

QUOTABLE QUOTES

TESTING FOR LOYALTY

By **BILL CAHN**

Staff Writer for UE (CIO) News

"I have here a machine," said Screwball McBatty, an inventor, "that will assist your committee to test the loyalty of our nation's two million public employees."

"Very good," said Pierpont J. Snoop, chairman of the Committee to Investigate, Intimidate and Liquidate Public Employees.

"Let's see how the machine works," suggested a committee member.

"It's very simple," said Screwball McBatty, displaying a shiny, metal gadget. "Each of the nation's public employees swallows one of these McBatty Loyalty Testing Machines."

"Did you say swallow?" asked a committee member.

"Yes," answered McBatty. "The public worker swallows the machine with a pinch of bicarbonate of soda. Once in the stomach of the worker, I have arranged for a series of automatic springs to place the McBatty Loyalty Testing Machine into immediate operation."

"What does it do?" asked a committee member.

"My invention" continued McBatty, climbing to the top of the conference table for emphasis, "is equipped with an extra-loud alarm bell. If for any reason, the worker does anything other than eat, sleep and work, the alarm will sound!"

"And then what?" asked a member.

"It will be impossible for anybody—unless equipped with the special McBatty Stomach Fishing Hook—to get at the McBatty Loyalty Testing Machine and turn the alarm off until the worker is fired by your committee."

The members of the Committee to Investigate, Intimidate and Liquidate Public Employees chewed their cigars.

"I would say that Mr. Screwball McBatty has a very useful invention here," said Pierpont J. Snoop, at length.

"Just what we need," said another member. "It's high time we took steps to stop workers from thinking."

"That's right," said another member. "Let workers think and pretty soon they'll be joining a union and demanding a living wage and doing other disloyal things like that."

"May I point out, gentlemen," said Screwball McBatty, "that the McBatty Loyalty Testing Machine is particularly sensitive to food. If the worker eats three square meals a day, the machine explodes!" "Just what we need!" cried Pierpont J. Snoop. "With the aid of the McBatty Loyalty Testing Machine we can guarantee that there won't be a full head or stomach in the entire government service!"

Prejudicial Order Rescinded

In consequence of a departmental circular posted on the bulletin board at the Colon Pump Station, (a unit of the Municipal Engineering Division since 1942) restricting the issuance of commissary coupon books to employees on active duty only, a complaint was made at a job location meeting held recently, to the effect that this directive created undue hardship to employees not on a duty status.

Following representation made by Organizer Roland Dean to the Municipal Engineer through the Supervisor of the Northern District, the following directive was issued and posted on the bulletin board:

"Please be advised that effective September 1st 1947, the subject regulation is being cancelled and a new one is being substituted therefor, restricting issue of commissary books (only) to employees absent without permission.

(Signed): **F. H. Lerchen Jr.**
Acting Municipal Engineer.
August 23, 1947"

This action of Mr. Lerchen is greatly appreciated by the employees concerned.

**You can't afford
To stay out —
Join Today!**

"LET THERE BE LIGHT . . ."

The occupants of House No. 13, Miraflores will get three crushed rock walkways and lights at entrances as a result of negotiations effected by the Union.

In a recent petition to the Union, the difficulties experienced through the lack of these facilities, and the hazards attendant were enumerated and remedial action was solicited.

The tenants are appreciative of the prompt action on the part of the Union and the P. C. Executive Office in correcting these conditions.

Proper compensation For Sunday Work Sought

Following complaints from some of the members that they have had to work on a Sunday and got compensatory time off instead of overtime pay although their regular work week was from Monday to Friday, inclusive, the Union requested that a revision be made in Circular No. 631-31 so that the work week begin at 12:01 AM Monday instead of 12:01 Sunday. The Union pointed out that in some instances it has been possible to evade the actual intention of some of the provisions of this circular because of the manner in which the work weeks were set up.

Executive Secretary Colonel Wang advised the Union as follows on this subject:

"The administrative work

Making good a promise made to the Cristobal Chapter early last August, members of the crew of the S. S. "Panama" (affiliates of the NMU-CIO) played host to hundreds of children of the employees of the Cristobal docks on Tuesday, August 26, at the Camp Bierd playshed.

The unique affair which began around 4 o'clock in the afternoon, was enjoyed to the utmost by the delighted children. Tennis, volley ball, hand ball and many other outdoor games were indulged in under the

guidance of Physical Director Harold Scott; while indoors, hilarious "teen-agers" gave free rein to their vim and inhibitions to the dance strains of an attendant orchestra.

Chairman H. W. Burman of the Ship's Committee of the NMU-CIO and most of the crew, who were responsible for the financial backing of the project, were on hand to witness the indescribable pleasure of their guests, and to show their solidarity as trade unionists with the brethren of the Cristobal

Chapter. They were as visibly happy as the kids themselves.

Group photographs of the Committee, Regional Director Max Brodsky, Chapter officers, and the children were taken during the course of the enjoyable event.

Much praise is due to these brethren of the S. S. "Panama" for this kind and generous act; and the Education and Recreation Committee under Foster Bourne is to be commended for piloting the mariner's party to the port of happy memories.

NAVY EMPLOYEES— (Continued from Page 2)

Already there was some improvement.

Joe Sachs Introduced

Bro. Brodsky next introduced Bro. Joseph Sachs, the newly arrived International Representative. His remarks included reference to the fact that Bro. Sachs had had a brilliant career at the University of Illinois from which he graduated with honors with the class of 1941. He had joined the Federal Government service as an Economist, and had seen service in the last war with the Navy. On his discharge he had returned to the Federal service as senior Economist, from which he had resigned to take up duties with the UPW-CIO at a great loss in salary. He had been assigned to duty in the state of Alabama as organizer, and had done a very good job. He was glad to have him here and was sure he would be of great help to Local 713.

Brother Sachs opened his talk by giving greetings to all from

week commencing at 12:01 AM Sunday corresponds with the calendar week, and the practice of the Panama Canal in this respect is understood to conform with the practice in other United States Government agencies. To make any change in this administrative workweek could be expected to result in numerous problems of readjustment, such as those entailed in closing all payrolls as of Sunday night and this including portions of two calendar weeks in each administrative workweek.

"I assume that your letter is based upon individual cases wherein you consider that employees unjustifiably have been required to work on Sunday. If you know of any specific case in which work on Sunday was unnecessary or in which a perversion of the regulations appears to have occurred, and if you will furnish me the names and other data in respect to such cases, I shall be glad to make inquiries and ascertain whether remedial action can be taken."

(Any member having a grievance relating to the above should contact his steward or the union office. Ed.)

International Vice-President Richardson, Director of Organizations Weinstein, and from the International Officers. He regretted that he was unable to see International Vice-President Strobel and Bro. Edward Cheres before he left the States, and in this category he included Bro. Goldsmith. He knew they all entertained great feelings of sympathy for Local 713 and its membership. From the time he had heard of the movement on the Isthmus he had had the desire to come here, and when Brother Weinstein offered the opportunity, he felt that "come hell or highwater" he was coming here to do his bit to bring better pay, better living conditions and equality of opportunity to the members of Local 713, and he was now on his way to contribute his share to the big task that faced them in the Canal Zone. He told those present that organizing in Alabama was a very different business to organizing here; that real terror accompanied those operations in the Southern States, but in spite of that the men never wavered, because they knew if the CIO abandoned the campaign, the violence they were now undergoing would increase to a great extent, and would always remain with them; but if they co-operated with the CIO and organized to the fullest extent, terrorism would be stamp-

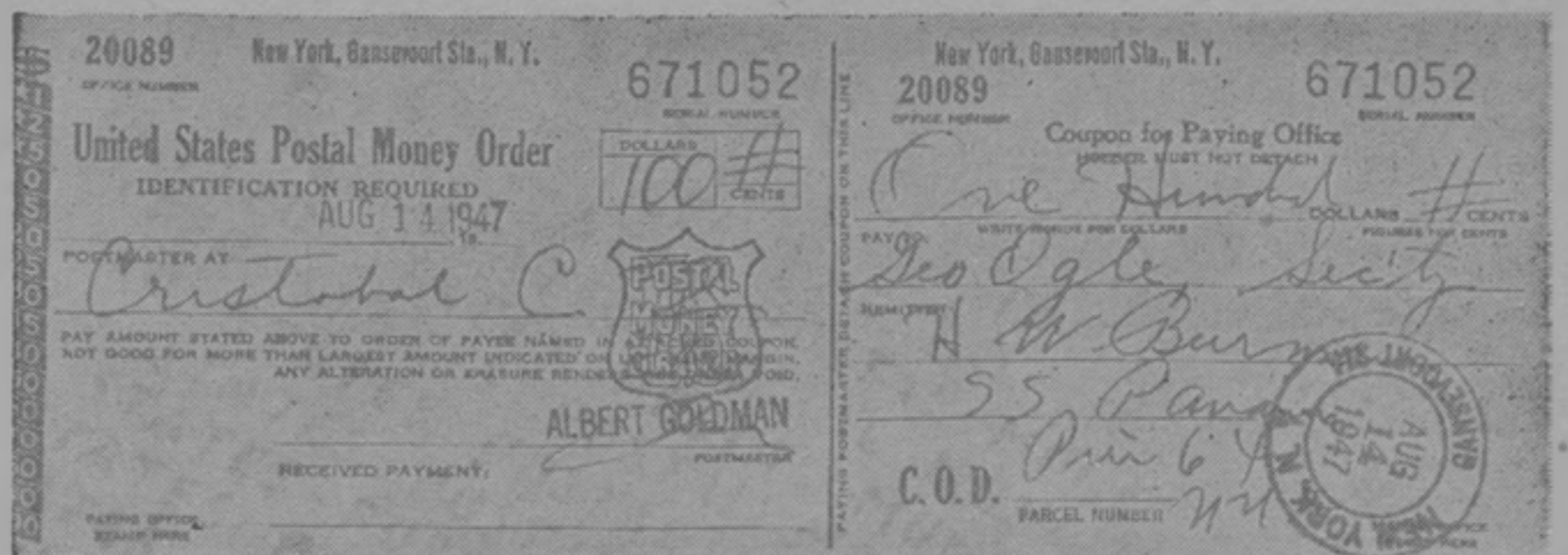
ed out and they would permanently win for themselves a fuller life.

Hold Together At All Cost

He emphasized his remarks by telling them of the experience of the Dock Workers Union of Mobile, Alabama. They had organized in 1937 with the help of the CIO, and had made enormous gains in pay and otherwise. From 35 cents an hour, wages rose to 45 cents in a short time. They got time-and-a-half for overtime work and double time for Sundays and holidays. They won better living conditions. Then they started politicking. They strove against themselves for positions in the Union and left organizing alone. The Supervisors were watching them. It got so bad that the Union fell apart, and then the Supervisors had their chance. Their wages dropped all the way down to 25 cents instead of the 35 cents they were getting before they organized. They lost their eight hour day, their overtime and all their improved living conditions. That was an example for all Union members, and he strongly advised them to hold together regardless of what they may hear, see, or think. That it was the only way for the "silver" employee to get what was his rightfully. At the end of his talk Bro. Sachs re-

(Continued on Page 4)

Seamen Fete Dock Workers' Children



THIS MONEY ORDER HELPED TO SPREAD GOOD CHEER

BRODSKY INTERCEDES FOR ARMY EMPLOYEES

The following employees of the Atlantic Sector, Engineering Division, Fort Davis recently informed Max Brodsky Regional Director, that their earnings now are \$1.60 per week less than their gross earnings under the 48 — hour week:

David Young, I.C. No. 24030.
George L. Duncan, I.C. No. 27958.

Derrick W. Stevens, I.C. No. 25521.

At the time the 48 — hour week was in effect these men were earning 45 cts. per hour or \$21.60 per week. When the con-

version was made to the 40 — hour week, their rate was increased to 50 cts. per hour but their gross earnings totalled only \$20.00 per week.

There is a similar case to the above in the Pacific Air Depot where all the employees earning 45 cts. per hour when the 48 — hour week was in effect were increased to 50 cts. per hour on the 40 — hour week and all suffered a loss of \$1.60 weekly in their gross pay.

The matter has been brought to the attention of the competent authorities and early favorable action is anticipated.