



Vol. 13

LAREDO, TEXAS, JANUARY, 1947

No. 7

## CROSSROADS OF CULTURE



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SINGLE COPY — 20¢

PUBLISHED AT LAREDO, TEXAS

GEORGE J. GARZA

LAREDO, TEXAS

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY AND

EDITOR OF LULAC NEWS

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS PERTAINING TO  
LULAC NEWS

— TO —

GEORGE J. GARZA

P. O. BOX 1179

LAREDO, TEXAS

VOL. 13

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No. 7

## ★ ★ Editorial ★ ★

The New Year is but an infant as yet and his accomplishments still an unknown quantity, but to the optimistic, the hopeful, and the willing worker it presents untold opportunities and strong potentialities for great deeds and boundless achievement.

To the League of United Latin American Citizens it should afford unprecedented outlets for growth, accomplishment, and constructive progress. It should afford the long-awaited realization of some of the dreams and objectives of sincere and stalwart Lulacs whose greatest ambition is the firm establishment of the principles of Lulac in the mind and actions of believers and non-believers. Further still, it should mark the Renaissance of the spirit that first gave birth to Lulac in 1929 and to similar organizations even before then.

The infant year, 1947, holds all of these promises, potentialities, and opportunities, but it is up to the League with its sub-ordinate councils and their entire membership to cash in on the promises, exploit the potentialities, and make use of the opportunities for all they offer. The question is, — does the League have a membership with the courage, the will, the fervor, and the ability to use to good advantage the offers of the New Year? Whatever the answer maybe remains to be proved by future activity, but judging from past accomplishments it is evident that something has been sorely lacking. To be sure some big

things have been accomplished, but they are minute in view of the overall goal and length of time over which they have been accomplished. Furthermore, these accomplishments have been carried out by a handful of hardy workers inspite of the dilatory activity, the uncooperative spirit, and the skeptical attitude of the majority.

Once these deeds have been verified the League has been content to sit back and bask in their glory, forgetting that progress is not based on adoration of past glories but rather on present and future activities that improve or exceed those of the past. There is no progress, advancement, or attraction in an organization or individual that plods on year after year waiting for an opportunity to knock at its door or an exterior impetus to accelerate its activities to a mediocre degree.

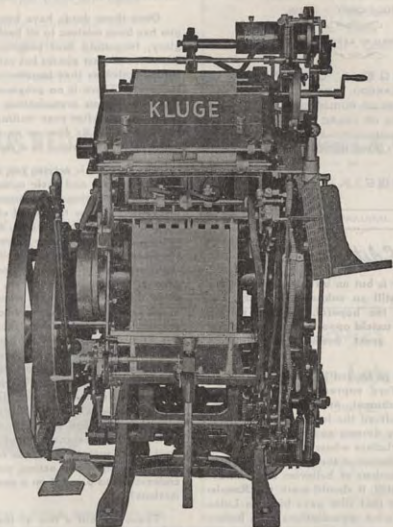
The League is active, yes, and so are the different councils and their memberships, but only in so far as meetings are concerned. The councils meet; they follow the ritual of the League; they initiate classes of candidates, and maintain a few socials, but what of the objectives and goals of the League? Has your council investigated those reported cases of discrimination, segregation, and general inequalities? If so, what constructive steps did you take, and what are the results? What active interest has your council taken in the schooling of your children that they may master the English language and better prepare themselves for the rocky road ahead? Has your council assumed its equal responsibility as a sub-ordinate council of the League? Has your council exerted its influence and potentialities to guide and educate those whose welfare the League has aspired to guard and protect? Have you as an individual member contributed worthwhile ideas, work, or cooperation to your council? And have you, by thought and action, publicized Lulac and endeavored to place it on a par with other organizations?

These are but a few of the many things that the majority of councils and members have failed to do and will continue to fail to do because they have failed to grasp the true significance of Lulac and the opportunities that it places before them. If each individual is to profit from his Lulac experience; if each council is to grow; if new councils are to materialize, and if the League as a whole is to expand and prosper, all the backward glances must be eliminated, all undecided attitudes erased, all fainthearted efforts bolstered, and the dying or lethargic spirit inoculated with a driving will and a desire to aspire to greater heights.

(Continued on Page 20)



A SINCERE "THANK YOU" TO ALL LULAC COUNCILS FOR  
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# ALONG THE TRAIL WITH COUNCIL NO. 12

By GEORGE J. GARZA, President

Well founded and solidly entrenched in the heart of the capitol for Americans of Latin descent is Lulac Council No. 12, largest and most jealous guardian council in the League of United Latin American Citizens. No job too great for it to undertake and no detail too minute to escape its ever vigilant watch.

During the turbulent years of strife, Council No. 12 withstood the forays of the armed forces which deprived it of outstanding members and talents, the demands of the community and country for volunteered man hours and financial contributions, and the unprecedented call for renewed efforts to hold on to that which had been built over a period of years and to increase the diminishing finances and membership. Like a stalwart soldier and staunch American it weathered the worst and emerged greater and stronger than before. The past year has seen the council throw off its last vestiges of the fetters of wartime and resume its accelerated trek on the trail to the top.

As it trudges up this trail, Council No. 12 has demonstrated its versatility in the fields of education, sports, communal service, welfare service, finance, fraternalism, social activities, and general growth. In each of these fields its strides have been gigantic and the results outstanding, placing it as one of the leading civic organizations in the city of Laredo.

Greatest and most significant project of this council's varied program is the Adult Night School which it has been sponsored since the close of the WPA, and which, during the past year or so, has grown and expanded to unforeseen dimensions. This school was carried on at a moderate rate with the sole idea of affording a few interested adults an opportunity to acquire a modest understanding of the English language. However, the excellent results attained by the school and the increased desire of Laredoans and Nuevo Laredoans to grasp this opportunity resulted in the expansion of classes and the addition of teachers. At present a total of six regularly employed teachers and two substitute teachers are handling some two hundred students registered in the beginners, intermediate, and advanced stages of the curriculum. A complete course that includes three stages has been set with promotional cards and graduate certificates for those who earn them.

Further expansion in the educational field has been recorded in the establishment of an adult class in Spanish and the inauguration of Natural-

ization classes. Not one of the graduates of the last three naturalization classes has failed to get his citizenship; a fact that marveled the District and Federal Examiners and caused the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to study the plan used for further work in other places. The result has been close co-operation between the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and Lulac in the establishment of naturalization classes in other cities of Texas, and patterned after that of Council No. 12.

Regular English and Spanish classes meet three times a week for two hours and run the year round, and the naturalization classes meet once a week for two hours and run in periods of twenty hours. An outstanding fact, and one of special interest to all, is that everyone of the teachers is a Latin American and possess at least a B. A. degree.

In the field of sports Council No. 12 has taken into consideration its young and older members as well as the youth of the city. During the past summer a senior baseball team was sponsored and backed with some \$200.00 for equipment. The caliber of the team was evidenced by its better than 500 average in the lost and won column. Simultaneously sponsored with the above team was the boys' entry for the third straight year in the American Legion Junior Baseball League. The caliber of these teams is also evident from the fact that no Lulac entry has finished lower than second in a league of eight teams, and the fact that these Lulac teams have furnished from 20% to 40% of the players selected in the All-Star Teams. The council has furnished all complete uniforms and other equipment for the team, and has feted them with a banquet each year at the close of the regular season. Even now plans are underway for the fourth straight sponsorship of a Junior Baseball team.

At present, one of the best basketball teams in the city is wearing the name and colors of Council No. 12. Regular league play is scheduled to start about the middle of this month, and the impressive scores turned in by this formidable quintet in pre-league games definitely stamp it as a championship contender. Not to be outdone by their brothers, the Junior Lulac Council has organized its own basketball team and is currently busy meeting its City Junior League schedule. Very successfully at that.

(Continued on Page 14)

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# TRIBUTE TO A TRUE AMERICAN

By IKE MARTINEZ, Governor, District No. 3



Dear Bro. Lulacs,

As recorded in the world's diary of historical facts, late in 1941 this country was suddenly plunged into a devastating war of global proportions, though it found itself pitiably unprepared even for defense. Many of our soldiers found themselves undergoing training with broomsticks for guns and stovepipes for machine guns and artillery.

Our late President felt, and so stated, that the United States was destined to again play the role of the arsenal of Democracy and that ways and means had to be found to conserve and wisely use the resources available in the country. To this end the OPA was created and immediately put into effect. This agency, which was to cover the entire nation and all pertinent materials and goods, was faced with the most thorough and gigantic job yet entrusted to any group. To facilitate the job and to insure just and conscientious equality of distribution of goods and material, the agency was divided and sub-divided into areas and districts with an outstanding and thoroughly qualified man at the head of each division. For the job in the Laredo district was selected our own Bro. Lulac, Leopoldo Botello.

I have always been an admirer of the living who have demonstrated by their actions that they

are admirable, and so it is that I wish to pay tribute to one of our own whom I believe to be an asset to any community he may choose to reside in. This man performed a great public service as head of the OPA in Laredo, doing his duty as he thought best and asking for no special favors or considerations. With him, equality meant everything the word implied with no man counting so much or so little that his rightful share was augmented or diminished.

The job he took was of tremendous proportions for several reasons. The world's largest army training center for flexible gunnery was built in Laredo, and thousands of workers with their families as well as soldiers with families came into the community. Their demand for tires, gasoline, and other scarce commodities was appalling. Furthermore, the residents of northern Mexico, who had for years depended on Laredo for a lot of their needs, also presented demands that created problems. Patiently and faithfully these problems were met and solved.

Day in and day out, for four long years, Polo Botello performed his duty. The work was hard, trying, and carried no pecuniary compensation, but it did bring unsound and unwarranted criticism from soreheads who believed themselves endowed with special privileges. However, irrespective of praise or criticism, Polo carried on finding compensation and satisfaction in knowing that he was serving his country and its people.

Today the war is over and OPA has been recalled, but in our hearts will always remain the memory of Polo's unselfish, patriotic, and magnificent job performed under pressure and at a time when it was needed. And so it is that to Bro. Polo Botello we sincerely say:

You have done a great and noble job, and we are proud of you. Rest assured that we will always feel that you did your task well beyond the call of duty. In the name of Council No. 12 and the community served by you, we salute you.

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# MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT GENERAL



We need only to read the Editorial in this issue to awaken to the fact that we must keep moving forward, we must keep active, and must do so now. To turn a deaf ear to this call is to invite failure. The General Officers have read this editorial and have become cognizant of its warning. Your General Officers want to keep pace with the time and to put into practice plans which have been formulated in paper. This administration set out to accomplish certain objectives which it hopes to finish before the fiscal year which ends in June. Some of these objectives were well outlined for you in past issues of LULAC NEWS.

One of these objectives has been slow in reaching a final conclusion. It is not because the General Officers have not done their part, but it has been to a large degree caused by the lack of cooperation from the field. This objective of which we are now discussing is the sending of LULAC NEWS through the mails direct to each member. We have reached the point where we must go forward. We are no longer in a position to wait. If your mailing list is not in this office by March 1, 1947, your membership will not be benefitted by this improvement. We are going forward—please join us!!

Next on the list of objectives selected to be accomplished this year, but by all means first in importance, is the question of a paid organizer. When the Supreme Council met in Laredo last September it voted an added assessment of \$1.00 per member per year to finance the employment of a paid organizer. This Special Assessment became effective with the November quarter for paying dues to the General Council. We expect your full cooperation in this respect when your Treasurer General bills you. Our road to expansion and success lies here.

In connection with financing the salary of a paid organizer, we further agreed to raise \$6000 by voluntary subscriptions. We had planned this drive for November to be finished not later than December 31, 1946. The details needed in con-

nection with a drive of this nature are many. It was almost impossible to assemble the various details in so short a time. Now we are in a position to start this drive. Voluntary contributions from Latin Americans from throughout the nation will be our first objective. All Councils will be given a voluntary quota to fill. As was explained before the method followed by the different Councils will be left up to them. Previously it was suggested to hold dances, picnics, carnivals and etc., to raise their quota.

We must start somewhere so I am making assignments. Half of this money can be raised in the following six cities, therefore you will find as follows the name of the council, the amount to be raised and those delegated to finish this job:

Name of Council	Amount to be raised	Chairman & Co-chairman
C. Christi No. 1	\$500	Joe Garza - Andres de Luna
S. Antonio No. 2	\$500	Joe Olivares - M. C. Martinez
Austin No. 85	\$500	Jesse Garza - Mack Martinez
Laredo No. 12	\$500	L. P. Botello - Antonio Moreno
Houston No. 60	\$500	Dr. Ruiz - John J. Herrera
El Paso No. 132	\$500	Modesto Gomez - Alvarez

The other \$3000.00 will be raised by the other councils and their quota will be assigned to each and the information and details will be forwarded direct to the President. Those whom I have appointed as chairman and co-chairman will receive a prospectus outlining all the work and reports to be made.

I have enough confidence in the membership of the League to feel certain of success in this task. By June 14-15 when we meet in Santa Fe, New Mexico, I would like to present to the assembly this fund which has been needed for so long, to do an A-1 job in LULAC work.



## ALONG THE TRAIL WITH—

(Continued from Page 9)

The older and more sedate members are awaiting for the retiring of Jack Frost and warmer weather to make ready for the Linament League opening in the playground ball division.

Sharing in the communal service field, this council has assisted in the Red Cross Drive, the Community Chest Drive, the Clothing and Food Drives for the devastated countries, the city traffic survey, the endorsement of the Veterans Hospital for Laredo, the petitioning and successful attainment of a Laredo Junior College, the presentation and successful enactment of state legislation authorizing loans to veterans for farm purchases, and various other activities arising from time to time and needing the co-operation of all organizations.

Closely allied to the communal service has been the work done in the welfare field. This ranges from representation on the boards of welfare agencies to actual field work in the Boy and Girl Scout movements and Red Cross. Council No. 12 boasts representation and tenure of high posts in the Laredo Webb County Child Welfare Board, the Salvation Army Board, The Boys Club Board of Directors, the Red Cross County Board, the City and County Health Board, the Laredo Girl Scout Association, the Laredo District of the Boy Scouts, and several other boards or agencies that may be partially but not wholly of a welfare aspect. At present this council is sponsoring five Boy Scout troops, one Girl Scout troop, and a Junior Lulac Council involving some one hundred seventy five boys, about fifteen girls and twenty five Lulacs in roles of Scoutmasters, troop committeemen, district committeemen, and sponsors. Council No. 12 enjoys the distinction of being the largest sponsor of Boy Scout units in the whole Gulf Coast Council and perhaps the state, and the first and only sponsor to date, of a Senior Scout Unit in Laredo.

Coming on down to the field of finance finds this council resting firmly on a solid treasury, not withstanding the tremendous overhead and the various functions and activities that require finances. An example of this council's ability in the field of finances is the recent deposit of over \$700 to its account as the net income from the New Year's Eve Ball.

The spirit of fraternalism is exemplified in the continued growth of the council, the successful completion of the many and varied projects, the cosmopolitan aspect of the membership, and the concentrated and co-operative efforts exerted toward achievement inspite of differences of opinions or ideas of action.

In the matters of social activities, a long history of outstanding successes have given this council a reputation of being a gracious host and a dispenser of the best in entertainment that can be had, with the result that each and every succeeding activity adds more laurels to a successful name. Of long standing and responsible to a large extent for the enviable reputation enjoyed by the council are the annual New Year's Eve Ball and the nationally famous "Noche Mexicana" held every 22nd and 23rd of February in connection with the Washington Birthday Celebration. The popularity of these two functions is evident from the numerous reservations called for, a year in advance.

Filling out the balance of the year's social calendar are the Annual Inaugural Banquet, the annual Turkey Sweepstakes, the periodical dinners, the subtle programs and refreshment parties, the initiation receptions, and the year-round open house in the spacious and private recreation hall and meeting chamber where members and their guests may enjoy pool and billiard games, domino and card parties, music, refreshments, and general fellowship. Furthermore, the facilities of the hall are available to members for private parties and dances.

A well known and evident fact about all social functions of this council is that no person is so prominent as to focus all attention, and no person so insignificant as to feel out of place, hence the success.

Last of the fields in which this council has demonstrated its ability is growth. There is no council as yet to challenge the size of this council. Even in the days of war when other councils were falling by the wayside, this council grew in numbers and experiences. No record-shattering classes have been initiated, but a steady trickle of medium classes have been brought in.

During the past year four such classes were initiated with an average of some thirty five members, and this exclusive of smaller groups. This continued growth is readily attributed to the afore-mentioned fields of activity of the council, and the fact that membership in this council is considered an honor and a privilege.

Such then is the trail followed by this great council within this great League, - a truly representative body of a truly worthy group. Were I to propose a toast to this council, it would be worded thus:

"To Council No. 12, - an illuminating star in a starry sky. May God grant you greater brilliance to light the trail for others that will follow."

# TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF THE EDITOR

By THE EDITOR

"Listen, my Bro. Lulacs, and ye shall hear,  
Not about the Midnight Ride of Paul Revere,  
But about the troubles and afflictions  
Facing the editor in all Lulac News editions."

There is no question whatsoever, that the above attempt at poetical humor and rhyme falls far short of achieving comparative merit with worthier products of the more talented exponents of the verse. Furthermore, I can easily imagine how to the alert and decorous minds this could easily be classified as being a little (maybe more) on the corn-y side, but — my dear Brethren, to your struggling editor, who wishes to shock you into realization of his particular predicaments encountered in editing this particular manuscript for scrutiny of your critical orbits, it serves its purpose well. (or so it is hoped).

Lulac News, as you well know, (skip this if you have heard it before and go on to the next paragraph) is the official literary organ of this here League. Which means (pardon my explanation. No offense meant) that since the League is scattered over a very large physical area, thereby curtailing opportunities for spontaneous get-togethers, it affords the only means of presenting ideas, suggestions and thoughts that will reach each and every member. Furthermore, it means that within the covers of this most interesting and enjoyable literary organ (a purely egotistical and selfish observation, I assure you) is offered an opportunity for budding yet reticent journalists and orators to give an outlet to their pent-up discourses on whatever subject or theme may be apropos to the occasion.

Such being the case, it logical to assume that Lulac News is a literary missive of the membership of the League, for said membership, and by such membership. Interpreting this into simpler form, it means that Lulac News deals with news of the members of the League; that it is intended for the particular enjoyment and elucidation of the members of the League; and that news items and journalistic discourses are furnished by the members of the League. If this is true you may wonder where the trials and tribulations of the editor come in. A worthy wonderment indeed, Gentle Readers, but read on.

The truth of the matter is, my Perusing Brethren, that the above situation, - of, for, and by the members of the League, is the ideal and theoretical situation, but unfortunately, not the true or actual state of affairs. It would be unjust to

state that no one contributes anything at anytime. Once in a while councils will send an item or two, a picture or photograph perhaps, or even an unheralded gem of journalistic endeavor, but oh, so few and so far between. Failure on the part of our member councils to furnish items and evidences of activity or events that may be passed on to others through Lulac News leaves your editor with the enormous job of trying to give national character and interest to items and events of confined local color and interest. Would that provisions were made wherein your editor might be provided with funds to flit about the country and visit you in your own bailiwicks so as to gather the news first hand and unadulterated. Then, dear Bros., I would sanction your failure, for it would mean more opportunities for travel and visitations. But, alas and alack, such is not the case and I must needs depend on you for the information.

What little hair is left upon this barren dome is graying fast, my nails have receded far beyond the logical point of biting, my long tapering fingers have been punched into mere stubs by the portable typewriter, and my once robust figure has become emaciated by worry and overwork. A truly pathetic situation, and all because you fail to send us those news items. Now do you still wonder what the trials and tribulations of your editor are?

Leaving all kidding aside, Bro. Lulacs, the situation of putting out a truly good Lulac News with an aspect of national interest and scope is a tremendous job without the help of each one of you. It is almost impossible for us to gather information from your particular localities if you do not send in to us, nor can we attempt to guess what your endeavors are unless you tell us. Every little thing that may sound trivial and uninteresting to you may ignite a spark in another part of the League, and it is this stimulation that we are after. If we are to progress and to prosper, we must have every little idea and suggestion available, insignificant though it may seem. Make your Lulac New Year's resolution now to contribute whatever may come into your mind that will augment our News in scope and contents.

As a parting word may I suggest that all copies of Lulac News not used in your councils be made available to worthy individuals and organizations so that they may serve as advance agents for future expansion and growth in the days ahead.

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## CORPUS CHRISTI'S TWO IN ONE FEATURE

Corpus Christi favors us with a fine example of co-operative spirit between the men and women that find themselves allied under one banner by common principles and objectives, in the recently released report of the joint installation of officers of Lulac Men's Council No. 1 and Ladies Council No. 26 held on January 6, in the Taxco Cafe.

Council No. 1 Legal Adviser, Bro. Hector de Peña, gave the Oath of office to the officers of the Men's Council at this combined Dinner-meeting, and re-elected President Joe Garza gave the Oath of office to the officers of the Ladies Council. Following the installation ceremonies and the dinner, a moving picture film was enjoyed by the attending membership of both councils.

Entrusted with the precious job of guiding the destinies of the men's council for the ensuing year, as reported by President Joe Garza, are the following:

JOE GARZA, President;  
ALFONSO GONZALES, Vice-President;  
ANDREW ALVAREZ, JR., Secretary;  
PABLO B. CANO, Treasurer;  
SERVANDO LAUREL, Guard;  
GASPAR MIR, JR., Guide;  
AMADO ALVAREZ, TOMMY PEDRAZA,  
and MANUEL MEZA, Trustees.

In addition to the above elected officers, Bro. Garza appointed Hector de Luna as Legal Adviser, Ernest Meza as Chaplain, Amado Alvarez as Corresponding Secretary, and chairmen and members for the Membership, Boy Scout, Educational, and Entertainment Committees.

Installed as leaders of the Ladies Council for 1947, were the following ladies:

MRS. MARY SANCHEZ, President;  
MRS. FLORENTINO SHELDON, Vice-Pres.;  
MRS. HECTOR DE PEÑA, Secretary;  
MRS. PONCIANO GARCIA, Treasurer;  
MRS. MARIA R. LONGORIA, Chaplain;  
MRS. ROLAND GRANDE, SR., Inside Guard;  
MRS. A. GOMEZ, Outside Guard;  
MISS MINERVA SAENZ, Corresp. Secy.;  
MISS ROSA CHAPA LOZANO, Reporter.

In its report of activities for the past year, Council No. 1 presents a goal that is worthy of its efforts, and one that can easily set the pace for other councils in the League. Leading all activities are the radio and newspaper campaigns, "Pay Your Poll Tax Now," sponsored in January, and "Back To School" sponsored in late August and early September. These activities were paralleled

with the Annual Dinner-Dance held in honor of the new officers last February in the Plaza Hotel, - an event eagerly looked forward to by Corpus Christi and surrounding communities; the sponsorship of the August issue of Lulac News; the organization of Council No. 1 sponsored Boy Scout Troop 19 under the Scoutmasterships of A. Treviño and Joe Pedrazas, and at present boasting a membership of 27 boys; the sponsorship of two booths in the Pan American Fiesta held during "Dia de la Raza"; the able representation at the National Convention in Houston by four delegates and four alternates; the reactivation of the Ladies council in Corpus Christi and the men's councils in Alice, San Diego, and Robstown; and being instrumental in getting Latin Americans into positions in different City Commissions such as: Civil Service Board, Hector de Peña; Corpus Christi Housing Authority, Manuel Ramirez; City Veterans Housing, M. Elias; and Planning and Zoning Commission, Joe Garza.

Notwithstanding the above accomplishments, the Council further reports the following worthy contributions made during the year:

Salvation Army Youth Center	\$300.00
Corpus Christi Boys City	211.50
C. Christi Crippled Children's Hospital	514.05
Christmas cheer to 10 different other organizations like PTA's, Nurseries, Community House, etc.	376.05

The above contributions make a total of \$1401.61 distributed by Council No. 1 toward worthy organizations and institutions, - a fact that establishes it as a leading and most active civic organization in Corpus Christi. Council No. 1 is indeed in line for sincere congratulations and appreciation for the outstanding activities and efforts carried out in the name of Lulac. Our sincere wishes are that other councils may gain the undying gratitude and appreciation of the League for similar work during 1947.

Proof of Council No. 1's good start for the new year are the afore-mentioned joint installation of officers the early part of this month, and the Annual Dinner-Dance to be held on February 16, in honor of the new officers. Eduardo Martinez and his Orchestra from San Antonio will furnish the music and Miss Jane Suarez and her Company will furnish the floor show. Guest of Honor at this sumptuous affair will be President-General of the League, A. Zamora.



## ★ SKITS & BITS ★ (ALL ABOUT YOU AND ME)

Our Carrier-Pigeon brings us complimentary remarks from near and far concerning Bro. Vice-Prexy Gonzalez and his dynamic article in last month's issue. Congrats, Johnny, and give us Somoa.

From the fair city of Austin comes elucidating suggestions for the makeup of Lulac News, but in a rather round-about way. Thanks anyway Bro. Frank Pineda, but put them down in black and white — we are not psychic, nor can we wait for the chance relaying of them to this office. The invitation to contribute ideas, suggestions, etc., still stands, — your privilege to use it. Incidentally, the antiquativeness of the Thanksgiving issue's cover was purposely planned to coincide with the antiquity of the Thanksgiving custom. Could be we were wrong.

Congratulations and best wishes for a successful administration to Bro. Rudy J. Peña, new Prexy of Council No. 2 of San Antonio.

Surprise of the Year! Bro. Alfredo Garza asking for a president at Council No. 12's next election who possess common sense rather than degrees. Incidentally, he began pushing his candidacy for prexy that same night. Your guess as to what he possess.

Don't quote us, but we have heard that Bro. V. Pargola was slightly well done when presented with a certain bill for services required in the drawing of a table arrangements plan. Too bad the ceiling prices are no more, or Bro. P., could complain.

Our Seeing Eye informs us that Council No. 2's Tamalada was some event. Sorry we missed it, but we'll make the next one. Keep'em hot.

And from San Marcos comes word that Council No. 148 not to be outdone by its LITTLE sister council to the south threw a Tamalada of its own. Some tamales too, as the Seeing Eye attests.

Incidentally, at the same tamalada Bro. Alfredo Rangel, placing aside the language of Shakespeare and reverting to that of Cervantes, gave out with the best description of true Lulac Fraternalism that our Informer has ever heard. And this in spite of a bellyful of delicious tamales and several cans of hopped malt.

And that never-tiring Carrier-Pigeon bringing in a ray of sunshine to the over-worked Director of Publicity in the form of Christmas Greetings and New Years Wishes from Bro. Joey Gonzalez up El Paso way.

Sh-sh, whisper it softly, but 'tis rumored that Bro. Alfredo Garza is allergic to college degrees. Too bad. They do make nice decorations on the walls, and a lot of them carry sense and cents.

Congratulations to Bros. George J. Garza and Francisco J. Flores, Field Scout Executive and District Commissioner respectively, of the Laredo District for heading the top district of the Gulf Coast council during the past year, — more power in '47.

NOTE: The following Skits and Bits are taken from Lulac Council No. 12's Annual New Year's Eve Ball. And, Brother, was it a humdinger. The Seeing Eye, the Informer, and the Carrier-Pigeon were there and these are their reports. No responsibility or liability assumed.

General-chairman P. L. Flores busy interviewing candidates for bouncers at the Ball. Qualifications: over six feet tall and 200 lbs. or better in weight. Note: They were not needed.

All balloons inflated by Prexy-Gen. Zamora stood up under pressure except the ones he inflated after taking a drink or two from the Little Brown Jug. Some mixtures are detrimental to rubber.

Bro. Ramon Estrada looking for his pupils in the middle of the Ballroom and at the height of activities. Tsh, tsh, Professor, of all places, and at such a time, too.

Bro. and Maestro Ramon Aguilar having a terrific time trying to tickle the ivories, lead the orchestra, and manage all the talented amateur singers just bubbling over with desires to perform. Wonder if he is out of the hospital yet. Nervous breakdown was the M. D.'s verdict.

Sec-Gen. Francisco J. Flores making two New Year's shindings in the same night. Wotta man!

(Continued on Page 20)



# FORGING FOR THE FUTURE

By GEORGE J. GARZA, Supervisor

Laredo Junior Lulac Council



"The future is secure only in so far as we provide for it today." This, or some similar thought must have been in the mind of Lulac Council No. 12 in 1943, when it decided to turn its attention to the organization of a Junior Lulac Council under its sponsorship. The task of carrying out this project was placed in the hands of your humble writer, whose only qualifications were that he was a school teacher, a friend of the boy, and a jealous guardian of the welfare of youth.

After the necessary contacts and preparations had been made, the first organizational meeting was held in November, 1943. At this meeting the necessary officers were elected by popular vote, and a Board of Directors named and entrusted with the delicate job of drawing up a constitution to meet the needs of the council and the prerogatives of the local and national constitutions. Within three weeks the constitution had been drawn up, revised, and unanimously accepted by the fifteen charter members of the Laredo Junior Lulac Council.

The constitution was a meritorious piece of clearly defined and well founded thinking, and so complete that in three years it has been amended only once to provide for membership and dues adjustments. It matches any other constitution in general makeup from preamble to the last section, and yet it holds features that are outstanding and unique in youth circles. It sets its membership at a maximum number of 35 and places qualifications at a maximum standard, thus ensuring quality, co-operativeness, and unity of purpose. The tenure of officers is six months in order to assure the largest number possible to assume a post of responsibility. Further provisions call for a club sweetheart who reigns for one year, and the election of a judge who holds court and passes judgment on members arraigned for infractions on established rules and regulations and the general welfare of the council. Sentences range from simple reprimands to complete dismissal from the council.

From its inception some three years ago, more than 200 boys have belonged to this council, terminating their affiliation because of graduation into the parent council, tours of duty with the armed forces, enrollment in colleges, and out-growth of the maximum age for membership. Three sweethearts have closed their reign with a host of others longingly awaiting selection.

The meetings of this council are held weekly and a full agenda of business is faithfully carried out. An average of 90% attendance is recorded at every meeting. Each meeting provides for a 15 minute program of educational value, social value, or musical entertainment. All programs with the exception of speakers and a few music-ales are put on by the members themselves, for the council is blessed with a galaxy of musicians, comedians, poets, dramatists, producers, and em-presarios. Meetings are often held outdoors at evening suppers, barbecues, weiner roasts, and lawn parties.

Each year between summer and fall, the council gives a dance to replenish their treasury for the its outstanding social function of the year, - The Sweetheart Presentation Ball on St. Valentine's Day. At this function an elaborate ball complete with a floorshow, that includes the initial public presentation of their newly-elected sweetheart, is carried out. Tables and refreshments are furnished all the guests that have been invited by special engraved invitations. No charge whatsoever is made at this ball for the council feels that such an act would be unbecoming to the dignity of their sweetheart and the council as a whole.

Highlight of this sumptuous ball is the crowning of the new sweetheart by the outgoing one, and the presentation of a farewell gift to her by the new sweetheart in the name of the council. Adults that attend this function of the junior council are enthusiastic of the poise and demeanor of the group, and thoroughness of their preparations to the most minute detail.

(Continued On Page 20)

## EDITORIAL—

(Continued from Page 5)

Every individual and organization has a climax or highpoint to reach, and only two alternatives, — failure or success. The League is far short of its climax in growth and accomplishment. It must select its alternative. Failure exerts no effort and can be had instantaneously. Success demands greater efforts, stronger wills, and unflinching faith in principles and ultimate objectives. If you as an individual Lulac are devoid of these three qualifications, your task as a Lulac is done and you may retire. If your council lacks them, then it is also done for and may close its doors. If the League, mighty though its potentialities may be, is weak in the exerted efforts, the will to fight, and faith of its membership, then its power is gone, its ideals but empty dreams and needs must go into the realm of the forgotten.

The opportunities are here, the potentialities prevalent, and the promises unflinching, yet the decision rests with you as an individual. What shall it be, — failure or success?

## SKITS AND BITS—

(Continued from Page 18)

Mystery of the Year, and calling Philo Vance, — Bro. P. L. Flores wondering how a 4-chair table could suddenly and magically produce a fifth chair at the Ball. Confidentially, we did too.

Fishy Business: the erstwhile balcony fisherman who with makeshift line and pole fished a bottle from one of the tables below. Result: broken line, broken bottle, brokenhearted celebrant.

And then there was the Bro. who blamed the quart of Madero for his inability to see through the windshield. Note: Unnoticed sleet because of the Madero had covered the windshield.

And who kissed who as the orchestra played "Auld Lang Syne?" You don't know? Funny, we don't either, but there were a lot of Red faces, and we do mean red. What is more there were a lot of explanations at home. Kiss-proof lipstick, phooey!

Aftermath of the New Year. — Bro. Abelardo Salinas' untimely realization that sudden contact of two moving vehicles results in a smashup and a three-way contact results in a — well, complete wreckage and a large garage bill. Calling Bro. Raul Laurel of Laurel Insurance Agency to the rescue.

## FORGING FOR THE FUTURE—

(Continued from Page 19)

The activities of this council, its thoroughness, its eagerness and willingness to co-operate, and its judicious ways of handling itself in all functions has attracted the attention of the community to the extent that the council is kept in high regard notwithstanding its youthfulness in makeup and tenure. It is the quality that makes the grade rather than the quantity, and this is exemplified by the fact that at one time all four presidents of the senior high school classes were members of this council. Today the council boasts of a membership made up of high school athletic stars, class officers, high ranking band members, school club officers, cadet corp officers, and representation in other school activities.

It would be a gross exaggeration to try and attribute the success of this council to the efforts of one person, worthy though they may have been, for the truth of the matter is that once these boys were trained they were allowed to continue on their own initiative. Resulting success has attested to the fact that these youths are apt learners and that those charter members still in the council are excellent instructors.

As supervisor of this council it has been my happy privilege to watch it grow and succeed; to see these timid youths as they come into the council to blossom out as confident self-sufficient Americans; to see them realize that the worthy things of life are as enjoyable as the trash that is erroneously glorified; and to do my humble bit to see that each succeeding generation of our youth is more efficient and capable.

It is my association with youth of the community and my happy experience to enjoy their confidence that gives me renewed energy and faith for the future. It is my association with them that gives me a youthful outlook on life and a desire to succeed in whatever fate has destined for me.

I feel that I am justly proud of this Laredo Junior Lulac Council, and though on two occasions I have regretfully voiced my need to retire as its supervisor because of the pressure of business, I have joyfully condescended to continue at their enthusiastic reaffirmation of their confidence and trust in my leadership and their benevolent understanding of my shortcomings. With such gratitude and vote of confidence it would be almost a sin to believe myself so busy as to refuse a helping hand to the youth that looks up to us for guidance. May God grant that other men the world over have the same feeling.

## COUNCIL NO. 12's ANNUAL DUAL BARRAGE

By RAMON ESTRADA and STAR CASTILLO

Music Galore and Fun Unlimited! That was the prevailing spirit at the annual New Year's Eve Ball sponsored by Lulac Council No. 12. This dance, one of the outstanding social events of the year, was held at the Martin High School Auditorium, and a highly festive crowd braved one of the worst nights in Laredo history to take part in welcoming the new year. Music for this occasion was furnished by Don Ramon Aguilar and His Orchestra.

As the dance got underway, it was soon apparent that the large crowd was intent on outdoing all previous efforts in receiving the New Year. A strong spirit of conviviality soon engulfed the participants, and the ebbing last moments of the Old Year were doubly hastened by a surging atmosphere of expectation. A climaxing blare of horns followed by shouts of "Happy New Year" announced the object of the event. Colored balloons and paper trailers rained upon the milling group, and those with reckless fortitude attempted to grab some of the coveted balloons. In the meantime, excursions of hearty and enthusiastic greeters were making the rounds and wishing New Year's greetings to old acquaintances. Of course, there were those individuals that were so imbued with the warmth of emotion that no earthly human could have been overlooked. Confetti faces soon became the rule rather than the exception. Those with temporary "leaves of absence" were quickly concocting alibis to explain unnatural signs of blushing. The Good Neighbor Policy was very much in evidence.

As the New Year increased the tempo of the dance, the real show began. Staid couples became versions of Veloz and Yolanda; some ex-aimen began to "fly by instrument", while others became completely lost in Terpsichorean ecstasy. The friendliest of atmospheres reigned throughout the dance, and no one dared to "buck the weather." Dancing continued until 3 o'clock in the morning, and every one reluctantly went home after one of the most enjoyable events of the season.

### SIDE LIGHTS

The following items were contributed by our ace investigator, Periscope Pete:

Those interested in detective fiction can try solving the following mysteries:—

"The Case of the Missing Bottle"

Who ran off with Alfredo G. Garza's driving force.

"Abelardo Salinas Hides Again"

New Year's Greetings With a Bang!

"The Lights Go Out"

Ramon Estrada's Elusive Pupil.

An air of delightful expectancy pervades Lulac Hall as Council No. 12 goes into high gear in preparation for the holding of the annual Noche Mexicana February 22-23 in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the celebration of Washington's birthday.

The Noche Mexicana, since its inception, has been one of the top features of the celebration and this year's fete being the Golden Anniversary of the event, Lulac is determined to make the affair rival the monster and sumptuous events which are planned for this year.

General Chairman George J. Garza has named Porfirio L. Flores as program chairman with the knowledge that Brother Flores will equal his excellent past performances to procure the best Mexican artists for the Noche Mexicana.

Brother Flores is an old hand at whipping up first class programs as witness past events which have been successful from all points of view.

For this year, Brother Flores is contacting the leading Mexican stars of stage and screen. Last year, Tin Tan and Marcelo stole the show and made the celebration a most outstanding success which is expected to be equalled and probably surpassed by the artists which will be contracted. As usual, Brother Flores will get a leading orchestra for the dance which follows the floor-show.

The Noche Mexicana has grown with the years to its present prominence, because Lulacs have devoted their every waking minute to make the event truly representative of what Lulac can do.

All in all, a great show will be offered to keep the name of Lulac alive in the hearts and minds of the thousands of persons who will attend the performance on February 22-23.

# Aims and Purposes of the League of United Latin American Citizens

The aims and purposes of this Organization as amended at El Paso on June 24, 1944.

1. To develop within the members of our race the best, purest, and most perfect type of a true and loyal citizen of the United States of America.

2. To eradicate from our body political intents and tendencies to establish discrimination among our fellow-citizens on account of race, religion, or social position as being contrary to the true spirit of Democracy, our Constitution and Laws.

3. To use all the legal means at our command to the end that all citizens in our country may enjoy equal rights, the equal protection of the laws of the land and equal opportunities and privileges.

4. The acquisition of the English language, which is the official language of our country, being necessary for the enjoyment of our rights and privileges, we declare it to be official language of this Organization, and we pledge ourselves to learn, and speak, and teach same to our children.

5. To define with absolute and unmistakable clearness our unquestionable loyalty to the ideals, principles and citizenship of the United States of America.

6. We solemnly declare once and for all to maintain a sincere and respectful reverence for our racial origin of which we are proud.

7. By all lawful means at our command, we shall assist in the education and guidance of Latin-Americans and we shall protect and defend their lives and interests whenever necessary. We shall oppose any tendency to separate our children in the schools of this Country.

8. Each of us considers himself with equal responsibilities in our Organization, to which we voluntarily swear subordination and obedience.

9. We shall create a fund for mutual protection, for the defense of those of us who may be unjustly prosecuted and for the education and culture of our people.

10. This organization is not a political club, but as citizens we shall participate in all local, State and National political contests. However, in doing so, we shall ever bear in mind the general welfare of our people, and we shall disregard and abjure once and for all any personal obligation which is not in harmony with these principles.

11. With our vote and influence we shall endeavor to place in public office men who show by their deeds, respect and consideration for our people.

12. We shall select as our leaders those among us who demonstrate, by their integrity and culture,

that they are capable of guiding and directing us properly.

13. We shall maintain publicity means for the diffusion of these principles and for the expansion and consolidation of this Organization.

14. We shall pay our poll tax and urge all our fellow-citizens to do likewise, in order that we may enjoy our rights fully.

15. We shall diffuse our ideals by means of the press, lectures and pamphlets.

16. We shall oppose any radical and violent demonstration which may tend to create conflicts and disturb the peace and tranquility of our Country.

17. We shall have mutual respect for our religious views and we shall never refer to them in our Institution.

18. We shall endeavor to secure equal representation for our people on juries and in the administration of Governmental affairs.

19. We shall denounce every act of peonage and mistreatment as well as the employment of our minor children of scholastic age.

20. We shall resist and attack energetically all machinations tending to prevent our social and political unification.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

This Amendment to the Constitution has not been submitted to the local Councils for approval or rejection, but will be submitted for their consideration in the near future.

Having read your code and program and believing in the betterment of our people, I hereby apply for membership in the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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