

ENGLISH SECTION

THE EDITOR - SIMON VEGA. COLON AGENT - JOHN W. COPELAND

The Colon Chauffeurs Association

'GOOD AND WELFARE'

It is with deep and profound interest that we take the opportunity that has been afforded us through the columns of this paper, to call the attention of our inactive members to the fact that we are still labouring for the good cause which we pledged whole-heartedly at the beginning. We are still toiling at the great task, which we sincerely expect to conquer, and we hope to achieve the aims set forth. We are using every lawful effort to draw the attention of the public to the fact that we are organized and are striving for the betterment of labour. We are reminding those that are members, and know to themselves that they have forsaken us temporarily, that they should think for their own good, and consider that our aim, as they should know, is for a good and just cause.

We had a conference with the Panama Union, and we exchanged ideas, through which we received several hints and suggestions that would serve useful. As you are all aware of the old saying 'UNITY IS STRENGTH' you will agree with me that without cooperation, nothing can be done. We feel certain that if we are supported, we will bring our line of labour to a more satisfactory result. What we want is better attendance at our meetings so that you can all know of our transactions. We are establishing better friendship with the Panama Union, which was very glad to know that on this, our Atlantic side, we were striving for the means of cooperation and unity, the same as they are doing in Panama. We are confronted with certain propositions that require the consideration and advice of all our members, so we hope that at our next meeting we will not have roof for our members. The year is closing fast, so that goes to state that in the very near future, we will have the Tourist stopped, but we do not spare

has here again, which we all look forward to as the means of brightening up business. There are always grievances and dissatisfactions concerning the handling of such Tourists. Such things could be handled through our body, if our members would give a little of their time to attend meetings and to be with us more often, also to encourage non-members to join to show them our aims. We are teaching our members to be law-abiding citizens, so that as we go along from time to time, those in authority that may be watching our movements, should be made to feel within themselves that our cause is for the uplifting of our duties.

We want one and all to know that in Colon there is a Body of the above named, that is opened for membership to all Chauffeurs. Your nationality does not count, as we are mixed. Our Officers and Members are comprised of Panamanians and West Indians. This Association is in its infancy so far, but we are striving. Great things can be done if we join together and work hard for our good and welfare. We have read from time to time in various papers, that all over the world today, the mass of labouring people is united so that any dissatisfaction can be threshed out in its proper form.

When we are together with our cars parked from time to time waiting for work, and passengers come along, all of a sudden we discover that they are handled by an individual who enters their patronage for a ride by some special privilege granted, and we right away begin to remark that such should not be allowed, and most of the times we get nothing. Yes, nothing; and the same thing goes on repeatedly, and we feel within ourselves that it could

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EXCURSION TRAIN NOV. 3RD. PANAMA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Colon Chauffeurs Association is getting everything all set for the big excursion train to be run by them on November 3rd, Panama's Independence Day. The chauffeurs are leaving no stone unturned in an endeavour to make this venture a perfect success.

The Panama Chauffeurs Union are also lending a helping hand in the affair, having arranged a real live wire game of base ball between the Caribes of Colon and the El Mayor Aleman of Panama. There certainly will be a whole day's enjoyment missed by all who that didn't get aboard that train. Apart from the ball game, there will be various dances, picnics, cricket and lots of other attractions for the excursionists. Tickets are being sold all over Colon and are going real fast too, so in order to avoid the rush, you

had better get your tickets in time. First class at \$1.25, second class \$1.00. The funny thing about chauffeurs are that most of the time they do just what they say, and here are some of the things they are saying. That they want that train to leave the Colon station at 8.00 A. M. sharp. That they want to have perfect peace and harmony aboard that train, and that above everything else, they want to have at least One Thousand

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Wake up Colleagues!

Fellow Chauffeur and car owners! I take this medium to appeal in the name of the Panama Chauffeur Union, to get together for the benefit of yourself and to protect your own personal interest which it is stake at this time. I want you to understand that throughout the world organized labor has become the prime factor of every labouring man, and you who has form a part of said labor, should do likewise so as to better your political and economical condition. And if you do not get together here, you will not be able to get together nowhere. My reason for such a statement is that condition here among the chauffeurs is soaring; and you are the only set of labouring men that remain scatter and fighting against each other. I want to impress upon you that no Respective Government in the World will ever adhere to a scatter set of people; although you are not dealing with Government, now you are dealing with individual; yet I contended if you cannot show a united front with one individual you will never be able to show it to a Government. Just fancy recently Mr. P. write a letter to the Union, informing the Union that he understand that it is only fifty per cent of the cars belong to the Union. Now fellow chauffeur and car owners; don't you think it is a burning shame? I will say yes; it is rotten, and the chauffeur that drive a Jitney are to be ashamed, as it is my heart to the very souls. Just recently I met a fellow chauffeur, and I asked him how was things in the street, and he said to me: Lord men I went down the Dock from yesterday afternoon to park for the Boat, and after the Boat came in Mr. P. went down there, and take all the passengers and put them in the cars that buy tires from him. Now fellow Chauffeurs and car owners do you think if there were unity among us the chauffeurs such a thing would happen? I will say no. While I contended it is inhuman to sleep at the Dock for ten and twenty hours; but since you had sacrifice your sleep to wait for that boat, the Tourist and Tire Agent, should not have standed as a barrier in your way in preventing you from getting a bread for yourself and family. In that he must understand if all the car owners should buy tires from him, the other tires agents will not be able to do any business.

But nevertheless fellow chauffeurs and car owners all the blame is on you to allow such a condition to exist, and I am sorry to say if you do not cut out that all night sleeping at the Dock, on account of Mr. P. taking off all the passengers of the boat, I am afraid some of you might take in with heart failure, and instead of driving passengers, some one may have to drive you to the Hospital. I want you to realize that sleeping at the Dock will not help you, the thing that will help you, and will make you a better man, with better principle, is to join the UNION. Get in line, and when a boat is coming in, you could try and get there one hour before the boat arrive and you will get what coming to you just the same,

instead of indulging yourself in such a bad habit. I want you to think it over and just consider that you are doing more harm than what good to yourself. In no part of the world the Toxy drivers practice such habit. It is a fact that some of the car owners are to be blame for this, and that is why I contended that a better understanding among the chauffeurs could only come through the different car owners. Hence, I am appealing the different car owners and chauffeurs to come together in unity so that we can cut out all of these bad practice. My friend, I want you to realize that you were born in a Civilized Country, and you must act as such, fancy some of the chauffeurs were driving from 1915 to the present, and if they are out of a job for one month they are unable to maintain theyself and family, and fancy you allow one man who come in the business just a few years ago with an old car, and he can afford to live off from mome tourist season to the next if he cares to. IN HIS BIG CASA AT BELLA VISTA, there is a few questions I will like to ask fellow chauffeurs and car owners: don't you think that it is easier to handle a few hundred tourist once in an to while than to handle twentyfive thousand United State Sailors? and if so, what are you fussing about? don't you know when the tourist come here they come to see the Great Panama Canal? don't you know that in Colon where the most hoars comes, the boys over there are no working under such critical condition? you know the Government tariff? you know Mr. P. do not have any job but three cars? And if he have a job it is you who give him one? then if you know wall of these why should you be going up to Bella Vista to beg him for, before he come on the seden don't you use to get supply of tires for your cars just the same and even at a lesser rating? don't you see we are only carrying a head to wear a cap? Now fellow Chauffeurs and car owners: I am asking you to throw away that old time stuff; I mean the question of Nationality, and wake up for God sake because your contention is a legal one but it need unity, and unity is strength. And I beg to state in behalf of the Panama Chauffeurs Union, to whom it may concern, that all Jitney cars in the Republic of Panama, are for public use, but our contention is: "WE DON'T WANT MR. P. to solicit any more passengers for us. WE DON'T WANT HIM: he has got enough of it and he ought to be satisfied. The Union make no Contract and we broke none, and if any individual want to have their Contract broken it is their business.

With very best wishes for your future Unity I remain your W. G. Y. Member of the Chauffeurs Union.

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