

DOUBLE JEOPARDY . . .
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rican Customs Inspector when he was "fresh" enough to ask if the search made on his person at the end of his work-day was satisfactory. After being roughly handled by the Canal Zone Police he was taken to jail and charged with "assault and battery". Just before the trial in the lower Court the D.A. suddenly changed the charge to "disorderly conduct". Despite the overwhelming evidence in favor of the defendant Judge Tattlemen, in whose court Negroes have never been known to receive justice, fined him \$25.00. Lawyer Frankel, who had been retained by Local 713 in defense of the defendant, appealed to the higher court. This, however, proved futile when Judge Bunk Gardner craftily supposed that the Panama Canal employs competent Inspectors and Policemen who have, by virtue of their important functions, the power to make certain decisions and act with some independence in order to comply with their duties. So that the Customs Inspectors could easily be considered as having the authority to keep a worker at the gate until after all others have been checked through merely because he (the worker) made a remark which he (the Inspector) considers out of order; similarly, the Police has the authority to recommend to the supervisor or foreman that a worker who had been judged as being fresh should be suspended for 5 days. Then the slap administered by the inspector and the rough handling dished out by the Police were all in line with the duties of these public servants. That the court could uphold having such servants take the law into their hands, administer what they consider suitable slaps and assaults and later press charges against their victims is something beyond the comprehension of little worker folk.

But that was not all. Just after the appeal was made Boyce returned to work when "Boss" MacSparran sent him, however, when he reached the check stand he was handed a letter supposedly signed by MacSparran in which a second 5 day suspension was awaiting him. A few minutes later Union Organizer Nicasio Garcia discovered that the signature appearing on the suspension letter was not signed by the "Boss". Garcia dug into his files and brought forth the real MacSparran signature which differed in every way from that appearing in the letter.

It is possible that a system of divided authorities exist in the dock area of the Receiving and Forwarding Agency under one name with several signatures? So it appears. How else could it be? The Supervisor returns a man to work only to have a foreman or clerk under him annul his action in his own name and with a different signature, all apparently without his knowledge. That was the problem confronting Union organizers and stewards at the end of the week.

Boyce had suffered injustices at the hands of C. Z. authorities on previous occasions. He was now becoming a veteran sufferer in the field. A few years ago, while driving a taxi, he was robbed and severely injured by 2 white American soldiers whom he had been taking to France Field. The injury sustained by him in the incident consisted of several head blows and a long gash just above the base of his neck which required 21 stitches. His mother, suffering from a weak heart, died immediately when she heard the rumor that her son had been murdered by 2 white men.

The soldiers were apprehended within a few minutes after the incident but were hurriedly released for lack of sufficient evidence; it is said that no time was lost by the authorities in having them transferred from that area. All this despite the fact that the Soldiers admitted having been intoxicated and not knowing why they attacked Boyce. The investigation in which they were questioned and released was conducted in the absence of Boyce who was left penniless and without knowing what next to do.

CIO Marathon Winners

At the request of Messrs. Louis Atherton, Icah Schloss and Bertie Gittens, Local 713 donated prizes for the CIO. Marathon held last Saturday as part of the grand field day celebrated on the 22nd of February. The prizes given were 3 silver cups and one pen set for the first 4 winners.

From the Panama Police force came Victor Reyes (25 years), Agustin Carrasquilla 23 years), Antonio Arguedas 19 years), and Simon Peñalosa (22 years). From the Club Mercurio came 17 years old Roy Parker and from Balboa 15 years, old Mercon Weeks. All of the entries had had much experience in this type of race with the exception of Parker who was making his first try.

The marathon was begun at the flag pole square opposite the Pedro Miguel Post Office and followed the regular bus route into Balboa at which point the course ran into the Roosevelt Avenue past the La Boca Restaurant and ended at the La Boca Ball Park where the runners circled the field twice. The distance was a few meters over 7 miles.

At 4:13 the runners started with all taking an even pace right through to Red Tank. At 5 minutes from the starting point Arguedas hit the first mile post at the far end of the two while Peñalosa and Reyes followed closely. Carrasquilla, Weeks and Par-



(L to R) Mercon Weeks, 4th. place; Simon Peñalosa, 3rd. place; Victor "Palomino" Reyes, 1st. place; Antonio Arguedas, 2nd. place.

ker followed some 20 yards behind. The same order prevailed when the runners were climbing the steep Miraflores Hill where the distance between the runners widened except in the case of the first two.

14 minutes later Reyes passed Arguedas near the Bridge intersection of the Ft. Clayton stretch and lost no time in leaving him behind. The distance between the runners had so widened by this time that Parker found himself some 500 yards behind the leading runner and in the last position. At this stage Weeks had moved up from the fifth to the fourth position and having passed Carrasquilla, seemed to be threatening Peñalosa. By the time the Cardenas Bridge was reached Weeks did gain the third position and maintained it up to the field.

ing point Reyes broke into the Roosevelt Avenue and within 7 minutes entered the La Boca Ball Park where he completed the required 2 laps around the field in 3 minutes and 10 seconds. Arguedas came in on the second position and circled the field before any of the others appeared.

Then came the most thrilling part of the race. Young Weeks reached the third position with Peñalosa in hot and tired pursuit. From physical appearances there was no telling which of the two showed more signs of wear and tear. That each was ready to abandon the race was definitely out of the question. However, there was no unusual burst of speed from either for what threatened to be a close finish. Having entered the field for the round off about 2 minutes behind Weeks, Peñalosa kept up his longer stride; and succeeded in overtaking his opponent before the first lap was completed. From then on it was easy sailing for him as he finished third. Carrasquilla and Parker ended the race in the fifth and sixth position some 15 minutes later.

The prizes were presented by Brother Francisco Arauz, President of the Local, while hundreds applauded. Here we desire to give a word of encouragement to young Parker who showed remarkable courage and endurance in his first attempt. What his preparations has been for such a long race is not known; however, from all appearances the manner in which he ended is indicative of his failure to be discouraged in his efforts against experienced runners.

The Local has been asked by the committee to sponsor a similar race next year. It is hoped that Parker will again be seen among those participating.



The first 3 winners of the marathon are shown here as burst the tape in victory. (L to R) Victor "Palomino" Reyes, Antonio Arguedas, Simon Peñalosa (Who ran the 7 mile distance barefooted).



Here is one of our few veteran peddlers. Old man Bynoe from La Boca is shown as he prepared to lose to a couple of youngsters. His only regret was that the well-known vociferous Murphy (another old-timer) was too sick to show up for a show down.

At the Corozal crossing Reyes was 70 yards ahead of Arguedas who maintained a lead of over 150 yards over Weeks. Peñalosa, Carrasquilla and Parker followed too far back in the distance to be detected by the advance guard.

30 minutes from the start-



The winners of the 12 mile cycle race are shown above. (L to R) Alfred Layne, 3rd. Place; Harry McIntosh, 2nd. place; Oscar Layne, 1st. place.