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10.000

OFFICIAL ORGAN PUBLIC WORKERS-CIO - WITH POLITICAL NO CON-

NECTIONS.

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**AUGUST 21 1946** 

5 Cents

#### **GOLD COAST LADIES JOIN** RANKS OF UPW-CIO

Over 500 Gold Coast ladies gathered at the International Hall situated in this City for the purpose of discussing their economic welfare. In a meeting previouly held in the Arcos Hall in the City of Panama, the Pacific side ladies displayed the same interest as was displayed in Colon.

According to reports received in this office, the meetings held by the ladies have proven to be much more orderly than those held by the men so far.

The men were at first worried about the ladie's not wanting to join the Union, but now, the ladies have proven that they are willing to fight to the bitter end to obtain that which is theirs.

On Thursday 8th. inst. Governor Mehaffey denied the statements made by Mr. Goldsmith at our rally at the Olimpic Stadium. This has surely given much more impetus to the Union, since eligible employees are now joining at a faster rate than they were before his statement. Since the Governor's statement failed to break the enrollment to the Union, especially that of the ladies, then it is evident that it will take more than just words to rupture the present labor movement on the Canal Zone.

# JOINN THE **UPW-CIO**

#### AN APOLOGY

On Saturday last, Mr. George Westerman and I met and, in an atmosphere of utmost courtesy and reason, thrashed out a recent misunderstanding which arose over statements made by me at a meeting in the Colon Arena, at which time I made references to his recently published book.

I am now firmly convinced that Mr. Westerman does have and apparently has always had the interest of his people at heart. In view of this fact, any allusions made to isolated passages of his book should 'not be construed as unfair, since they are but minute parts of an entire picture being presented from a realistic point of view.

Through this medium, I take the opportunity, to publicly apologize to Mr. Westerman from what I now am convinced was an unfair attack. He is just as much in this fight as we all are, and he is grimly determined to add his bit in seeing that true democracy, decency, and fair play take root on the Canal Zone.

Since the program outlined in Westernman's book resembl. ed closely the program of the C.I.O. it was inevitable that any misunderstanding betwe-Westerman and myself should have been settled in an atmosphere of friendship.

EDWARD CHERESH

#### What We Represent

Highlights of Our Constitution ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS

. 1) To bring about the effective organization of the working men and women of the Canal Zone regardless of RACE, CREED, COLOR, or NATIONAL ORIGEN, and to unite them for common action into a labor union for their mutual aid and protection.

2) To extend the benefits of collective bargaining and to secure for the workers means to establish peaceful relations with their employers (The United States Government) by forming a labor union capable of dealing with modern aggregates of the U.S. Government in the interest of the Workers of the Canal Zone.

3) To maintain determined adherence to obligations and responsibilities under collective bargaining and wage agree-

4) To secure legislation safeguarding the economic security and social welfare of the Workers of the Canal Zone, to protect and extend our democratic institutions and civil rights and liberties and thus to perpetuate and realize the cherished traditions of democracy.

#### **GAMBOA CHAPTER** INAUGURATED

The Gamboa Chapter was inaugurated on Thursday after. noon August 15 at the Gamboa Clubhouse. Brother Cordero, or. ganizer of the Chapter, officiated at the mass meeting which celebrated this great event.

Brother Cheresh Regional Director of our Union spoke of some malicious propaganda which has been circulating in community about the Union and its activities. He advised that we prepare for attacks of this sort not only from without but also from within, because there are many who are doing their utmost to disorganize our Union.

Various brothers present expressed their hopes while others reafirmed their faith in the United Public Workers -CIO. They urged their fellow workers to affiliate with and support our Union 100%. It

### Miami Herald Attacks Local 713, **UPW-CIO**

The Miami Herald, a newspaper published in the U.S.A., has launched a vicious a attack against Chapter 713 UPW-CIO recently established in the Canal Zone. This paper, used to a full measure the misinformation they obviously received from someone purely intent upon imparing the prestige of our Union. The most viscious of the statements was that a panamanian left wing paper is the official organ of our improvements were left for a Union.

was also stated that our success depends not only on our local organizers and stewards. or on our international representatives but on the members; because we are the ones to prove to these people that we and our cause are worth fighting for.

A Stewardr, Meeting .was held after the mass meeting, and brother Atherton, Chief Steward of the Local, divided the Steward Department into various sections so as to as. sure a more efficient functioning of this Department. Phillip Malcolm was elected Chief Steward of the Gamboa Chap. ter; Cecil Hall assistant Chief Steward; and L. A. Burke, Secretary.

Shop Stewards were elected to be responsible for various sections within the same departments. Instead of having the various stewards in the various sections doing the job of representing employees. turning Union money over to the central office, attending regular steward meetings, etc.; this kind of job will be the responsibility of the Shop Steward who will in turn make a report to the local chapter.

The discussion of further, later date.

#### STOP SITTING ON THE FENCE

writer has disclosed that a number of workers are not members as yet of our CIO Local. Many of these workers have cited reasons, which do not stand up to convince me that they are either important or sound.

One of the most common of the reasons advanced by some of these skeptics hinges on a very erroneous belief. This group, through reasons which come to regard the Canal Zone as a government in itself. They seem to think that all laws in force in Canal Zone originated there, and that the United States has no jurisdiction whatsoever over that strip of land

In fostering this belief, these skeptics are of the im-

A personal survey by this pression that the Canal Zone authorities can, whenever they deem it convenient, prohibit the CIO from operating in behalf of the worker on the Canal Zone; or that they could dismiss from service all workers having affiliation with this organization.

> Such a belief must have been motivated, no doubt, from some previous experience based on laws of the United States as applicable to the Canal Zone and their interpretation by these authorities. Probably, it is on account of their relatively poo rknowledge of the Constitution of the United States and its relation to the Canal Zone. Probably, it is because these skeptics are not aware of the simple fact that

> > (Continued on Page 4)

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4-U.P.W.A. 5-W.F.T.U.

6-N.M.U.

7-U.A.W.

8-C.T.A.L. 9-Name the president of

the F.S.T.P. 10-Name the president of

the C.I.O.

11-Name the president of the U.P.W.A.

12-Name the president of C.T.A.L.

13-Which 2 largest Unions have recently amalgamated?

## James Smith's Letter Puts Local Daily in Questionable Position

By: Common Sense

Len Goldsmith, International Organizer, United Public Workers, CIO, in very certain terms made it known to the more than 12.000 persons present at the charter presentation ceremony held at the Olympic Stadium on Sunday, July 28th that the letter appearing in a morning newspaper on July 26th, charging him with exploitation of the Canal Zone Workers who were affiliated with the United Public Workers of America, CIO, was the undercover strategy of rival groups opposed to seeing the lot of these workers tangjbly improved.

newspaper, was written by one James Smith, a Panamanian, who is supposed to be residing In the letter this James Smith branded as exploitation the \$1.00 monthly dues to be paid by the local workers, inasmuch as the dues in the United States does not exceed 65 cents.

Really, any newspaper that boasts of the reputation of this particular morning daily, upon receiving such material for pu blication, would have attempted to make a careful check to ascertain if the statements were of an authentic nature, moreso when it is to be re-This letter, according to the membered that one or the (Cont. on Page 4)

Pay Your Dues On Time

#### Patronize Our Patronizers