

AS WE SAID BY RADIO AGAIN... Interdicted Democracy

The Bartenders, Waiters and Similar Association of Panama, insists on calling all non-organized laborers to reunite in their respective groups reminding them of our contest campaign at no cost, at all; not even thanks do we ask for. Our office situated on the upper part of Tipperary Bar, Central Avenue No. 103, is at your disposal.

Laborism in Panama should syndicalize to be up to date with other countries that are up to date with civilization. To show them that we are apt to reap the seed of good plant in the conscience of our people. To pay with our practical recognizance the restlessness, and struggles of countries from which we have inherited the conquest of their noble desires of reinvidication. If we want progress to accelerate its march, in our Republic, it is necessary that all, absolutely all laborers organize. That is why we insist on the organization of electricians, carpenters, business employees, etc.

The laborers of the agrupaciones duly mentioned, do not know that in the exterior, it is thought that they are respectively organized in Panama and have sent, from different countries, newspapers, magazines and corresponding epistolars for each of the mentioned agrupaciones, all of which rest in our hands without destination. To prove the truth of our statement, we

mention one of the following cases:

"Messrs. Jorge Fogue de La Zerda and Guillermo Chumaceiro, president and secretary, respectively, of the Liga de Empleados de Comercio de La Paz, Bolivia, gallantly invited on May 25th, 1944, La Union de Empleados de Comercio de Panamá" to send their representatives to their silver anniversary, commemorating their 25th year of social life."

Such an invitation came to us and with great sorrow we rendered the following information: Dear Sirs:

The so called "Union de Empleados de Comercio de Panamá" does not exist. There is a corporation denominated "Chamber of Commerce," composed of Banking and Industrial elements, whom you may address with our assuredness that you will get a favorable answer. And there is another institution called "Chamber of Commerce Jr." represented by younger people who maintain good official positions and distinguished employments in the local commerce who will also be glad to answer such a cordial invitation.

As non-organized laborers will see, because of this small detail we are considered to be at the same advanced standard of social life as that of other countries of America.

After the first edition of our paper, "El Obrero", this second issue comes out and as the previous, is meant especially for you. To remind you that now you will find solution for any complaints you might have. We, the directors of this monthly paper will understand and listen to you for we suffer as much as you do, the injustice of wealthy businessmen. Of the strangers for whose fortune you made, and not satisfied with their treatment, deny you many legal rights. And also of those of your own class who knowing your misfortune, take pride in making it worse.

Well, Comrade. Here we are to defend you. But it must be a square DEAL. You do your part and we will always be willing to help you. We will sure go against you if you abuse.

We shall fight to improve ours and others situation without having to intervene with the authorities. Remember that what we plant, that we reap; So always give the best in you and request same for yourself. Unite and work for the sake and benefit of yourself and those of your fellowmen. This you will achieve by exchanging ideas, leaving aside resentments, selfishness and discussions of racial superiority. Teach what you know and inquire what you ignore, asking, searching, but be sure and get the correct answer. We were all born ignorant and inquiry is a form of advancement. Do not aspire to be as good as others, just aspire to be good and better.

Be like the ants. They unite to help each other. Form with your comrades a chain without distinction of class, color or religion. Do not let your weakness be the cause of the breaking of the link that would be the end of that chain.

Laborer: Work hard and improve. Bring out all the good in you and remember, that you are just as apt as anybody else to achieve a task.

Show them that you can work and comply faithfully with your part as long as there is justice.

Remember that as gold is purified in fire, the just are purified in their tribulations.

Latins always maintained the principle of equality. The Panamanians are right in presenting to the conference, this rest of slavery they want to sustain in their countries". Our congratulations for your proposition.

It is easy to understand that criticism is addressed to the majority of masons that integrate "The Metal Trade Council" of the Canal Zone. With founded reason and for many years this organization has been accused of managing the interest of the laborers of that sector with an imperialistic desire that honors the vile school of the totalitarians.

We want to state that we do not agree with the congratulations given to the Panamanians for it is not true that laborers on the Canal Zone are in their majority our countrymen. All nations of the world are represented on the Canal Zone. That is why, in our opinion the felicitation should have been universal.

From Masonic Selection we form the following principle: The inalienable right of the people that contributes to its happiness, rate high above the oath of secret organization and the unconfessed ambitions of all politicians.

During a visit to the Canal Zone of Vice President of the United States, Mr. Henry H. Wallace, Mr. Noel Austins handed this high American representative, a sheet of revindications with the following questionnaire:

1. What is to be done with 10,000 old West Indians brought under contract and who are to be retired from the Canal Zone, when there exists the probability that they will be repatriated to their homelands, leaving children and grandchildren who do not desire and cannot be taken to such islands?
2. What is to be done with approximately 30,000 young men and women born on the Canal Zone of parents of forbidden immigration, who because of changes in the Constitution of the Republic of Panama, are denied their acknowledgement as Panamanians and consequently cannot be employed in the Republic when unemployed or even when there is scarcity of employment on the Canal Zone?

As a solution to those worries it is suggested that residential suburbs be constructed for retired employees allowing them to live among their relatives, even after the beneficiary has died. That such suburbs be constructed where residents may have the opportunity of cultivating fields. That such guarantees be made extensive to employees "alien" to the Army and Navy Service; that persons born on the Canal Zone and studying in North America, be permitted to work during their permanency over there as well as freedom to emigrate to that country. They claim also for standard salaries on the Canal Zone, conforming to existing regulations in the United States.

In our opinion, the West Indians claim for revindication is just. We remember reading, several times in local newspapers, that fortunate Americans were granted retirement and considered as "old timers." That is a privilege no one can take from them but West Indians are also "old timers" and we understand that when they are granted retirement, the sum allowed is so insignificant that they can hardly pay for the apartment they rent, becoming a burden to our Panamanian society and for the whole nation to whom they never dedicated their energies and muscles of steel.

For many years they sweated over the hard labor of the Canal, to achieve a gigantic task of these modern times, the Panama Canal.

The democratic doctrine states that democracy is all for humanity. Once in a while we have a proof of this democracy. Will there be a demonstration of it for the West Indians?

MAIL BOX

Politics is formed by a great mass of men promising you the impossible today, for the success of their desires. Then when they come to a happy ending, leave no trace of their footsteps. A new world begins for them; and the poor devil they fooled with hope, they forget and just consider as one of the many people, thinking that as such he ought to be satisfied with his position.

May your policy be different. Strive to improve for the future progress of your children.

What's the matter nowadays? Scholars fail because of bad feeding, lack of hygiene; and the laborer? He works 12, 14, and 16 hours a day without rest and suffering abuses; and when he asks for his vacation, has to sign all kind of papers because: THAT IS THE LAW.

And what law? may we ask. One which is only complied with by the laborers, not by the big men who sink you deeper in your misfortune. The same men that offered you happiness, because they needed your cooperation for their success.

They will come back. Because they think those people, we the laborers, are very simple.

But Comrade: Face them bravely. Do not let them sink you again. You can be a good citizen, voting during elections for whomever you choose. You can do that without being bribed by characters that would do almost anything to achieve their success.

Remember that national progress depends upon your laboriousness and rectitude as much as the nation's general decadency on vice, desconsideration and selfishness.

ANTIMASONIC SELECTION

By mere coincidence, a monthly paper corresponding to the month of May and edited and printed in Mexico City, came to our hands. It is called "Grande Oriente Español", which translated means "Great Spanish Orient". From it we picked up a very curious and interesting article.

The writer of these columns knows nothing of masonry but by what we hear, have gathered that among masons, exists a great fraternal cooperation and that collective or individual errors are kept secret. Now we think differently and as we think, our thoughts suggest us a principle.

The proposition introduced by the Canal Zone and Panama Laborers representatives, to the Conference of International Labor celebrated recently in Philadelphia and which contents are resumed as "Equal Job Equal Salary", an article entitled in relation to the Canal Zone's laborers motion, saw the light in a daily paper of

Mexico City. In that paper after transcribing the contents of said proposition, comes the criticisms from sect to sect, as per the following:

"...As we enter a Masonic temple, we are taught not to establish racial distinctions. How can masonry maintain such existing rules of feudal type, if it aspires to equality among men?"

"For equal job, equal salary" If who does it is white or of another color" Such distinction is a shame. If, as we do not think, there were masons who did not protest against such an injustice, they could be accused of calling themselves brothers but that they weren't.

Several years ago we assisted at an Emigration Conference celebrated in London. We attacked with all our might, the representations of the Domains of Great Britain and never wanted to accept liberty of emigration. They maintained the distinctions of race and were hard to convince. We, the

TO THE ASSOCIATES

For waiters considered as of second classification, the Bartenders, Waiters and Other Similar Association has opened also a special course, in order to train them in serving dinners, ornamenting tables of first class and of etiquette; the proper silver to be used and the wine to be served for such dinners.

LIBRARY:

The Association of Bartenders, Waiters and Other Similar Association is organizing a library provided with special books for the laborer.

The association will order the books directly from the exterior but will appreciate any donation by part of the laborers' friends.

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR THE LABORERS:

A special service to help the the laborers has been established by the Secretarial Department, in the upper part of house No. 103, on Central Avenue. The

Secretarial Department will dictate them memorials, letters, give them brief explanation of labor laws and help them in any complaints they might have against their employees.

HEALTHY ENTERTAINMENTS:

The association has organized all kind of games, such as ping-pong; checkers. All members of the Association and other agrupaciones that hold their sessions in the bartenders halls, are entitled to participate in such games.

THE HALL OF SESSION, TO SERVE ALL LABOR AGRUPACIONES:

The Hall of Session of the Bartenders, Waiters and Other Similar Association, is at the disposal of all laborers and juvenile agrupaciones, when they wish to celebrate their sessions. Said Hall is situated in the upper part of House No. 103 on Central Avenue. Those interested, please go to the Secretarial