

If you wish to be virtuous and have God in your heart, obey your laws, be just, and in error you'll never fall.

# THE LABORER

I call not heroes those that triumph by thought or by force, I call heroes the Big of Heart — (Beethoven)

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## "THE LABORER"

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Similar Association of Panama, R.P.

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## EDITORIAL

It is time the labor realize that organizations are necessary for the liberation and final emancipation of the great labor mass who contributes to the many existing fortunes and participate of none. Laborers: Unite with your fellowmen and you will be able to enjoy the privileges you are entitled to.

We shall insist upon the unification of laborers in general to watch out for our interests. We shall claim for sincere hospitality and will expect those in our group to be reciprocate, remembering that we are the owners of the house. In our organization we think the saying, "Panama for the Panamanians." very selfish. We ignore it and believe that everybody is entitled to live as they choose wherever they may be. Of course, the Panamanians in their homeland are considered in first instance. That is an obligation for all foreigners; they shall obey our laws and respect our women.

By associating we achieve also a great sense of duty.

As the poet Goethe said:

If you want the world to be clean, be sure and clean your own front door.

## BARTENDERS, WAITERS AND SIMILARS ASSOCIATION OF PANAMA

P.O. Box 3127

Office: Ave. Central No. 103

Mr. Proprietor, Manager or Administrator of:

Dear Sir:

The Board of Directors of the Bartenders, Waiters and Similar Association of Panama has the pleasure of informing you officially that this Society has been recognized by the Government as a juridic person; legally placing it in a position to stretch relationship between employers in the branch of labor to which our members dedicate themselves. We also want to inform you of the purpose we endeavor to achieve in our social activities and as employees.

First: Ours is a Society of mutual help and beneficency. From our Social activities, all political and religious prejudices are excluded. To best serve our employers, we have capacitation courses and a Bureau for general information and to secure employees. The members in their position as employees, identify themselves with their respective CARNETS and the Society is responsible for their efficiency, punctuality and good conduct. Our Board of Directors is divided in 4 sections. It has a Board for Fiscalization and for Labor, whose duty it is to solve any employer's difficulty, before appealing to the Social Justice, avoiding in that manner the accumulation of unnecessary work in the department of Ministerio de Gobierno y Justicia and also the consequent personal resentments. Members, who in complying with their task, prove to be careless and of bad conduct, will be sactioned and can even be dismissed temporarily or expelled definitively from the society. In this case their CARNET is taken away, preventing the party to get another job under the Society's responsibility. We want to call, at this point, special attention to the employer's as the CARNET constitutes in itself an idoneous certificate expedited by the Society.

Second: As employers, we want and ask only for the rights and privileges granted us by the present law in a clear and understanding manner.

We hope you will value the benefits our syndicate will contribute for the good march of your business and confide that with your spirit of altruism, you will cooperate with us in the patriotic and honest strife to achieve our social purposes.

## Labor Guides

This memorable date brings back to our memory, the re-ivindication of the syndicalization achieved by the Mutuo Cooperativo (Mutual Cooperative), today, Union de Empleados de Restaurantes, Cantinas y Similares de Mexico, D.F. On this date we render tribute of gratitude to the group of men, now disappeared, in whose brains germinated that saint idea of seeking the welfare of their co-workers, putting an end to the iniquous exploits by part of their employees, who not contented with this, treated them with despotism and did not remunerate them for their work. Comrades: None of us has been unaware of our sad situation of *vile person*, before the memorable day of April 27, 1912. Nobody can deny that frequently the unmerciful whip of injury stroke us across our faces: the injury: that whip of the horrible slaver, who called himself employer; and neither can anyone deny the fact that, if the dependent protested, he exposed himself and family to lose their daily bread.

On the day of the 25th, proprietors were notified to pay better salaries, give good and abundant food and consider his employees as persons, not slaves, giving them up to the 27th, at 12 O'CLOCK Noon, to accept our just petitions. On the dawning of that memorable day, the 27th, the sky was cloudy but showed no signs of storm. The Social Residence, San Felipe No. 28 could be compared with millions of buzzing bees. Groups of co-workers came in and out to receive and give orders. The clock's hand moved slowly on and we heard the first gong: A fly could not have passed unnoticed among the vast auditorium that filled our Session Hall. Being the president of the association, I promptly took the flag and waving it high, said:

"Blessed Banner," and steadily, continued: Comrades: It is 12 O'Clock Noon and our notification has not been answered. So, in the name of Reason, and Justice, that assists us, I DECLARE GENERAL REVOLUTION OR THE AG-GRUPATION OF DEPENDIENTES DE RESTAURANTES OF THE CAPITAL OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC." Cries of joy escaped from everyone present and roars of applauses were proof of the great ideal of re-ivindication that agitated in everyone's heart. Six hours later the enemy surrendered accepting our propositions and our proletary Banner waved proudly over the balcony. The slave or vile person, took the form of a conscientious person, free of the tyranny he had been suffering for a long time.

This is, FELLOWMEN, the un-abridged recount of that glorious day of April 27, 1912.

J. Guadalupe Rojas.  
(From the magazine "Mancunidad", April 27th, 1912)

## A NEW INVENTION

Special for the monthly edition "El Obrero" ("The Laborer") a defensive organ of the interests of all laborers in general.)

In order to avoid future discrepancies between employers

## DATA and DENUNCIATIONS

### OF THE CANAL ZONE LABORERS:

We read in a local paper that the Government is endeavoring to solve the disconsideration that exists in the Zone, toward our laborers. They refuse to grant them vacations. But why? we ask, should a foreign government respect our laws, when they are forgotten by our own people? Foreigners in their majority, do not comply with our laws. Our good neighbors, follow the policy of "no matter where you are from, just follow the others example." Our laborers work 12, 14, and 16 hours a day without remuneration. But our neighbors think: If they don't care for their people, neither do we. That is why the LABORER has come out to the light to listen to our comrades pleas and denounce all infractos of the law.

### THE HOUSE OWNERS ARE AT IT AGAIN:

Despite the regulations and bye laws dictated by the government, regarding increases in rentals, the proprietors ignore them and continue raising the rentals even more than the 25 per cent authorized by the law. What do they care if business is decreasing and many people are being discharged

from the Canal Zone. All that matters is their capital. This shall increase, never decrease. But those who suffer are the poorer class, the laborers. We therefore, denounce one os sy many cases to the authorities: "Mr. Pinel demands of his tenants of house No. 156, Central Avenue, \$4.00 more for each room. This sum represents more than 100 per cent than the increase permitted by the law.

### BOMBERS, ETC., COLLECTION FUNDS:

A habit that has become a vice is the habit of collecting funds for bombers and for the benefit of something or the other. But why isn't Panama remembered, is something asked. We collect funds to aid the allies. Our allied countries fight for freedom and liberty. That is a just and universal cause, but every country has its own individual causes. Here is one for the people of Panama. The road to Darien needs pavementing. Why not take pride and collect funds, if necessary, for such an enterprise? That would be to think a little of Panama. It is good to help others, but in this world, it is: Help without forgetting your own people, which is exactly the opposite of what is done in Panama.

## WELL DESERVED PROPAGANDA

### "More and Better"

On August 10th, minutes before the opening of our general session, celebrated every fifteen days, two important employees from the Orange Crush Company, in representation of their company, offered our institution various cases of the most popular refreshment in Panama, "Pepsi-Cola."

The Directive of the B. W. and Other (S. Association, appreciates this kind gesture and recommends the public in general to drink, always, famous "Pepsi-Cola" which propaganda is condensed in just two words "More and Better."

### Cheers for an Employer

On a journey for lectureship and propaganda, on August 2nd, a commission integrated by four members of our Directive Staff visited the best bars in that locality and came to the sad conclusion that employers are an exact copy over there, of those in the capital of Panama. The abusive procedure toward the laborers; the same persistency in

violating continued dispositions that protect the laborer. There, like over here, rights are demanded but obligations are ignored.

We, as the rest of the world know that cruelty, crime and injustice rate very much higher than kindness comprehension and real justice. For that reason, disappointed with the informations obtained and our enthusiasm gone, we were about to return, but on our way to the station we saw a very big establishment situated on Central Avenue. We decided to inquire some more and found out that Mr. Kresch, its proprietor complied strictly with the law, his employees' treatment salaries and vacations.

To our surprise, the employees themselves told us that Mr. Kresch complied strictly with all requisites of the labor law.

It is with great satisfaction that we publish this case in our columns of "DESERVED PROPAGANDA."

Very well Mr. Kresch. You can speak of democracy for you understand and practice it.

and employees of the different branches to which our co-members and other friends belong, a waiter's invention, which in recent experiments gave satisfactory results, will be put into practice.

In consists of a small and fine "parachute" which will be attached very carefully to the glass or plate in such a manner that if either of these objects slipped from the tray or out of the waiter's hand, it will

land safely without getting damaged.

This invention liquidates once and for all, one of the existing problems among employers and waiters and which is today cause of discontent among the waiters of El Rancho who pay for the broken plates of this establishment.

Even if this sounds funny, it isn't. "Necessity is the mother of invention".