



LULAC News

Official Organ of the League of United Latin American Citizens

MARCH, 1958



DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN ATTENDING THE NOCHE MEXICANA

IN THIS ISSUE

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING

THE WAY IT WAS FOR WETBACKS

WHY I AM DEDICATED TO TEACHING

it's lighter



**modern
flavor**



PREMIUM QUALITY BEER

... and at a popular price

GO MODERN—ENJOY PEARL—THE GEM OF FINE BEER



LULAC News

Official Organ of the League of United Latin American Citizens

Vol. 25

March, 1958

No. 4

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FRONT COVER:—

The 19th Annual Lulac Noche Mexicana held at the Laredo Air Force Base Hangar on February 22nd, to climax the Washington Birthday Festivities brought together the following distinguished gentlemen: 1 to r: Hon. Richard G. Morales, Attorney, and past president of Council No. 12; Hon. Roberto M. Benavides, Grand Knight of KC and master of ceremonies for the occasion; Hon. Augusto Guajardo, Mayor Pro-tem of Laredo; Hon. Oscar M. Laurel, Immediate Past National President and Representative to Texas House of Representatives; Governor Price Daniel of Texas; Hon. Felix Tijerina, National President of Lulac; J. W. Nixon, Superintendent of Laredo Public Schools and member of the State's Hale-Aikin Committee; "Mr. South Texas", the Hon. Ernest Poteet, President of Texas A. and I. College; and Paul Garza, Jr., General Chairman of the Noche Mexicana.



In Our Mailbox

Mr. Paul Garza,
Nat'l. Director of Publicity
P. O. Box 1451
Laredo, Texas

Dear Paul:

Attached please find check and money order for ads in LULAC NEWS. Also, attached, are samples on how ad space should be set. The amount involved are 2 \$5.00 ads and one \$10.00, a total of \$20.00.

This money should be credited to my home council No. 300 for their advertising contest.

I am wondering if there are any extra LULAC NEWS of January, 1958, you would be so kind as to forward same to me so that my home council members may distribute same among the buyers of the ads printed in that issue.

Keep up the good work, I know that you are doing a good job with the limited cooperation at hand. I have been writing all of the Junior Councils, suggesting that each Council forward \$25.00 of advertising to assist in the printing of the magazine. I am sure that you will be hearing from our younger groups.

If I can be of any service to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Yours in LULAC,

A. Alvarez

cc: M. L. Castro - Pres. Council No. 300

Mr. Anthony Analla,
Publicity Director, Council 302
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Brother Anthony:

We are indeed happy to inform you that our staff has considered to dedicate the entire April issue of LULAC NEWS to your district of Wisconsin.

Would like to congratulate you in the manner in which the official program for your First Annual State Convention was prepared. A job well done!

Please forward news material as well as advertisements to our office as soon as you possibly can so that necessary material be outlined for the April issue.

By:
A. A. Juarez,
Managing Editor

Sincerely yours,
Paul Garza, Jr.,
Nat'l Director of Publicity
Laredo, Texas

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .



FELIX TIJERINA



LULAC BANNERS FLYING HIGH



Congratulations are in order to the League for the outstanding manner in which LULAC Week was presented to the general public. Every State in LULAC did its part. This is in keeping with our motto "All for One and One for All". With LULAC Week we have started a chain reaction of State LULAC conventions and so far this conventions have proven successful and constructive.

The Supreme Council Meeting held during LULAC Week in Milwaukee, Wisconsin was well attended and many constructive ideas and possible projects came into being.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the League for having cooperated so well with the National Officers who attended this important Supreme Council Meeting. The reports of your Regional Governors showed beyond doubt that the League is active everywhere and that LULAC banners will continue to fly high in a majestic way.

Another state has joined our ranks. The great State of Michigan is in. The seed of LULAC has been planted in Detroit, Michigan. I have all the confidence in the world for a great LULAC region in Michigan.

A report from our National Treasurer shows that many councils are behind in their dues and this we must correct in order to be fully eligible to participate in all LULAC functions.

I would like to remind all councils and officers that we have a deadline for submission of resolutions and constitutional amendments to the State Conventions and this deadline is 45 days prior to a Convention. May I suggest that much thought and effort be given to all resolutions and constitutional amendments in order to avoid last minute written resolutions which many times are malworded and misleading.

If we are to submit resolutions or amendments, let them be intended to serve the best interest of our beloved LULAC as a whole rather than individuals. In reading our constitution we find many inadequacies which tend to slow our progress. Certain procedures should be changed to apply to the present era. Study your constitution and help us correct the inadequacies.

Once again we will have the honor at the State Convention of electing new Regional Governors. This is an honor bestowed upon the hardest working LULAC members of your respective state. In

choosing this leader lets find in him the true qualities of a leader, a citizen, and a good LULAC member.

May I take this means to ask all of my Regional Governors to advice my office in regards to your State Conventions so that I might pay you a visit or send a special representative to be with your membership. Again I am asking my Regional Governors to instruct their District Governors to start arousing interest in every council in regards to the Regional and National Conventions. We would like to have representation from every council in the League. Start making plans to charter busses, trains, or planes to take your district or state to the Convention.

Those districts designated as such by the Regional Governors should be sure that a District Governor is elected. Remember that district governors should have a well defined district which should include at least one active council. If you don't have an active council you don't have a district and consequently at the conventions your district governor's right to vote will be questioned. You still have time in which to district your region and work up councils.

The month of March will mark the end of the third quarter, and some of our councils are still delinquent in dues for the first and second quarters. Payment of national dues is a prerequisite to qualifying delegates to the conventions. Start making arrangements for those payments by quarters now and save your council the hardship of making one large lump sum at the convention. Our constitution provides for payments to be made on or before the first day of the month of each quarter, and all councils waiting until convention time to make payments run the risk of having themselves ruled ineligible to participate in conventions, **PREVIOUS PRACTICE NOT WITHSTANDING.**

Again may I extend to all councils who have so loyally followed National Office recommendations of the observance of LULAC Week my personal appreciation. Lets keep working together. Lets practice our LULAC Code. — God Bless You.

Felix Tijerina



Chicago Ladies Council No. 300 opened their hearts to provide a big children's party on January 6 at their Lulac Headquarters, 2023 So. Ashland Avenue, by putting on a cake sale. These ladies are very active, and their wonderful work can only be exceeded by their loyalty to our great organization. Notice Sally on the left and Mary Lou on the right sporting their Lulac Blouses.

Mrs. Isabel Verver Gonzalez, pioneer of the Lulac Educational Fund program, exemplifies her method of teaching youngsters the 400 basic English words necessary to place them on the same level as English-speaking pupils. Support this program, for never before has a program of this magnitude and scope been undertaken by Lulac -- and never before has Lulac enjoyed such a great deal of pride than when it undertook this program.



LULAC PROCLAMATION - Governor McFarland of Arizona is shown signing the League of United Latin American Citizens Proclamation designating the week of February 16 to 22 as Lulac Week.

Left to Right, Mrs. Edward Sumora, Jr. President, Council 251 Mesa; Adolfo Guerrero, District Governor; Governor McFarland and Mrs. Max Velarde, member at Large, Phoenix Council 281.

The highlight of Lulac Week was a banquet, with the Mesa Council and Phoenix Council participating, which was held at the Desert Rose Banquet Room in Phoenix.



ALFRED J. HERNANDEZ

The man that has held almost every post in our national office and in his local Council No. 60 of Houston was elected unanimously as Regional Governor of Texas at the 29th Regional Convention held in Waco, March 21-23, 1958. Alfred J. Hernandez, formerly league legal advisor, national secretary and national executive secretary, won over Manuel Gonzalez of Waco during the election held on Sunday morning, March 23, the climax of a great convention that reflected a great deal of credit for Waco Council No. 273.

The convention was initiated by a welcoming address delivered by the Waco City Manager, Mr. Jack Jeffrey, and the response by Manuel Lopez of San Antonio Council No. 2. Pete Tijerina, Regional Governor for the last two terms, was the presiding officer of the convention.

The convention was highlighted by two magnificent speeches — one on American Heritage by Judge Sarah T. Hughes, and the other on Lulac and Latin American heritage by Representative Eligio (Kika) de la Garza of Hidalgo County in Texas. Judge Hughes, who is seeking the Texas Supreme Court judgeship and who has held a distinguish-

ALFRED J. HERNANDEZ

Elected Texas Regional Governor

shed career in the judiciary, won a commendable applause from the huge crowd present at the Saturday night banquet. But the highlight of the entire evening was the fine speech of Representative Eligio (Kika) de la Garza, who gave the people present one of the most inspirational speeches ever made at any convention. (The summary of his speech will be published in the next issue).

District Attorney Tom Moore of McClenen County (Waco), served as Master of Ceremonies for the banquet. County Commissioner Albert Pena of Bexar County (San Antonio) introduced Judge Hughes of Dallas, while our past National President, Rep. Oscar M. Laurel of Laredo, introduced his colleague, Rep. de la Garza.

Great praise was given our National President, the Honorable Felix Tijerina, for his program of education. During the course of de la Garza's speech he was referred to as the man that has done the most for Lulac in the modern history of the organization.

Following the banquet, a dance was held with the music of Lulacker Joe Sanchez and his orchestra, and this lasted till the wee hours of the morning of March 23. During the entire course of the Convention the "Hospitality Room" was opened to the delegation and visitors, and beer of all kinds was served throughout. This hospitality was a convenience provided by the Texas Wholesale Beer Distributors Association.

Among the resolutions adopted at the State Convention were the following:

1. That the Laredo Council No. 12 be commended for their efforts to secure Senator Lyndon B. Johnson

of Texas to deliver the main address at the National Convention and that Senator Johnson be extended a note of gratitude on behalf of the entire league for accepting our invitation.

2. That the Regional Governors and District Governors be assigned new titles, as per an amendment to be proposed at the June National Convention, to be known as State Directors and District Directors to avoid confusion in titles and duties.

3. That the Waco Council be commended for their splendid hospitality extended during the convention.

During the business session, reports were made by our National president, Felix Tijerina, Legal Advisor Felix Salazar, National Director of Health Dr. Francisco Licon, and National Director of Publicity Paul Garza, Jr. Other national officers present were the National Treasurer Danny Sandoval, National Coordinator Tony Campos; National Secretary, Mrs. Carmen Cortez; Immediate Past National President, Oscar M. Laurel; and the National Chaplain, David Adame.

During the election session, C. B. Wambsly of Baytown made the nominating speech for Alfred J. Hernandez, seconded by Oscar M. Laurel of Laredo. For Manuel Gonzalez, Manuel Lopez of San Antonio made the nominating speech and William Bonilla of Corpus seconded. The race was closer than expected, according to official observers. Alfred J. Hernandez is a distinguished lawyer in Houston.

All in all, the convention held at Waco, Texas, was well planned, well attended, and beautifully executed.

Texas Regional Convention Pictures



Left—The Honorable Sarah T. Hughes, District Judge from Dallas County, spoke on "American Heritage and Our Role as Citizens" at the Texas Regional Convention at Waco, Texas.



Right—The Honorable Eligio "Kika" de la Garza, Representative of Hidalgo County of the Texas House of Representatives, delivered an inspirational address to the Texas Regional Convention. "It was one of the most colorful and fascinating speeches delivered at any Lulac Convention," stated Immediate Past National President Oscar M. Laurel.

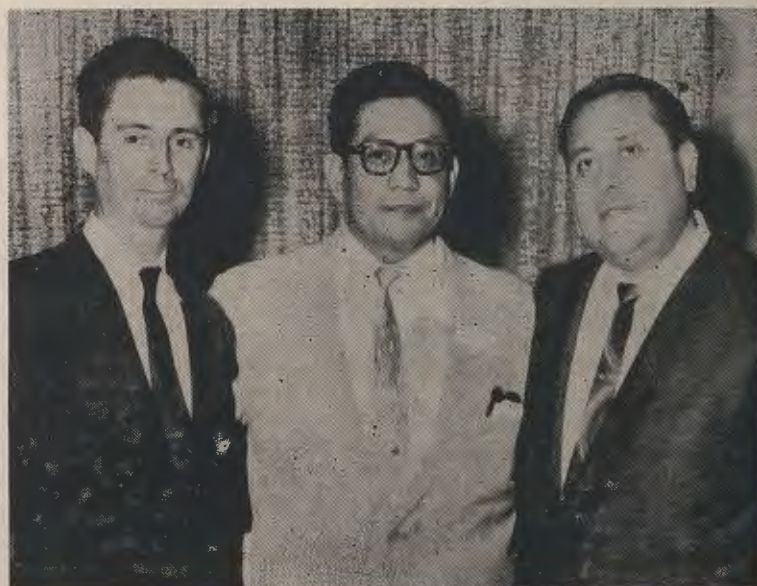


Left—The Honorable Oscar M. Laurel, Immediate Past National President of Lulac and Representative of Webb County in the Texas House of Representatives introduced his friend and colleague Representative de la Garza and set the stage for a most inspiring address.



Right—The Honorable Tom Moore, District Attorney from McClenen County (Waco, Texas) served as Master of Ceremonies for the banquet. He did a Magnificent job at the helm for the occasion.

Two Regional Governors and a Candidate. — Out-going Texas Regional Governor, Pete Tijerina of San Antonio, congratulates the winner, Alfred J. Hernandez, of Houston, and the other candidate for Regional Governor, Manuel Gonzalez, of the host Waco Council. — The election was very close, a sign of the respect and admiration for the two wonderful candidates.



Second Supreme Council Meeting Minutes

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 15 - 16, 1958 -- Wisconsin Hotel

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Felix Tijerina, National President. The official prayer of the League and pledge to the flag was led by National Legal Advisor, Felix Salazar, Jr. Roll call of officers indicated the following officers present, constituting a quorum:

Felix Tijerina, National President; Oscar M. Laurel, Immediate Past National President; Mrs. Mary Machuca, Second National Vice President; Miss Anne Alvarez, National Director of Youth Activities; Alfred J. Hernandez, National Executive Secretary; Dr. Francisco Licon, National Director of Health; Charles Toribio, Regional Governor of Illinois; Robert Vasquez, Regional Governor of Indiana; Jesse Mosqueda, Regional Governor of Iowa; Benjamin Navarro, Regional Governor of Wisconsin; Hector Cisneros, Regional Governor of Michigan; Val Hernandez, National Organizer; Cruz Diaz, Dist. Governor No. 2, Chicago; William G. Rocha, Dist. Governor No. 1, Iowa; Susan Pavon, Dist. Governor No. 2, Iowa; Anne Vasquez, Dist. Governor No. 1, Indiana; Jack Azsona, Dist. Governor No. 2, Indiana; Jube Rodriguez, Dist. Governor of Milwaukee County; Emil Garcia, Dist. Governor of Kenosha County.

Visitors present and introduced: Marie Rodriguez, Chicago Jr. Council 13; Mary Alvarez, Chicago Council 300; Marty De Mairie, Guest - Chicago, Illinois; Alex Soliz, President - Milwaukee Council No. 302; Adolph Vargas, Guest - Galesburg, Illinois; H. Lopez, President - Chicago Council No. 288.

The welcome address was made by our National President, Hon. Felix Tijerina, of Houston, Texas. The response and remarks, by Hon. Oscar M. Laurel followed, in which he briefly explained the founding, the aims and purposes of the League. He stressed the importance of participation for LULAC WEEK, February 16 and 23rd. He stated that at the banquet that evening, a picture would be shown on the Education Program, the newest of Lulac endeavors which our National President, Felix Tijerina, has promoted for some time. Laurel emphasized the work ahead of the Lulac Education Fund Inc., and the

need for cooperation from the League in this most worthwhile project.

Oscar Laurel moved that the Minutes of the First Supreme Meeting held at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston, Texas, on September 14 and 15, 1957, not be read in full due to the length and only that the important items be related to the assembly, since the Minutes had appeared in the last issue of LULAC NEWS and given the membership ample time to become acquainted with the past meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Francisco Licon and carried. The important issue in brief was reviewed by Felix Salazar, Jr., National Legal Advisor, as follows: The approval of the appointed National Officers by the National President.—Benito Esparza, Jr., Lulac President; David Lopez, Jr., National Secretary; and Roy Coronado, along with other Junior Lulac members requested a continuance of membership beyond the age limit; they pointed out that when a Junior first joins the League, he is not familiar with the organization and it is not until they reach the age of 18 or 19 that they become properly informed of Lulac. An amendment will be presented at the National Convention, correcting this issue.—A report in the LULAC Education Fund, Inc. was made. This education fund will be supported and administered by Lulac, although the corporation will have a separate Charter. The Supreme Council at their last session approved this education fund unanimously. A motion to accept the Minutes as read was made by Oscar M. Laurel, seconded by Anne Alvarez, and carried.

The reports of the National Officers followed:

1st Nat'l. V. P. - Not present no report.

2nd Nat'l. V. P. - Mrs. Mary Machuca. She stated that she attended the Supreme Meeting and had not been called elsewhere. She had assisted in organizing the Gary, Indiana, Council and had spent most of her time with the Junior LULACS.

Paul Garza, Jr., National Director of Publicity. A written report was submitted. He apologized for the manner in which LULAC NEWS

has been handled. He stated that the basic reasons for the embarrassing situation was that the much needed help on the selling of advertising space for the magazine was lagging. A Miss LULAC NEWS contest was initiated to encourage a competitive drive between councils and efforts to secure advertising clientele was fruitless. The results of the different projects has been almost non-existent, lacking cooperation from the Councils. The advertising campaign was never challenged by any Council except the Ladies Council No. 300 of Chicago, Illinois. This Council submitted several ads in the past month along with some timely articles. Many letters have reached Mr. Garza's office inquiring about the magazine, yet, little has been contributed to aid the magazine.

The celebration of Lulac Week, February 16-22, was a most successful venture, using the theme of "29 Years of Progress thru Education."

National Legal Advisor, Felix Salazar, Jr.: He stated that he had been called upon to render legal advice and had done so.

National Director of Youth Activities, Anne Alvarez. A written report was submitted. She had been attempting to systemize and coordinate the Junior League to facilitate the functioning. Membership cards, applications and Junior Constitutions had been distributed. District numbers assigned according to the number of Councils in each area and/or County. Council numbers have also been assigned. — State Directors reporting: Danny Olivas - Calif. - Placentia Council has received praises from City officials for their outstanding contribution to the Community. Anaheim Junior Council held their first meeting February 13, 1958 and will soon apply for their Charter. Santa Ana has a potential Council. Stanton, Fullerton, San Ysidro and Buena Park are inactive due to the lack of Senior Supervisors.—Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico: Dormant in regard to Junior LULAC.—Illinois: Gilbert Hernandez - Chicago active in 3 community projects, assisted in organizing the Jr. Council in East Chicago.

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Indiana: Jesse Carrillo — East Chicago Jr. Council formed in October but applied for their Charter in January. Black Oak Jr. Council organized and applied for their Charter in February, installation ceremony held February 10th, 1958. Now Organizing 3 Councils, Gary, Indiana, Iowa: Sylvester Zepeda - Appointed December 10th, 1957. Reports satisfactory progress in organizing Junior Councils both in Des Moines and Ft. Madison.

Texas: Richard Moya - no report:

Council reporting: Baytown very active in Community projects.

Austin Girls active in community and fund-raising projects.

Wisconsin: Joseph Castro - Has worked mainly with the Racine Jr. Council. Attempting to organize a Jr. Council in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

National Executive Secretary, Alfred J. Hernandez - He has traveled with our National President, visiting with different Councils and has been very active in the LULAC Education Fund, Inc.

National Secretary, Carmen Cortez - Felix Tijerina gave her report in her absence. She has rendered all of her time and effort to the disposal of the League. When called upon for her duties, she has exerted her willingness to be of service.

National Director of Health, Dr. Francisco Licon. He has been presented with a plaque, but not in name of LULAC, for appreciation of services rendered by the City of El Paso. In the name of LULAC, he still sees patients free of charge at the clinics and visits with the old-people homes at least twice a month. He had been attempting to make contacts with doctors from various cities to donate their time to LULACS and asks that names be submitted to him.

National Coordinator, Tony Campos; Felix Tijerina gave his report in his absence. He is always ready, willing and capable to do any service whenever and wherever needed and has helped various Councils. He has also assisted in the formation of the LULAC Education Fund, Inc. program.

Hector Cisneros, Regional Governor of Michigan, took oath for this appointment. He reported in brief, stating that he would not pledge many Councils at Convention time, but that he would see everyone at the Convention in Laredo.

Felix Salazar motioned that the Regional Governors report be given until tomorrow, motion seconded by Bob Vasquez, carrying.

Oscar Laurel moved that the minutes of the Supreme Council reflect a commendation for Val Hernandez, National Organizer, for his outstanding work during the year. Motion was seconded by Bob Vasquez, carried.

Danny Sandoval, National Treasurer, submitted a written letter to Felix Salazar, attaching a letter from the Chicago Council No. 288, wherein they deferred payment of dues until such time as their membership will receive LULAC NEWS regularly. Felix Salazar suggested that a committee be appointed to discuss the matter of either impeachment or that since the co-operation of this Council is necessary, that it should be explained to them, the matter of the publicity department. Bob Vasquez motioned that this matter should be referred for handling to the Regional Governor. Motion seconded by Dr. Licon. Mary Machuca recommended that at the next convention, a resolution or amendment to the Constitution be made that LULAC NEWS be a quarter magazine and not monthly in order to enable the the Councils to work on advertising as well as submit news items. Jesse Mosqueda recommended to avoid any further misunderstanding of this sort, letters of such nature be referred to the Regional Governor, since this was a problem of the Regional Governor and not of the National Office. Felix Salazar read Danny Sandoval's letter stating that this was not the concern of the Treasurer but that his office would abide by Article II, Sec. 7, letter (a). Delinquent Members - Expulsion. After a lengthy discussion Felix Salazar made the motion not to impeach these members until the matter has been discussed with the Council by the Regional Governor. Motion seconded by Anne Alvarez, carrying.

Correspondence from a group of ladies from El Paso forwarding to

the Supreme Council a Chapter Application with a \$23.00 check.

Another letter from the Ladies Council No. 9, signed by President, Mrs. Babil Arrieta, requesting that a Charter not be extended to these ladies since an invitation had been related to this group to join Council No. 9, but were told that for personal reasons did not wish to join this Council. The Ladies Council No. 9 stated that another council in El Paso would definitely infringe upon the area of operations, Councils now existing are experimenting difficulty in raising funds and that this Council would welcome any new members into their fold. The new group of ladies specified that the reason for not joining Council No. 9, was that they did not know the membership of Council No. 9 and that they were all young housewives. In order to clarify this matter, Felix Tijerina, National President, had requested Dr. Licon to investigate thoroughly and report his findings at the Supreme Meeting. It was Dr. Licon's unbiased feeling that a Charter should be granted this new group since they had the true LULAC spirit and that this movement had set a fire under the almost dormant Councils in El Paso, to the point where a membership drive had commenced, bringing a total of 19 new members to Council No. 9. He also stated that when he attended one of their meetings, the new Ladies group, the forming of a Council was at the beginning stages and actually no Council existed. Oscar Laurel motioned that the Supreme Council commend Dr. Licon for his fine work and investigation upon the request of Felix Tijerina, seconded by Anne Alvarez, carrying. Oscar Laurel moved that a charter be denied the new Ladies group, seconded by Mary Machuca. Dr. Licon moved that a charter be granted these ladies because they numbered from 25 to 30 members with a potential of 50 since we are striving for expansion, this would be the wise move; if the charter is denied, this would not seem as if we are trying to expand, according to Dr. Licon. His motion was seconded by Bob Vasquez. A lengthy

(Continued next page)

MINUTES

discussion followed and Anne Alvarez motioned to table the discussion and that the voting be held until tomorrow because the banquet was scheduled to start at 6:00 P. M. Felix Tijerina stated that this matter would have to be voted today and started anew in the morning. After much deliberation, a roll-call voting was taken, results as follows:

Reject Chapter Application

Oscar M. Laurel
Mrs. Mary Machuca
Anne Alvarez
Jesse Mosqueda

Accept Charter Application

Dr. Francisco Licon
Robert Vasquez
Hector Cisneros
Charles Toribio

Felix Tijerina had to vote to break the tie, voting against issuing the Charter. Dr. Licon moved that a letter be sent to this new group, denying the Charter, returning their \$23.00 and explaining the reasons for denial. Dr. Licon's motion was seconded by Oscar Laurel, carrying.

Alfred Hernandez moved to adjourn until tomorrow morning, seconded by Anne Alvarez.

February 16, 1958, — 10:30 A. M.

Meeting called to order by Hon. Felix Tijerina, National President.

The official prayer of the League and pledge to the flag was led by the National Legal Advisor, Felix Salazar, Jr. Roll call of officers indicated the same quorum of February 15th, 1958.

Felix Salazar entered the name of Felix Morales for honorary membership, in behalf of the Houston Council. He stated that although Mr. Morales was not an active member, he had performed many services for our League. The services of Mr. Morales to the Houston Council were listed. Motion seconded by Mary Machuca, carrying.

Felix Tijerina announced that the Regional Governors report would follow, each granted ten minutes.

Robert Vasquez - Indiana - Council No. 290 had presented an award to Robert Luna, an outstanding athlete. This young man had also been given an award by the G. I. Forum, but that LULAC had been first and setting the pace for other

organizations to follow. Council No. 294 will hold their annual cotillion ball in June, Black Oak Council doing a splendid job with the assistance of Robert Mata, President and Jack Azsona, District Governor No. 2. A new Council had been organized in downtown Gary, by Jack Azsona. Jesse Carrillo had organized two Junior Councils in East Chicago and Black Oak, Indiana. Insofar as organizing, attempts to organize Councils in Detroit and Saginaw, Michigan did not develop. He stated that he had contacts for Kansas City and Topeka and would turn them over to the National Organizer. The contact for Pennsylvania did not come about. On February 22nd, 1958, the first regional convention of Indiana was planned.

Jesse Mosqueda - Iowa - A scholarship fund had been established. Fundraising projects were planned to establish this fund. Des Moines had established a Jr. Council, with 26 members 14 to 18 years of age. Ft. Madison would have their Jr. Council within the next 60 days. Minneapolis, Minnesota, has been contacted and with the help of the Mason City Council, it would soon come about. Several contacts had been made in Nebraska but have not been successful in organizing that State because of the G.I. Forum.

Benjamin Navarro - Wisconsin - This has been his first Supreme Meeting. A proclamation banquet was held last year in June which the Governor of Wisconsin attended. The ladies Council in Wisconsin is in the organizing stages. A Junior Council, with the aid of Anne Alvarez, has been organized. In conjunction with the Supreme Meeting, a Regional Convention was held and a new Governor, Emil Garcia, had been elected. He was very happy to have the National Staff in Wisconsin for the Supreme Meeting.

Charles Toribio - Illinois - A Midwest Conference had been held in Ft. Madison, Iowa, during the Labor Day week-end. He reported that a Cardinal Committee had been formed. A project to upgrade the standard of living of Spanish-speaking people was submitted by 15 civic organizations, and the one entered by LULAC was selected. All the Councils in Chicago were working hard for the scholarship fund.

Hector Cisneros - Michigan - Since he had already given his report previously, he stated that Michigan was happy to have joined the LULAC organization.

Oscar M. Laurel summarized the founding of LULAC, and the men who are and were the founders. He made some remarks on LULAC NEWS, the only means that keep all of the Councils informed on their activities and accomplishments.

Felix Tijerina commended Val Hernandez, National Organizer, on his splendid work in organizing Michigan.

For the good and welfare of the League: Ann Vasquez, District No. 1, Governor of Indiana, requested that LULAC assist a polio victim. The Polio Foundation is willing to pay for some of her medication but that he was not receiving any education and that perhaps a tutor could be paid to give her lessons. If any one could possibly enter her into the Gonzalez Springs, Miss Rachel Rodriguez, would appreciate this kind gesture and LULAC would be commended for the services rendered this child. Dr. Licon requested that Mrs. Vasquez write him and inform him of all the details and he would see to her admittance, since this was a problem for the National Director of Health.

Jube Rodriguez, District Governor of Milwaukee and Alex Solitis, President of the Milwaukee Council, extended their council's gratitude and happiness to have the Supreme Meeting in their city and state.

Benjamin Navarro stated that he was very sorry and apologized for Dante Navarro, who could not attend the Meeting or Convention, that the movie machine could not be handled by anyone else and did not get to see the film "Forgotten Minds", made to promote the Lulac Education Fund, Inc.

Oscar Laurel stated that Mr. Hernandez had been approached with movie offers, as a result of this movie.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Vasquez, seconded by Val Hernandez, carrying.

Meeting adjourned.

TEXAS REGIONAL CONVENTION

Waco, Texas, March 21, 1958

Resolution No. 1

WHEREAS, The 29th Annual Texas Regional Convention of the League of United Latin American Citizens, duly convened at the Roosevelt Hotel in Waco, Texas enthusiastically received the announcement that the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, Senate Majority Leader from the State of Texas, had accepted to deliver the main address at the 29th Annual National Convention to be held in Laredo, Texas, June 27, 28, 29, 1958, and

WHEREAS, the convention proposed a resolution from the floor commending the work of the Laredo Council No. 12 in acquiring such a distinguished statesman to be their main speaker, and

WHEREAS, the convened assembly is looking forward with great enthusiasm to attend the Laredo Lulac National Convention to hear this great leader of our country,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this convention go on record as expressing its gratitude on behalf of the entire League to this outstanding statesman for accepting the invitation to deliver the principal address at the Laredo National Convention in June, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson in Washington, D. C.

Respectfully submitted by
Laredo Lulac Council No. 12
Paul Garza, Jr., Delegate

RECOMMENDATION - Resolutions Committee

Adoption.

ACTION - Unanimous Adoption.

Pete Tijerina, Regional Governor
Texas Region

ATTEST:

National Secretary

Regional Governor - Texas
March 23rd, 1958

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson
Senate Majority Leader from Texas
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Johnson:

I am indeed honored to be the person selected to forward herein, resolution duly adopted by the Texas Regional Convention duly convened in Waco, Texas, the 21, 22 and 23rd, 1958, where I was privileged to preside in my capacity of Texas Regional Governor of the League. We are looking forward to your visit in June.

Respectfully,
Pete Tijerina, Regional Governor

PT:cc

CONVENTION PROCLAMATION

Greetings:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and By Laws of the League of United Latin American Citizens, I hereby issue a call for a Regional (State) Convention of the League to be held in the City of Corona, California, Sunday, April 27, 1958. For the purpose of transacting the official business of the League and other such matters as may be presented to the Convention.

As to delegates, Article III Section one, Page 11, of the Constitution provides as follows:

A minimum of two delegates and two alternates duly elected and accredited from each active council which shall not have less than ten or more than twenty-five active members in good standing, and one additional delegate, and an alternate for every additional twenty-five members, until a maximum of nine delegates and alternates for a 200 membership has been reached. Each Council may add another delegate and alternate for each additional fifty members beyond 200.

The Honorable Joseph O'Campo, First National Vice-President, has accepted my invitation to attend the convention, and the list of guests of honor include several Past Regional Governors as well as other dignitaries.

Convention programs, along with other pertinent information prepared by our host Council will be mailed as soon as possible. It is my sincere hope that the District Governors, and Council Presidents, will read Section (3) page forty-two of our Constitution "Oath of Office" and undertake the responsibility that is theirs, by seeing to it that as many members attend the convention besides the Delegates and to see whatever means at their disposal that everybody is at the place of Convention at the required time, and not two hours later as has been the custom in the past.

For the sake of encouraging candidates for the office of Regional Governor, nominations will be accepted from the floor as long as candidates are nominated by the delegates from their respective Councils. This office is now open to receive nominations for the office of Regional Governor; by mail to start the ball rolling. Lets have a spirited race for the office, that deserves the best man or woman possible, to assure the continued growth of our beloved "Lulac".

May God crown our efforts with success
God Bless You

Hector Godinez, Lulac Regional Governor
for the State of California

HG:ig

FOR LULACS ONLY

Sailor -- "I'm going to ask you a question in nautical terms".

Girl -- "Now, listen here, I'm a nice girl, so you just watch your language."

Wolf -- "Women are a dime a dozen".

Moron -- "Gee, here's a nickel, buy me half a dozen."

Take it any way you want, but a guy was smoking in a theatre, and a fireman put him out.

Did you hear about the Indian couple who had a bow-and-arrow wedding?

Sturdley thinks a mushroom is where young couples in love go to talk mushy.

A psychiatrist gets paid good money for asking you the same questions your wife does for nothing.

The Way It Was For Wetbacks

This article was reprinted from the January 17, 1958 issue of The Texas Observer, originally written by Ronnie Dugger, Editor and General Manager of the Observer. The original title was "Mexicans in Gringo-land" and it was used in this issue of Lulac News with their permission.

Up there is the land of the quick rich. You can make \$4 on a very good day, and that, my friend, is twelve times what I make on the ranch in Guanajuato!

With this simple drive, and also to see a foreign land, to have adventure, to get away from the wife for a while, or to go back to Dolores Hidalgo with many tales, the Mexicans come north, north to the gringo's world.

They come from the sunbacked white and pastel villages, the shanty cities of Mexico. They come in great numbers, the lean and the ragged, Indians and mestizos. They work cheap. They live at the margin. They take home what they can.

Their patrons, the farmers, buy their sweat and time and sell the cotton they pick and the fruit they pack and the vegetables they pull.

Through 1954, the last year of the wetback decade, they came, men and women and their young, as they could, walking across the desert or filling the rickety buses rattling north, then walking down the dusty riverside trails through the brush and then at night, fearful, swimming or wading the Rio Grande, some sinking and not rising.

They might follow a pipeline to a good American's ranch, or stop at one house after another until they found work in the fields. Then they were paid and waded or swam back to Mexico, or were waylaid at the river by boatman who killed them for their few dollars, or taken by truck to a wide place in the highway and unloaded and left there while the boss went to town, never to come back, or arrested and put behind barbed wire and loaded into caged-in army trucks and buses and open boxcars or a ship called "Emancipacion" and sent back to the ranch at Guanajuato.

They were hungry at home and trespassers abroad. They were at the mercy of their users; and some of their users had mercy, and others did not. They had no rights. They sickened and recovered or died, without care. They slept in the fields, in holes in the banks of arroyos, in shacks of board and paper. They were paid, when they were paid, twenty-five cents an hour.

In the summer of 1954 the United States Border Patrol used airplanes, jeeps, buses, trucks, patrol cars, ships, and an airground radio network in locating, arresting, jailing, and deporting them. In every respect but the active use of weapons it was a military operation. And it was hell: families were separated: one father and mother drowned, hands clasped, as they tried to get back across the river to their five children, one of them a suckling infant of 14 months. For the first time since the wetback migration was renewed in earnest in 1944, wetbacks had to hide all the time.

That same year, the U. S. and Mexican Governments began carrying out the "bracero," or legal immigration program on a large scale. Only 168 braceros were hired in the Rio Grande Valley in July, 1953, but more than 50,000 were hired the same month in 1954. The Border Patrol, it is now admitted, was arresting only as many wetbacks as the immigration authorities could replace with braceros. That way the crops got harvested.

Today wetbacks still come. Last week 300 were in the detention camp at McAllen. The last six months of last year 1,885 were arrested in the Valley and deported. But from the days in 1944 - 1945 when as many as half a million illegal wetbacks were at work on

U.S. farms we have come to the days when half a million (436,289 in 1957) braceros are brought into the U.S. from Mexico legally. Perhaps most of them are the same people, but they have advanced in the world, from wetbacks to braceros.

What does that mean? For the answer we first must remember what it means to be a wetback. We must go back to the Rio Grande Valley the way it was in the long, hot tumultuous summer of 1954, when wetbacks were drowning daily in the muddy Rio Grande and five thousand of them were jammed behind the same barb-topped fence at one time.

An image comes back to me. A truck comes down the dusty road in the hot afternoon sun and brakes to a stop in front of the gate of the McAllen detention camp. The cage is pulled open to let the captives out. A lean brown man steps into the sunlight, a guitar across his hips. His hair is dark and matted, his brown skin taut over his thin face. His shirt, ripped here and there, falls open down his belly: lean knotted muscles. He is little. He has never had enough to eat. His khakis are stained with the dirt and juices of the field, the sweat of his body. He walks on strips of wood held to his feet by straps of cloth. Maybe he has a dollar in his pocket, maybe not. He heard about the big wages by the grapevine. But in Texas he has been an outlaw. Out of his three dollars, for work from dawn to nightfall, he has had to pay "rental" for his cotton sack and outrageous food prices that make 35 cents a day in Mexico look better. He has had to pray to the Virgin to keep his job, because wetbacks are easy to replace, and he has never heard of job security, unemployment compensation, sick leave, social secu-

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WETBACKS

city, or collective bargaining.

The only bargain in the whole deal is his free trip home. I talked to many like him: they were thinking about their hard luck, how little work there was for them, how little there would be in Mexico; about the low wages they were going back to, and the wonderful wages they couldn't earn in Texas for hiding from the patrol. "La ley es muy duro," said one: the law is very hard.

Signs up and down the main highway of the Valley announce "Magic Valley Drug," "Magic Valley Grocery," Magic Valley this, Magic Valley that. When I first arrived in Weslaco in 1954 a friend said to me: "Welcome to the Tragic Valley."

Stand under a pecan tree on the river bank and watch the men and women and children wading the river, some with packs on their heads.

Learn to watch for the short little stories in the Valley papers: literally: Man, woman, three children drowned when boat capsizes. 55-year-old man drowns. Wetback says boatman took everything but the shirt on his back, then tossed him into the water. 25 year-old pregnant woman removed from river eight miles north of Pharr. Boy about nine found floating in river. 35-year-old man, anxious to see his wife, plunges into river and drowns. Nine drown near Piedras Negras when their raft capsizes. Border Patrolman shoots boatman as he resists arrest with a machete. Body of a Latin American, in the river about thirty days, found three miles east of Hidalgo. 31-year-old man, nose smashed, two teeth knocked out, neck broken, recovered from the river. 20-year-old man recovered, only identification a wedding band on his finger. Body of a 14-year-old boy fished out. Body of a 45-year-old man, clothes and \$13 around his neck, found. Six-year-old boy drowns when raft pushed by his father overturns. Man found stabbed at river's edge . . . How many floated out into the Gulf, never to be heard of again?

Visit wetbacks at home. They live in corrugated tin huts, a single window, no glass; a hole in the wall for a door. In caves dug in canal banks. Under sheds of thatched palm fronds propped up with sticks. Under trees beside a field fence. In shacks or tents provided by their

patrons. They cooked over open fires in a bucket or pan. They used the earth as a floor, table, and bed . . . sometimes there was a chair or two, a packing crate. One dug a hole in the ground and pulled branches over it at night. Said John W. Holland, at the time district director of the Border Patrol in San Antonio, of 2,500 wetbacks that had been caught: "Some were living in shacks, some in tents, some under trees or tarpaulins, and some of the men were sleeping in cotton rows using partly filled cotton sacks as mattresses."

Talk to their employers. They had obedient workers at 25 cents an hour; they figured they were preventing them from starving. "They are better off than they would be in Mexico." They're not worth what we pay 'em anyway." Why they wouldn't sleep in a bed if you gave it to 'em. They're used to sleeping on the ground." "Listen: they're happy as wetbacks. Let 'em go on earning their \$15 a week, and they're happy."

Too wary of the patrol to go into town, the wetbacks had to buy from U. S. native Mexicans who brought them goods in cars and trucks. I went out with two Texas Latin-American salesmen one Sunday morning. We didn't sell much.

These two salesmen, one a college graduate, the other a college freshman, explained it this way:

The one: "Well, I tell you, down here, we figure it like 'is, those poor saps, somebody's gonna get to 'em—"

The other: "Might as well be us."

The one: "If you don't somebody else will."

"Poor saps" are, however, acceptable workers. If they were not "poor saps" they didn't last long. One high official of the government's bracero program promised Valley farmers in a public statement he would gladly send back to Mexico all "agitators and trouble makers." A guard at the detention camp said that anyone in the compounds with leadership potentialities was sent back to Mexico at once. "Why, a smart Mexican can stand up on a box and start a riot in no time," he said. "In jail because you're hungry," that sort of thing. You can imagine how susceptible those people are." A farmer remarked that he was keeping an

eye on one of his workers. "Yeah, we've been having trouble with him. He tells the others that they're fools to work so hard, they'll get paid the same anyway. He tried to get them to ask for higher wages. It doesn't happen often, but when it does you have to stop it quick."

The low wages were not seriously disputed. The President's Commission on Migratory Labor found that in 1950, day wages were 15 to 25 cents an hour, and the Valley cotton crop was picked for \$1.25 per hundred pounds (about \$2.50 to \$3.50 a day). The Texas average was \$2.45 per hundred that year. A report by the Texas AFL and the Texas GI Forum concluded that the usual wetback wage was 20 to 30 cents an hour. Wetbacks told me they were paid \$1 and \$1.25 per hundred pounds of cotton picked in 1954. Two wetbacks whom a Border Patrolman and I were driving to Reynosa to let them return to Mexico on their own, said they had worked a week, received \$8 each, and then paid \$3 each for their groceries, leaving \$5. each for their return trip to Torreon. (When we picked them up they were walking from Edinburg to the border.)

These situations were reported by the investigators who wrote the AFL-GI Forum Report, "What price Wetbacks":

14-year-old Eulalio Luna of San Luis Potosi, \$1 a day for ten hours' work.

Vicente Martinez of Guanajuato, \$2.50 for ten hours day labor.

Carlos Flores of Piedras Negras, 15 days at \$3 per 12-hour day.

13-year-old Humberto Hernandez of Piedras Negras worked in a grocery store from six in the morning till nine at night for six days and was paid \$4.50 at the end of the week. He slept in a warehouse by the store.

Jose Hernandez Ramirez of Guanajuato, aged ten, said he sacked onions from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for \$1.40.

The University of Texas Bureau of Business Research released statistics indicating a 1949 Valley farm income average of about \$13,400, 281 percent of the Texas average. Valley farm profits averaged \$107 an acre.

That summer three years ago there was a hurricane with winds 50 to 60 miles an hour. The Val-

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WETBACKS

ley's palms swayed their fronds whipping to one side like a girl's hair. The rain, slanting along the ground into your face, stung like B-B shot. Where did the wetbacks sleep that night? Where did the birds hide?

Responding to protests from native workers about the low wet-back wages, from the Mexican government about abuses of the wetbacks, from public health people that wetbacks were importing diseases, from customs officials about smuggling, and from Atty. General Herbert Browell about what he called the greatest breakdown in law enforcement since prohibition, the Border Patrol drove the wetbacks out, starting in California June 15 and in the Texas Valley July 15. United Press Radio's national wire started its July 15th story: "It was round up time in Texas today—a little early for cattle but apparently just right for wetbacks."

The metaphor was worn, but it was accurate. The task forces were arrayed at the upper edges of the V-shaped valley's farmlands. One Border Patrol official said, "We started at the top of the Valley and moved down in a line until they just popped." One morning he was flying over the Valley and "they were running—all of them." Pilots swept low, and radioed their locations to ground units, jeeps, trucks, cars, buses. They were "flushed" from the brush in rows; strays were picked up by the sides of the roads. They were all loaded onto trucks and taken to the corrals at McAllen, two fenced-in compounds surrounded by high wire fence, with rolls of barbed wire hanging inside at the top.

One evening at the trainyard in Reynosa, the Mexican authorities had finished loading the wetbacks into the boxcars, eighty people to each boxcar, with enough bench

space for some of the women. They had to wait two hours for the train to start, but there was a soft breeze. Women and girls moved around inside the cars in the semi-dark; the men and boys sat at the doors, their legs dangling; some crouched nearby on the ground. A few babies cried, but the night absorbed the sounds. Hawkers walked from boxcar to boxcar, selling sweet bread, tamales, tacos, pink or yellow soda water out of large glass jars. They bought a little, but not much. Then, in the heat of the passing evening, their hope of good earnings gone, their prospect a long, rough journey and village and friends rejoined, they sang together, the songs starting in one car and picking up in the next and the next. They sang loud, explosive, chest-filling songs, and sad, dolorous songs, and songs of the revolution, and love songs. They sang soft into the night, and the train left carrying them home.

LULAC In Action

Pecos, Texas

In conjunction with National Lulac Week, the title "Mr. Lulac," the outstanding Lulac for 1957, was bestowed to M. C. Martinez.

Fred Dominguez, acting as master of ceremonies, presented other awards, service pins to long-time members.

They included Martinez, 20 years; S. L. Gutierrez, 20 years; J. R. Dominguez, 20 years; Dick Gutierrez, 20 years; Joe Morales, 15 years.

Fred Dominguez; Dan Vejil; Frank Apolinar; Y. L. Dominguez; Frank Rodriguez; Ben Mata and Alex Marquez, all 10 years.

Other presentations included that of a replica of the Declaration of Independence to the organization's president, Frank Rodriguez.

Addresses came from Orlando Gutierrez, secretary, who spoke on "Lulac Education;" Lt. Sal Calderon, "Duty as a citizen;" Frank Apolinar, dist. governor, "Lulac General Convention;" and M. C. Martinez, "Lulac history in Pecos." Congratulations to these loyal and devoted LULACS.

Pasadena, Cal.

Recently the Pasadena area organized a chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens. The council installed the following officers: Victor Salazar, president; J6e Ortega and Sam Misquez, vice-presidents; Richard F. Misquez, secretary; and Ernest Moreno, treasurer.

"Lulac Week" was proclaimed by the council February 16th thru 22nd. Signing the proclamation was Mayor Seth Miller of Pasadena.

Gary, Indiana

Keeping up with many Lulac activities are Councils 295 (Srs) and 16 (Jrs) from the small community of Gary, Indiana.

In the recent Bunco Party held at the Legion Hut by the senior Lulacs, Jack Curley and Robert Ortega were named by each council to find ways and means to set up a school and education fund for the youth. Not only are these two councils working together socially, but also being enthusiastic about the sport end of it by organizing basketball teams among Jr. members.

Des Moines,

Iowa

Membership in the newly organized Des Moines Junior LULAC Council is still open according to President Frank Rodriguez. Recently a meeting conducted by Mr. Sylvester Zepeda, some 26 young people became members of the Council. The officers elected at this meeting were: Frank Rodriguez, President; John Zepeda, Vice-President; Miss Virginia Torres, Secretary; Richard Munoz, Treasurer and Raymond Rios, Sgt. at Arms.

Anyone interested in joining the new group may do so by contacting Mr. Zepeda or President Frank Rodriguez.

At this time, we also note that the Iowa Lulac Convention is to be held in May. Tentative Plans for their first Annual Convention have been set for May 31, 1958.



Why Read?



By **ARMANDO A. JUAREZ**
Managing Editor, Lulac News

We had always taken it for granted that most everyone liked to read only as a passtime, or for plain entertainment's sake. We were sure that everyone had to read, simply to learn the things that go to make up our day to day lives; whether it is to carry on a business, or to learn how to put up a TV antenna, or how to make other projects in the home. We had thought that, sooner or later, everyone has to go to the public library to look something up.

Because nearly 85% of all study activity depends on reading, it is undoubtedly the most important means of learning in school. Apparently, some boys and girls can get as far as college and still not realize the importance of reading. Everybody reads for learning or entertainment. That is not a startling statement, but it is a basic enduring truth.

A way of self-education

We do not believe that men of narrow learning have the understanding to bring along their successors. In fact, without a grasp of their own purposes and obligations, they cannot understand its place in the vast pattern of our national scene. A man's mind is his eyes to see ahead. Most teachers, we think, will confirm the following belief.

Reading is variety itself. No one author, no one magazine's editorial staff has a corner on interpretation or final truth. All ideas are in transition, especially in America, and by wide reading, you are having the fun of accepting or rejecting and putting two and two together. You experience the luxury of becoming a thinker instead of a yes man.

Putting yourself "in the know"

Another asset attributed to reading men's growing ability to take part in business or social discussions. Although the purpose of reading is not to show off in conversation, the reader is "in the know" and can listen wisely and speak his own piece to advantage. Often the strong silent man, on the other hand, is a still water without depth. Whether we are technical or business men, we are eager to keep up with published knowledge on many subjects. We are so close to the challenging demands of these years of technical progress and worldly unrest that we must keep our minds in high gear.

The value of sound preparation

Yet, we are aware that there are people who can't be communicated to, except through the medium of pictures. If we sound cranky it is

because we ourselves are not immortal; we want to make doubly sure that every high school boy and girl in America, who will move into leadership positions, will be mentally prepared to absorb our contributions, build on them and thereby keep our American system intact.

Read things that are worthwhile

Ignorance is the father of apathy. If you expect to love the children that will be yours tomorrow, you had better heed a statement like this: In a world that has had Socialism, to a certain degree, spread throughout nearly all of the nations, America cannot permit her young people to take their blessings for granted and become indifferent to how those blessings have been made possible. The indifference or apathy that stems from ignorance causes young people to have little if any interest in defending our basic American principles which are currently under attack.

We are what we read

Why read? Almost all that is worth knowing is in words. It takes an easy familiarity with reading and a tremendous appetite for a recorded knowledge, past and present, to keep in step with these fast-moving times. You can solve almost any problem if you know how to read it.

Why I Am Dedicated To Teaching

1. A Sense of Responsibility.

My early years of teaching were carefree and happy. I enjoyed my work but certainly had not the faintest idea of dedicating my life to it. A husband, home, children were foremost in my dreams of the future. When I was 30, I decided that being a wife and mother was not God's plan for me, or in some way I had muffed my chance.

I settled down, not betterly, not hopelessly, to forget my lost romance in the training and education of other people's children. Since I was to have no children of my own, what better life work could I choose? As the years went by, I began to see and to feel the significance of my job. God expects everyone, I reasoned, to render an account of his talents. He will expect me to do the best job of teaching that I am capable of doing.

2. Purpose Makes the Difference.

I must never lose sight of the fact that I am dealing with the most precious of all commodities, human beings; that subject matter, techniques of teaching are valueless if I forget the child in my teaching. With the realization of this fact, my work became important to me. It was not a new job but a different slant on a familiar one. It put life and meaning into my work. I did not feel like a crusader, however. I have never kept my eyes and mind so close to my profession that I have had no time for the interesting things on the outside.

3. The Challenge of Teaching.

It is remarkable how much one can enjoy his work if his heart is in it. The joyless, drab, monotonous task becomes an adventure. I am always annoyed with the well-meaning person who says; "Oh, you must have lots of patience. I don't know how you put up with so many bad children day after day. My own boys nearly drive me crazy." I try to point out to her that children are not bad - at least not every day - that there is a pattern of classroom behavior to which most children conform. I see I am throwing words away; she is "of the same opinion still."

Are we teachers not somewhat to blame for the pitying attitude some

people adopt? Have we unconsciously developed a long-suffering "down at the heel" air? Do we need anyone's pity? Have we the pride in our profession that we should justly have? Most teachers today are smartly dressed, well-groomed, interesting women who are taking important places in the life of the community. We should really put a higher value on ourselves.

4. The Fun of Teaching.

In what other profession would I have so much adventure, so much romance? In what other job would I have the chance to stay young with young people, for every day I live their lives, vicariously. To get the confidence of the boys and girls in the classroom, to feel that one has a part in molding the future citizens of our country - these two facts alone make a teacher's life worthwhile.

I can see that teaching subject matter, day after day, year after year, could become deadly monotonous. If we aren't getting joy out of our teaching, then we certainly aren't giving any. The teacher's gaiety is as necessary to her pupils as sympathy and understanding. Not every Monday is blue Monday, and there is always "Friday, thank God." The teacher's whole soul must be bent on making her pupils come alive. She must be a master salesman, and competition is keen. To prod the lazy, to lure the difficult, to encourage the slow, and to guide them all, she must possess the charm of Cleopatra, the wiles of Machiavelli, the patience of Job, the gentleness of St. Francis, and wisdom of Solomon.

5. Never a Dull Moment.

In our little world at school, every day is a fresh beginning. The discourteous boy who disrupted yesterday's class has apologized; the truant has returned repentant. The day is made new for all of us, for I have another chance also. What a challenge the new day brings; what a feeling of adventure. The boys are spick and span in uniform today, brass shined, shoes polished. They sit up straight with new dignity. The girls look fresh and pretty. All are watching me; they are giving me a chance to make good. I must not "goof." "Dear

Lord." I breath, "make me patient and gentle and wise, and help me to keep a sense of humor." My Irish sense of humor has helped me over many a difficult spot. Only a few days ago, a boy in one of my senior English classes remarked, "Miss G., I never cut your class. We get a kick out of this class. You are so human; you make us laugh. You ought to be on T V. No kidding." I must watch my witty remarks. They so easily become sarcastic, and children have no defense against sarcasm.

6. The Ups and Downs of Teaching.

I hope I do not sound smug or complacent. My mistakes are legion. I do not always plant a flower where I find a weed growing. Sometimes the weed seem to take over, but when, if ever, does a teacher really enjoy the feeling of having succeeded? I am often discouraged and disgusted, but just one word of praise from a superior or a word of appreciation from a pupil or parent will completely restore me.

"And then my state, like to the lark at break of day arising
From sullen earth, sings songs
at heaven's gate."

7. The Privilege of a Teacher.

Like the immortal bard, I then scorn to change my state with kings. I feel a great pride in my profession. Like Stevenson, I could not live without my art. I believe with Jesse Stuart that "the school-room is the gateway to all problems of humanity." It is the gateway to the correcting of evils; it is the gateway to happiness, to health, to brotherhood, to everything. And so I am happy to dedicate myself to the greatest profession of mankind. Even if it is the most poorly paid in dollars and cents. It is the one with the richest rewards.

The above appeared in the Congressional Record. It was written by Miss Gertrude M. Geraghty, a teacher of English at the Memphis Technical High School in Memphis, Tenn.

It is a striking proof of the great good which can be accomplished by one person who is willing to use her God-given talent for the benefit of all.

Laredo Lulac Council Highlight Events

1958 NOCHE MEXICANA A BIG SUCCESS

Commemorating the Washington Celebration Fiestas, Laredo Lulacs tightfisted the customary NOCHE MEXICANA held February 22nd at the magnanimous Laredo Air Force Base Hangar.

This annual affair marked the 19th time it has been held as a special event climaxing the fiestas. The keynote of the evening was the floor show composed of the "Asi es mi Tierra" program, a series of spectacle dancing numbers from International Review, and other beautiful numbers. It is the splendor and graciousness of the Noche Mexicana that draws so many hundreds of people from out of town to this special event.

This year's theme for the Noche Mexicana was "Asi Es Mi Tierra".

As the magnitude of people entered the auditorium they were met by beautiful señoritas dressed in colorful China Poblana costumes who ushered them to their respective tables. The crowd danced to the haunting melodies of Latin America with the well known Eduardo Martinez Orchestra from San Antonio.

Then the eagerly awaited floor show consisting of various vocalist and mariachis, directed by the internationally known composer and singer Pepe Guizar, from Mexico City, was enjoyed.

Truly a never-to-be forgotten spectacle and one that will highlight the memories of many people from many places, were the typical dances of the Flamenco, Tropical. Jaram-Bamba, and Machetes dance.

With the authentic atmosphere and spirit of Old Mexico, our own Laredo cast of fifty coming stars directed by Neo Gutierrez, presented Spanish dances by Miss Mary Moore and group dance entitled "Muchachas Alegres" and "Cuban Cha-Cha-Cha".

Well deserving for their efforts and hard work in making this event a success were Paul Garza, General Chairman and Alfredo G.

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

Garza with Roberto M. Benavides as General Co-Chairmen.

The Installation Banquet sited at the elegant Maya Room of the Hamilton Hotel on March 15th, was enjoyably foresighted by members of Lulac Council No. 12 and their families.

Robert M. Benavides, prominent civic leader and an active member of Lulac, was master of ceremonies and gave the welcome address and introduction of guests.

The invocation was made by Father George Gloeckner, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church and Chaplain for the Jr. Lulac Council No. 2. Addresses of the evening came from our out-going president Richard G. Morales, who gave the financial report for the year 1957 and who also made the presentation of gifts to out going officers.

Alfredo G. Garza, Dist. Governor Dist 14, installed the following officers for 1958-59.

Tomas H. Vela, President; Paul Garza, Jr., First Vice-President; Joe M. Azios, second vice-president; A. T. Juarez, Secretary; Raul Laurel, Jr., Treasurer; Tony Garcia, Chaplain; Jesus Garcia, Guide.

Hon. Felix Tijerina, National President, gave a word of greetings to his many friends and fellow Lulacs. In conclusion to his brief talk on Lulac activities, Hon. Tijerina extended his congratulations for a job well done to the out-going officers and gave his best wishes to the newly elected officers of Council No. 12.

In the presentation of the appreciation gift to out-going President, Tomas H. Vela commented on the fine smooth way in which the Laredo council has followed during the past year and complimented Richard Morales on his fine work. The out-going president was given a silver-plated cigarette lighter as a

token of appreciation on behalf of the Lulac Council No. 12.

Approximately 175 persons witnessed the affair. The musical program highlighted the "Dots" a singing trio from Laredo with an array of songs. Responsible committees making this event a success were: General Chairman - Oscar M. Laurel; Program Committee - Porfirio L. Flores; Arrangements - Alfredo G. Garza; Honor Guests - Paul Garza, Jr.; Decorations - Mmes. Oscar M. Laurel, Richard G. Morales, and Miss Evelyn Bruni; Reception - Cocktail, Manuel Gutierrez; Attendance - Arnulfo Zamora.

Hon. Oscar M. Laurel, Laredo's Past National President, made the introductory address giving the successful and refined biography of our principal speaker, the Hon. Fidencio M. Guerra, Judge of the 139th Dist. Court in Edinburg, Tex.

The Honorable Judge Guerra attracted the attention of the audience with his pleasing and effective talk on the Lulac Education Program.

Among other topics touched and elaborated by the principal speaker were Lulac Participation, Problems of Juvenile Delinquency, and Curving of Juvenile Delinquency through Religious Inclination.

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El Paso, Texas

Word has been received that a petition recently presented to the Supreme Council for a new Ladies' Lulac Council charter at El Paso has been rejected.

According to Mrs. Babil Arrieta, President of Council No. 9, there are three existing councils in the city and three in the adjoining vicinities. Mrs. Arrieta states these members of the proposed council should gladly and willingly join the already existing councils.

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