

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.

Oct. 3, 1946.

THE EDITOR,
CIO ACCION.
Dear Sir.

Kindly accept my profound gratitude in allowing this article to be published in the CIO Accion. On Sept. 19, 1946 the STAR & HERALD, published an Editorial under the Caption of "IT COULD STAND INVESTIGATION" In its edition the Editor commented on an article written by the Jerry Kluttz (Member of the K-K-K Family) and published by the WASHINGTON EVENING STAR.

It went on to say, they thought the CIO an organization determined to break down certain artificial barriers to afford the workers a better break as regards compensation and working conditions, but on the contrary it is communistic, and recommended that the government of Panama investigate same. Not many weeks ago, the Star & Herald published an article stating, that they made an investigation on workers and living conditions in the Canal Zone, and they have seen no cause for the Silver Workers squealing about conditions.

I am showing that Editor, where he is condemned by his own words. If he is conscious that there are artificial barriers that need breaking down, then the investigation they made was wrong. (Giving us a six for a nine) Instead of running an editorial quoting the WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, why not quote some other foreign papers, about SOUTHERN LYNCHING, or comment on Local Events as: THE OBJECTION OF PANAMANIAN WORKERS FROM

SO CALL GOLD CLUB HOUSES, AND COMMISSARIES, THE TERM USE CALLING PANAMANIAN "ALIENS" in their native land. "Lets stop getting drunk before we call our uncle in the States a Drunkard" I recommend that such people start practicing democracy and stop preaching it.

He should be hooked on a charge of "TRYING TO INSIGHT MUTINY IN THIS REPUBLIC" for a editorial like that. After all we have gone thru enough tyranny, to be fooled at this part of the game. I am quoting him as saying "We enjoy having Frigidaire in our homes, and an extra suit of clothes and Communism is against that. "Lets tell them about the LIVE AND LET LIVE SYSTEM. For instance: John wants a Rocking Horse, lets give Harry one too he is also a swell kid. After all thats a democratic act and not communism.

Anyway— We are still one BIG HAPPY FAMILY, and the CIO is here to stay and will teach democracy.

Thanks Mr. Editor,
Respectfully yours,
C.I.O.—JIM.

—xox—

To the Editor
ACCION
UPW-CIO.

With the utmost respect for the honesty and great ability of those who are proceeding on the line of experimentation, I must state that I resent the practice of using slander in the process of its development.

The UPW-CIO Local 713 has been accused of communistic leanings and Un-American activities. In reply to this and other accusations of a similar tendency, let it be distinctly

S P O R T S

SPORTSCOPE

The track and field team that will represent Panama in the Barranquilla Games in December was selected by the National Olympic Committee.

The team, as selected comprises the outstanding athletes of each event in addition to those who are considered sufficiently qualified to represent the country at Barranquilla.

However, the selection of some of the athletes over others who have better claims for inclusion has resulted in the incurrance of several errors based on the performance of the athletes.

In the 800 and 1500 meters distances, Percival Griffith was not selected despite the fact that he finished second in the 1500 meters race of the last

official elimination. In the high jump for men, three athletes were selected. Of the three it is worthwhile to note that only Britte and Clovis are able to jump higher than six feet regularly, while the third jumper, Thorne, is able to jump only 5' 11" 'I wonder what is the real reason for Thorne's inclusion', It is my opinion that he should be dropped in favor of someone else who has a chance of contributing some points to the team in December.

In the discus and javelin events for girls, the name of Matilde Garcia appears as one of those selected. Did she compete in the last eliminations? Better than that, has she been competing or training regular-

ly during the past four months? Tilcia Palomeque would be a lot more helpful than Matilde in these events.

Among the substitutes, there appears the name of one McLennon. It is understood that he was included upon the basis of one of the weekly time trials held on Saturdays at the Olympic Stadium for the Pacific side athletes. McLennon, I have been informed, participated in the final eliminations and was not among the eligibles. How is it that he is among them now. Winston Brathwaite or Anthony Cabey could lick McLennon as well as a few others that have been selected for the sprints. Maybe the Colon coach, Stanley Loney, has not been submitting the results of his time trials held at the Colon Stadium. Or was he ever asked to?

With all of these discrepancies there is one that is the most glaring. It is the Percival Griffiths' case. What could be the reason given for his exclusion as a regular instead of a substitute? Coach Belizaire or the Olympic Committee should clarify this as well as all other discrepancies for the benefit of the public.

The old practise of favoring an athlete from Panama City over another from Colon should be discontinued and the athletes picked on the basis of their merit.

The Panama Professional Baseball League is beset with a very serious problem this season, that of obtaining outstanding imported players. Last season they were fortunate in securing the services of players like Barney Brown, Henry McHenry, Lefty Glover, Pats Scantlebury, etc. but things are going to be different this season.

Many of the outstanding players of the colored baseball world will be heading for Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Venezuela where the salaries are higher than those paid by the Panama League.

SPORT SHORTS

John Clauzel, CPR second sacker, is slated to see service for the Maracaibo Club in Venezuela, while Scantlebury, and Barney Brown are almost certain to wind up in Puerto Rico

—xox—

The Newark Eagles defeated the Kansas City Monarchs in the play-off series to decide the championship of Negro Baseball in the United States.

—xox—

Panama's first Provincial Basketball Series ended Monday night, Sept. 30th when the Panama provincial quintet

eked out a 25 to 24 victory over the boys from Colon. The game was well contested, but the Panama teams victory is due in a large measure to the very partial arbitration of the officials.

—xox—

Leon Kellman, member of the Cleveland Buckeyes of the American Negro League in the United States finished the season with a .301 batting average. Kellman was also second in the runs batted in department. He is expected to return to the Isthmus on or about October 15th.

understood that nothing could be further from the truth. Judging the present and immediate future by the experiences of the past, it would be a very rare exception among Canal Zone authorities who would give credence to this accusation.

Those responsible for the formulation and publication of such accusations were actuated by motives of self interest, intellectual vanity, a desire for popular approval by political preferment and to court the attention and applause of CIO enemies.

As a member of the UPW-CIO Local 713, I raise the question as to whether those who accuse us of communism are not of themselves communist trying an abducent sales talk. I shall be like William Lloyd Garrison, Editing publisher in 1831 of the "Liberator" who wrote "I will be as harsh as truth and as uncompromising as justice — I am in earnest — I will not

equivocate — I will not excuse — I will not retreat a single inch — and I will be heard."

If communism is collective bargaining for better housing, equal pay for equal work, better educational facilities, then CIO is definitely communistic. If on the other hand this is not so, then Communists are attempting to sell communism to the employees of the United States Government on the Canal Zone.

Frank E. Thompson.

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