Maritime Union Head Blasts Color Barriers

Patrick Whalen Demands Equality for All Seamen

All workers of all races must unite in a solid front to fight for better working conditions and higher wages, Patrick Whalen, white, head of the National Maritime Union, told seamen in his report last week.

His report in part reads:

"There is something that is going to come up here that must be settled once and for all. The discrimination question, against certain members of this organization has to be fought out on this floor, tonight, to a conclusion.

Must Take Stand

"We are either going to follow out the principles that this union is supposed to be built on, or else we are going to come out in the open and discriminate against our colored brothers.

"Unions cannot be built upon hypocritical theories. We are either going to accept our brothers in this union wholeheartedly, or we should not accept them at all, and be honest and come out in the open and tell them that we cannot do this because they are black.

"The theory of trade unionism is based upon one class struggling against another class for the right to live decently, the right to live in homes, and the right to enough of the production, so they can enjoy the fruits of what they make.

No Room for Bias

"The theory of true unionism is not built upon any struggle against any workers because they happen to be born of a different color, and because their first education gave them to believe in certain religions. True unionism is built upon the theory which must be followed out if organized labor is going to exist.

"The question of colored and white can be definitely pointed out to the agents of reactionaries as part of the process to keep us divided, and I for one who have suffered to build this organization, refused to agree that there can be any compromise on this question of dual unionism, and the question of collaborating with Carlson and David Grange.

"It is a very fundamental problem and cannot be compromised, and those of you who compromise are cowards and are afraid to face the issue with a clear understanding of what I am doing.

"If the National Maritime Union recognizes one iota of this question, I for one will be the first to go to organize a colored union with colored members of this union.

"I believe that there is enough honest and sincere leadership in this organization that is not going to allow a few uneducated individuals and a few spies to bring this question up, to destroy our union."

Given Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks was given Mr. Whalen by the colored members of the organization for his efforts to break down discrimination in the ranks of the union.

AFRO Official in Car Crash

D. Arnett Murphy, secretary of the Afro-American Company, narrowly missed being seriously injured, Sunday, when the auto he was operating collided with and overturned a truck at Madison Avenue and Mosher Street.

William Heller, white, of Parkville, truck driver, was taken to Maryland General Hospital in a taxi and treated for a possible fracture and abrasions of the left arm. Later he was allowed to go to his home.

Patrolman Edward Gavin of the Northwestern district summoned both motorists to traffic court for auto code violations.

TALKED TOO MUCH, FINED

Because "he talked too much and refused to move on when ordered," according to a Northwestern district patrolman, Edward Roberts, 29, of 1214 Argyle Avenue, was fined $5 and costs by Magistrate Harry Fine on Monday.

White Man to Return $32 After Fraud Count

Facing a possible jail sentence for fraudulent conversion and misrepresentation, Louis Chesler, white, of 902 Whitelock Street, agreed on Tuesday to return to Miss Irene Wood $32 she had paid him for a new fur coat.

Chesler was haled into Northwestern court on a warrant sworn to by Miss Wood, 612 N. Gilmor Street, after repeated attempts to get the money or the coat failed.

Offered $109 Coat

She said that Chesler, representing himself as an agent for a mid-city fur shop, approached her last Spring with the offer of a fur coat valued at $109.

The woman agreed to pay a certain amount weekly and was to have received the garment shortly before Thanksgiving. When she did not get it at that time, or at Christmas, as was later promised, she went to Chesler and demanded the garment or the return of her money.

On each occasion, the man complained of being robbed but offered her the use of a cloth coat until he could get the one she originally bargained for.

The complaint was turned over to Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte, policewoman, whose investigation resulted in the case's being brought before Magistrate Harry Fine.

The man, it was learned, was known by salesmen at the store which he reputedly said he represented, but the president of the company denied that he was an employee.

Lost No Money

The investigation also disclosed that Chesler had been robbed, but of $15 in merchandise, and no cash as was intimated. The magistrate suggested that Miss Wood and Chesler confer with Mrs. Whyte with the result that the man agreed to pay Miss Wood $5 per week until $32 had been repaid.

5 Youths Held for Auto Theft in New York

The five youths arrested last week in connection with the theft of a $1500 automobile from New York were delivered to U.S. Deputy Marshall E. Norris Becker, Monday, pending a hearing before U.S. Commissioner James K. Cullen.

They gave their names as:

Edward Austin, 19, of Sanford, Fla.; Robert Briggs, 18, of 409 W. 117th Street; Algar Channey, 18, of 36 W. 117th Street; Bert Williams, 18, of 465 W. 147th Street; and Walter Jordan, 23, of 230 St. Nicholas Avenue. The last four are from New York.

Drive Car from N.Y.

They are accused of stealing a new sedan belonging to Mrs. S. Jackson, of 1225 Sherman Avenue, New York, on January 18, and driving it to Baltimore where they were arrested by Western district police.

The quintet was apprehended, Thursday, when Isadore Jacobson, white, of 309 W. Franklin Street, reported to Sergt. Walter Elliott that he was approached by a youth who offered to sell him a new auto for $300.

The officer, upon investigating the case, arrested Austin who, when questioned, implicated the other four. Austin admitted taking the car from where it was parked on 123rd Street in New York, and after picking up the other four chance acquaintances decided to drive to Baltimore.

Flames Kill Dump Resident

The first death of the season attributed to cold weather was recorded on Thursday when John Booker, 30, died of burns received while trying to keep warm in his shack on the Westport dump.

Early on Thursday, the man, at that time unidentified, was seen rushing from his shack with his clothing ablaze. A neighbor summoned police of the Southern district who rushed the man to South Baltimore Hospital. There he was pronounced dead, and his body was transferred to the morgue.

Has Sister Here

Patrolmen Norman Henry and John R. Smith, investigating the death, learned the man has a sister whose first name is Mary. She lives in the vicinity of Bruce and Lorman Streets.

During the course of their investigation the police learned that Booker, born and reared in Baltimore, had lived on the Westport dump for approximately six months. His body was identified by Frank Brown of 844 South Eutaw Street.

Reconstructing the tragedy, police concluded that Booker was attempting to warm the shack by pouring oil on a small wood fire in a corner of the place.

A search is being made for his sister and other relatives.

STRIKES WOMAN, FINED

For striking Miss Helen Carroll of 100 N. Bruce Street, Wednesday, Harry Coburn, 24, of 228 N. Gilmor Street, was fined $1.70 by Magistrate Frank Fox.

INQUEST HOLDS PAIR ON SLAYING CHARGES

Following an inquest by Coroner George S. Allen, Monday, Elijah Brown, 25, of 809 N. Calhoun Street, was ordered held for the grand jury accused of fatally shooting Charles Young, of 928 Stricker Street, on December 31.

The latter died in Provident Hospital, last week, of a bulet wound of the abdomen which he is said to have received during an argument with Brown in the 1400 block of Lanvale Street.

Last Patient Treated

Strangely enough, Young was the last person to be treated in the accident ward of the hospital in 1937, and the arrest of Brown was the first made by Northwestern police in the New Year.

Conducting another inquest on the same day, Dr. Allen held Miss Mary Hackett, 20, of 1402 N. Gilmor Street, for allegedly stabbing Richard Braxton, 26, of 1835 Kavanaugh Street, during a fracas at Lorman and Bruce Streets January 8.

Braxton died soon after being admitted to Provident Hospital following first aid treatment.

After the stabbing, Miss Hackett, former Douglass High School student, went directly to her home and related the incident to her mother, Mrs. Mary Hackett.

Braxton, it was charged, was reputedly in the habit of stopping her on the streets and forcing his attentions on her, finally driving the young woman to the point where she feared Braxton, her mother said.

CIO Official Halts Ban on Ship Steward

Although fourteen out of twenty-one members of the S.S. Artigus crew voted to bar a colored steward from working on the ship, Patrick Whalen, white, CIO official, forced his acceptance, last week, it has been revealed.

The steward was objected to because the rest of the members of the steward's department were white. A meeting was called on the ship and rejection was voted in a secret ballot. He was forced off the ship.

Learning of the seaman's plight, Whalen invited the white crew to attend a meeting at the Maritime Union headquarters, and after lecturing to them, was successful in getting the colored steward placed on the ship.

Quits A.F. of L.

Roy A. Owens, white, second vice president of the Seamen's Reorganization Committee, an authorized organizer of the American Federation of Labor, bolted the ranks of the A.F. of L. here this week and joined forces with the CIO.

Owens in his complaint accused the A.F. of L. of being guilty of accepting graft and other irregularities.

WOMAN, 70, COLLAPSES IN STREET

Mrs. Annie Stewart, 70, of 223 N. Jasper Street, was taken to the University Hospital by Bennie Knight, of 239 N. Poppleton Street, Saturday, after she had collapsed while crossing Fremont Avenue and Saratoga Street. She was later sent home.

Luck at Gaming Gadget Causes Near Tragedy

"Galloping dominos," a mechanical gambling device, a consistent winner, and pistol shots fired by a peeved tavern bouncer figured in a near-tragedy resulting in the arrest of eleven persons, Saturday, and trial in criminal court.

Magistrate Frank Fox was chief specattor in the crowded Southwestern district courtroom as the scene originally staged in a tavern at 1531 W. Franklin Street, was rehearsed for the jurist-critic.

Roy Talley, 38, of 1537 Franklin Street, a regular patron of the tavern located a few doors from his home by Abraham Hyatt, white, was in the place on Saturday evening, playing "galloping dominoes," one of the familiar mechanical gambling devices seen in many establishments throughout the city.

Machine Pays Off

When Talley is alleged to have won too consistently, Norman Smith, 22, of 1621 Franklin Street, a floor manager and bouncer in the tavern, disconnected the electric plug in the machine. A short while later, Talley replaced the plug and began playing anew, witnesses said.

A second time Smith reputedly pulled the plug, after which Talley ordered a bottle of soda water. Then, according to Talley, the bouncer said: "You are a smart guy, aren't you," and attempted to cut him with a knife.

When Talley knocked the weapon from his hand, Smith produced a revolver and fired. One bullet creased Talley's hat barely missing his skull.

In the meantime, someone notified police who arrested everyone in the place. After the shooting, Smith fled to the upper part of the house. When the officers reached the second floor, they were met by Mrs. Hyatt, 43, wife of the proprietor, who reputedly told them Smith was not up there.

Found Smith Hiding

Continuing their search, they found him hiding in a third floor room and put him in the patrol with the others taken in the raid.

After listening to the case, Magistrate Fox held Smith under $1600 bail for the grand jury on charges of shooting with intent to kill, carrying a concealed deadly weapon and disorderly conduct.

Other persons in the raid were: fined $5 and costs for disturbing the peace. They were:

Clyde Talley, 23, of 1839 Orleans Street; James Talley, 31, same address; William Bruce, 24, of 1635 Orleans Street; Walter Hodges, 39, of 932 Outlaw Street; Charles Jones, 21, of 415 N. Stricker Street; David Outlaw, 25, same address; Carl Watts, 29; and Mrs. Lillian Wyatt, white; Roy Talley was dismissed.

Owner Also Arrested

On the testimony of several of the witnesses that Hyatt paid off the winning bets on the gambling machine in cash, the latter was charged with operating an illegal gambling device and held under $250 bail for the grand jury.

Tony Tallano, white, owner of the machine, of 704 E. Baltimore Street, was likewise held for the grand jury under similar bail.

Even a Dice Player Profits from Truth

Being truthful had its own reward, John Ross, 21, of 1602 Lanvale Street, learned on Monday when he was dismissed following a hearing for shooting dice with a group in the 1400 block of Mount Street.

James Coates, 26, of 1552 N. Carey Street, arrested at the same time, was fined $1 and costs by Magistrate Harry Fine. Although apprehended after being chased from the scene of the game, Coates steadfastly denied being in the game.

He was fined, according to the magistrate, because he did not tell the truth.

WOMAN SENT TO CROWNSVILLE

Mrs. Elizabeth Gray, 76, of 412 Bowan Street was committed to the Crownsville Sanitarium on Thursday, when officers of the city health department declared her insane.

PAIR HELD UNDER $10,000 BAIL IN ALLEGED ROBBERY

Accused of assaulting and robbing Clifford Bell of $102, Saturday, Herman Claver, 37, of 916 St. Barnabas Court, and Leonard Stanmore, 40, of 1126 Shields Place, were held under $10,000 bail each for the grand jury, on Monday.

ment on Park Avenue where he had received a large sum of money to a point in the 1200 block of McCulloh Street, where they allegedly dragged him into a hallway and took the money.

Wanted Good Time

Bell said that one of them had approached him shortly after he had left the place on Park Avenue and asked to be directed to a place where he could have a good time, explaining that he had just arrived in this city from North Carolina and wanted to make some friends.

While they were talking, a second man approached and rear and together they pulled me into the hallway where the money was taken, after which they fled," Bell said.

The robbery was reported to Northwestern police who arrested Claver late Sunday when Bell saw him on the street and immediately notified Sergt. Thomas Barranger and Officers Thomas Higgins and Herman Trautner.

Both defendants denied the charges when arraigned before Magistrate Harry Fine and asserted they did not know Bell or anything about the reported robbery.

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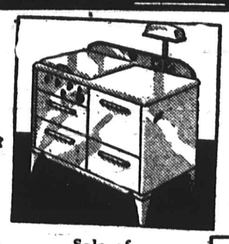

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