LULAC NEWS

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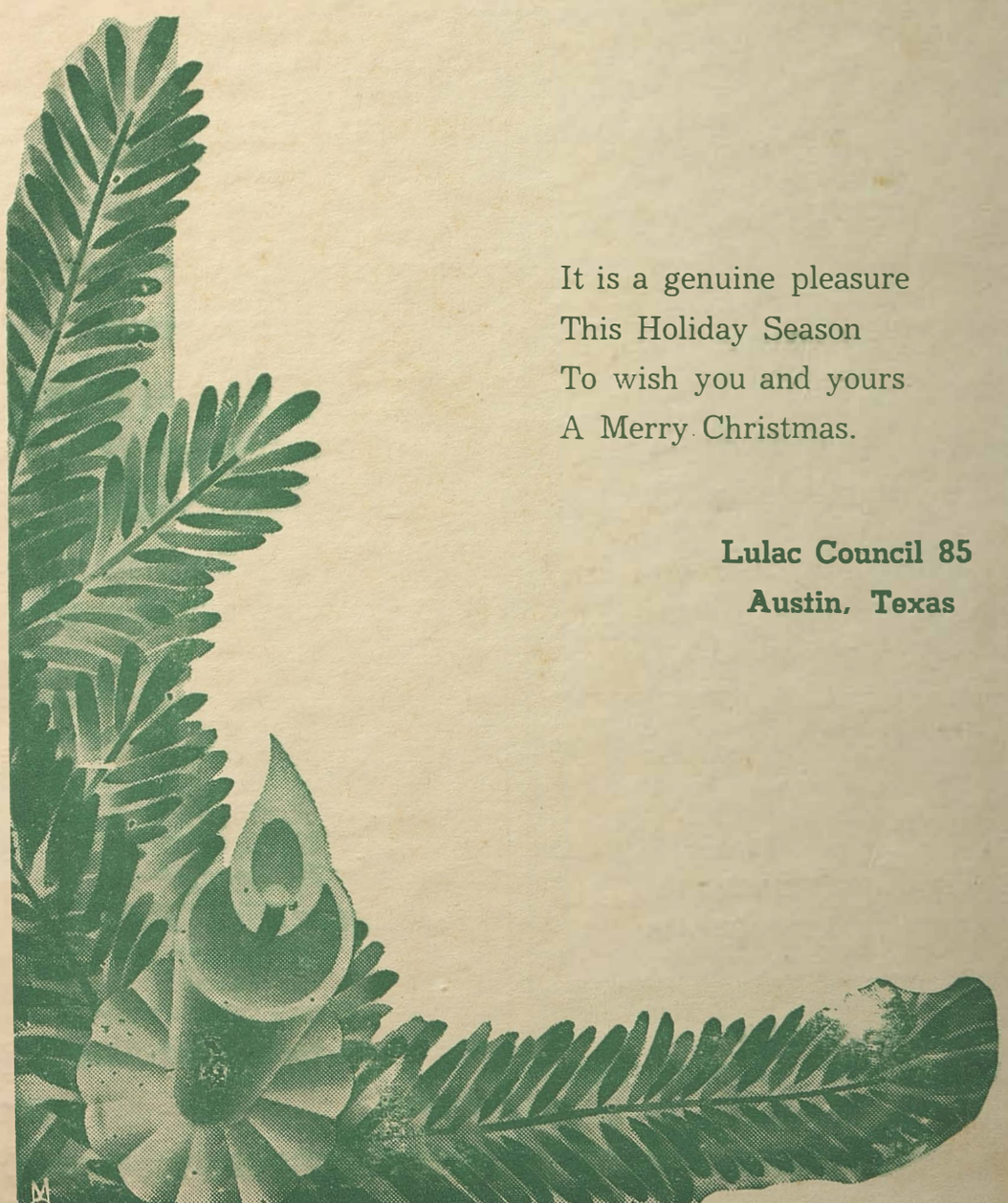


It is a genuine pleasure
This Holiday Season
To wish you and yours
A Merry Christmas.

Lulac Council 85
Austin, Texas

A Monthly Message from the. . . .

President General

To My Fellow-Officers and Members of Lulac:

We have arrived at the half-way mark of our Lulac Year.

Many things have been done—but there are still many more to be done yet.

As we look back upon the last six little short months, since our last General Convention was held in Austin, and yours truly assumed the Presidency General of Lulac, we fervently elevate our thanks to Almighty God that He has allowed us to do for our beloved organization what little we have been truly able to do.

It is with the utmost humility in our hearts that we approach this Holiday season, when we feel in our souls that we must rededicate ourselves to the Christian tenets of tolerance and brotherly love, that we come to a fuller realization of the great responsibility that is ours in this ever changing world.

It was but a few short years ago that the world was being dipped in the pulsating and flowing blood of all the nations of this earth, a cataclysm brought about by those that would dominate the world for their own and their nations' selfish ends, while we were praying for PEACE.

While we make ourselves ready to accept again the revival of the story of the Birth of the Prince of Peace, let us search our hearts diligently and see within ourselves whether we are really practicing, or only rendering lip-service, to His teaching of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.

Let us remember that is was this same Jesus of Nazareth that said: "....this great commandment I give unto you: LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF."

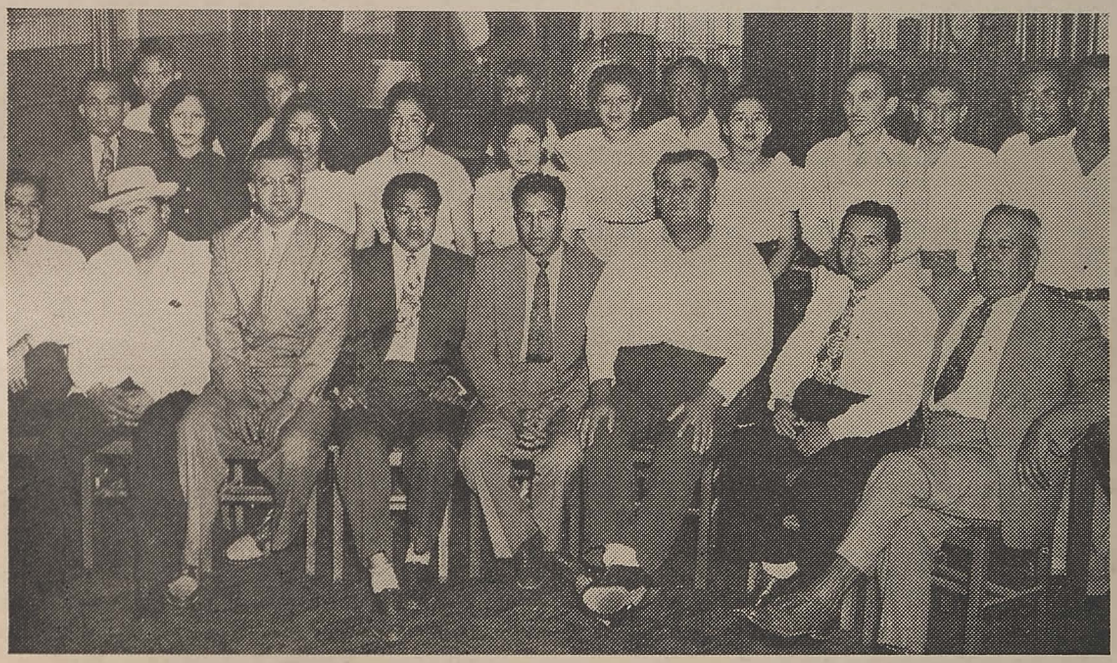
And then again: "If a man sayth that he loves God and loves not his brother, he is a liar, and the truth is not in him; for how can he love God whom he has not seen, if he loves not his brother whom he has seen?"

Let us render to him the full measure of our devotion and let no day of the year again catch us looking down upon our fellowman.

May we live not only through this holiday season as real and true Christians, but for all the rest of our days may we so live that our Nation under God may be forever the living symbol that it was intended to be by our Founding Fathers, that the flaming Torch of our Statue of Liberty may never die down in shame but that it shall be the beaconlight of hope and life and freedom to all the peoples of the world.

That when we utter the cheering and comforting words "MERRY CHRISTMAS" they will come from the abundance of our heart, so that everyone, regardless of race, creed or color, may sincerely feel that those words, as given and taken, are really the token and the symbol of our Christian Democracy, our deeprooted belief in the Father of us all, and in the teaching of humility, tolerance, and understanding of His Son.

1948 OFFICERS DF AUSTIN LULAC COUNCIL No. 85



From left to right (front row)—Frank M. Pinedo, corresponding secretary; Roy Velásquez, chairman of entertainment committee; Henry Moreno, President of Lulac Council No. 85; Joel Quintanilla, secretary; Arthur Castruita, District Organizer; Max Garcia, Inspector General. Second row:— Johnny Reyes, Sarah Medina, Sally Castillo, Triny Pérez, Mrs. Theresa Cásarez, Christine Beltrán, Mrs. Horace Ramírez, Dr. George I. Sánchez, University of Texas Professor; Horace Ramírez, Joe Pérez. Third row: — Charles Kidder, Ladislao Castro, Catarino Solas, Eddie Cantú and Pete Espinoza. Not shown in picture:—Ray Donley, Jr. sparkplug of Council No. 85.

GROUP of 1941 AUSTIN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shortsight Foresight and Circumspection

A COMMENTARY ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

By Frank M. Pinedo

A few years ago the nation was shocked by the news of zoot-suit riots in Los Angeles, in Houston, and in a number of other of our large metropolitan centers. The stories of these boy-hoodlums and the social unrest and critical problems they created commanded the public attention. The reaction was a cry for immediate remedial measures and later for planning and building to avoid repetitions of these tragedies in the future. Out of the emergencies arose a sincere concern as to the causes of these anti-social outbreaks and a desire of the public in general to no longer, let juvenile delinquency go unnoticed, shrugged off as somebody else's problem tolerated as the behavior of the peculiar, the criminal, and the uncooperative child.

Ever since the dawn of the study of society and its elements, researchers have maintained that social behavior is a resultant of not one but of all the factors which characterize that society. The expression of a group which goes to make up a segment of society was recognized as a product not of the inherent characteristics of this group alone but as conditioned, fashioned, and modified by the presence of other groups and other social factors, including economy, environment, and scientific development. It is in the light of this early recognition that the bewilderment over mass juvenile delinquency, as exemplified by gang riots, was, to say the least, disturbing. That our social agencies were stymied and helpless was even harder to understand and reconcile. That it was necessary for these riots to happen, to awaken public interest was, a tragedy. The father of a boy who has just recently returned from the Texas State Training School for Boys put it this way, and very candidly, I feel: Why do we always refrain from building an overpass **until after** a number of accidents occur? What he was deploring, of course, was our lack of foresight.

The answer seems to resolve simply into: (1), that a real understanding of the nature of juvenile delinquency was limited to our educators, and (2), people were not particularly interested: why worry about the neighbors' children, if their parents could not manage them, how could anyone else hope to do so?

There is a change taking place today; a change which may best be described as an abandonment of the self-righteous, the condemning, and the conclusive, for a desire to understand, to study, to correct, and to plan. One of the greatest changes has been the adoption of the case-work method by social agencies. The case-work method simply means each individual is considered as an individual, with the natural characteristics of the group to which he belongs, but also a human being with unique qualities which are in turn responsive in their own particular way to the factors which condition society as a whole.

The foregoing sounds complex. It just means (1), that people are not all poured out of the same mold, and (2), every one of us is necessarily affected, and in different ways, by what is going on about us. A step further leads to the conclusion that there is no such thing as an inherently bad boy or an in-herently bad girl. A fourteen year old boy finds himself today in Gatesville (the Texas State Training School for Boys) simply because of delinquent behavior which commenced when he refused to go to school. Once out of school he started getting into trouble. Why did he leave school? He started disliking school because he had no gym pants to wear, the other boys muttered things about him because he had to wear his overalls to all gym classes, particularly so because a Latin American was conspicous at this school anyway.

Social welfare agencies are today commencing to work with the individual. In the field of Juvenile delinquency Texas took a big step forward with the passage of the Juvenile Court Act of 1943. This act makes it possible for juvenile authorities, competent, trained personnel, to work closely with youth removed from criminal court jurisdiction. The emphasis is not to punish peremptorily for offenses of a criminal nature but to search for the source of the anti-social behavior, the behavior of the unadjusted child, and to institute action which will aid the youth to integrate himself or herself once more into normal, healthful, activities in society.

We are far from the threshold of a new era in handling problems of delinquent juveniles. The case-work method has its greatest weakness in that it does require trained personnel in a field in which they are too few and which is unattractive because of low salaries, heavy case loads, and close scrutiny by a not always understanding public. Also because of the very

(Continued on page 15)

Lulac News

Official Organ
League of United Latin American Citizens

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General Officers Celebrate Important Meeting

A momentous meeting of our General Officers was held in San Antonio, Texas, December 4 and 5, 1948 with President General Raoul A. Cortez presiding. Highlighting this meeting were several very important decisions made and the tremendous amount of routine League work processed. A complete summary of the activities carried on during the past six months throughout the section served by LULAC will be published in the January issue of the LULAC NEWS according to Jacob I. Rodriguez, Executive Secretary General, due to lack of space in this issue. Top photo shows our General Officers, Lower left phot shows the Past Presidents General, present. Lower right photo, shows the Officers ofSan Antonio Council No. 2 and the Past Presidents General who were very active in the initiation ceremony of the J. T. Canales Class, Council No. 2 San Antonio.

Spanish Speaking People in the Southwest

— A Brief Historical Review —

Spanish-speaking people have been in the Southwest for three hundred and fifty years. The villages north of Santa Fe (New Mexico), founded in 1598, take second place only to St. Augustine, Florida, (1565) as the oldest settlements of Europeans on the mainland of what is now the United States. The New Mexico settlements, followed a century later by those in Texas and almost two centuries later by those in California, represent a colonial effort by Spain which left an indelible imprint upon the history and culture of the Southwest and of the United States. More important still, that colonial endeavor left people here, from California to Texas, whose descendents constitute a part of the group that we now refer to, very loosely, as Spanish-speaking.

Note should be made of the fact that the colonial **hispanos** were not culturally homogeneous. The **nuevo mexicanos,** having arrived in the region as early as 1598, were different from their cousins, the **californios** and the **texanos,** who arrived much later. The date of migration and settlement, with all its attendant cultural concomitants, and geographic isolation, natural resources, the number and kind of Indians among whom they settled, and many such factors resulted in not one Spanish-speaking people but several, each with distinctive cultural personalities. The outlook on life and the schemes of values, the allegiances, the biology, and the very speech of these colonial settlers varied greatly—and, though all were Spanish-speaking, they can be thought of as different peoples.

Until about the middle of the nineteenth century, the **californios,** the **nuevo mexicanos,** and the **texanos** went their separate cultural ways, held together only lightly by, first, the slender threads of Spain and, later for a brief incident, by the uncertain and flimsy bonds of independent Mexico. The annexation of Texas and the occupation of the rest of the Southwest by the United States changed the course of human affairs in this region. But the change was a slow one, unplanned and haphazard. The United States did not have the social institutions, the cultural "know-how," to carry out an effective program of acculturation among her new citizens, the colonial **hispanos.** The new states and territories were left to shift for themselves in this regard, with an understandable lack of success. So the Spanish-speaking peoples of the Southwest remained Spanish-speaking and culturally isolated —unassimilated citizens, subject to the ever-increasing dominance of a foreign culture, of the "American way."

Even so, other things being equal, time alone would have had its influence. In due course, and with the casualties that accompany haphazard evolution, the **hispanos** would have become full-fledged Americans. However, not only were the social institutions inadequate for the task, but it soon developed that changing conditions made it impossible for time alone to bring about the assimilation of these colonial peoples. After 1870, the Southwestern scene changed rapidly. The coming of the railroad opened up new economic fields, and made the old ones more attractive. The region ceased to be the Wild West. It became, instead, a land of opportunity—a land where minerals and lumber, cotton and corn, cattle and sheep, fruits and vegetables gave rise to new economic empires.

These developments, in themselves, did not hinder the process of acculturation. On the contrary, they should have gone far towards aiding it, just as analogous developments farther east quickly made Americans of the heterogeneous masses that thronged to America from Europe during the late nineteenth century. However, in addition to the fact that Southwestern developments were based largely on rural life activities and on the production of raw materials (in contrast to the urban-industrial situation in the East), this area was sparsely populated and, insofar as the "American Way" was concerned, culturally immature and insecure. Worse still, since labor for the new enterprises was not available from the East, the Southwest had to turn to Mexico (and the Orient) for its labor supply. As a consequence, the region, already suffering from cultural indigestion, added to its troubles by importing thousands of Mexican families, and again postponed the day for the incorporation of its Spanish-speaking population.

Even thus enlarged by immigrants from Mexico, the **indo-hispanic** group could have been assilimilated, had the Southwest taken time to think out its cultural issues and to attack its fast-growing and increasingly complex socio-economic problems—particularly those of this ethnic minority. But, before 1910, almost no one seemed aware even that there were far-reaching issues and problems. Virtually no thought was given to the educational, health, economic, or political rehabilitation of the **hispanos.** And, after 1910, the opportunity had passed. Until then, the issues and problems were still of comparatively manageable proportions. They were now to grow beyond all hope of quick solution.

The Mexican Revolution of 1910-1920 and World War One combined to bring many thousands of Mexicans to the Southwest. Large numbers came as displaced persons, driven across the border by the fortunes of a chaotic civil war. Even larger numbers came as contract-laborers, recruited by the trainload to work the beet fields of Colorado, the gardens and groves of California, the railroads of the entire West, the copper mines of Arizona, the cotton fields of Texas, and even the iron-works of Chicago and the coal mines of West Virginia.

The consequences of this free-and-easy dipping into the cheap labor reservoir that is Mexico are not too dificult to observe. What, for brevity, I choose to call "cultural indigestion" can be documented by health and educational statistics, by pictures of the slums of San Antonio, and by all sorts of depressing socio-economic data from all over the Southwest. For present purposes, suffice it to say that, once again, the Southwest pyramided problem upon problem, burdening itself with a situation for which, sooner or later, there must be a costly reckoning.

In a way, World War I served a good purpose in this problem. Full employment, good wages, and the educative results of military service stimulated acculturation in the Southwest. However, the issues were much too large and complex to be met adequately by the by-products of war. More research, more planning, and more well-thought-out action programs were needed.

TEXAS

NEW MEXICO

ARIZONA

COLORADO

CALIFORNIA

The "boom and bust" days of the twenties, and the slow recovery of the thirties, saw a little alleviation of the socio-economic difficulties confronting the Southwest. Thousands of Mexican nationals were repatriated through the joint efforts of the United States and Mexico. However, natural increment soon more than made up their number. Then the depression years bred more misery, more problems. However, these critical times gave rise to a growing interest in the plight of the unemployed, of out-of-school youth, and of common people generally. This interest was first expressed by state and national surveys. President Hoover's Committee on Social Trends, California Governor Young's Committee on Labor, and the Texas Educational Survey are illustrative of this growing interest. The "New Deal" reforms helped to relieve some of the most acute problems, and stimulated the nation to a greater consciousness of its socio-economic defects. In particular, more attention was given to studies of underprivileged groups and of cultural and racial minorities.

The condition of the Spanish-speaking people in the Southwest was not completely overlooked in this type of activity. Taylor's studies in California and Texas called attention to the plight of the agricultural worker, particularly of the migrant Mexican. Manuel, at the University of Texas, was inauguratnig educational studies of the Spanish-speaking group. Sánchez was working in the fields of bilingualism and of school finance and administration in New Mexico. Tireman, also in New Mexico, was addressing himself to the teaching problems presented by the bi-cultural situation. Other researchers concerned themselves with a variety of spot studies.

Some reform measures, looking towards the effective acculturation of its population (fifty per cent Spanish-speaking), were undertaken by New Mexico in the thirties. These measures involved far-reaching changes in the sources and distribution of school funds, improvement of public health services, more scientific land use and management, increased and more effective political action by Spanish-speaking voters, and the like. As a result, by 1940 the Spanish-speaking people of New Mexico were more nearly assimilated then those of any other Southwestern state.

Similar improvements were to be noted, for the same period, in parts of Colorado, Arizona, and California. Texas, on the other hand, lagged far behind. The educational and health levels of the Texas-Mexican were the worst of the region. Here, fundamental civil rights were most flagrantly violated. Effective Spanish-speaking leadership was lacking. Conditions of employment and standards of living were woefully low. In a manner of speaking, then, Texas had become the "horrible example" in the acculturation of Spanish-speaking people. However, there was a growing realization, here as elsewhere, that none of these States could attain its potential cultural stature until these maladjustments were overcome—and, in the last few years, Texas has begun to buckle down to the task, so long postponed, of incorporating this one-sixth of its population, the Spanish-speaking Texans.

World War II made several fundamental contributions in this field. First, as in World War I, military service and improved economic conditions gave a great boost to the assimilation of Spanish-speaking people. In addition, largely in response to pressure from Spanish-speaking groups in the Southwest, the federal government began to sponsor programs designed to improve the bi-cultural situation in this region. More important still, Mexico and the United States agreed to regulate the flow of Mexican labor northward across our southern border.

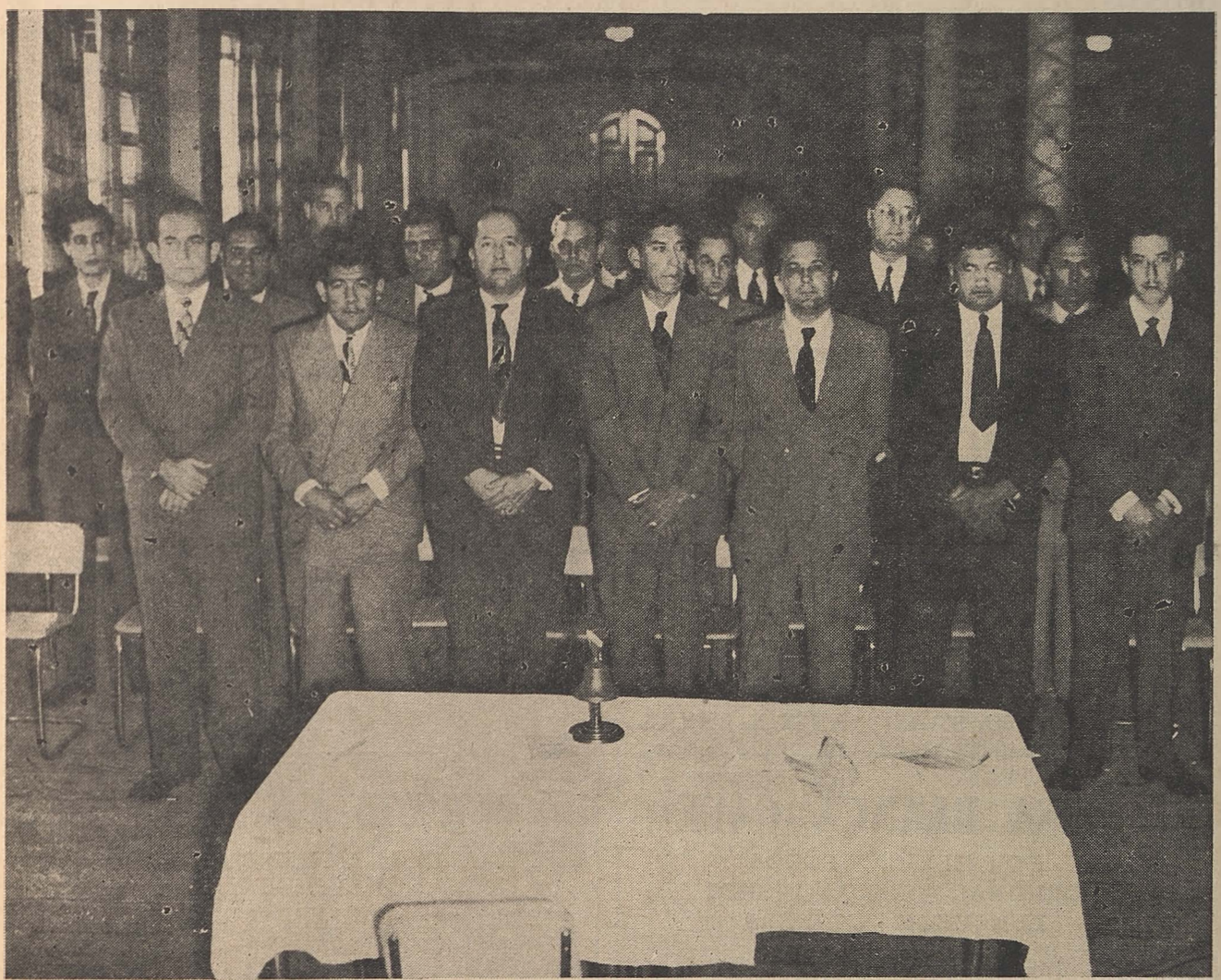
Whether the two governments realized it or not, this last step struck at the root of much of the evil in the Southwestern picture. As has been noted above, time and again, just as we have been on the verge of cutting our bi-cultural problems to manageable proportions, uncontrolled mass migrations from Mexico have erased our gains and accentuated our cultural indigestion. Now, at a time when the entire Southwest has inaugurated (or is "tooling up" for) effective and large-scale programs of acculturation, this control of Mexican immigration is most timely. It would be indeed short-sighted and tragic if anything were permitted to cause the two governments to deviate from the sound path which they have followed in the last few years.

The most serious current threat to an effective program of acculturation in the Southwest is represented by illegal aliens, the so-called "wetbacks." Tens of thousands of wetbacks now labor in the Southwest—without benefit of law, without protection or responsibility. Because the wetback can and must work for whatever he is offered, he makes it virtually impossible for residents of the border area to make a satisfactory living there. Thus tens of thousands of our Spanish-speaking people become displaced persons—men, women, and children—and move northward to further depress the socio-economic situation of the Spanish-speaking people in other parts of the region. Unless we can put an end to the illegal entry of large numbers of Mexican aliens, much of the good work that state and federal agencies are doing in this field will go for naught—and much more time and effort and many more millions of the taxpayers' dollars will be required to bring Texas and her sister States to a desirable and defensible cultural level.

It is my considered opinion that we are now in the early stages of a highly accelerated process of acculturation in the Southwest. I am convinced that, given a little time without further major complication, our research and public service agencies can solve the problems presented by our bi-cultural situation. It is also my conviction that such a solution is indispensable in the attainment of the fullest measure of success by our economic enterprises, for our political endeavors, and in the realization of our highest cultural potentialities.

LULAC NEWS

"J. T. Canales Initiation Class" Received in Colorful Ceremony by San Antonio Council No. 2, December 5th, 1948



Top Photo: View of ceremonies during the Initiation of the J. T. CANALES Class, which marked the first acceptance of Anglo-American members into the LULAC fold. Lower, left: D. A. Wiliam B. Hensley, representing Bexar County, and an intiatee of this class addresing fellow-LULACKERS. Lower, right: Commisioner C. Ray Davis, represented the City of San Antonio, congratulated the LEAGUE for the progress accomplished in all its activities and wished more success in the future work.

A Remarkable Comeback

By Raymond Donley, Jr.

About a year ago LULAC Council No. 85 of Austin felt a jolt that shook its very foundation and literally left devastation in its wake. I refer of course to the dismal venture in the form of a simulated bullfight which we planned to stage but which backfired on us with such a disastrous effect that the Council was thrown into a state of bankruptcy, as well as into a general turmoil.

Briefly, here is the story:—A friend of the Council offered us the idea (and we perhaps pounced on it a bit hastily) of sponsoring a facsimile of a bullfight as it is known in Mexico with real top-notch Mexican performers but with the exception of the actual killing or torturing of the bull. The deep tenderness toward Ferdinand the Bull was essential in order to conform with the laws of the Humane Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Accordingly, the green signal was flashed on the project, and several committees were formed to methodically carry out the complex arrangements. There was the hard task of selecting good drawing cards from Mexican Charros and then obtaining passports for them at Laredo. But despite many difficulties and hard luck, Bro. Nash Moreno accomplished this job amazingly well. Then there was the Committee for advertising and publicity—a tremendous job this was. But unfortunately it was through an irregularity in the procedure of this latter committe that gave rise to an immediate objection by a radical lady whose antagonism later developed into a furor.

The irregularity was simply that in advertising the **simulated** Bullfight, posters of **real** bullfights were displayed. The aforementioned lady crusader expressed horror at the sight of a poster which exhibited blood streaming down the neck of poor old Ferdinand who had so cruelly been pricked with a dart (banderilla.) This lady talked of nothing else but bulls and bullfights from then on, until she succeeded in scandalizing large groups of people. And when popular opinion deteriorated to such a degree, we wisely chose to bring all operations to a screeching halt. Thus rather than to arouse public opinion against the Council, we saved face by dropping all plans of the controversial bullfight and offering a sincere explanation to the people.

The Bullfight, had it gone ahead as planned, would have netted the Council an unheard-of gigantic return. But as it was, when it's performance was frustrated, it spelled the loss of thousands of dollars which had already been invested in the preparations and guaranteed in contracts with the bullfighters.

The situation was chaotic for we had borrowed the money and now the Councils Treasury was deep in debt. But thanks to the willing spirit of those who refuse to go down—the members themselves made personal loans of up to $300 and the day was saved. But the pressure was not at all off. There was the day of the National Convention at Austin to prepare for. A united effort was now needed more than at any other time in the history of the Austin Council. So the next six months saw the members working feverishly to restore the financial loss and at the same time to try to save at least $1000 for the National Convention.

When the date of the convention arrived, the money in excess of $1000 had been earned. And to date, thanks to an untiring membership and an efficient administration—all losses have been absorbed, debts have been paid off, and we are determined to continue to work hard that we may never again go bankrupt.

(Continued from page 7)

nature of the work only the urban centers have been able to afford juvenile workers, probation officers. The Texas State Department of Public Welfare has endeavored to perform juvenile work in outlying districts but here again the personnel is far short of the demand.

Texas state institutions are also inadequate and unable to provide satisfactory corrective measures, resolving themselves largely into detention facilities. It has often been said that Gatesville is a training school for Gainesville. The fault lies with our legislators and our public leaders. Here again there seems to be awakening awareness. Definite, long-overdue, measures are today being considered and it is hoped that they will soon be in effect.

But the responsibility is not solely the legislature's and that of a few. LULAC, and every other public-spirited organization has responsibility for state and local activity. The Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce has undertaken Big-Brother work. The Big-Brother organization provides an adult-child relationship which often is the very thing the delinquent child needs in order to accept guidance, inspiration, and perspective. (This writer will be glad to furnish particulars to any council on this very worthwhile work.) Then there is Boy Scouts, Boys' Clubs of America, and, of course, our own junior-lulac work; these activities provide healthful, recreational, and productive programs for our youth. Decidedly, there is responsibility, but from personal experience there is no more gratifying work than aiding our children to become better men and women, and then there is no greater ambition than that OUR boys and girls will become the leaders of tomorrow.

Thanks

LULAC COUNCIL No. 85 IS DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OR WHO IN ANY WAY AIDED THE PRINTING OF THIS ISSUE OF "LULAC NEWS"

Hard Luck Year

Henry G. Moreno was re-elected for a second consecutive term. And in taking over the reins for 1948 Henry assumed a big job. In two catastrophic undertakings of October and November of 1947, Council No. 85 had gone deeply in debt. In October, after extensive and exhaustive preparations for a simulated Bull Fight (with real champion toreros imported from Mexico) the Council had to call off the exhibition because of a misunderstanding with a number of Austin citizens protesting because of an alleged cruelty to animals. The contract and all the details had been worked out but to avoid further misunderstanding the whole thing was dropped, with the resultant breach of contract plus several other expenses which forced Council No. 85 to dig deep into their pockets. Then the following month a Mexican Cowboy team was brought in from Monterrey to stage an exhibition of Mexican Cowboy tricks. Again full preparations were made—a whole week's entertainment at Archie Patton's arena at Oak Hill. But on the opening day, a large crowd was kept away by a heavy drizzle, and for three nights thereafter it was either raining or the arena was too wet for performing. The troupe therefore was packed, paid, and sent back to Mexico. Again there was a substantial financial loss.

But Henry and his Lulacs remained undaunted. Slowly but surely the Council started working out of debt. Working shoulder to shoulder with Henry was Roy Velazquez, Chairman of the Dance Committee. Roy started a series of dances at a local night club against the advice of seasoned entertainers who feared risking in the winter months. The dances ordinarily would not have been successful had it not been for Roy's able, though admittedly somewhat despotic, hand. He got the job done, and by Convention Time, Council No. 85 was back on its (still wobbly) feet.

The Convention Year has always been a big year for any council. Henry knew it. So he started planning for it early, and with Bro. Nash Moreno and Ladies' Lulac Council No. 28 arrangements were carefully worked out. Maybe it wasn't the biggest Convention, but Council No. 85 still brags that it was the best: plenty of food, all the beer you could drink, and ample and adequate reservations for everyone. Those of you who were there can remember ONE thing Austin didn't take care of—the weather. It was a little too hot.

Austin was also the hub of alot of activity of Lulac in 1948. That was the year of the School Segregation Suit. For months prior to the trial, Lulac chieftains rolled in and out of Austin so much that a number of them were offered honorary memberships in Council No. 85,

But the events mentioned above by no means complete the list. Other activities for this Big Year are listed below:

Poll Tax Drive in January

Organization of a P.T.A. group at school predominantly Latin-American.

Fund Raising Campaign for the Pan-American Center.

T. B. X-Ray Campaign.

Red Cross Drive.

Participation in School Advisory Committee.

Participation in Austin Community Council.

Speaker furnished School Tax Raise Campaign.

Discrimination in City Swimming Pools investigated.

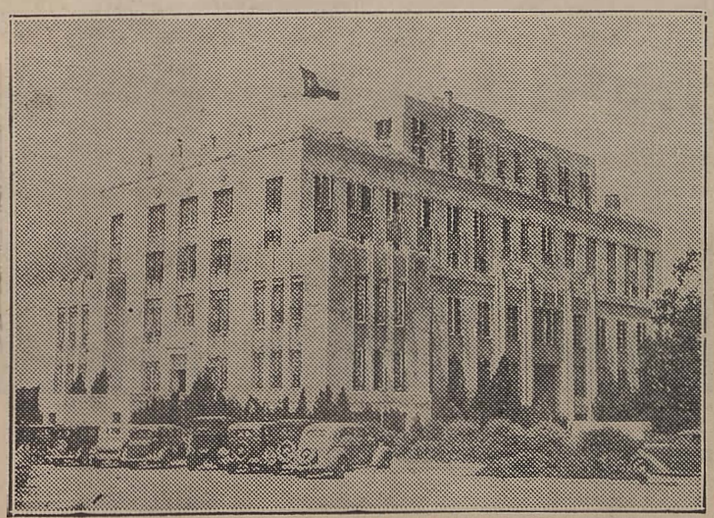
Participation in administration of Community Center.

Co-sponsored trip of two Austin Children to Monterrey, Mexico.

Formation of Boy Scout Troop.

Christmas Basket Campaign.

Sponsored December issue of LULAC NEWS.



View of the
TRAVIS COUNTY
COURTHOUSE

U. S. DISTRICT COURTHOUSE - - - AUSTIN, TEXAS

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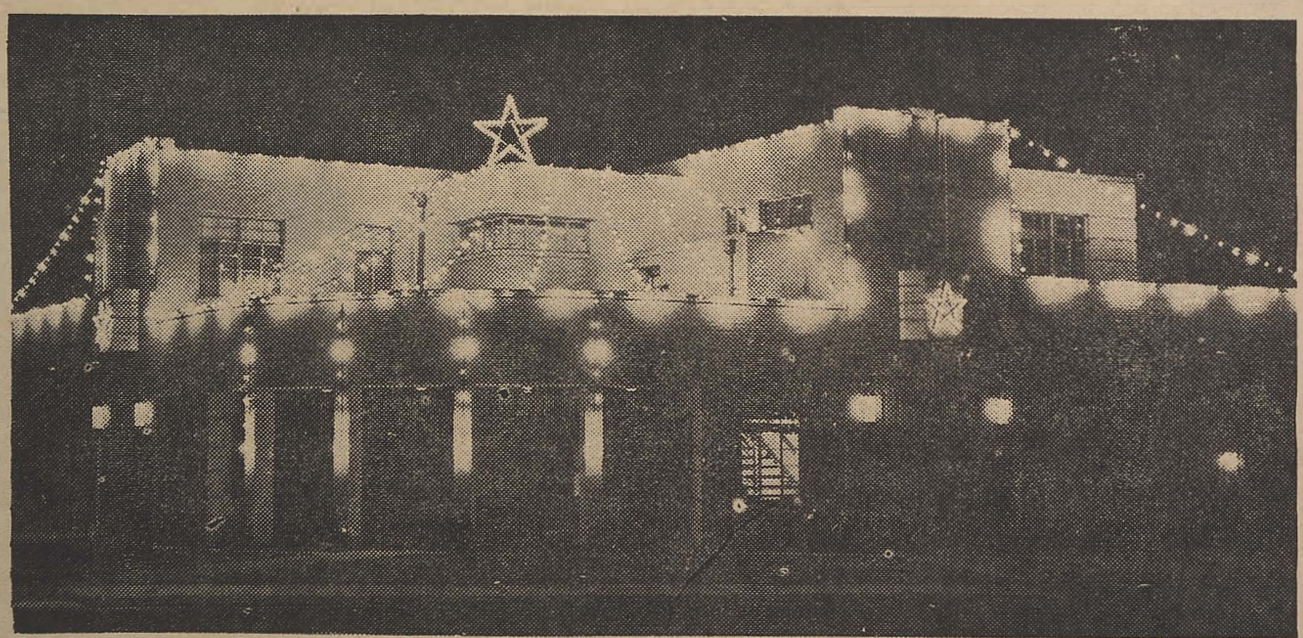

AUSTIN, TEXAS CENTRAL FIRE STATION