

Grand Parade.....

This is the time, the appointed time, the time fixed by Len Goldsmith, that Popular Organizer of the CIO, for the Parade which will convince General Mehauffey, Governor of the Panama Canal, that he was wrong, terribly wrong, when he charged the members of Local 713 of the United Public Workers of America, CIO, of instability, and of inability to unite, so as to keep the Union alive for even six months. No blame should be attached to Governor Mehauffey, however, for our experiences of the past warranted his statement. We have fallen down time and time again. But this time let us show incontestable proof that we have at last learnt to stick together and intend to see this thing through to the end, bitter or sweet, standing firmly on our feet whilst doing it.

This is the route planned for the Atlantic side Chapters to demonstrate their determination to carry the flag to victory:

Parade starts promptly at 5:00 P. M. from the 5th Street Park. The marchers, headed by the national flag of the Republic of Panama and of the United States of America and by the Bombero Band of the City of Colon, will proceed along Front Street in the direction of the Washington Hotel, turn right into Second Street, and continue on to Bolivar Street. Here the Paraders will again effect a right turn and proceed along Bolivar Street until it reaches Eleventh

Street. At this point it will cross the railroad track and for the first time along its route make a left turn by the Cristobal Fire Station. Also for the first time, members of the UPWA_CIO, will have set foot on the Canal Zone on a demonstration supporting their cause with official permission so to do. The Parade shall have then be located on Roosevelt Avenue, proceeding onward, it will very shortly after arrive at Terminal Street, curve left and find itself whilst straightening its line, progressing between the pretentious-looking Administration Building housing the Cristobal Post Office, and the edifice popularly called "The Royal Mail Building". Now solidly upon Canal Zone territory, the demonstrators, marching in step to the music of two bands, one in front and the other in the center, will go forward on Terminal Street, eastwardly towards Thirteenth Street Colon, where they will leave Canal Zone territory and return to the hospitable soil of the Republic. They will parade through Thirteenth Street where it adjoins Central Avenue, swing left on to the eastern half of this Avenue, step in line all along its well-kept surface until it arrives at Second Street; there it will again manoeuvre to the left and continue along its length up to Herrera Avenue where for the last time the Paraders will turn left and proceed on to the rendezvous at the Band Stand of the 5th Street Park according to plan.

CIO WINS FIRST.....

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be taken now.

Late in December, Strobel and Regional Director Edward Cheresch met with Colonel Wang, Assistant to the Governor of the Panama Canal. Colonel Wang stated that investigation had shown the Union to be right. He further stated that the hotel employees will be given a wage increase in their daily pay. This will be on the basis of receiving the same pay for 40 hours as previously paid for 48 hours. In addition, the hotel employees will continue working a sixth day for the time being and will receive an extra day's pay for the sixth overtime day.

This means that every employee will receive an increase in wages amounting to a 20% increase in take-home pay, and this wage increase will restore the take-home pay that these employees formerly received. However, they will receive the same pay for 6 days work as they previously received for 7 days work.

Regional Director Cheresch followed up the meeting with Colonel Wang by meeting with the hotel management, at which meeting the pay increase was verified. It is expected that the increase will go into effect January 1st.

This wage increase, as roughly estimated by the Union, will amount to about \$48,000 per year total for the approximately 400 hotel employees affected.

NOTE: Accion has been given to understand that quite a few hotel employees at the Tivoli Hotel are not Union members. We believe that this victory should convince these non-members that the Union benefits them and that they should join Local 713 immediately. Hotel Washington in Colon is already 100% in union membership, so this note does not apply to these employees.

NEWS FROM UPW-CIO IN THE U.S.

Last November International President Abram Flaxer, called a national conference of federal workers to adopt pay and security programs. The meeting was held in Washington last Dec. 7. In issuing the summons to the Board members the President emphasized the fact that the organization must meet the price crisis which shows no signs of immediate retrenchment and that federal wages have lagged behind despite the fact that government workers have been loyal.

Of interest to local teachers is the news that UPW_CIO is now the collective bargaining representative for both teachers and non-teaching personnel of the Hampton Institute, The Board of Trustees of the University granted this recognition after its subcommittee checked the membership cards and found that a substantial majority of the personnel on the payrolls of the school were UPW_CIO members.

Our International President, Abram Flaxer, was unanimously re-elected to his eight term as member of the CIO Executive Board.

New York Teachers continue their fight for substantial wage increase. Hundreds of them, members of Local 555, paraded to the Empire State Building in a noon-time demonstration while attractive leaflets were distributed to the city's 8 million inhabitants.

Employees of the famous John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md., are now joining the UPW_CIO. Despite the fame of this well-known hospital some of the employees receive as low as \$65.00 per month without subsistence. This is the kind of help from which patients are expected to receive adequate care. It is no wonder that these workers are making no bones about aligning themselves with the CIO. At the opening drive Regional Director Schwartz obtained the assurance from the Director of the Hospital that supervisors would not be allowed to intimidate employees in exercising their rights to join the Union. Negotiations for a contract will follow upon completion of the organizing campaign.

A few nights ago two friends were exchanging secrets in an autobus. One friend had come from the Pacific Side (Balboa Chapter) to visit his cousin on the Atlantic Side (Cristobal Chapter). It appeared that the Cristobal fellow ran short of new talking material just as his Balboa cousin had done; for a few minutes both fell silent—but not for long. The popular topic of the day had been thoroughly discussed by them but was now reopened in a new light. The Cristobal fellow had some military secret to impart. He was not a traitor and would not have anyone

"ARROWS IN THE AIR"

By Nelson McBean

Today the quintessence of importance is attached to the Two Parades which United Public Workers_CIO is planning for January 19, 1947. Union Headquarters is seething with unprecedented activity in connection with the thousand and one things which should assure success for this historic event. This department joins with International Vice President Jack L. Strobel in asserting that the success of these Parades will mean the further making of Local 713.

We present here some facts pertinent to these Parades—Every member should know these facts—On July 16, 1946, Major General Joseph C. Mehauffey, Governor of the Panama Canal, told Leonard Goldsmith, International Organizer of UPW_CIO, that within six months the unity existing at that time between

Silver employees would have disintegrated and that as a consequence Local 713 would cease to exist. "Len," astute organizer that he is, accepted the Governor's statement as a direct challenge to the UPW_CIO and also as an insult to the intelligence of the Silver workers of The Panama Canal Zone. Goldsmith hit on the idea of The Parade of the Century, which would hit the Canal Zone—Citadel of discrimination and intolerance—like an avalanche, and thousands of members at several mass meetings vowed to hit the "line" and hit it hard when January 16—six months—comes around.

Well, guys and gals, January 16 is here. Are you going to stick to your promise to Len? Are you going to show Governor Mehauffey, in a decent sort of way, that he was wrong? Incidentally, you will also serve notice through a successful Parade—on these Die-hard racists—that "The worm has turned", and in turning, has destroyed the old fabric of lies which supported their claim to superiority. You will also give a boost to your own morale and that of thousands of others when taking part in these grand Parades. At the same time you will be doing a good turn for your Union that will make the going easier for your representatives when negotiating on your behalf.

It is necessary, however, to take note of a few important incidents relating to these Parades:

(1) Len Goldsmith will not be here. Bob Weinstein, Director of Organization, will make the trip to take part in these functions. This is important. The International Office of UPW_CIO is taking special care of Local 713, at this crucial moment of its existence. Director Weinstein is not unknown in these parts where he made a host of friends during his short "Tour" last November. Len's work is done. He came, he saw and he conquered. Bob Weinstein, in his official capacity as Director of Organization, is now the Stabilizer, so it is good fortune having him with Local 713 at this special time.

(2) There will be Two Parades because the difficulties encountered in various aspects of the problems involved favored the split, but the principle (a show of unparalleled strength and unity) must be maintained on both sides of the Isthmus. It is imperative that this be understood by every member so that response be near as one hundred per cent as is possible. Only those who have to work on that Sunday (morning, Pacific side; afternoon, Atlantic side) will be excused from doing their bit to put these Parades over with a bang.

This is a duty which must be performed and no one will be excused. This is an obligation to yourself, to your Union, and to Len Goldsmith.

BOX SCORE....

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ily were to be evicted from quarters in Gamboa. Organizers took up the case, and secured an extension until Jan. 31st when an apartment will be available in Panama.

CARLOS M. GREEN, IC 23726, Ancon, has been receiving a pension of \$17.50. Case was taken up by Organizer Hay and won an increase in the pension to \$24.

SYLVESTER E. HARRISON, IC 37992, Building Division, Atlantic area. Was given "reduction in force" for objecting to obscene language by his foreman. Case handled by Steward Peterkin, Organizer Evring, and International Vice-President Strobel. Case won at 3rd stage hearing, and Harrison was reinstated to his job.

VERNAL C. HOYTE, IC 23113, Panama Canal Press, was given 5-day suspension for "insubordination"; case handled by Stewards F. G. Bourne and Brathwaite, taken to 3rd stage. Union was unable to have suspension rescinded, but Hoyte's supervisor was reprimanded in writing for using profanity and the reasons for Hoyte's suspension were changed from "insubordination" to "poor attitude on job". The Press employees consider this a partial victory and plan to "pass the hat" for Hoyte's loss of 5 days wages. Hoyte is back to the job.

know any of the secrets in his charge. But this secret was somehow too big for him to hold, and after all, this was his cousin. So in short order he let his "bushie" companion in on the secret that the Cristobal Chapter Stewards were sneakily contriving to hold so large a unity parade demonstration that the Balboa fellows would have a hard time living down their defeat. Much to the surprise of the Cristobal Chapter fellow, his cousin had a similar secret to impart him. It appeared that sneaks abound everywhere and that both sides have their full share. Who shall win? We shall see. Ooooooo ps! This doesn't belong in this column.