

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR
ORGANIZE YOUR
NEIGHBOURS
CIRCULACION
10.000

ACCION

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE CANAL ZONE
WORKERS UNION. WITH
NO POLITICAL CON-
NECTIONS.

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5 Cents

Success Without Precedence

THE NATIONAL GYMNASIUM WAS THE SCENE OF GREAT ENTHUSIASM DURING INAUGURATION OF CANAL ZONE WORKERS UNION

"I HOPE TO SOLVE LABOR PROBLEMS IN THE CANAL ZONE", DECLARED HIS EXCELLENCY DON ENRIQUE A. JIMENEZ

"We shall not strike or attempt any subversive acts against any government", was the declaration of Vice-President Aston Parchment in the course of his lengthy speech

A historic precedent was set at the National Gymnasium on July 4th by the Canal Zone Workers Union during its inauguration on said date.

For the first time in the history of the Republic, that a president actually attended a rally staged by any labor group. He not only attended the ceremony, but was also accompanied by his entire cabinet.

In his speech the president made the following statement: "Before leaving the presidency, I hope to solve labor problems in the Canal Zone, principally the racial and economical discrimination which is repeatedly demonstrated. Proof of my efforts in this direction is the fact that this important problem has been set in second place on the agenda under discussion at the roundtable conference between Panamanian and Canal Zone officials."

Brother Alejandro Victor acting as master of ceremony, introduced to the audience the members of the executive body of the organization, as well as the delegates from the City of Colon.

Vice President Aston Parchment of the C.Z.W.U. received a great ovation after having finished his lengthy and distinguished speech which we reproduce as follows.

Today we stand at the crossroads of our destiny. Forty years of fruitless toil; forty years of inhuman exploitation; forty years of economic embarrassments; forty years of internal strife and insular misunderstandings have overflowed our cup of bitter experience and have now impelled us to this supreme effort... THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CANAL ZONE WORKERS UNION. Today we fittingly celebrate the coming of age of our young Union which shall be our hope for a brilliant future, which shall be our defense against the enemies of

DEMOCRACY, which shall be our guide in all our enterprises.

Why have we formed the Canal Zone Workers Union?... Go before your mirrors, you old timers, and count on your faces the deep furrows chiseled by the biting blade of economic oppression. Look on the faces of our young brothers of twenty and twenty-five and notice the grooves of bitterness etched around the corners of their mouths. You are worn out... You are bitter. Do you still ask why we should form the Canal Zone Workers Union?

Go down to the Ancon Laundry on the first or second of each month and view with horror the retired "silver" employees receiving their cash relief. You experience an icy chilliness creeping up your limbs as you see that heart-rending procession of broken men, shuffling along dejectedly... weak... disillusioned... shattered in body and mind... each halting step is an agony... each faltering breath a purgatory of distress. Watch those shadows of humanity reach out with trembling hands to receive the meager average of twenty dollars as a reward for thirty years or more of loyal, uncomplaining, efficient service in the employment of the richest, the most powerful, the most benevolent, and the most democratic nation on the face of the earth... THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA... The United States of America that gave to the world a George Washington, an Abraham Lincoln, and a Franklin Delano Roosevelt. If conditions continue to exist as they are, you, and you, and you... all of us will have to make that monthly march of the derelicts to receive a pittance of twenty dollars as an average. Do you still ask why we should form the Canal Zone Workers Union?

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TO EACH MEMBER

1—WE SHALL WIN BECAUSE OR CAUSE IS JUST.

2—Let the enemies of DEMOCRACY get the jitters.

3—We have nothing to fear but fear.

4—Do a good job each day at work.

5—Be not intimidated by a boss unfriendly to the Union.

6—If he has the jitters it means that he is guilty.

7—Respect those in authority.

8—The Union is not formed for the lazy, good for nothing type of worker.

9—SIGN ALL AFFIDAVITS CONCERNING NON-PARTICIPATION IN STRIKES.

10—Keep your mouth shut and your ears open.

11—Do not brag about the future plans of your Union.

12—Do not antagonize the members of any other democratic Union.

13—BUY YOUR UNION PAPER EACH WEEK.

14—WE HAVE MANY FRIENDS ON THE GOLD ROLL.

15—Every true American is our friend.

16—The Union newspaper is yours. Send in articles and social items.

17—Patronize your advertisers.

18—Keep Labor Day open on your social calendar.

19. SOMETHING BIG IS COMING UP ON LABOR DAY.

20—THE UNION WILL NEED YOU ON

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Metal Trades Council Embarrass U. S. Government

At a recent meeting in Balboa, C. Z. on American territory, in a building owned by the U. S. Government and given free to the A.F.G.E. (A. F.L. affiliate) Pat Coakley, president arose and with an air of righteous wrath, told of a horrible incident and the urgent need for preventing a recurrence of same, (name withheld), a Negro American girl, was sent here to work on the GOLD ROLL! getting GOLD PAY! enjoying GOLD PRIVILEGES, and worst of all was

given quarters in a GOLD COMMUNITY! Applause greeted him when he insisted that this sort of thing must not be allowed to continue. Other gallant (?) Americans then arose to add their bit saying "keep them out of here" and "...must maintain our 40 year traditions on the Zone."

After all these "patriotic" Americans had ranted and foamed about "their" traditions, a new voice arose—a voice truly American—that of (Continued on Page 4)

IS THIS INTIMIDATION?

It seems as though the Naval authorities are quite worried about the recently formed labor Union.

They have recently issued forms to all Naval employees that must be signed and returned. These forms state as follows:

"I do hereby solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am not a member of an organization of government employees that asserts the right to strike against the Government of the United States; and that during such time as I am an employee of the Navy Department (Federal Government) I will not become a member of an organization of government employees that asserts the right to strike against the Government of the United States."

There is no reason why any Naval employee should refrain from joining this Union since we do not advocate strikes against any Government. All Naval employees who are already members of the Union are advised to sign this Affidavit without fear. Those who are not members are urged by us to join as soon as possible.

The navy having issued these Affidavits serves as proof to the fact that the members of the reactionary sector of the Canal Zone are worried about the impetus at which the Union is travelling and are busily preparing the offensive.

We condemn the Navy's action in issuing these affidavits as a move to intimidate the workers, thereby hoping to disrupt and obstruct the growth of the Canal Zone Workers Union.

TOLEDANO TO..?

Vicente Lombardo Toledano, Mexican labor leader who is now in Moscow, has announced that he will ask the World Federation of Trade Unions Conference to boycott Franco by refusing to load or unload ships to and from Spain.

Toledano told the United Press:

"After the Atlantic Charter, everybody began to talk about the new world and the new life after the war. We haven't forgotten the Atlantic Charter and that is why we must take the practical resolutions to help the Spanish people."

The WFTU already has become a center of discord in the UN. On Friday a committee report on the role it should play opened a major controversy in the Economic and Social Council. Because of the size and international structure of the WFTU, Sidney Hillman, vice president, sent a letter to the Council asking that the organization be permitted to send a non-voting representative to all sessions of the Council to present its views.

Henri Hauck, French representative, and Nikolai Feonov, for the Soviet Union, supported the Hillman request which had been rejected by the committee report. John G. Winant, for the U. S., and P. J. Noel-Baker, for Britain, generally supported the report and objected to the WFTU being given special status, on the grounds that other organizations might ask the same rights.

EACH MEMBER MUST BUY HIS OWN COPY OF "ACCION"