

RIGHT ABOUT SAID THE PANAMA CHAUFFEURS UNION TO ITS MEMBERS

It is most gratifying no more than it is ungrateful that after a lot of labouring man has served an individual faithfully for all these years, he has turned around and insulted them, yes this was done by Mr. C. L. P. in public print two weeks ago. The reason for this is that, — we were told, — we were getting a so called gentleman deal and we kicked and yet he admit according to a recent letter that was sent to the union that the only grievance the chauffeurs union had was the so called local boat, but we have contended that any well thinkers knows fully well that there was never a fire without smoke, and it generally takes plenty of fire to make a big smoke, and that is the whole fact of the matter with the chauffeurs union. He also suggested that according to said grievance that we appoint a special committee with one from the union with himself, and the arrangements we arrived at will be final, but the already without Mr. P. acquiring to enough of that committee meeting union contended that we have had the satisfaction of the union, hence the union has decided by a motion that was put to the house and carried out unanimously that each parties will work out their own destiny to the best of their ability, and that will solve the whole problem. In that we can see from Mr. P. action that he does recognize the chauffeurs union as a legal entity to settle all grievance pertaining to its members but the union contended that it is only the horse that carry the hay knows that it is heavy, and we have worked all these years to help make him what he is today without even getting GRACIAS, and yet he is not satisfied. Oh how is man is they are not mineful although it is said that the chauffeurs

grievance are only one, and yet many a times some of the poor chauffeurs carry passengers to the hotel, and even when they are independent parties and make arrangements to take a ride with said chauffeurs, after the poor chauffeurs return for his parties, he were never able to get same on account of the Tourist and Tire agent stand as a barrier in their way, unless he is one of those that buy tires from him, and even when there are independent parties in the hotel want to take a drive by the hour many a time the cars in the Public Parking Stand were never able to get same, the reason is that the tourist and tires agent must have the first preference, without taken into consideration that the other car owners are paying the same Government License, hence you see even when it is said that the chauffeurs grievance are only one, the union contended that all these is not right, it is injustice, and with all the above mentioned fact, the union has tried in every way possible to make friendly settlement by sending a committee quite up to Mr. P. house at Bellavista, which was a bit of honour and his part, and yet he is not satisfied. But we have come to one conclusion, as above stated. WE ARE THROUGH WITH HIM, and he should be satisfied for we should be the hurtful party and not him, because he get all the profit and we get none, but the union still wish him well, because he has learned us a fine lesson, and we hope from now on, that all car owners and chauffeurs will be aware of such lesson, and be like good old Soldiers.

With very best wishes for a stronger unity, remain yours truly,
Member of the Panama Chauffeurs Union.

W. G. Y.

CHAUFFEURS UNITY

III

The Panama chauffeurs and cars owners (Jitney,) are the only people that does not like to help themselves, they only try to lift another man up and staydown, they like to put themselves in rotation like a stepladder to let the wise birds climb on them and when he reaches the top their only look up and say: look at that how quick he get rich, we should done away with those sort of thing we must try and elevate ourselves that we should all reach the top and be on the same level; but that means unity. We must all get together like one man; scater we do nothing.

Now remember the second of next month the tourists start to visit us; in years past one man reeps all the sweets, we work for the whole season and when we are through we cant even buy an extra inner tube for our tyre. All the twenty or twenty-five thousand goes in one man pocket, now here is a different proposition. Lets work in unity and at the end you will be surprised to see the difference then we will say we should have done this long ago, but it is better late than never. The Chauffeurs Union has organized a tourist department where every man will be threatend alike and receive the same benefits without any obligation of buying General tyres.

You work for your money so you spend it where you likes. Now brother chauffeurs and car owners this is one of our best movement to prosperity so don't loose it; all it means to you is unity. We are all free men and we should not make a slave of ourselves for another man.

WHIP,

REGULATION OF TRAFFIC DRIVE WITH CARE

It would be a wonderful thing if our chauffeurs in the terminal Cities of the Republic, would take the necessary precautions of operating their cars with all possible care, which would eventually minimize accidents. Whenever we get on our cars, may it be day or night, we should first remember and picture the thousands of men, women and children that cross our paths every moment, and always try to be on the safe side. We should keep well within the laws governing speed limits, which would help us to prevent lots of unforeseen things. We should not partake of alcoholic beverages when performing our duties, as it is always proven from time to time in every city of the world that alcohol and gasoline are great enemies.

We should try to park our cars in the regular parking spaces allotted us, and not any place like some of us do. This would help to relieve traffic congestion. When a Chauffeur is going along the Avenus or Streets, he should always bear in mind that there is another co-worker behind him, and that he expects from you the same thing you are looking for from the other chauffeur in front of you — that is — be courteous — give the correct sign when stopping and turning corners. Before leaving your Garage, see that your car has proper brakes that will enable you to stop within three or four feet from any object in front of you (when travelling within the speed regulations.)

Avoid arguments with Police Officers and assist them. Be respectful to them at all times and you will find that when they can rely on us

COMMENTS OF ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PANAMA CHAUFFEUR'S UNION

To the Editor of the "EL AUTOMEDONTE"

Dear Mr. Editor:

I have read with great interest in your valuable paper the different comments made by several of your writers concerning the treatment of Mr. Chas. L. Pearson, tourist agent in Panama.

I have also noticed the insults that the said Mr. Persons has made against some of the members of the "PANAMA CHAUFFEURS UNION." This is to show how simple has made us out to the public after we have given him such faithful service for the past five years. For instance: when the Panama Touring Company started operating against Mr. Persons, he came to us and promised us all kinds of things if we would stick by him, and he would see to it the Touring Company have the local boats; but to our great surprise no sooner he got the Touring Company out, he took the whole business for himself.

He is a smart business man, but thus: I will tell him we are just as smart as he is; he can fool us once but not all the time. The Chauffeurs of Panama has been from time to time studying plans to put an end to this profetearing of Mr. Persons. We have invested thousands of dollars to make a decent living, but all of our profits has been taken by one man; then we become his slaves.

When we started our boycott against Mr. Persons, and made sev-

eral attempts to have the matter settled in a respectable way, he would not talk to us, but instead started the campaign against us like the ex-Kaiser of Germany. But the Allies won the war. Persons knows quite well that we are the ones that are keeping up his business. And when he started against us its just like a crippled man throwing away his sticks; we made him what he is today and now this is the thanks we got. But I am sure we won't be able to foot us any more, he has shown up his weakness by expoling himself to some of his enemies: begid them to work for him and that he is sorry for what he did, don't forget the Touring Company boys, it is all camouflaged. If you let him up now next season you will be killed.

My opinion is that he will go to the States and make contracts for a hundred cars and we will not be able to sell our cars, to get out of the business. Don't let him up boys, get him out of it while we have got the chance. The Chauffeurs Union is behind us and I am quite sure every member of this union has got to be with the Union; and as far as can see the non-unionist are one-hundred per cent (100%), strong. On the 4th of november there will be one hundred tourist coming to Panama, and Mrs. John Mc. Kewen our agent will take care of them.

We must give credit to the president of our Union to select such a good man as Mr. Mc Kewen as manager for our company. I suggest that we shall name this company "THE UNION TOURING COMPANY."

Yours very truly,
JOKER.

It is also in some cases that high negligence is the sole root of a poor attendance. If one would only stop to think of how much he looses by being absent from a meeting, or just how much of his good ideas he has likely deprived his union of, he would readily realize his value or the value of his presence, at every meeting.

Here is a time right now when the two unions of the republic are standing out with an endeavour to achieve all it possible can to insure its members of a better living condition, as well as a better working condition, these ventures are solely headed by the executive heads, all to be backed up by the members, and its certainly discouraging when these members do not turn out even to hear and give his opinion of what's going on. Take for instance, in Colon, the committee of management goes in session every Friday, during those sessions the members that form the committee are deprived of a chance to look for work all on account of having to be there devising ways and means that will tend towards the betterment of the chauffeurs in general. These men are not paid, they work earnestly for gratis, though at a loss of time, labor and likely money, and really all they will ever stick out for, is a better attendance as a pay so they may have a chance to feel that their work has been appreciated. I don't know just how it is done in Panama, but I do know that unity is sure strength, and we cannot rely on your help when we do not see you, so wake up boys, be your own self, go to your meetings, if you can't give your voice, then give us your ears, stick to your unions and always tell your friends of the good we are aiming to do and try to add one more chauffeur to the lot as often as you can. Let us get strong so that when we want, what we want, we'll have what we want.

The recent experience of the poor attendance of the members of the Chauffeurs Association of Colon, has gradually started to loose its ground, as little by little the regular members are not only taking things more seriously and turn out, but those that had fallen from the ranks are again rushing to grasp the hand of their brothers, who has always had the outstretched hand of unity and fellowship ready to receive them and welcome them back to the fold.

It was very regrettable to read in a recent issue of the Star and Herald, that on account of a lack of quorum the union in Panama was unable to hold their regular meeting. It is true that in most cases the living of the chauffeurs much depend on just what they are able to make, and when there is a chance to make something it is without doubt that they must grasp the opportunity, but

to do the right thing, they in turn will help us to amend our grievances, and finally achieve our goal; whilst if we act otherwise, they will help us — yes! But in Jail, which means a DENT in our pockets, and often times dents in the edge of a pick-axe or machete, used in making roads and cutting grass, serving a 30-day sentence.

These little hints are facts, and I do hope that chauffeurs in general will read and digest them carefully and act accordingly. By so doing, you will find that we will be better treated, and respectfully handled by the community.

Thanking you for space Mr. Editor,
Yours for the betterment of chauffeurs in the Republic of Panama and Canal Zone,

Juan W. Copeland.
(An Old-Timer)

P. D. Box 519, Cristobal, C. Z.

CHAUFFEURS AND THEIR POOR ATTENDANCE TO MEETINGS

(By M. LAZARUS)