republic through Horacio Martinez, Henry McHenry is a problem child with his insistent demands for a release to play for Chesterfield. The Charles brothers who performed brilliantly in the local amateur circuit will be given try-outs.

Cerveceria Nacional is working behind closed doors. Catcher Noble may not return but rumors are floating around that heavy artillery will be imported to produce a winning combination.

SCHOOL SPORTS

La Boca Senior High made a clean sweep of the Canal Zone High School Soccer Championship Series by white-washing Silver City in the three games.

The La Bocans invaded Silver City and swamped the Gold Coasters 4-0. In the second engagement at La Boca, the Silver City lads were on the losing end 6-0. In the final game played last Friday, the La Bocans ripped the Silver City defense to win by 8-0.

La Boca Junior High won the Pacific Soccer Championship by downing Gamboa 5-0 on the Gamboa Ball Park.

In the Canal Zone championship game with Silver City, Atlantic Side finalists, the La Bocans crashed through to a 5-0 victory.

The Pacific Side Junior High Basketball series will begin

HOT CORNER

Precaution was taken to avoid similar circumstances to the one we experienced in the past. Our rivals replaced their pitcher with a "Screw-ball Artist." For more than twenty years they "screwed" the ball on our batter, and after weakening for a bit by so many foul balls hit by the batter, the batter finally flied one to center. The ball was caught by the center field and the runner on second advanced to third on the play.

Our situation stood then: two men out and a man on third. During the course of our conference in the dug-out, we decided to lift our next batter for a pinch hitter, or a "big bat". Our batter was lifted for a batter with a club marked "UPW-CIO" on July 18, 1946 at the Olympic Stadium with 15,000 cheering fans sitting on the edge of their seats awaiting the outcome. For the first time during the forty-two years of play did our rivals get cold-feet and called a conference to decide what method should be used on this powerful "big bat". But up to the present time nothing has been done for any changes made because they are aware of the fact that the "big bat" is a home run hitter. There are 15,000 wildly cheering fans of all races, creeds, colors and nationalities awaiting the outcome.

Saturday when Gamboa and La Boca meet at La Boca. The Seniors will swing into action the following week.

PRE-OLYMPIC

Track... Clayton Clarke has fully recovered from his strained muscle and is once more top sprinter of the Republic.... AMY FOSTER, with three rest periods since June 9, is in better condition than any other athlete... SILVIA FORDE, national high jump ace, is the Gold Coast best bet for international honors... Luis Welch seems to be getting stale. He is the most improved male sprinter on the squad...RUTH TROTMAN, former Isthmian sprint champ, is shocking the

fans with a brilliant return to peak condition. She soundly trounced MILDRED BANNISTER and AURELIA KEIZER to run second behind AMY FOSTER in a special 100 meter dash that was reeled off in 12.1... REGINALD MATTHEWS is making the best time in the 400meter low hurdles... DAVID BENSKIN, local monarch of half-milers and milers is back in training after a three-week layoff... PARKER is the new sensation in the mile.... If JUDITH CABALLERO should be injured in basketball playing, Panama will be without a representative in the discus and javelin throws. TILSA PAIDMEQUE should be placed on the team as a regular.

REPORT OF

We recognize that the Bureau of the Budget does not ordinarily make its budget request on a higher level than that requested of it by the head of the government agency affected — in this case, the Governor of the Panama Canal Zone. We do not know whether the Governor will ask for funds to pay wage scales along the lines we urge.

But we do know that the Bureau of the Budget is the direct representative of the President of the United States on such matters. We cannot believe that it is the policy of the President that employees of the United States should be paid 20 cents an hour or less, or that they must exist

under the conditions prevailing in the Zone.

We therefore urge you to recommend a minimum wage scale of 40 cents an hour for all employees in the Canal Zone, with corresponding increases for those in classifications above the minimum. Such a policy is clearly indicated, not only for humanitarian reasons, but in order to provide for efficient operation of the Panama Canal, and to carry out our announced Good Neighbor policy in Latin America.

WE CAN MAKE
(From Page 1)

group of Americans who realize that the opportunities of the Panama Canal should be shared by Panamanians as well as Americans. He noted that Brothers Strobel and Weinstein were such Americans.

Interesting sidelight of the meeting was the playing of typical Panamanian music during the intervals. The crowd roared when they played "Pescao" by special request of Master of Ceremonies Luis Victor.

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About Adverse Editorials

By COMMON SENSE

The matter of adverse editorial opinions seems to be occupying the major part of our time these days. To the rank and file member, adverse editorials, especially those that tend to label the UPW—CIO as communistic, should never be regarded with the deep concern with which they are now regarded among us. I am inclined to agree with this.

After all, editorials represent only the opinion of an editorialist in line with the policy established by the person or persons that own the paper. At times this policy is the result of the great assistance that a particular clique or organization can offer the paper. Other times this policy is motivated by the pressure that an organization can bring to bear upon the newspaper. The net result in these instances being that this particular clique or organization is never criticized nor rebuked editorially by this newspaper.

Sometimes it is only after a long period, even as much as twenty years, that there might appear an editorial or two that would be contrary to the policy of a paper. These editorials might, in a small degree, score the practices of principles of the clique or organization, that hitherto, were never denounced.

Consequently, it is very obvious that these adverse editorials are seldom barren of the partiality or bias that is necessary towards the fulfillment of the obligations or agreements that the paper

might have undertaken.

We should never concern ourselves with unfavorable editorials to such an extent to have to be seeking the opinion of these very same editorialists that are so narrow-minded, prejudiced, and bigoted.

The UPW—CIO is a democratic American organization. More democratic than a particular morning daily that distorts the news in order to present it along the lines of its illiberal policy. More democratic than this local paper that has been editorializing against one group of people as long as the Metal Trades Council has been fostering the principles of discrimination on the Canal Zone; even more democratic than this same newspaper that is one of the leading exponents of the system of divide, conquer, and rule.

It should be no surprise that we have been the victims of the most unfavorable newspaper propaganda that any local organization has ever suffered during the past four months.

The only reason for such unfavorable publicity is the arrival of the CIO in our midst. Naturally, no prejudiced or bigoted person or group would want to welcome an organization like the CIO because neither prejudice, bigotry, nor discrimination is fostered by the CIO.

Thus when we read of the CIO being branded as communistic by any newspaper it should be no surprise to us.

Voice of the Membership

This is a membership forum. It's a place to blow your tops criticize, suggest, state your ideas. Letters are limited to 400 words. Dangerous or libelous letters are not suitable for publication. All letters must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. The union's strength has been built by the participation of the membership. Constructive criticism has always been in order. State your views through this column.

Editor
ACCION
Dear Sir:

After forty years, the people who have felt, known, and realized that they were much like peons, working for someone else who pays you very little, someone who compels you to shop in his store for your needs year in and year out, can now look up with new hope.

Your appeals in the past were met with reproach. You were told that you were better off as you were. And yet you were the most loyal people to be met anywhere. You were happy to pass this word along... and remain just peons... loyal and happy to work for the master, happy to carry your master and your master's burden.

The CIO is here! Yes, the CIO will cut us apart, and away from the... past! Bob Weinstein and Jack are here to look us over. Once our numbers were not strong enough to have a favor granted us. Now? Let's join up and keep in the CIO "Confidence in Organization."

Sincerely,
A. Thinker.

40 cents goes to the division charge "launch" for handling seamen to and from ships boarded. I think that although the Panama Canal charges \$6 per trip for each canal seaman, no deduction should be made from the silver men for a divisional charge. This charge is for the efficient operation of the Panama Canal, and as there is no other division besides the Marine and Dredging division which has launches in the Panama Canal, this charge should be absorbed by the division in a manner similar to the charges made against Pilots, Customs Boarding Officers, Doctors, Commissary Division, and Mechanical Division, etc.

My point to this argument is that because the Canal Seamen are employees of the Marine Division, as are the Canal Pilots, the charges for Canal Seamen could be consumed by the Port Captain's Officer under a division charge. No deduction from pilots or other gold employees are made for launches or railroad inasmuch as pilots are known to board

the same launches as the Canal Seamen. This charge is hour with the pilot and Canal split as: "if a launch takes one Seamen from the dock to ship and returns, this one hour charge is split into two (1/2 hour for pilots and 1/2 hour for Deckhands) and at the end of the month, the total amount is handled as a divisional charge, therefore no charge against seamen should be made).

A Divisional charge is one which is made for the convenience of that Division; and if a Pilot takes the same launch as canal seamen since his charge is made "divisional" the Canal Seamen charge should also be divisional.

(The Mechanical Division, it is known, sends electricians, welders, at workmen, to ships to handle repair work. At the end of the month this charge is handled as a division expense.) Charges for Canal Seamen can be handled in a similar manner.

Transportation charges via Panama Railroad can be also handled as a division charge at a flat-rate charge which is done in all divisions.

I agree with you that the Canal Seamen should have received this \$1.00, but had to get the right information before I could let you know anything about how this amount was deducted.

It would need much pressure, I believe, to have certain employers in the Marine Division loosen up a little.

SYMPATHIZER.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By The Moron

In human affairs there is a time for silence and a time for speech. There is a time for thought and a time for decision. Inevitably there comes a time for action. IT SEEMS TO ME that the big drive of Local No. 713 is about to begin all along the line with — SPEECH, DECISION and ACTION.

—XOX—

...THAT the laugh is on Comrade Albertus McGeachus of the matutinal sheet. The venerable vassal of vacillation got hoisted with his own petard last week. Let the headlines tell the story:

"A. F. L. To help latin workers against communism"

"A wise move by the A. F. of L"

"A. F. L. Demands preference for U. S. citizens."

"A foul blow from Panama's enemies"

In order not to eat humble pie one should never reckon without one's host.

—XOX—

...THAT the Metal Trades Council has come to the Rubicon of its existence. Confronted by a relentless CIO and an outraged Panamanian public it must either continue the iniquities of its discredited past, to its ultimate destruction or, by lending its support to the construction of a new Canal Zone where fear and wretchedness will no longer exist; where oppression and

exploitation of the "silver" worker will no longer obtain, assure its existence in the future. Of course old prejudices like a cold in the head are not easily cast off but neither was it easy for Ceaser to make the momentous decision. The die is cast! "Going My Way," Mr. Wahl?

—XOX—

...THAT in the lexicon of leader writer of the "Star and Herald" the term-prolixity— does not appear. "Charity suffereth long, and is kind" dear reader but the gentleman has just about succeeded in making me red. Pumping after your bucket is full prevents it keeping so. How about laying off the vodka and caviar for a while Alberto and giving John Public a change in his literary diet?

—XOX—

...THAT this reproduction from an article by Hugh Morley, O.F.M., Cap., should provide some food for thought.

"There is a spirit abroad in the land which whispers communist or communistic every time a new and potent personality or strange and powerful idea makes itself felt. To call Trotsky a communist, and a large group in the Loyalist Government of Spain communist, was correct and just because true. But to raise the same hue and cry for little or no reason is ridiculous and (TURN TO PAGE 5)....

"Acción"—

I read your article about Marine Division Seamen not receiving their increase of \$1.00 as of August 1, 1946, and in addition would like to add this .02 worth which I think would be much help to you in continuing your right for the Panama Canal Marine Division C & M Seamen.

This is the square and authentic information from talks with "heads" and from files.

The Marine Division Seamen are charged \$1.00 for each trip. This charge is then split, 50 cents for the Railroad and

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THE QUESTION BOX

What do you think about the removal of the "gold" and "silver" signs on the Zone?

THE ANSWERS:

I think it is a sign that we are going to get better working conditions in the near future. Some of the formen here are beginning to act a little different towards us. It shouldn't be long now.

G. S. T.

—XOX—

That is just another of their tricks to fool us. I have seen things like that before. Those people will never change.... voluntarily. Just wait and see.

R. R.

—XOX—

I want to breathe a sigh of relief — but I'm still afraid to. It is too early to form a definite conclusion. I'll wait a little longer.

V. G.

I think a lot of things are happening behind the scenes and the it is just a little sign of those happenings. Certain

U. S. Congressmen are supposed to visit here sometime in January on an inspection tour. Maybe that is why they are cleaning house. Maybe the arrival of the two CIO big guns has something to do with it. In any case, I feel things are going to be better for the "silver" worker.

SYMPATHIZER

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Red Tank News

by Chris (Wahoo) Harewood

A regular stewards council meeting of this chapter was held at the lodge hall on Tuesday last Oct. 22, 1946. The meeting was conducted by the asst. Chapter steward brother H. Thompson.

Matters relative to the selecting of two representatives along with the chapter officers to attend the meeting of the elections of officers the executive board was discussed.

Brothers Lionel Best and C. Russell were selected by the members of the steward council present to attend his meeting.

Walter Parris, and Servio T. Rueda were designated stewards of the chapter at this meeting.

Bro. Rueda will act as interpreter for the chapter relieving brothers P. Ferdinand and C. Harewood.

During the past week - and especially as of this chapter's last general meeting much interest and the members determination to participate in the chapter's activities in the union has been shown.

We are glad to welcome back to our ranks our brother Ernest Smith of this chapter who has recently recovered from an illness.

—xox—

Strange it seems that the stewards representing the club house and commissary of this chapter does not attend the stewards meetings held here.

—xox—

The next stewards council meeting of this chapter will be held on the 5th. of next month at the usual meeting place. The next general meeting of the chapter will be held on the 15th. of next month at the usual meeting place.

—xox—

Remembering the way in which the weather was on Friday night it seems as though our chief steward Atherton knows what he is talking about when he said at one time that rain doesn't fall on CIO days.

—xox—

Personally, I don't like to hear anyone mention this organization as being chartered for aliens in the Canal Zone. Our union here was chartered for the workers (according to the unanimous approval of the International Executive Board of the CIO) to all nationals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, or national origin.

—xox—

A little difficulty is being encountered here in the community in getting the information this chapter needs to have their census as to the membership.

—xox—

The newspaper trend in this chapter is not very smooth and I am again appealing to the members to buy the union paper from the chapter news-



staff representative.

—xox—

Considering the possibilities of the success of our union in general the possibilities are great and I am totally convinced as I ever was that success is not too far distant. Let me if I may point out to the best of my knowledge.

HOW SUCCESS IS WON

Success is a happy word for the average person. To achieve success is the aim of everyone. It would more frequently be gained were it not taken that it is too often wrongly understood to be innate smartness. The sooner we get rid of the notion that we are smart we will win success. Success must be won if it is to be enjoyed. Men ordinarily fail to succeed, not because they are naturally destined to fail, but they lack business ability, which is made up of equal parts of business knowledge, sterling integrity, strict economy, and everlasting push. Success is the child of confidence and perseverance. A little more persistence, a little more effort, and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success. There is no defeat except from within, no really insurmountable barriers save our weakness of purpose. A firm resolution that barriers shall be surmounted, that difficulties shall be cleared away goes far toward achieving success. Let us repeat success must be won. It never comes uninvited never without effort. The secret of success is constancy of purpose. Let's build our union strong without props. A building that needs props is sure to fall.

Gamboa News

by A. P. Morrison

October 19, 1946.

Nomination and Election to Chapter Officers and Chapter Stewards

On Saturday, October 19, 1946, Organizers C. Small and P. Cordero, Financial Secretary Bro. T. M. Nolan and Local 713 Official Spanish-English interpreter Sis. C. Josephs travelled to Gamboa to witness the nomination and election of Chapter Officers and Chapter Stewards.

The meeting was called to order by Bro. P. Malcolm who immediately declared all offices open. He requested brothers T. M. Nolan and C. Small to preside during the voting. Nolan, in his informal and convincing style, gave a pep talk in which he reminded the members present that their election should not be based on sentiments or friendships but upon common sense and leadership. He also told them that the chapter is the workers' informer and must serve as such. Brother Ruiz reiterated what Nolan said.

Nominations and elections were carried out in a very orderly, cordial and business like atmosphere with a true example of democracy displayed throughout the whole session.

The following is a complete list of all officers elected for the Gamboa Chapter:

Chairman, Bro. J. L. Watkis.
Vice Chairman, C. Hall
Secretary, L. Burke (unanimous election.)
Treasurer, C. Watler (do)
Trustees (2), A. M. Ruiz (do), L. Llewellyn
Chapter Steward, P. Malcolm
Assistant C. Stewards: (2) Bro. D. Alexis, Bro. S. Green
Representatives of the Gamboa Chapter: Bro. P. Cordero, Bro. H. G. Headley.

After nomination and election the difference between Chief Steward and Chapter Steward was carefully explained to the Gamboa Chapter. The stewards were reminded of their obligations and responsibilities as stewards. They were also told that it was a part of their duties to see that the officers "keep on the ball."

PARAISO NEWS

By A. H. GRANT

On Wednesday, October 23, 1946, the Paraiso Chapter held its regular meeting with Bro. Davis in charge of the chair and Sis. Caballero as interpreter.

The chapter was the host to the following: Organizers P. Cordero and C. Small, Sisters C. Josephs and U. Reid of the main office, Bro. L. Burke of the Gamboa Chapter and our earnest and hard working Financial Secretary T. M. Nolan.

Bro. L. Burke gave a brief and unofficial talk in behalf of the Gamboa chapter. He informed his listeners of Gamboa's solid numerical strength which is over one thousand financial and active members. He stated that his membership is increasing daily by leaps and bounds. He stressed the importance of continued unity among all workers. He said that the Governor has a big surprise coming to him on January 16, 1947. He closed with the following, "As true and sincere CIO members we should eat CIO, sleep CIO, and even dance CIO."

The financial secretary, who was next to speak, stated that each steward will be furnished with a mimeographed copy of the financial report for the information of the general membership in each chapter. He also informed them that an effective grievance machine is being set up which will get results on all genuine grievances. They were reminded that good Union members should be good employees and workers. They were told that the strength and root of the Union is its finance. Therefore, it is imperative that dues be paid monthly and on time. This should be first because it is going to help in bringing in more dollars, in bettering living conditions and in giving us better education. He also gave a very interesting story which you will find elsewhere

in this issue.

Bro. Cordero gave a resume of his gigantic task as organizer. Being present at the installation of nearly every other chapter, he expressed regret at not being present when the Paraiso Chapter was installed. He told them about the Chorera Chapter, one of the newest, with over six hundred members—all Latins. Seeing many women among those present. He urged and encouraged them to be active and aggressive. There are certain officials, who he does not think much of our women. They must and will be made to think otherwise by you, our CIO sisters.

Bro. Small, who spoke next, commended the members on their excellent behavior. The Lodge Hall, where the meeting was kept, was jam packed and not even once was there an interruption. He reminded them that each member should wear his button and wear it conspicuously and fearlessly. He concluded by stating that the time for speeches and pep talks is over and that the time for business and action is here.

Bro. Gordon, better known as Johnny, who is chapter secretary, requested that he be kept occupied with work Being

civic minded he welcomes all suggestions and requests for improvement in the community. The problems and room for improvement are many he stated.

Bro. Fuller, also of Paraiso, told the gathering how, during the early days, the workers were kept apart. They were kept apart because they were not organized. The policy of divide and rule was applied. It worked wonderfully and successfully for a very long time. Thanks to the CIO, "dem days is gone forever." Today all the workers are united, and the forces are many which have tried and are trying to do divide and rule. But their mission is a failure because our lines can not be shaken or broken. He demonstrated this effectively by showing how ineffective the blows of each finger of one's hand are but how effective these fingers when balled into a fist can be. Just imagine our union as a gigantic fist made up over 12000 to 15000 fingers.

He also decried the stupidity of calling Panamanians Aliens in their own country.

In closing, Bro. Davis reaffirmed the fact that the Union cannot and will not fail. It is our weapon which we must bold and use intelligently.

HERE & THERE

(continued from page 2)

American members." He also said that the A. F. of L. should make Panama its "starting point" as this would be "an excellent opportunity to show the rest of the Americas what organization according to the traditional North American pattern could produce." This is indeed an excellent "example of traditional North American pattern!" — the type of pattern that can be expected by "Latin Workers" if the A. F. of L. is given a chance to set root in Latin America. Incidentally, friends, that is why the CIO is here to stay.

—xox—

Whom, then, do I call leaders? Certainly not those types of persons who seek positions, not because of their abilities or capabilities, but rather because of the opportunities they see for personal aggrandizement in the offices which they seek. Neither can it be said that the brilliantly intellectual, by virtue of their educational qualifications, are really leaders. Leaders, then, may be conceived as persons who are sincere in their desires to serve the ones whom they lead; persons who are not above mixing with the average individual whom they contact; persons who are sympathetic to all regardless of education, financial and social standing, and religious and political affiliations; in short, persons who realize that he who is greatest amongst us is the greatest servant of all.

ANOTHER "INCIDENT"

On Monday, October 21, two distinguished Negroes of Chicago, Doctor and Mrs. A. Fall visited the Balboa Library. Upon entering the library, the visitors were met by an employee who in a very abrupt and hostile manner asked him what he wanted. Calmly, the doctor asked, "Is this a PUBLIC LIBRARY?" Her reply was, "Yes, for AMERICANS ONLY!"

"Well," said the doctor, "I AM an American."

He then entered with his wife, walked around a little, looked at a few books and made some notes. While browsing through one of the books,

he was approached by a young lady who was unusually polite and willing to offer her services. He politely refused her offer.

When he was ready to leave the library, the doctor asked the employee who had stopped him, "Is this a PUBLIC LIBRARY?" Her reply was, "Yes, this is a public library for EVERYBODY!"

Please observe then that the BALBOA LIBRARY is NOT for AMERICANS ONLY but for the use of the GENERAL PUBLIC. Every worker on the Canal Zone is entitled to use the PUBLIC LIBRARY at BALBOA HEIGHTS.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(continued from page 4)

dangerous. They have called the CIO communistic. The danger, here, is that the laborer who benefits by the CIO will begin to credit his improved condition to communist activity and in a really profound crisis may turn to communism as a final and sure refuge. You can make communists by calling them such... The warning uttered, here, is that there

may be something decaying about a democracy which goes hysterical and call names when labor seeks some alleviation of its miseries."

One swallow is not a summer, nor one bolshevik a labor union.

—xox—

...THAT this is all for the present, folks.