

Unity of Jewish, Arab Workers Growing

TEL AVIV, Palestine, Dec. 24 (ALN).—The growing unity between Jewish and Arab unionists may eventually provide the cornerstone for a peaceful, democratic Palestine free from British domination.

The unions, whose membership constitutes roughly 9 percent of the country's population, have conducted a great many joint strikes during the past year. What has stimulated united action is the fact that living costs for Jews and Arabs alike have risen 300 percent since 1937 while wages have gone up only 50 percent in the same period.

Of the 145,000 organized workers, about 108,000 are Jews and 37,000 Arabs. The Jews are grouped in the Histadruth (Jewish Federation of Labor) and the Arabs in three organizations: the Palestine Arab Workers' Society (15,000), the Arab Workers' Congress (18,000) and the Arab Labor League (4,500).

The Arab Labor League is affiliated to the Histadruth but Jewish and Arab locals are separate. Progressive laborites of both nationalities oppose this separation and are striving for organizational unity.

During the past year Arab and Jewish workers engaged in joint strikes against the U.S. Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., Anglo-Dutch Shell Oil Co., British army posts exchanges, the Dead Sea Potash Co. and the Nur Factory, the last owned by Jewish capital. Each of these strikes involved thousands of workers.

When Arab and Jewish government employees were on a nationwide strike, Arab postal employees

participated in a mass meeting at Histadruth's headquarters in Tel Aviv. They supported a declaration denouncing British imperialism for trying to stir up conflict between Jewish and Arab workers.

Judge Corcoran Sworn In

Mayor O'Dwyer administered the oath of office to Supreme Court Justice-elect Thomas L. J. Corcoran at 12.30 p.m. in City Hall, yesterday. Corcoran was succeeded as Deputy Mayor by Corporation Counsel John J. Bennett, who, in turn, will be replaced as Corporation Counsel by Charles E. Murphy, Brooklyn Democrat, a member of the law firm of Murphy, Block, Sullivan and Sawyer.

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Murphy will be sworn in by the Mayor at City Hall at 12.30 p.m. tomorrow, Dec. 26.