

## Lovelady Talks Senate Committee Into Housing Cut

Rufus Lovelady, the peerless A.F. of L. representative, talked so well last month before the Senate Appropriations Committee that the Committee refused to grant any additional funds for Canal Zone housing.

Lovelady accomplished this neat trick by pointing out that the Army had constructed houses for its employees at a much cheaper rate than the Panama Canal. He said that the reason for the difference was that the Army housing was constructed by private contractors while Panama Canal housing was constructed by the Building Division.

Following is the discussion by Lovelady before the Senate Committee:

Mrs. Lovelady: As late as 3 years ago the Army put up 45 beautiful concrete block and concrete poured houses in an Army city on the Pacific side. That was done at a cost of \$13,500 for a two-bedroom unit, and \$15,000 for a three-bedroom unit. I understand that the difference in the cost between their construction and ours is that they let theirs on contract while ours were built by our own Division.

Senator Ellender: If that is

so, it is another reason why we had better have a provision against force account.

Mr. Lovelady: If those houses can be built there for the Army, at \$15,000 per unit, we see no reason why the similar houses cannot be built for us.

Where we want the houses built now would never be more than 50 miles away from that project to which I have referred.

Lovelady's testimony was completely misleading, as Mr. Burdick, Head of the Washington office of the Panama Canal, tried to point out. Burdick

told the Committee that the reason for the higher construction costs were not, as Lovelady said, the fact that they were built by the Panama Canal instead of private contractors, but because there was a large expense in preparing land sites in laying in water and sewage facilities and the fact that only a few units were built on an experimental basis. The Army houses were built in large numbers and thus were less expensive per unit.

Despite Mr. Burdick's clarifying statements, Lovelady had done enough damage so that the Committee refused to appropriate any additional funds for either "silver" or "gold" housing.

Not only was Lovelady instrumental in preventing additional housing appropriations but he has raised questions in the Committee's minds over the advisability of using Panama Canal Divisions for the construction work. As a result of this he has possibly endangered the jobs of many employees, both "silver" and "gold" in the Building and Municipal Engineering Divisions.

As a result of Lovelady's testimony, the committee made the following report on housing funds:

"Attention is directed to testimony given at the committee's hearing as to the wide discrepancy in the cost of houses built by the Government in the Canal Zone.

"It was stated that some three-bedroom unit experimental concrete houses have been built at a cost of from \$25,000 to \$30,000 each. Other testimony was to the effect that the Army several years ago built some 45 concrete block and concrete poured houses at a cost of \$13,500 per houses for the two-bedroom units and \$15,000 for the three-bedroom units. Other testimony was to the effect that the funds requested for the construction of additional housing for employees in the fiscal year 1950 are for experimental housing.

"The Committee directs that the Panama Canal officials make a careful study as to the wide discrepancy in cost between housing units constructed in the Canal Zone and advise the committee as to the reasons for this wide variation in cost. It would appear to the committee [that by this time construction of houses for employees in the Canal Zone should be beyond the experimental stage."

is in my statement here. I agree 100 per cent, if that man is capable and is doing my work, he is entitled to my money. The reason for the McCarran amendment is to put a limitation on the number of them employed. If it carries on the way it is now, there will come a day when there will be no American citizens on the Panama Canal except the top supervisory force. It will be all local rate employees.

This statement by Jones makes it amply clear that what the A.F. of L. is really interested is not to champion the rights of Panamanians but to take as many jobs as possible for their own members. One can excuse self-protection, but what can one think in the face of such hypocrisy?

## Senate

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McCarran amendment would be those who have given most in terms of sacrifice to the development of the Panama Canal.

"No possible explanation could be given for the displacement of these employees after such a long period of employment. We urge most strongly that the Senate go along with the House action in deleting the McCarran amendment as it heretofore applied to this legislation."

A.F. of L. Makes Hypocritical Appeal

Jones, the A.F. of L. representative, stated that the reason the A.F. of L. wanted the McCarran Amendment was to protect the rights of Panamanian citizens. He told the Committee:

"In the McCarran amendment the Panamanian is given equal pay and equal working conditions. I can think of no better way of assuring citizens of Panama equality of opportunity and treatment than the McCarran amendment."

The idea of the A.F. of L. serving as the protector of Panamanian rights is so ridiculous that it should be laughed off were it not for the fact that this ruse apparently deceived some members of the Appropriations Committee.

Later on in discussion with Senator Cordon of the Committee, Jones deserts the treacherous appeal and exposes the naked motives of the A.F. of L. Following is the discussion between Senator Cordon and Walter Jones during his testimony:

Senator Cordon: What reason is there for that? Why should an individual who has been long on the job and able to hold the indicated position, either a skilled or administrative or supervisory position, and capable of doing that work, be paid just as much as if he were a citizen?

Walter Jones: Senator, that necessary steps to increase the disability relief payments of those now receiving these grants.

## Richardson

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the subject of much discussion in the press of Latin America. I have here three newspaper clippings dealing with the object misery of "Silver" workers who have devoted the most fruitful years of their lives to the United States Government only to spend the remaining years of their lives scrambling for a few pieces of bread for themselves and their families.

In view of the conditions described in this testimony, we submit that the present system of disability relief now covering retired "Silver" workers is completely inadequate and a source of great human suffering. Further, that no system of disability relief will meet the problem of adequate retirement benefits for persons who have labored in the interest of the United States Government.

We therefore urge that H. R. 3445 be amended to include not only those employees on the Canal Zone formerly known as "Gold" workers but also those employees formerly known as "Silver" workers who must now rely upon the disability relief plan. Such an amendment has already been made to S. 1358 in the Senate by Senator Langer and has been greeted enthusiastically both in this country and Latin America. If the Senate acts favorably upon Mr. Langer's amendment, I am sure that thousands of new friends will be made for our country. Similar action by this Committee and by the House of Representatives could do untold good in terms of demonstrating to the entire world our Nation's sincerity with regard to the freedom from human misery and also our sincerity with regard to the freedom from human misery and also our sincerity concerning our Good Neighbor policy towards Latin America.

There are approximately 2,000 of these employees now living on present disability relief grants from \$10 to \$25 a month. In addition to coverage of the present employees under the Civil Service Retirement Act, we propose that Congress take ne-

## BURNHAM QUOTES . . . (Continued from page 1)

clearer become the hands of Dr. Wirt, the Liberty League, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers as the manipulators of the strings that make the puppets of the Dies Committee live and move and have their being."

At its November, 1946 Convention, the CIO said in a unanimous resolution:

"The Wood-Rankin Committee continues in the shameful tradition of Martin Dies. This committee has indicated that every democratic and every progressive movement in American life is vicious smears. On the other hand, it ignores and even actually encourages the activities of native fascists. . . RESOLVED that this Un-American committee must be stopped."

Brodie Burnham who quotes the Committee's reports so frequently and who apparently is in love with its Un-American work is joined by other admirers who form an unbelievable group of gangsters, fifth-columnists, and native fascists. Here are a few of the comments of other friends of the committee:

George Sylvester Viereck, sentenced to prison in 1942 as a Nazi agent: "I have the highest respect for the Committee and sympathize with its program."

William Dudley Pelley, former head of the pro-Nazi Silver Shirts, sentenced on August 13, 1942 to 15 years imprisonment for sedition: "I founded the Silver Legion in 1933 to propagandize exactly the same principles."

James Colescott, Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan: "The Committee's program so closely parallels the program of the Klan that there is no distinguishable difference between them."

From the September 1946 issue of The Defender, published by Gerald B. Winrod, pro-Nazi propagandist named in a Federal indictment in 1942 as having participated in a plot to undermine American morale: There is no way of estimating the value of the public service being these day rendered by the Committee on Un-American Activities of the United States Congress."

These are the men Brodie Burnham joins in praise of the work of the Un-American Committee.

You can always tell birds of a feather, because they flock together. On Feb. 11, 1942, The Federal Communications Commission of the U.S. Government stated that the un-American committee and Dies were found to be the American "most frequently and approvingly" quoted on the Axis radio. Who else quotes the un-American Committee "most frequently and approvingly?"

The record of the members of the un American committee is pretty clearly anti-union and undemocratic to the core. The record of the investigators they have hired is even worse. Here are a few of them:

Stephen Birmingham, chief investigator: This man brought two anti-union goons wanted for murder of union men to the un-American committee to testify on "communism" in CIO unions. The two men wanted for murder were Jerome Kin (alias Marderos) and William McCuiston, both shipowner spies in the National Maritime Union and both wanted for killing rank and file union members.

Edward P. Banta, investigator: Banta denounced "reds" in the WPA in New York, was promptly hired by the Chairman of the Committee. Later he went to work for the Nazi Bund.

Edward F. Sullivan, chief investigator :Sullivan served six months on a robbery charge in Boston, was charged with immoral practices against a 12-year old boy.

Earl Best, star witness before the Un-American committee: Best got into headlines when he testified against the New Deal during the war. But the headlines told police where to find him, and Best was arrested and did time on a forgery charge.

A man named Halpern came to the committee and offered to testify. A woman recognized him as the man who had stolen her jewels some time before. Halpern did one to two years on the charge.

An ex-United Auto Worker member named Ralph Knox testified on "reds" in the UAW-CIO. Knox was reported to have been expelled from the union for immoral practices against a four-year old child.

The New World, official paper of the Chicago diocese of the Catholic Church stated: "If it is really a committee to investigation of itself."

This is the best advice that this newspaper can give to Brodie Burnham, and we wish he'd start off by telling us the circumstances under which he left the employment of the Panama-American.

Next month ACCION will feature more interesting information about the Committee which Brodie Burnham and the Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan find helpful in their noble work.

## Union Conducts . . .

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posals submitted by the Union:

1. The rating should be discussed with the employee before it is finally adopted. At present this is not being done. Failure to discuss the rating fully with the employee will negate one of the basic purposes of a good rating system, namely, affording the employee an opportunity to learn and understand what his weak and strong points are. This is necessary if the employee is to improve his efficiency on the job.

2. The employee should be given a copy of his rating and advised in writing what score he has made.

3. A procedure should be adopted providing for the right of appeal from the rating given by the employee's superior in order to afford the necessary protection against errors or arbitrary actions.

The union suggested, in this connection, the establishment of a body comparable to the Efficiency Rating Board of Review as described by Circular C-445 issued December 21, 1948.