



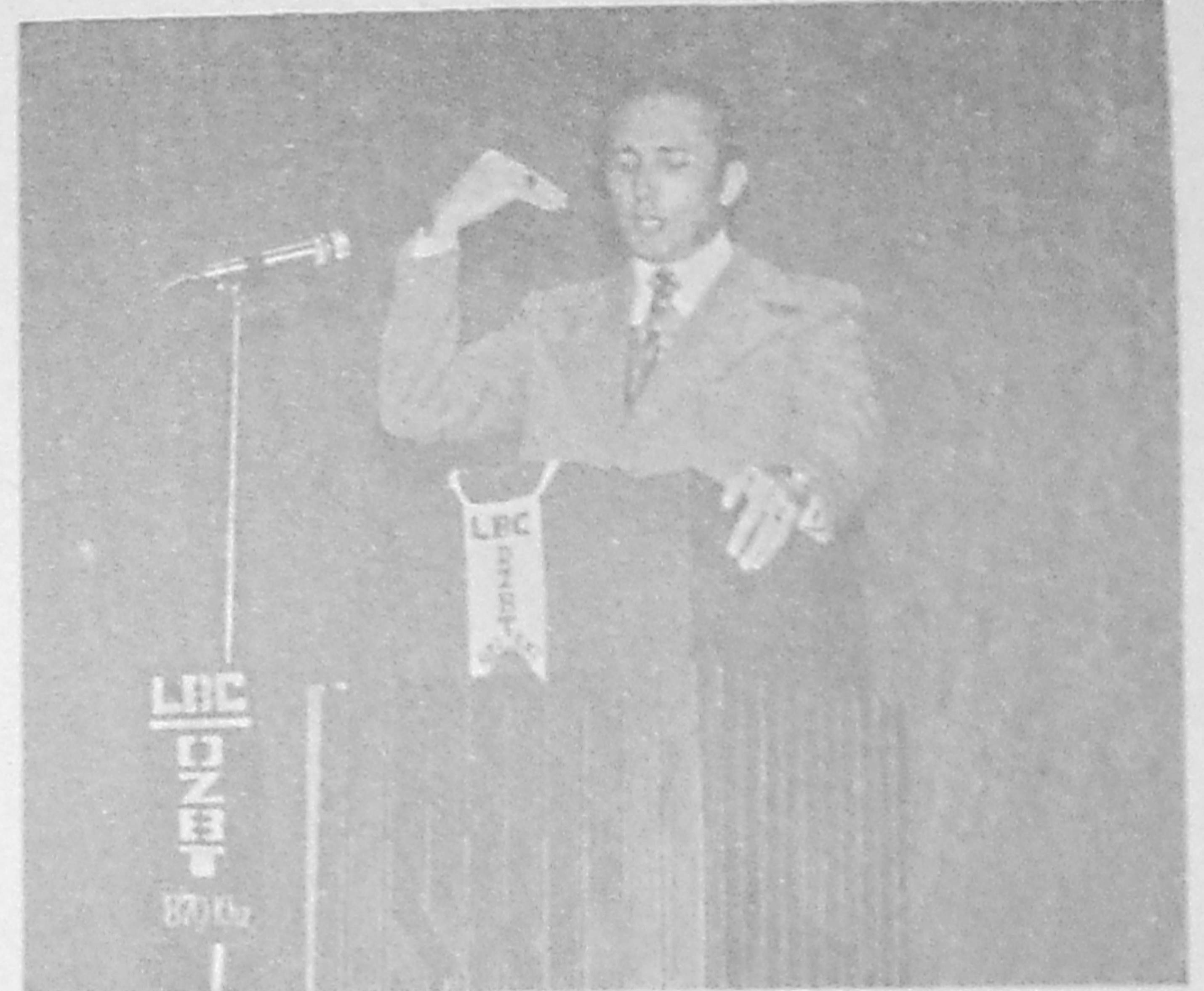
# CONTACT

A monthly publication for the membership of the Worldwide Church of God in the Philippines and Northeast Asia

VOLUME III NO. 7

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

JULY 1976



## BATANGAS CITY GIVES WARMEST WELCOME

BATANGAS CITY—"It was the most enlightening gospel message I've ever heard. Too bad not many people came," remarked Sister Pia, the auditorium directress as she congratulated Mr. Colin Adair on stage after his 13th Plain Truth lecture last June 26 which was carried by DZBT radio to thousands of people in Batangas Province and to all of Southern Tagalog region. The message was preached powerfully in spite of a bomb scare and typhoon "Huaning" which for two days prior to the lecture had threatened the whole area. Although only 168 attended, "it was by far one of the best audiences ever to attend a non-school (religious) activity in our auditorium," according to Sister Corazon who attended even the Open Forum the next day.

Shortly after Mr. Adair arrived from Manila, Mayor Macario Mendoza gave him the warmest welcome to Batangas City. He invited the guest to a dinner the next day.

At the instruction of Gov. J. Antonio C. Leviste, Deputy Governor Ruperto R. Talatala ushered in Mr. Adair and party to a "merienda session" before the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (for-

merly Provincial Board) composed of top officials led by the Deputy Governor, Board Secretary, Provincial Community Development Coordinator, Provincial Fiscal, Provincial Treasurer, Provincial Auditor, Provincial Assessor, Secretary of Cultural Affairs, DEC Regional Superintendent and their technical assistants. "These Gentlemen, Mr. Adair, tho few in number represent hundreds of people manning our provincial affairs. Through the Governor's Staff you can extend whatever message you have for our people," said the Deputy Governor as he introduced his guest. "In fact," he added, "I'd like to come back and speak to our community leaders. We will gather them for you. All you need to do is meet them at a certain place, at a certain time and speak to them."

Mr. Adair briefed the Provincial Council about Ambassador College and its Extension Program. "Since not everybody can go to Ambassador College, Dr. Armstrong decided to bring the College to everybody worldwide. Through this Program we teach people not only how to earn a living but most of all, how to live! And, Gentlemen, the philosophy of the College cuts across

national boundaries, and cultures, because it is based upon human principles, human values good for human beings whether one is an American, British, an African or a Filipino."

From the Governor's Office, we rushed to the Batangas National High School where Mr. Adair addressed the city teachers on the "Keys to Teaching Moral Values." Leading the welcoming panel were Dr. Atanacia Dorado, Acting Regional Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent Juliana A. Espina and a host of city supervisors and principals. Mr. Adair concluded his lecture "It's not enough that you tell your students 'Don't cheat, don't lie' — you must explain to them why."

Then we went to the only commercial radio station, DZBT, for a 30-minute interview hosted by Teddy Cuevas, Station Manager. As usual Mr. Adair clarified a lot of questions regarding the College, the Educational Extension Program, the Plain Truth Magazine, and why we are conducting these PT lectures nationwide.

The next day June 25 at 10:00 a.m. the faculty and student body of the Lyceum of Batangas heard Mr. Adair speak on "The Art of Modern Dating." The College

ambassador College in the Philippines and Northeast Asia with Mr. Pacifico Mirto, newly designated Executive Officer of the Worldwide Church of God Coordinating Center here, as guest lecturer.

Plans for July to December this year are to hold Bible Seminars within the vicinity of Districts III, IV, and IVa in Luzon. These districts are comprised of Metro Manila and surrounding provinces in Central Luzon and the Southern Tagalog provinces.

President, Dr. Sotero H. Laurel, son of our war time Pres. Jose P. Laurel, welcomed his guest at the college grounds. In the afternoon Mr. Adair gave the same lecture to the Golden Gate Colleges. The College of Nursing performed two cultural numbers before and after the lecture. The college Registrar Mrs. L. Mendoza introduced the

guest; Dean Norman dela Cruz gave the closing remarks. And as we were about to leave, a faculty member who said he was a church elder asked for the Dating booklet because he wanted to give a sermon on it to his congregation the next day.

At 6 p.m. Mayor Mendoza (Please turn to last page)

## OFFICE RESTRUCTURED

MANILA—A change in the organizational structure of God's Work here has been instituted in an effort to bolster the preaching of the gospel and the feeding of God's "flock" in the Philippines and Northeast Asia.

To help Mr. Colin Adair coordinate, through district coordinators, activities undertaken by all the churches of God in the country, a Coordinating Center has been created. Mr. Pike Mirto, who is concurrently Associate Pastor of the Metro Manila church and District Coordinator for Districts 3 and 4, has been designated the Executive Officer of the Center. He is assisted by Mr. Rey

Taniajura, Executive Assistant; Mr. Pete Melendez, Administrative Assistant; and Mr. Dom Guevarra, Accountant.

Under the Coordinating Center are three offices to serve in various capacities.

### Administrative Services

First is the Administrative Services Office which provides support services to all the other units. Among other things, this office is in charge of educational services, promotions of AC publications, and mailing and data processing. Mr. Jerry Ortiguero has been (Please turn to last page)

## BIBLE SEMINARS

### TO INTRODUCE THE CHURCH

MANILA—Ambassador College, in cooperation with the Worldwide Church of God, is sponsoring another series of Bible Seminars starting on July or August this year at various places of the country. The seminars have been instituted to give AC Correspondence Course graduates and Plain Truth Supplement subscribers the opportunity to delve more deeply into the truth of the Bible as proclaimed by the Worldwide Church of God. The Seminars are to be conducted by Mr. Colin Adair, Regional Representative of Am-

bassador College in the Philippines and Northeast Asia with Mr. Pacifico Mirto, newly designated Executive Officer of the Worldwide Church of God Coordinating Center here, as guest lecturer. Plans for July to December this year are to hold Bible Seminars within the vicinity of Districts III, IV, and IVa in Luzon. These districts are comprised of Metro Manila and surrounding provinces in Central Luzon and the Southern Tagalog provinces.

The seminars, according to Mr. Rey Taniajura, Executive Assistant of the Church, will also acquaint those people, who have read the PT Supplement and studied the Correspondence Course with the Worldwide Church of God, which is mainly supporting these publications.

The specifics of the seminar format have not been finalized yet, but plans are to hold a one day seminar in each place, possibly including Lucena, San Pablo, Cavite, Manila, Angeles, San Fernando, Olongapo, and Tarlac. GTA films may also be shown and free literature may probably be offered to the audience.

Correspondence Course graduates and PT Supplement subscribers in the above-mentioned districts will be informed through letters as to the exact date, time and place of the seminars. (Eden Z. Fabricante)

# CURRENT EVENTS

*Colin Adair*

June 28: "You can't win them all" is a western saying that would best describe the recent Batangas P.T. lecture. The attendance was the lowest yet, but what saved the day was their enthusiasm. And I must agree with Mr. Acebron that the rest of our activities there were very successful and our visit to the deputy governor may lead to future large meetings throughout the province.

Our first appointment didn't start out too well. I had just sat down in the mayor's office when an aide brought in coffee. As he lifted off one cup from the side of the tray, the off-balanced end tipped up and I was showered with hot coffee! Fortunately, although the liquid soaked right through to my arm, I wasn't burned — but my suit was ruined with a large oval stain on my left elbow and various spots at the back of my jacket. To make it worse there was no dry-cleaner in the town and I had no other suit with me. And as mentioned, this was our first official appointment. Of course I did have two barong tagalog shirts with me which I could use for the other engagements, but I had been planning to wear my suit for the P.T. lecture and which I subsequently did anyway, the stain not showing at distance).

Our second appointment was to see the deputy governor and the governor's staff. Fortunately, it was raining hard (and I hadn't time to return to the hotel and change) so with some rain spots on the rest of my jacket, the coffee stains could be mistaken for water! I jokingly said when I sat down, that Batangas had given me a warm welcome, and then I explained about the accident. And to make it worse, it was Nescafe, not Batangas coffee that was spilt on me!

Although the typhoon was scheduled to hit Friday, the rain seemed to vent its wrath Thursday night while we were all asleep. On Friday the weather was very much improved and the rain was only light and in showers. One good thing was the coolness of the atmosphere. On Saturday it was try and cool and we were thankful that the weather didn't prevent the people from coming to the lecture.

## New Feast Site

On June 19 I went to Iloilo for the monthly sabbath services. Afterwards the Hoods and Ben Ortiguero and I crossed over by boat to Bacolod. Ben was with me as manager of the Festival office. We were going to inspect a site

about 31 kilometers from Bacolod City — a resort called Mambucal. We spent about two and a half hours there investigating conditions and costs. To cut a long story short we decided to go ahead and plan to have a Feast of Tabernacles there this year. The Feast letter should arrive from the printers today and will be sent out to you almost immediately. The resort is small but has a nice atmosphere of waterfalls and river, with two swimming pools and many trees. It is situated high up the mountain side and will be quite cool, although not as cool as Baguio. A feature article elsewhere in this issue will give you more information.

## New Organization

This past week we organized the office set-up a little, creating the new Welfare Department and Festival Department, both of which will be headed by Mr. Ben Ortiguero. Again, to save me going into details here, a separate article explains it in full.

## Office Move

The Mailing section moved office over the weekend to our new site in the Filipino Star Printing building. Mr. Jerry Ortiguero is the man to head this office which is located in the same building as our P.T. is printed at the present time. We may have the magazine printed by another printer later. This gives us quite a savings per month in rent without diminishing our efficiency.

## Television

We have received word from Pasadena that thirteen programs of the GTA series will be arriving by the end of July. So, unless there are any last minute hitches, the program will start being aired the first Sunday in August, or at least the first week in August if Sunday is not available. Most of Luzon will be able to receive it as channel 9 has a simulcast with Baguio. We are looking forward to building a good audience over a period of time. We plan to advertise the program on occasions in the newspaper and perhaps in the new TV Times, if that new publication continues to be printed.

## Exhortation

I am rushing this to catch up with the printing, so my column will be shorter this time. However, before closing I would like to inject a little spiritual exhortation to everyone. Normally, I would not do this, as the purpose of the

column (and the CONTACT itself) is for news, not sermons. But I feel in the light of our trip to Cebu and the poor showing on the Day of Pentecost there (see other article) that it is very much needed for some of you. It seems some are forgetting that sabbath attendance is commanded by God, for the good of those attending. God especially commands our presence on His Holy Days and calls them "holy convocations,"

or gatherings. It is *especially* lethargic for baptized members to ignore or forget or treat carelessly the Holy Days. I could quote you a barrage of excuses which people make (none valid — there are valid ones I know) but that's all they are — excuses. In Hebrews 10 Paul says we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, *as some do*, and all the more so as we get closer to the end (paraphrasing his words). More than

ever, in these days of worsening conditions, we need to get to services to hear God's teaching through His ministers. It is a source of spiritual strength; a time of rejuvenation; a change to fellowship. It is our link to sanity in an insane world; a chance to counteract the satanic forces at work with our minds, by filling them with spiritual food. You can *not* benefit the same by staying at home and studying on your own! If that were the case, God would not have ordained a Church, ministers, and convocations. Only the spiritually vain cling to this idea of thinking they know it all or don't need a church to teach them.

I could go on and on, but I won't. I hope all of you will endeavour to attend every service you can and thank God for the opportunity to do so. There is virtually no excuse (save sickness or *genuine* lack of finances) for those of you in the province to miss a once-a-month meeting. And I seriously doubt the conversion of a person who *forgets* any of God's Holy Days or scheduled sabbath services. Your LIFE is at stake! You had better believe it.

# 1,462 KEEP PENTECOST

MANILA--The Church Coordinating Center here has received complete reports on the Day of Pentecost observance (June 6) from church areas in the Philippines. A total of 1,462 members, prospectives, and family members were in attendance at six sites. This represented a 32% increase in attendance over last year.

Metro Manila led the churches with an average attendance of 706. This was followed by Bukidnon (338), Pangasinan (185), Davao (129), Cebu (80) and Agusan del Sur (24).

The Holy day offerings taken up in all sites represented an increase of 36.8% over 1975.



PANGASINAN PENTECOST--Photos here show the Pangasinan Church chorale, conducted by Solomon Moltio, rendering a special number during the service; and a group of Pentecost keepers during a break. Mr. Pedro Ortiguero, pastor of the Pangasinan Church, stands at extreme left. (Photos by Jerry Ortiguero).

## LOCAL MAN DELIVERS FIRST SERMONETTE

ILOILO CITY--"I had been on the stage so many times now, but only this time did I find it too high, or in Ilongo, 'daw sa nahawa-an ako,'" kidded Mr. Bob Gopez to ease up his tension.

This was his first sermonette in his whole life, yet unlike other neophytes, Mr. Gopez looked like an old-timer in delivering his message during the Sabbath service here May 22. He was relaxed and he never lost his lines.

He gave us the answers to the questions he posed earlier, "Why do Christians have trials and afflictions?" "How should we react to them?"

According to him, sufferings could produce complete trust in God. Through it, we could become sincere in our prayers when we come to realize that without God, we are helpless.

He also added that nobody ever asks God for trials. We do not know that only in trials can we learn the lesson of patience which is the important part of spiritual growth, spiritual strength and confidence. (Cecilia Sotomil)

<b>CONTACT</b>		<b>CIRCULATION — 1,500</b>
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## "NEW BEGINNINGS" FOR ILOILO CHURCH

ILOILO CITY—Iloilo brethren had the chance to hear first hand the result of the recently concluded Ministerial Conference in Pasadena when Mr. Colin Adair briefed us during our Bible Study and service last June 19 here at the Social and Cultural Hall of the Division of City Schools. Speaking for nearly an hour in the B.S. period in the morning, Mr. Adair revealed exciting developments in the Work. As a result, members here were given a renewed sense of awareness of the global impact of this end-time commission -- the great strides it has taken -- and the "new beginnings" that lie ahead. Since the October 1975 P.T. Lecture, this was the first time Mr. Adair had the chance of being once again with us in our B.S. and service. Coming along with him this time was Mr. Benjamin

Ortiguero, a member of the office staff. Mr. and Mrs. George Hood were present too. Also with us were Mr. Adair's secretary Miss Gema Matilac and her sister Belen, who were spending a brief vacation on Guimaras island.

### Tangible Results

We were favored with fine weather that day. And since it was announced in our previous service that Mr. Adair would be with us in our June service the brethren were all keen and enthusiastically looking forward to meeting our Regional Director for Northeast Asia. Especially so the new faces now regularly attending our services as a result of the P.T. Lecture in this area. In fact, both the Iloilo and Bacolod lectures have already yielded tangible

results -- in terms of new baptized members. Lately to be baptized was Mr. Florante Siopan of Bacolod City. He was baptized by Mr. Hood last May 22 in the bathtub of Mr. Bernardo Castillon's house in P.H.H.C., Bacolod City. Until P.T. Lecture, Mr. Siopan had no idea that there is a church near his area -- although he is a longtime subscriber to the Plain Truth.

Also as a fruit of the Bacolod P.T. Lecture, one new member was added. She is a resident of Bacolod City -- and the mother of one of our members, Joe Luzuriaga. Mrs. Luzuriaga is another addition to the already growing number of members in the Bacolod area.

The Iloilo P.T. Lecture had its "firstfruit" when Mr. Manuel Torres, a former PNB employee, was added to God's Church. Last March 27 he was baptized by Mr. Hood along with two members -- Miss Bessie Lim, who is now in UP (Diliman, Quezon City) continuing her studies, and my sister Evelyn.

## Development Program

With a growing church here, we have needed to develop our local manpower. Thankfully, one of our active long-time members, Mr. Roberto N. Gopez, has been designated to give sermonettes. He delivered his first sermonette last May 22 and is scheduled to give his second one on July 24. (An article on Mr. Gopez' first sermonette appears in this issue -- Ed.)

Working at the Office of the Governor, Province of Iloilo, Mr. Gopez has already been handling a lot of church responsibilities. It was he who personally directed and coordinated the efforts that made the P.T. Lecture in Iloilo a success.

Lately, Mr. Hood has come up with a project to develop local men so they can have a greater share in the church work here. This is the Leadership Training Project. The first meeting was supposed to be held last June 19, in the evening after our service.

However, another "new beginning" pre-empted it.

## New Feast Site

Messrs. Adair, Hood and Ortiguero proceeded right after our service for a very special "mission". The destination: Negros Occidental, specifically the Mambucal Spring Resort. When it was announced to us that they were in search of a suitable site for this coming Feast of Tabernacles -- we were overwhelmingly glad. It's something that we have been praying for these past years.

Mambucal Spring Resort is by all accounts a very ideal Feast site. An article had already been written on this scenic place when some Bacolod brethren had an excursion there last March 1975. The article (with an accompanying photo) appeared in the June 1975 issue of Contact.

With a Feast site of our own here in the Visayas, and many more things that are in store ahead of us, truly we are in the threshold of some "new beginnings". And with that we have a lot to be thankful for.

(Jun Caligan)



MANILA--The Manila "A" Spokesman Club held its annual Ladies' Night June 13 at the Top of the Cultural Center, Silangan Reception and Dining Hall here.

The Topicsmaster for the night, Club Vice President Andrew Teng, had almost everybody responding to the interesting questions such as: "What would you do when you are on board a plane and seated beside a hijacker?" and "What is the most beautiful language you personally love?"

The speaking session had the

MANILA A SPOKESMAN pose during a break at their Ladies' Night in the Silangan Reception and Dining Hall. Seated are Mr. Adair, club director, and club officers. (Photo by Jerry Ortiguero)

## SPOKESMAN CLUB "A" LADIES' NIGHT AFFAIR

theme "Life's Most Challenging Task." The Toastmaster, Engr. Hermilando Bauza, introduced the five speakers and their subjects: Alfredo Rigonan--"Night Is Darkest Before Dawn"; Gil Adolfo Llana--"I Challenge

You"; Ireneo Marquez--"No Man Is An Island"; Basilio Osillos--"Fatherhood Is Life's Most Challenging Task"; and Ruben Banaag--"If There's a Will, There's a Way".

The overall evaluation of the

topics and speaking sessions was given by Mr. Colin Adair, the Club Director. The performance of the Toastmaster and the Topicsmaster were both rated Very Good. Awards were given to Mr. Banaag for the most effective speaker; Mr. Llana for the most improved speaker; and Benito Yadao, Jr., the most helpful evaluator.

Certificates of Merit were given to the club's graduates this year: Ruben Banaag, Henson Fen Santos, Dominador Guevarra, Wilfredo Jacinto, Valentin Joson, Eleno Mellomida and Basilio Osillos.

A special award, so far the first award of its kind given to a club member, was presented to Mr. Angelo Banluta for 100% attendance -- a record! It was a Digital Watch given by a church member in Hongkong; this had been in the care of Mr. Adair for almost a year waiting for the right time and the right person worthy to receive it.

An unexpected gift was given to Mr. and Mrs. Colin Adair by the club. It was a stainless steel chafing desk with alcohol warmer.

(Please turn to page 8)

## MANILA CHILDREN'S CLUB ORGANIZED

MANILA--The Manila Children's Club, an offshoot of the past Boy's and Girl's clubs here, has been organized and was approved as a church club by the pastor's office last June 22.

The club was created primarily to 1) Provide opportunities for children to develop their personalities through clean, wholesome fun, 2) Give children some practical knowledge and/or skills which will prove useful to them in growing up, and 3) Make children feel they are part of one big family. These goals are hoped to be attained by the formation of an organization which will set a program of activities, secure materials/funds and a meeting place.

Sports activities like cycling, tennis and roller skating are slated for boys. Girls are to participate in handicrafts, bowling, foot preparation, table-manner exercises, etc. Planned to take place every other month are joint projects like visits to the National Parks and Wildlife premises, trips to the Luneta and the Planetarium. An outing in Baguio is tentatively scheduled.

Vic Lim, who is principally instrumental in the formation of the club, is In-Charge of the organization. Assisting him is Jur Rustia. Johnny Logronio and Carol Layug are Club Master for Boys and Club Master for Girls, respectively.

Club membership is limited to twenty per Club Master. The Makati Hotel parking area serves as a meeting place and starting point of club activities.

(Maria Fe R. Mayo)

## COMBINED LADIES' NIGHT AT MARCO POLO

in the States. Members, guests and ladies as well warmly took part in the discussions. Mr. Pike Mirto, director of Club "B," gave the evaluation of the first half of the meeting.

The speaking portion was presided over by Club "C" President Marc Sayan, with Toastmaster Avelino Matriano introducing each speaker as personages coming out of his "book of life." Centering on the evening's theme

"Most Lasting Impression in Life," each speaker tried to describe or make the most lasting impression in his life.

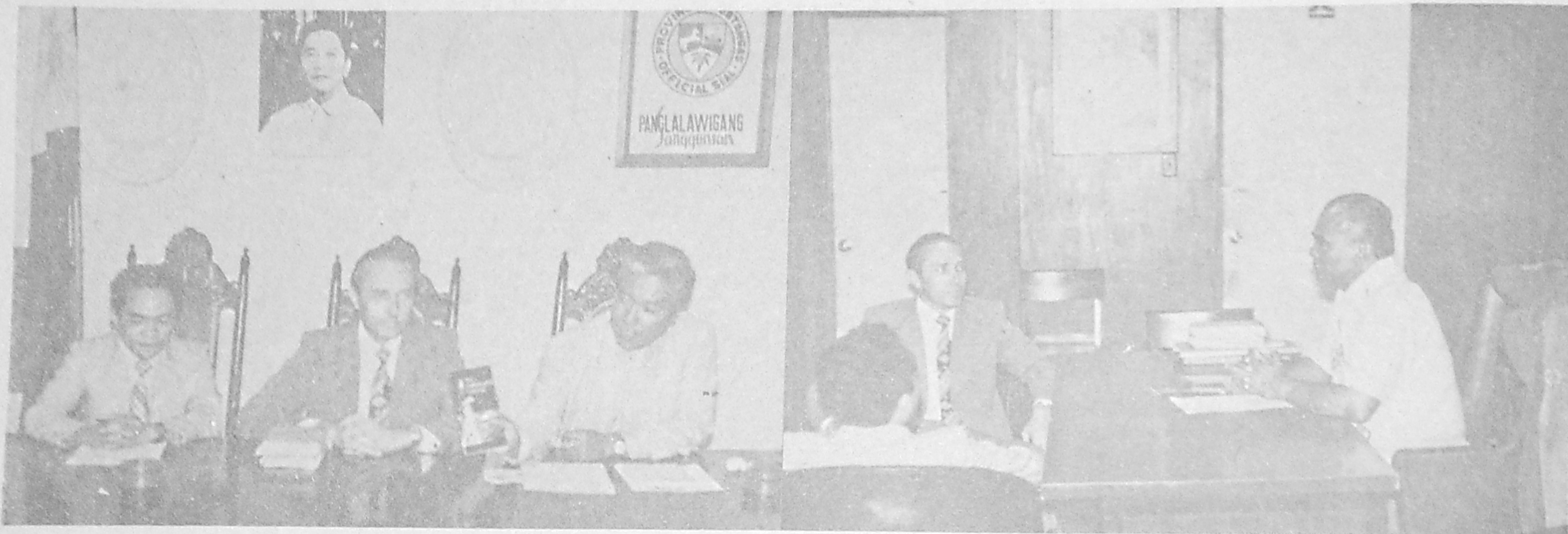
Mr. Jose Raduban, director of Club "C," evaluated the speaking portion. The most effective speaker award went to Boogie Pangilinan (Club "B") with his moving account of a personal trauma which led to something good. The most improved speaker cup went to Rey Ong (Club "C") who gave a medley of jokes.

Honesto Rustia (Club "B") got the most helpful evaluator award.

Certificates of merit were awarded to four Club "B" and three Club "C" graduates: Boni Ocampo, Milo Campbell, Mario Dayao, Rene Vargas, Edgar Borja, Rey Ong, and Virgilio Yap. In awarding the certificates Mr. Mirto said that for one to succeed in the club there must be "fierce competition." But, he explained, this competition is between the individual and himself, where one should improve with each lesson.

Two songs and a dance number by club members and some ladies rounded out the evening.

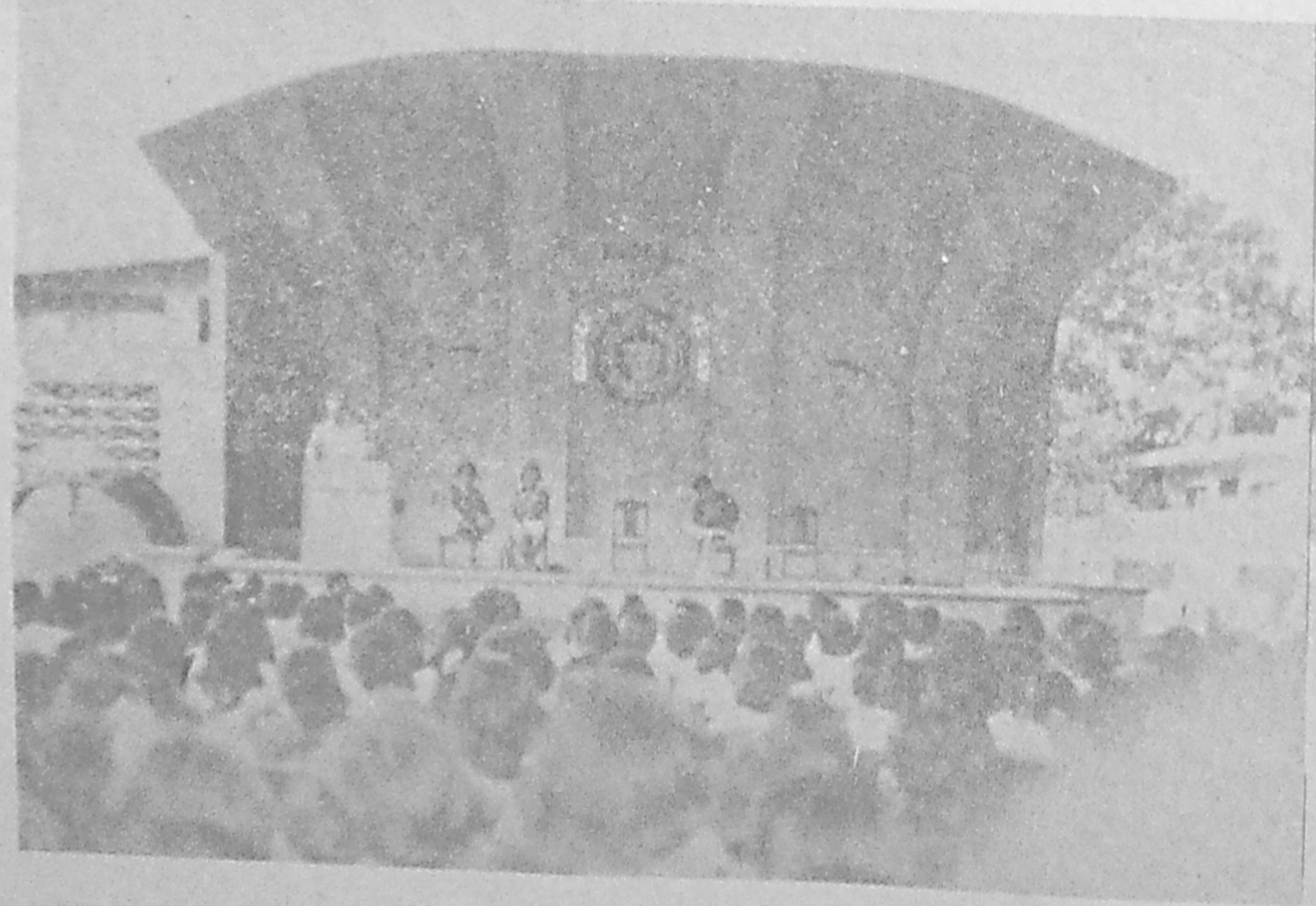
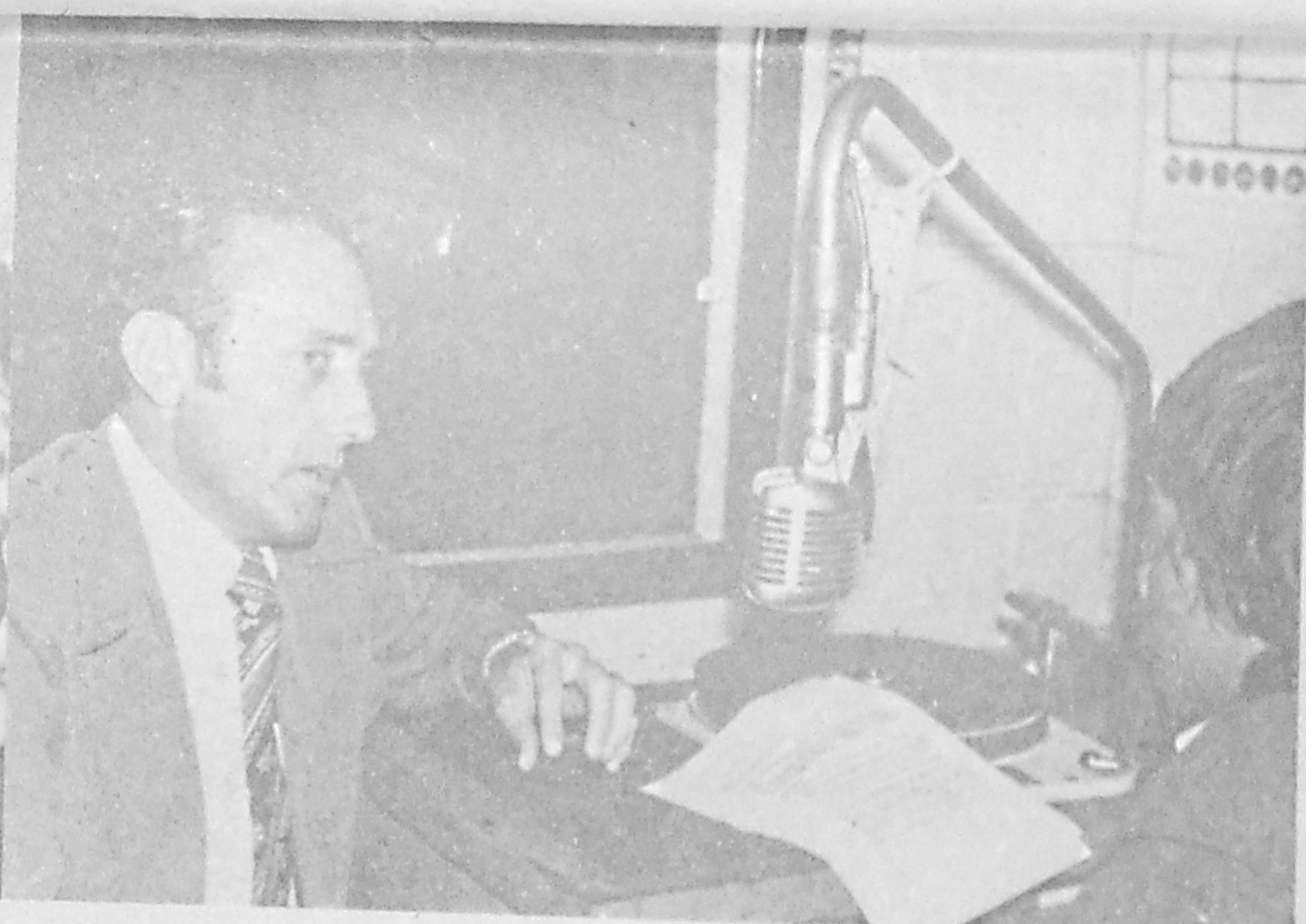
(Johnny Barit)

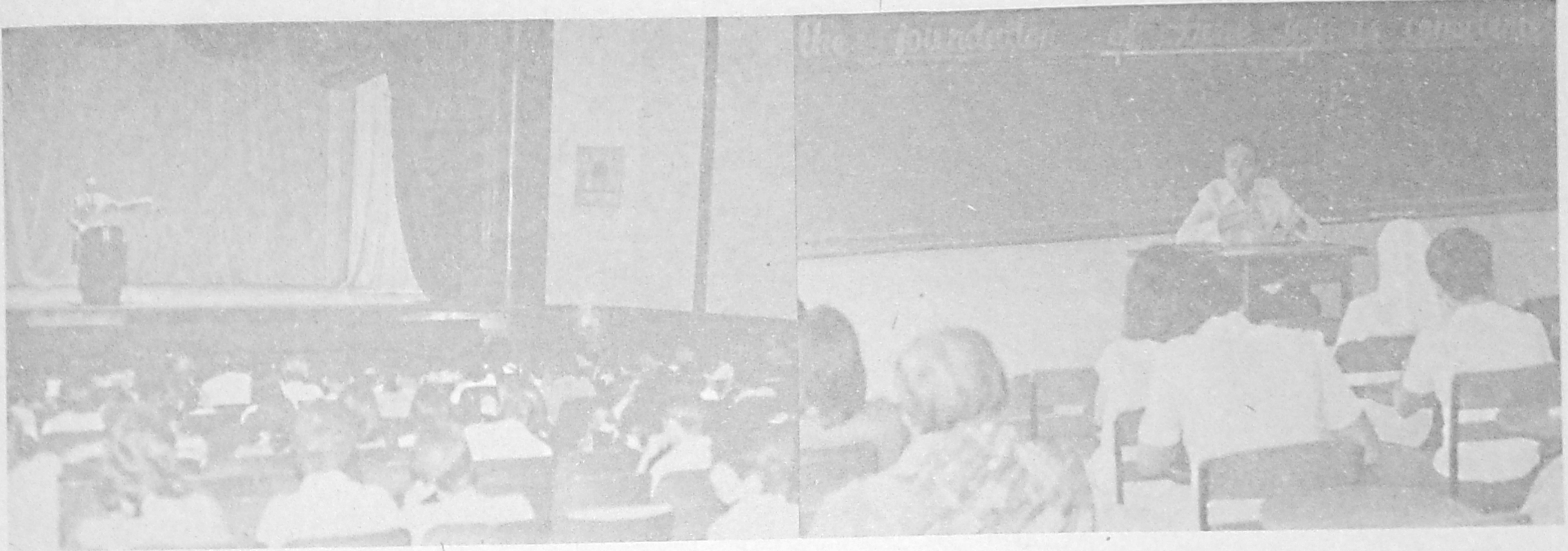


# BATANGAS LECTURES

Top Photo : Mr. Adair and Mr. Acebron with the Deputy Governor  
 Middle Photo : Deputy Governor thanking Mr. Adair after the party with the Panlalawigang Sanggunian  
 Bottom Photo : Dating and Marriage Lecture at the Golden Gate Colleges

Top Photo : Mr. Adair at the Mayor's Office  
 Middle Photo : Interview hosted by Teddy Cuevas, Station Manager of DZBT  
 Bottom Photo : Dean of Golden Gate Colleges entertaining the party of Mr. Adair



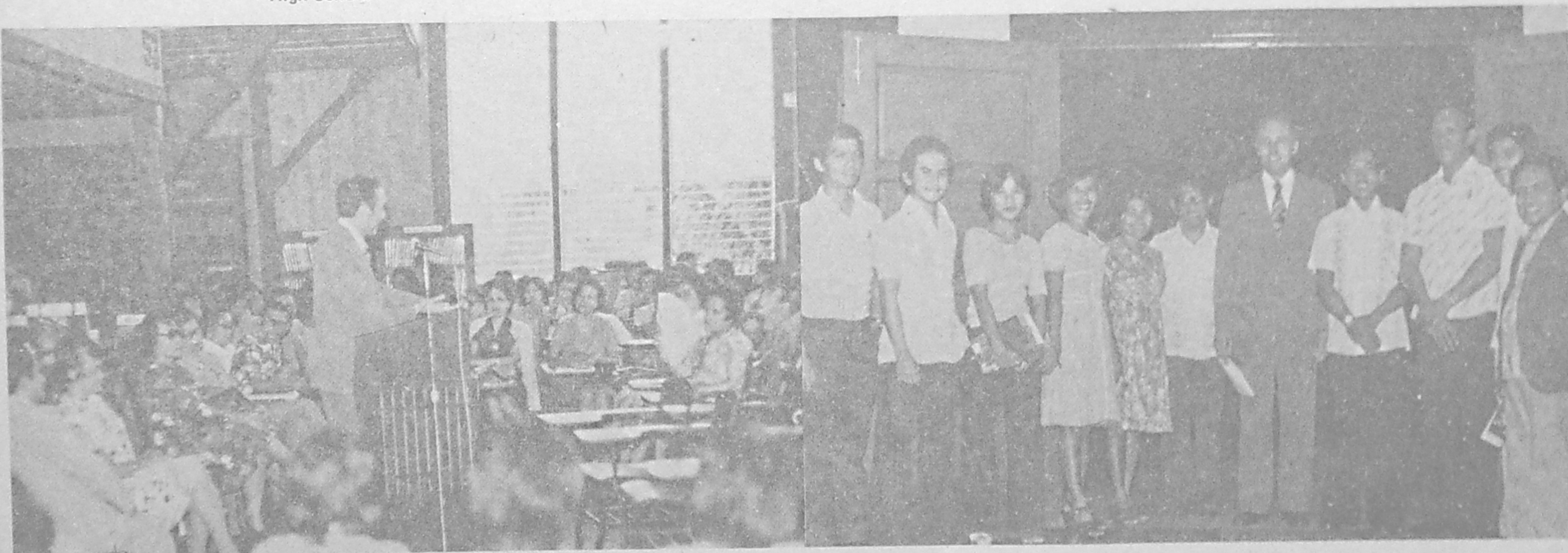


# IN PICTURES

(Photos by J. Ortiguero and C. Binuya)

Top Photo : Plain Truth Lecture at St. Bridget's College  
 Middle Photo : Lecture at the Lyceum of Batangas  
 Bottom Photo : Lecture on Moral Values at the Batangas National High School

Top Photo : Open Forum in a classroom at St. Bridget's College  
 Middle Photo : Mr. Adair and Mr. Acebron with Dr. Sotero Laurel and company at the Lyceum  
 Bottom Photo : With members after the Plain Truth Lecture



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MANILA JULY CALENDAR

- SABBATH SERVICE** —  
Every Saturday  
12 Noon, Meralco Theater  
Pasig, Rizal
- BIBLE STUDY**  
July 7, 21, Aug. 4  
7 P.M., GSP Auditorium  
P. Faura, Manila
- BAPTIZING SCHEDULE**  
July 12 (Watch for  
details at service of  
July 10)
- BIBLE CLASS** —  
July 13, 27, Aug. 9  
7 P.M., Ambascos Office
- WOMEN'S CLUB** —  
Club A — Sun. July 11  
2 P.M.  
Club B — Tues. July 27  
7 P.M.  
Club C — Sun. Aug. 1  
2 P.M.  
All at 10 Aries, Bel-Air  
Makati

## SABBATH SERVICES IN THE PROVINCES

### BAGUIO CITY —

- P.M. Services — 1st and 3rd  
Sabbath each month  
July 3, 17, Aug. 7  
3 P.M., 86 Malvar St.,  
Trancoville, Baguio City  
A.M. Services — 2nd and 4th  
Sabbath each month  
9 A.M., Quirino Hall  
Teachers' Camp, Baguio City

### CEBU CITY —

- July 3, 17, Aug. 7  
10 A.M., 1:30 P.M.  
CPSTA Meeting Hall  
Cor. P. del Rosario — Jones

### DAGUPAN CITY —

- Every 3rd Sabbath — Service  
only, Aug. 21 (none on July 17)  
9 A.M., Teacher's Memorial Hall  
Bible Study — July 6, 20; 6:30 P.M.  
Teacher's Memorial Hall

### ILOILO CITY —

- July 24; 10 A.M., 12 Noon  
(Note new time for service)  
DPS Social & Cultural Hall  
Cor. Mabini-Gen. Luna

### NAGA CITY —

- Aug. 21; 10 A.M.  
Lindez Hotel Deck

### URDANETA, PANGASINAN —

- Every 1st Sabbath — Service  
only, 9 A.M.  
July 3, Aug. 7 —  
Bacag Church Resthouse,  
Bacag, Villasis

- Bible Study — July 8, 22,  
Aug. 12, 26; 6:30 P.M.  
Bacag Resthouse, Villasis

- July 27 — Service will be held  
at ACA Farmer's Hall,  
Nancayasan, Urdaneta, instead  
of in Dagupan — minister from  
Manila coming.

### DON CARLOS, BUKIDNON —

- Every Saturday, 1 P.M.  
WCG Building

### KIARA, DON CARLOS, BUKIDNON

- Every Saturday, 10 A.M.  
WCG Building

### MANIKLING LUPON, DAVAO OR.

- 1st Sabbath each month  
July 3, Aug. 7, etc.  
10 A.M. WCG Building  
(Behind Far East Inst.)

### TAGUM, DAVAO DEL NORTE —

- 2nd Sabbath each month  
July 10; Aug. 14  
WCT Building  
(Behind Dulguime Residence)

### LANAO, KIDAPAWAN, NO. COT.

- July 17; 10 A.M.  
Rufero's Residence

### DAVAO CITY —

- 4th Sabbath each month  
July 24, etc.; 10 A.M.  
Orchid Room, Imperial Hotel  
C.M. Recto Avenue

## OUTLYING BIBLE STUDIES

### BACOLOD CITY —

- July 25; 1:14 P.M.  
(Note new time)  
Rizal Elementary School  
Cor. Rosario-San Juan

### CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY —

- 1st Sabbath each month  
July 3, etc.; 10 A.M.  
Ambassador Hotel

### LUCENA CITY —

- 3rd Sunday each month  
July 18, etc.; 9:30 A.M.  
GSP Auditorium

### KORONADAL, SOUTH COT. —

- July 19, 1 P.M.  
Sarraniang Mayon Hotel

### SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA —

- 1st Sunday each month —  
July 4; 9:30 A.M.  
St. Cecilia's Hall  
Sta. Scholastica's Academy

### BUTUAN CITY —

- 1st and 3rd Sabbath each mo.  
July 3, 17; 10 A.M.  
Ong Yiu Elementary School  
Near 179 Langihan St.

## PUBLIC LECTURE

- SAN PABLO CITY — July 31;  
7 P.M.  
(Place to be announced)

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# LAMENTATION OF GOD'S SERVANTS

By A Church Member

Have you observed the countenance of a man in lamentation? I mean, "lamentation", not in the sense of wailing or unbridled crying in grief? But a lamentation of deep concern, love and sorrow when he foresees the "fierce wrath" that could come upon the careless, lukewarm, and lethargic Christians?

It seems the prophet Jeremiah, in his day, did lament for the same careless and lukewarm attitude of his people and pointed out the overall effects of ingratitude and heedlessness from the ways set for them. But since the prophet has long been dead, we could not behold his countenance and make out how he expressed his sorrow and concern for his people.

In this modern age of ours, where those in the "know" talk about the "end of the world", or the "wonderful world tomorrow", "eternal life" or "eternal death" and so forth, but need to be fed more spiritual food, modern Jeremiahs are sent to point out what is lacking in our lives, exhorting us to press onward without let-up and with steadfast heart.

So when the Feast of Pentecost was held in Cebu City last June 6, 1976, the modern Jeremiahs, in the persons of Mr. Colin Adair and Mr. George Hood, took turns in pointing out to the brethren in this area the significance of the season.

We did see, actually, the countenance full of concern and of sorrow through the creases and wrinkles on their individual foreheads for those of God's people who missed the spiritual food catered them on that day. Mr. Adair and Mr. Hood found out that, except for some few with valid reasons, there were absentee Christians!

And it looked like "absenteeism" was synonymous with ingratitude and unthankfulness to Him that loves us first. One cannot be very grateful if he or she merely sits down at home thanking God, instead of being with the brethren in the place and time appointed—even if only to listen to the opening and closing prayers and to say "amen" in unison with the others.

One brother, during the lull of Sabbath activities, prior to the Feast of Pentecost, when casually

asked if he was coming back the next day, June 6, answered: "What for?" And when told it was the Feast of Pentecost, he simply replied: "Is that so? I didn't know that, because I'm very busy at home!" And of course, he was not seen around during the feast. And yet he was baptized way back in 1964! The first batch of Visayans called out by a Loving God.

Another brother was so concerned with his home! So much so, that he attended only the Bible Study in the morning, departed for home at noon and did not come back during the feast! He was baptized in 1966! Another brother instructed his wife to just attend the services because anyway, he already knew all there is to know in the Church. And yet they were living just a few kilometers north of the city. He was baptized way back in 1966!

After sensing all this, and after expounding the narrative in Luke 17:11-17, Mr. Adair lamented: "Where are the nine?" Meaning: Where are the rest of God's people? Were they not formerly SPIRITUAL lepers? And now cleansed, yet they did not come to worship and glorify God and to thank Him this day of Pentecost? Are there not almost a hundred called out ones in this part of the Visayan Islands?

These were the searching looks of Mr. Adair with creased and wrinkled forehead!

Nevertheless, all in all, the Feast of Pentecost at Cebu City was a real success. Eighty-two brethren and children attended. The response in special offerings and flood relief was more than gratifying!

*Editor's Note: The brethren mentioned above seem "rich and increased with goods and they have need of nothing." Unless their attitude towards God's COMMANDED convocation changes, they may find themselves shut out of God's Kingdom! He that has an ear to hear, let him hear. □*

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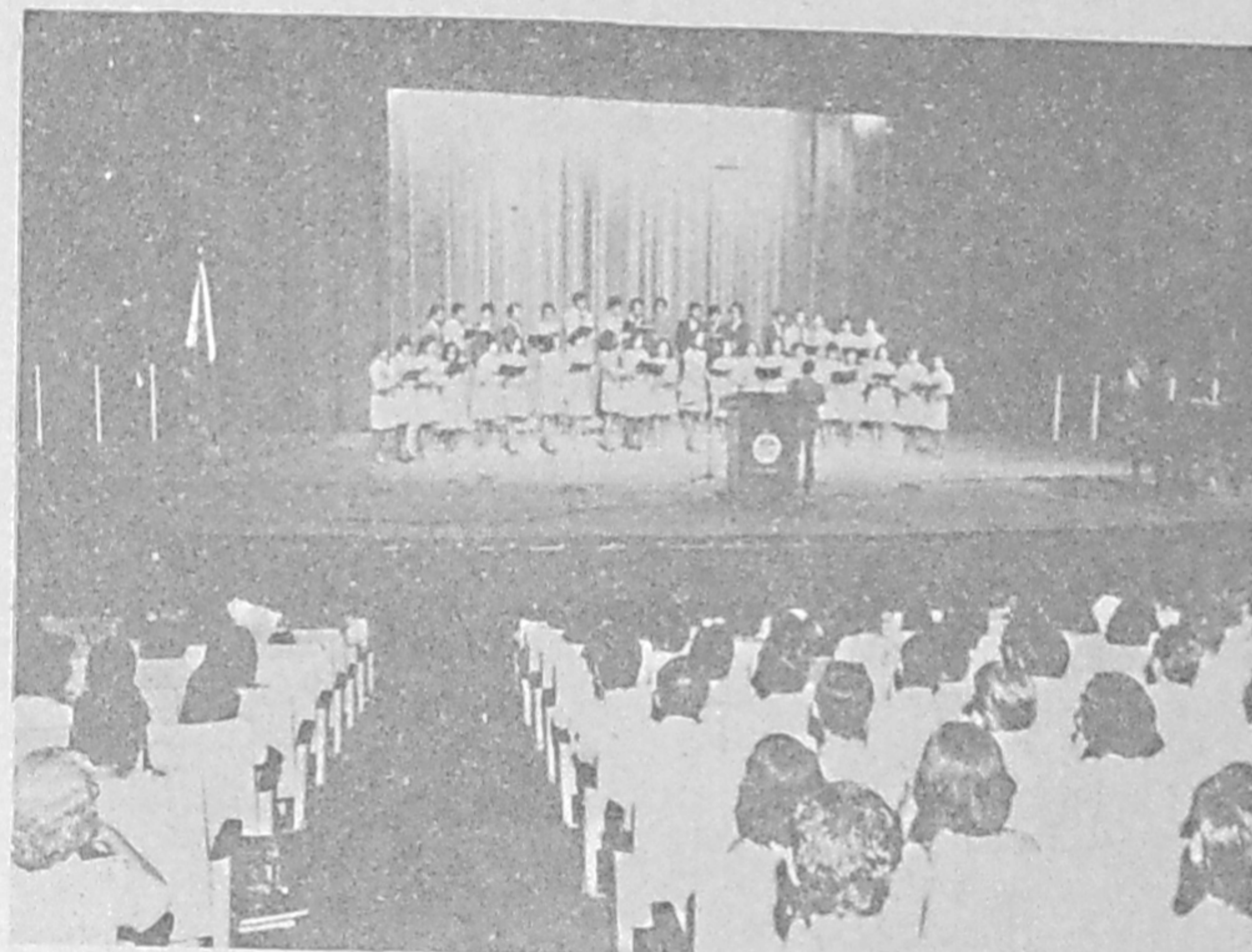
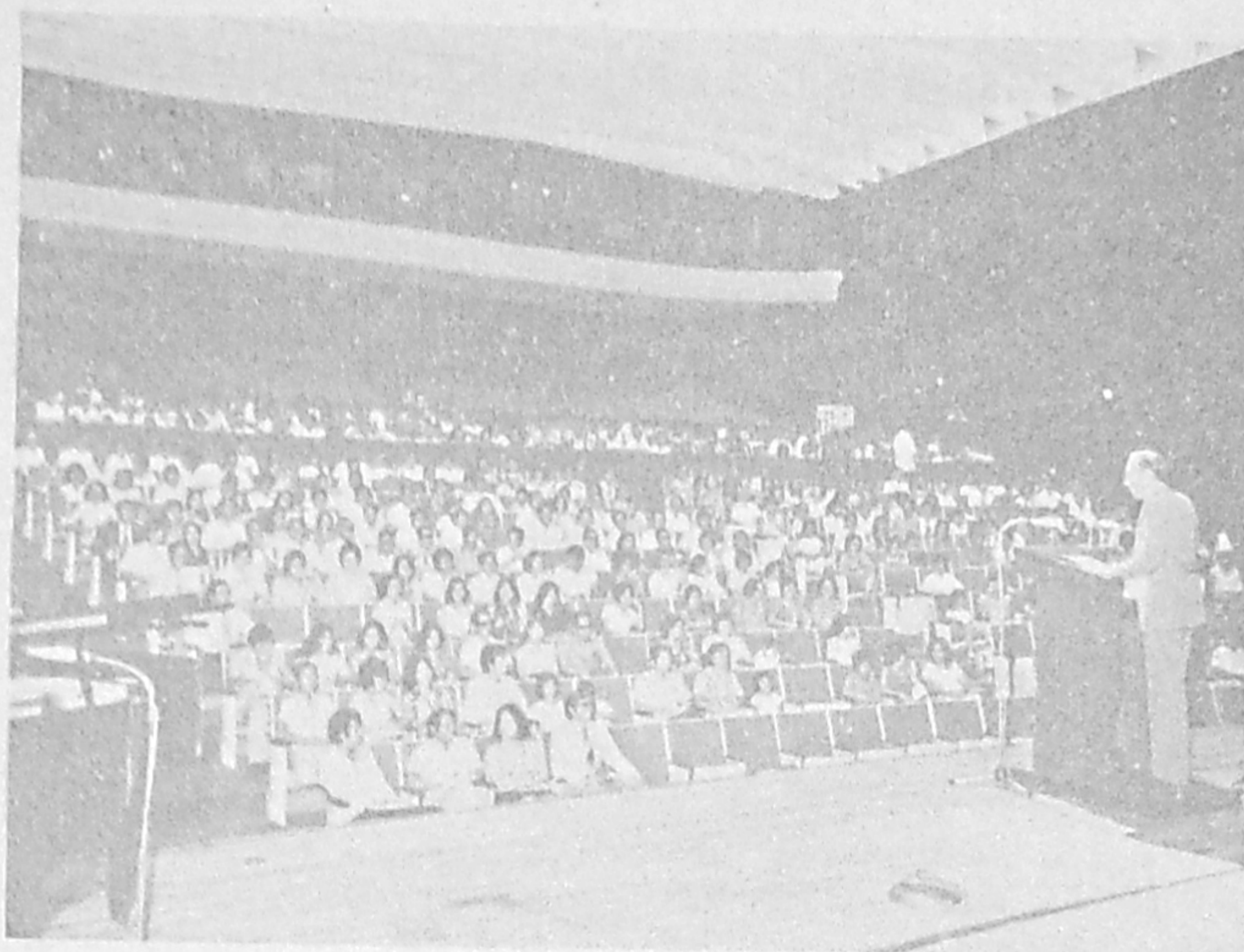
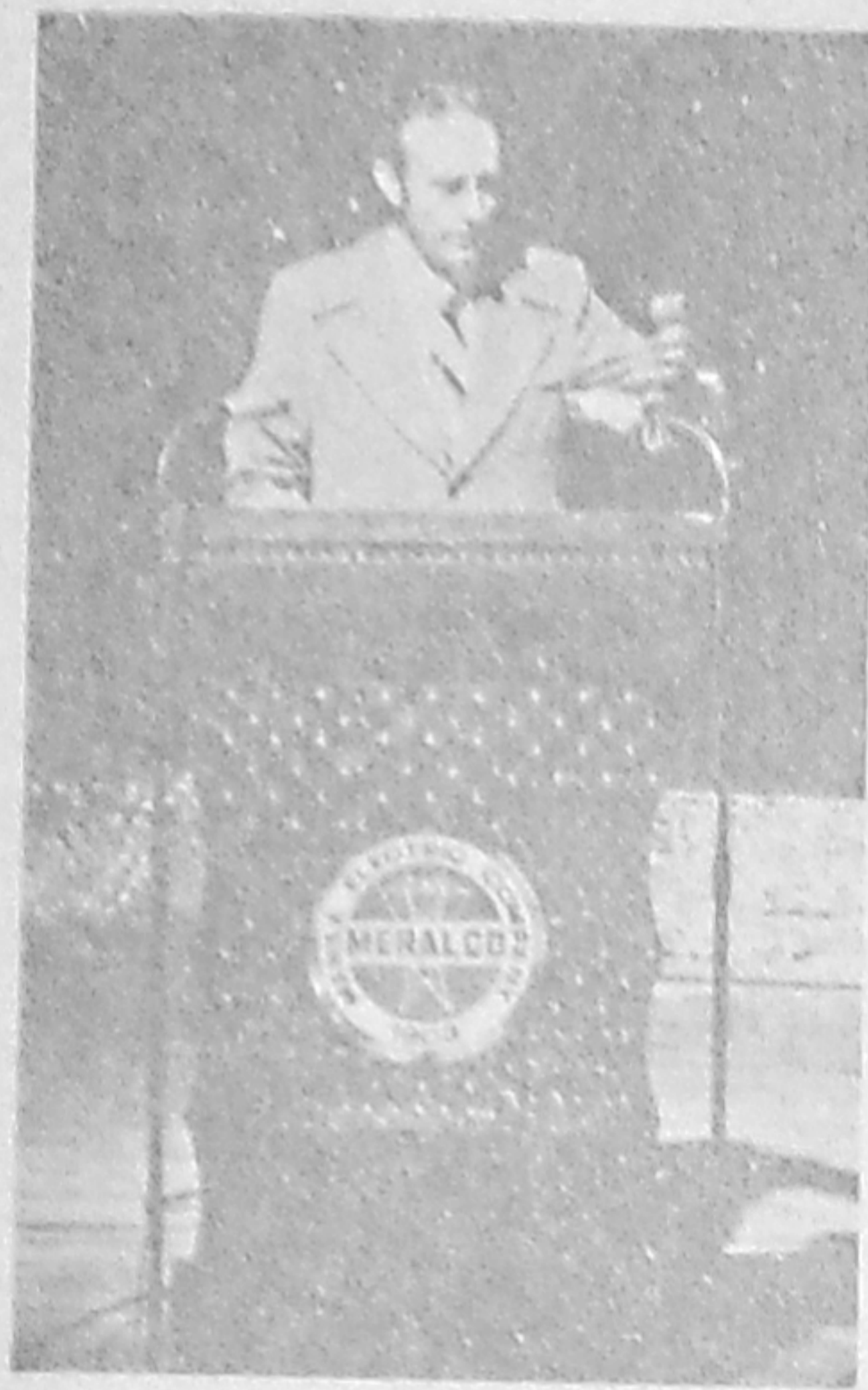
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\*The Worldwide News is the official newspaper of the Worldwide Church of God, headquartered in Pasadena, California. It is published biweekly, except during the Church's annual Fall Festival, by Ambassador College, Big Sandy, Tex.

## Wedding Announcement

Cecilio Villegas, Jr. and Rodella Tuangco were married July 1, 1976 at Mr. and Mrs. Colin Adair's residence in Makati, Rizal. Mr. Adair conducted the ceremony, with Janet Boone as bridesmaid and Eriz Dizon as best man. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecilio Villegas Sr. of Quezon City, while the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victorino Tuangco, Manila church deacon. The new couple will take up residence in Cembo, Fort Bonifacio, Rizal.



## AFTER MERALCO "INAUGURAL" SERVICE

MANILA—After the Metro Manila Church met for the first time at the Meralco Theater or Auditorium last June 12, two CONTACT staffers, Ely Mellomida and Fe R. Mayo, gathered from members some impressions of the new meeting hall.

Many commented about the distance from their homes, the difficulty of transportation and the earlier service time (12 noon), but most agreed that the effort and expense are worth it. We excerpt here some of the com-

ments we received:

"For one living near the GSP (our previous meeting hall in Manila), it means extra time, effort and money spent going to Meralco. But on the other hand, it made me realize the priceless value of Sabbath services and the sacrifice that other brethren from the provinces make just to attend."

"The distance is no problem. Personally it works to my advantage because I live near Meralco. I like the theater very much. It's

**THE FIRST TIME**—At the Meralco Auditorium, June 12, the first religious service ever held in this cultural theater took place. Pictures here show Mr. Adair delivering the main message to a well-pleased congregation. Also shown is the Manila Church choir, directed by Pete Melendez, in its rendition of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." (Photos by Jerry

very clean and plush. The only thing is I have to prepare early for the services."

"If Mr. Adair who has been exposed to different places said it is a very fine place, I could say it is the finest and I hope it will be filled."

"Although I usually miss my lunch every Sabbath, I'm still for Meralco because: 1) the place is spacious and cool—no reason for

you to be uncomfortable during the service; 2) my concentration is great (because of less distraction); 3) I can appreciate more the choir and special music because of the fine acoustics."

"Meralco Theater is very nice. However, it means more expenses in vehicle fare and an earlier lunch (9:00a.m.). The airconditioning is very cold."

"I feel like I am in the West."

## MANILA MEMBER LEAVES FOR JAPAN

MANILA—Florante Dawal, who had attended the Manila Church for several years, left recently for Tokyo, Japan on a scholarship grant sponsored by the Colombo Plan. Mr. Dawal will take up further studies on Group Training Course for Vocational Training Instructors (Machinery Trade). He and another instructor at the Philippine College of Arts and Trade (PCAT) were nominated by the Philippine Government for the scholarship. Mr. Dawal had been teaching mechanical technology for four years when the offer was made. The scholarship includes free tuition, travel expenses, clothing, food and lodging, and daily personal allowance.

Florante Dawal



Mr. Dawal hails from Manito, Albay. He is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Isidro Dawal, who is a co-worker in the Worldwide Church of God. □

who for some reason showed me so much favour that she made this Comptroller see me in spite of his refusal on the ground that I had not the right kind of experience. I could not have expected that from the previous personnel manager. If I had applied any later, I wouldn't have got the job either, because there were two other applicants that he was almost going to take before he saw me. I was picked by a hair's breadth, I was told later. In fact, I never thought I had a chance.

### Much Favour

Now things are going great. The Comptroller has been showing me so much favour, over and above what my performance deserves. But I am not worried. For you see, I don't rely on my own performance. I rely on that unseen hand that has been guiding my life for so long. I am confident that our Father in Heaven will help me to find the capacity to produce the kind of performance that He expects from me. Our Father in heaven will not permit me to let Him down. □

## Personalities

# THIS IS MY LIFE

By Jimmy Wang

I was born in Shanghai in 1946. When I was four years old my parents took me out of China to Hongkong. Then when I was six, they went back to China to take a look at the old business that my grandfather had left when he came to Hongkong about a year before us. Strangely enough, when they asked my sister and me if we would like to go with them, I refused — for no reason — and chose to stay with my grandparents. This turned out to be the turning point of my life.

*As promised in last month's CONTACT, we publish here Jimmy Wang's story of his life. Mr. Wang is one of our two members in Hongkong.*

My grandfather never liked me much; he thought I was dumb (stupid). My grandma didn't know very much about rearing children. As a result, I was very much on my own. Somehow at the age of about seven or eight, I began to believe there was a God, and that there must be a right way of life. It was this belief that moulded my development, not any influence from my family.

### Forced to School

At about 13, another turning point in my life came. My grandfather, who as I said never liked me much, was a firm believer in

educating his family properly, and he forced me to go to an English school. Until then I hardly knew a word of English. His will prevailed, of course, and I, through the recommendation of a good friend of the family, got into a very good English school. I struggled along by sheer luck (or shall I say, the right kind of intervention at the right time), passing one examination after another. But I was never too good, always only just scraping through. I got first my school certificate (Form 5), and then surprised myself by passing matriculation, with the bare minimum. I am quite convinced that it was God's help, because I passed a very vital subject that I did very badly to get through.

Then another turning point in my life appeared. For some strange reason, I refused to go to the Hongkong University. Partly it was because I had met my wife a couple of years previously, and I didn't want to be dependent on my family any more because of her. My family, being very conservative, didn't like her then. My family did all the right things to get me into the University (in spite of the fact that he didn't like me, my grandfather was really proud that I passed Matriculation — I was the only one among our relatives that could pass it — and he wanted me to go on), including

the right people to make the right recommendation. But I did all the wrong things to get out of it. I succeeded, but that only swept me into another unexpected course. One thing led to another and I was accepted by a University in Australia. I never dreamt of going overseas, but there I was with the only choice in front of me — Australia.

### Enough "Damage"

Things went unexpectedly well in Australia — with the help of a lot of luck (of course, for us, I should say, plenty of right intervention). First of all, I came in contact with the P.T. Well, I disagreed with a lot of what it said, but it already did enough "damage" — I was then a Catholic. Very soon, I began to doubt the Catholic Church. About that time, I went back to Hongkong, having just graduated from the University with a Bachelor of Economics' degree, and got engaged to my wife. It was some two years later, after I had gone back to Melbourne to continue to study accountancy, before I was really convinced that there was something about this P.T. Then I ran into a newly baptized member who happened to stay at the same Y.M.C.A. where I was staying for a short while. Before long, I was ready. And believe it or not, I was baptized on my birthday — something I only became aware of later.

### First Job

Late 1973 I was back in Hong-

kong, as a qualified Accountant due again, to a little bit of "luck". I have always wondered since: Did I become a qualified Accountant in Australia because that was the only way for me to find a job in Hongkong? You see, it was my wife who helped me to find my job. My first job in Hongkong was with a chartered Accountants firm. Again, believe it or not, this happened to be a new firm from Australia desperately looking for a qualified senior, and I was then the only one available with an Australian background at that time. I was later to find out that that firm was the only one in Hongkong that could have employed me at that time in spite of my sabbath requirement. I had looked around since, and not one Accountant firm would have wanted me because of the Sabbath. There was one — one that didn't think I was qualified enough. So, providence again?

Last year, another opportunity suddenly appeared — and again, it was my wife who literally threw the new job at me, because I completely overlooked it. Once again, the right intervention came. The Company was an American Company, A.I.A. Co. Ltd. that works only five days a week. I applied, and before I knew what was happening, I was accepted. Not that it was easy, no it was a one in a million chance. The Comptroller that eventually decided to hire me happened to be sick and tired of looking for a suitable man. If I had applied earlier, he wouldn't have given the job to me for various reasons. Among these, they just had a new personnel manager

## BATANGAS CITY GIVES WARMEST WELCOME!

(Continued from page 1)

hosted a dinner for his guest at the Alpha Hotel. During the dinner Mr. Adair explained to the City Executive why we are doing these lectures nationwide. Asked what he would do in case World War III broke out, the Mayor replied after some hesitancy "I don't know..."

Saturday morning Mr. Adair conducted a Bible Study at his suite. Unfortunately some of the brethren from the neighboring towns were not able to attend.

Finally the real thing came. After the opening film "Herbert Armstrong — the Ambassador for World Peace," Mr. Adair talked about the state of the world today. "As I'm speaking here and as you're listening, nuclear-powered submarines of the United States and Russia are prowling the Pacific and Atlantic seas—all waiting, just waiting for the word from Washington or Moscow... Unless we reverse the trend, unless we do something—there will be World War III! And unless a strong hand from someplace intervenes in human affairs, mankind will exterminate his own species. There won't be any world left for our children to inherit."

"But thankfully," he assured his audience, which included some religious leaders, "the Creator of all mankind will not allow us to annihilate ourselves. He will come back and restore the Government of God on earth. He will declare martial law God's style and force people to live in peace and prosperity."

The next day twenty people showed up for the open forum. The audience which included a nun and a leader of a local sect, responded well to the question and answer format. As each question was answered, everybody in the group benefited. The Open Forum which was like a Bible Study and Counselling was so exciting that it lasted for more than two hours. (Nap Acebron) □

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Colin Adair,

It was very good you did not stop at Guam on your way home. You couldn't have gone around after the typhoon for all the roads were blocked by all kinds of objects.

As for our condition, I sent my wife with my son to a place of safety, while I stayed home by myself. By noon of May 13th several people had come and urged me to go, but I refused to leave home. By 3:30 P.M. the typhoon reached the highest intensity (about 200 miles per hour winds), so the top of our house was blown down...

After the storm I looked around and saw all the destruction, great and small. In 1962 typhoon Karen had spared me, but not Pamela now.

Sincerely in Christ,

Vicente Afilleje  
Agana, Guam

## WOMEN'S CLUB A OPENS SECOND YEAR

By Roswinda Lu

MANILA—The first meeting of the Women's Club A, now in its second year, was held in the afternoon of June 13th at the Makati residence of Mr. and Mrs. Adair. In attendance were 26 people including six new members. Young ladies, a would-be mother and seven homemakers compose the

club's 2nd year membership.

In her opening remarks, Mrs. Margaret Adair, our beloved minister's wife and club directress, warmly welcomed everybody. The Women's Club, she said, was organized a year ago and met for the first time on June 8, 1975. Club treasurer Danila Sison gave a re-

(Editor's note: We received recently a letter from one other member in Agana, Guam, Mr. William Roberto. He said that none of our brethren there, or members of their families, were

bodily hurt by typhoon Pamela. Unlike Mr. Afilleje, Mr. Roberto only suffered minor damages "such as destroyed gutters, broken louvre slats and screens.")



PAMELA-PUMMELLED—Mr. Afilleje's house in Agana, Guam, is shown here minus the roof and some walls. Mr. Afilleje, who stayed in his house during the typhoon, thankfully was unhurt. (Photo by Mr. Afilleje)

port on the club's financial position. A very good income was raised during the first year of various fund-raising activities. Other things taken up were plans for another fund-raising project at the Feast of Tabernacles in Baguio City. Fine ideas and suggestions were eagerly contributed for future discussion. A very good start has been planned for active participation and benefit of the members and for the club to be of service to others.

Hostess for the afternoon gathering was Girlie Baguio while the table topics mistress was Katherine Gladys Aguilar. Taken up during the first part of the session were household handy hints contributed by the participating members. Then followed the table topics session with different views and opinions expressed in answer to the prepared questions asked.

Before proceeding with the second half of the 2-hour meeting, everybody had a merienda-break of iced-avocado drink, pineapple and cheese sandwiches.

Then followed a demonstration on the Do's and Don'ts of Table Manners by Mrs. Divina Sayan and an invited guest, Joe Pioquinto. It was a timely reminder for those who had been invited to attend once-a-year Ladies' Night affair of the Manila A Spokesman Club held that same day in the evening. The club's next meeting is scheduled to be held on July 11. Gladys Aguilar and Annie Saria were given the hostess' and table topics session assignments. □

## OFFICE RESTRUCTURED (Continued from page 1)

named manager of this office.

The mailing and mail processing operations of this office have already moved from the RM Center Building to the Filipino Star Building in the Port Area. The other operations of the ASO are expected to be transferred in October this year.

### Festival Office

Second is the Festival Office, with Mr. Ben Ortiguero as the Festival Manager and Mr. Med Maninang serving as assistant. The basic function of this office is to plan and recommend and, upon approval, administer all activities relative to church festivals.

While before a festival office was just a temporary office set up mailly to manage the Feast of Tabernacles, this new office is permanent, serving the needs of the local churches especially during feast days. For instance, it would look into the feasibility of a new feast site or the need to assign a ministerial assistant to a Feast of Tabernacles site.

Three feast site supervisors have been appointed to coordinate with Mr. Ortiguero for the Feast of Tabernacles: Dr. Samuel Librojo in Baguio, Mr. George Hood in Bacolod (a new site), and

Mr. Edmond Macaraeg in Cagayan de Oro.

### Welfare Office

The third office under the Coordinating Center is the Welfare Office, which will be managed also by Mr. Ben Ortiguero, with Mr. Maninang assisting him. The basic function of this office is to provide advice and render support services to all districts and churches relative to welfare matters. It will also coordinate and supervise welfare activities involving more than one district.

With this new office, it is hoped that a national welfare program of the church can be set up. As finances allow, it is also hoped that this office could later help support government assisted programs such as social, economic, legal or educational assistance to the deserving poor.

### FAD Dissolved

With the new setup, the former Financial Affairs Department is now phased out. Its functions, however, have been partly absorbed by the Coordinating Center and apportioned to the three above-mentioned offices. (Carol Layug) □

## SPORTS NEWS

### PRINTERS NIP T-BIRDS, GIVE WAY TO FALCONS

T-Birds' first loss was succeeded by another after giving way to the Printers in a breathtaking struggle last June 12 at the Ayala hardcourt. Printers' tight patrol against P.Chu, E. Baylós and E. Quitoriano hindered T-Birds' usual scoring power. T-Birds however took the lead in the first half, 13-12, but their opening breakthrough toned down after a constant harassment executed by the unexhausted Printers. T-Birds lost, 43-34. Meanwhile, Philadelphians recorded their second win in an edging victory at the Pyramids' expense. Pyramids' performance this time cost them a mere 2 point loss, 46-44.

In a serious match, T-Birds, after two straight losses whipped the Concord's to install their first win. Concord's zeal in the openings extolled them in the first half, 23-21 but faded in the decisive minutes. Their lackadaisical performance in the last quarter made possible a T-Birds victory with 58-51 margin. In a thriller match, Printers expired their acceleration in a five-minute extension play, giving way to the persistent Falcons. Competing with 24 all score in the first half both teams ended up with 54 all in the closing minutes. A.Teng, Falcons' treasure builder, unleashed 6 perfect shots enough to beat the Printers at the end of the five minute extension, 66-61. (E. Mellomida)

## SPOKESMAN CLUB

(Continued from page 3)

The guests, who were introduced by Mr. Wilfredo Jacinto, Club President, included Mr. and Mrs. Felix Manubay, Mr. and Mrs. Nap Acebron, Mr. and Mrs. Cesar Tan, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Logrono, Mr. and Mrs. Candido de los Reyes, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ortiguero, and Mr. Joe Cano and Miss Baby Manubay.

A few minutes before the session started, the Silangan Trio had rendered three songs—"Buhat", "Pobreng Alindahao", and "Dahil Sa Isang Bulaklak". (Gladys Aguilar) □

**CONTACT**

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