

ACTION

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Published every Friday. Printed in "La Academia" Printery.

Registered in Panama according to laws.

Recognized by the Chamber of Commerce in Panama.

VOL. I

PANAMA, R. P.

NO.3

EDITORIAL

Len Goldsmith, International Representative of the C.I.O. and of the United Public Workers of America arrived at the Albrook Field Air terminal on Saturday, July 13th.

For the first time in the history of the Republic of Panama an International Representative has been sent to investigate the situation in the Canal Zone in regards to the so-called silver worker and to organize them for their struggle to better the economic and social conditions in which they now find themselves.

Ever since the birth of the Panama Canal, the sector of employees designated as "silver employees" have faced the discriminations handed down by the less democratic sector of Americans residing on the Canal Zone.

We were forced to cede to the ill treatment, not because we were satisfied, but because there was no visible means in the past of putting up a defence against this despotism without the loss of a job.

Today, after the struggles and the victories of the various Trade Unions in the United States, a ray of hope has been instilled in the minds of the workers in the Canal Zone. This is one of the things that led to the birth of the Canal Zone Workers Union.

At last we have decided to come together in a solid bloc to combat the evils that have kept us down, mentally, socially, physically, and economically.

It is now two and one half months or more since the founding of the Canal Zone Workers Union. Ever since the foundation of the Union we have been advertizing the arrival of a representative from the United Public Workers Union—C.I.O. Now this is a reality, He is here to help us organize the unorganized.

He has manifested his surprise at the growth of our Union and is deeply impressed by the full cooperation shown by the members he has met.

He has given us some of the important pointers in regard to trade unionism and the requirements necessary for the amalgamation of the Canal Zone Workers Union into the United Public Workers of America, C.I.O.

Now the skeptics are out on a limb because they are the ones who started the unpleasant rumors concerning the coming of a C.I.O. representative. Now he is here and this is where our battles really begin.

Waterfront Activities

By Pulpo

The C. Z. W. U. has taken Pier 18, Balboa by storm. Workers, who heretofore had pessimistically predicted that our movement will be an ignominious failure, are today, members. This augurs well for the future. Certain members of another well known organization have told this writer, that it is only a matter of time before all of us will be merged as one. All this has come about through the unprecedented success of our initial rally staged on the 4th of July last. It is now up to us of the UNION to redouble our efforts. The fight has just begun. Let us all get into the thick of the fray. Let us UNITE: Join the UNION NOW. Support your UNION; not only by attending meetings, but also, by buying and reading your paper.

ACCION!

ACCION!

ACCION!

TAKE TIME

Take time to work—it is the price of success.

Take time to think—it is the source of power.

Take time to play—it is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to read—it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to be friendly—it is the road to happiness.

Take time to dream—it is hitching your wagon to a star.

Take time to love and be loved—it is the privilege of the gods.

Take time to look around—it is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to laugh—it is the music of the soul.

—Old Irish Proverbs.

STANDARD ON CANAL ZONE

By BERLE J. McGRATH

Since the benning of World War II the heads of the various divisions in the Canal Zone have been requesting the so-called "Silver" employees not to engage in any subversive activities against the United States Government. The "Silver" employees that are members of a labor union are also contrained not to strike during the period of their employment with agencies of the United States Federal Government.

It is generally well understood that a limitation upon the "right to strike" is imposed on employees engaged in public utilities, public service and government projects, for stoppage of work would be detrimental to public welfare and maintenance of government.

It is known to be a fact that circumstances over which the large masses of "Silver" workers have no control determine their wages, their hours of work or not. It may be said that the so-called "Silver" employees and the so-called "Gold" employers are equal before the law, but the inequality of their bargaining power in arranging conditions of employment is obvious. It is a "forced sale" in with the "Gold" employers gain not only power over the "Silver" employees' working conditions, but power over their wages on which their future fortunes depend as well as over their safety and their very lives. A power, moreover, which they did not purchase. As stated by Lord Northington, quoted by Pound ("Liberty of Contract" in Yale Law Journal, Vol. XVIII, p 471) "Necessitous men are not, truly speaking, free men, but to answer a present exigency, will submit to any terms which the crafty may impose upon them."

It is therefore quite clear that there is a presing need for organization among the "Silver" workers and any restrictions would be contrary to their general welfare and an infringement upon their democratic rights.

A Man's Real Test

Never in the history of our occupation has the resonance of the clarion call to every alien worker across the border been more needed than at the present time. Like a quarry scoured to his dungeon, the fate of the alien worker seemed signed and sealed, but there has been a grand awakening to discover the failure of our democratic ideals that all men are born equal and free to follow the pursuit of happiness.

The misrepresentation of the facts of life has at last found its outlet in the competitive system of our modern civilization, but is even more pronounced in our very midst. The open assault of the enemies of our civilization and their covert designs are so

SPADES

By ace high

Quotings from Webster's Dictionary: "Spade, 1) A digging implement heavier than a shovel and adapted for being pushed into the ground etc.. to call a spade a spade, to call a thing its right name however coarse: to tell plain facts in plain words."

We have been reliably informed that the staff members of the Star & Herald were angered by some statement that appeared in this column in our last issue. That statement was, "The Star & Herald 'jim-crowed' our initial effort in the ill-conceived —'Colored Community News' section." We still feel that we were "jim - crowed". Why wasn't a reporter assigned to cover the July 4th rally of our Union at the National Gymnasium, like they most certainly would have done had the meeting taken place on the other side of 4th of July Ave. for the purpose of retaining the differential? We know of instances when the "Star & Herald" waged editorial battles with other publications. Did that make enemies of these papers or did the owners and writers continue to sip cocktails together? While we neither intend nor expect to be the drinking companions of the editorial staff of the of the "Star & Herald", we see no reason for enmity between us. Thirteen years ago during the negotiations of the Arias-Roosevelt Treaty, it was with great admiration that we used to read the daily editorials in the "Star & Herald". Today, however, this is a very disgusting experience. A contributor to the "Mail - Box" of the "Panama-American" wrote recently that twenty-five years ago, the "Star-Herald" was much more of a newspaper than it is today. The editorial in the July 13th issue, confirm this. An editorial so filled with incorrect statements bent on deceiving, apparently in defense of the disgraceful "silver & gold roll" division of human beings, is just shameful.

A survey was conducted to prove that the lot of the so-called 'Silver' worker has improved during the last two years. The thousands of men and women

earning sub-standard wages which don't meet their barest necessities could not believe their eyes when they read this.

The agitators in the cities of the Republic probably includes President Jimenez, Governor Navas of Colon — not bad company for the others... Governor Mehaffey has shown evidences of being mindful of the so-called "Silver" worker, but they, like other workers, must be mindful of themselves. No one is agitating against the Governor, we are organizing that's all. In Panama vacations are due after the eleventh month of service. Does the editor of the "Star & Herald" know when a "silver" man gets his first rest leave? It is nice to work 40 hours-5 days a week but you must eat 7 days you know, 40 times 11 c. or 15 c. or even 28 c. doesn't go so far... About being "...lucky enough to be assigned quarters", they would prefer having luck with the National Lottery... Workers in Panama are assuring their old-age pension through a Social Security tax, Zone "Silver" workers sometimes get \$5 cash relief because they might possess an odd chair or radio from Sears Roebuck & Co. May the Governor and his staff continue to help, but the workers must continue to help themselves by organizing because in the final analysis, God helps him who helps himself... So the workers are to continue sitting down waiting for "due course of time" because Government actions require time to cristallize into realities? Well in the 42 years of Canal history, there has been a lot of "cristallizing" but sad to say the crystals were always lined with gold, very little silver lining. They have and will continue to seek assistance from "elements not directly associated with life and work on the Canal Zone". The reason for this is so obvious that we wonder what type of mentality conceived such criticism.

For instance we know of no sympathetic congressman, sympathetic newspaperman or even professional labor organizer working on the "silver roll" of the Canal Zone.

marked and so poignant, but like the resilience of a rubber ball, we have been able to withstand the ravages of time — crushed almost into eternity to emerge again, enriched by our own failures, to behold the shafts of malice and prejudice recoiling with contempt by those who would level them.

In the philosophy of life we are reminded that the goal for which we are striving is not

found in possession nor in the material things of life, but in the desire to serve and aid others, to assist those in need, rather than to prejudice or adopt discriminatory practices by endeavoring to establish that some groups are superior to other groups yet seeking to minimize the conditions that would yield pecuniary benefits to the allegedly inferior groups by means of exploitation and other ar-

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