

Venezuela Crowds Hail Politicians At Many Meetings

By JOSE A. VALBUENA
United Press International

Caracas, Venezuela - (UPI) - A Presidential campaign anywhere in Latin America is almost a way of life. The whole country changes its pace for an entire year and the people no more could ignore the campaigning than a U. S. citizen could ignore an orbiting astronaut.

Venezuela's election is not until December 7 but a foreigner arriving in this ultra-modern capital would think that the city was in mourning.

That is because President Romulo Betancourt's Accion Democratica party has been assigned black as a campaign color and millions of signs, flags, slogans, billboard and propaganda leaflets have sprung like black crab grass in an abandoned airport.

Five hundred lamp posts of Caracas' main Bolivar speedway are draped with banners and signs. The rocks of Caracas' imposing mountains which spill into the sea to the north are painted with "vote this way, vote that way, vote anyway, but vote."

Signs Revealing They have been painted on top of older signs hailing and derogating Fidel Castro, threatening death to Betancourt and wishing him long life, freedom for the Communists and lock-em-up slogans. Still visible are some "Moscoso go away" signs from two years ago when the present Alliance for Progress Administrator, Teodoro Moscoso, was U. S. Ambassador here.

But it is in the small villages of the interior where the campaign is most colorful. First of all, and in spite of what politicians say and like to think, everybody goes to all meetings of all candidates.

These people love a little entertainment to spice their quiet lives and when a political candidate comes to town they put on their Sun-

day best. They listen to all speeches, wave their sombreros, dance in the streets and, come election day, they vote every which way.

Hail Democracy These are people very Democracy-conscious. They are enjoying for practically the first time in their history a spell of political freedom and they love every minute of it. Since the downfall of dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez in January, 1958, everything in Venezuela has been done through an electoral process.

University, high school and even grammar school students choose their leaders that way. Labor unions from the powerful Petroleum Worker's Federation to the Garbage Collector's Guild hold annual elections. There are elections for beauty queens, contractors of government jobs, top TV actress of the year and president of frogmen's clubs.

Even the Communists—who otherwise like to follow the example of Moscow and Havana—inist on freedom and purity of elections. Betancourt has taken away their right to run for office in view of their proven participation in armed coups against the government and acts of terrorism. Yet, registered members of the party will be permitted to vote—but not for Communists.

Hear Politicians A sports impresario recently remarked that if bullfighting, baseball and soccer combined could draw half the crowds any politician does, he would be a rich man. Caracas Plaza El Silencio holds 250,000 and when Betancourt speaks the crowd overflows into side avenues where thousands unable to see anything, listen patiently at loudspeakers.

Farmers will travel hundreds of miles by horse, truck and bus to hear him. He draws huge crowds in Caracas even though he was defeated



TROUBLE SHOOTING CHAMPS - Robert Kovar, 17, left, and Leroy Kleim, 18, representing Roosevelt high school in Fresno, Calif., hold their trophy after winning the 15th annual Plymouth Trouble Shooting Contest in Detroit, Mich. The boys beat out 48 other teams in finding and repairing defects in automobiles carefully and deliberately placed by expert mechanics. They won \$9,000 in college scholarships and other valuable prizes. (UPI)

Profumo Successor Named in Britain

London - (UPI) - Joseph Godber, minister of state for foreign affairs and a member of Parliament since 1951, today replaced disgraced John Profumo as war minister. Godber, 49, has been in the Foreign Office since 1960 when he was appointed joint undersecretary of state. He was named minister of state the following year.

Profumo resigned June 4 after admitting he lied to the House of Commons in denying his intimate relationship with 21-year-old playgirl Christine Keeler in Britain's scandal of the century.

Osteopaths from Area Attend Portland Event

The Northwest Osteopathic convention was held at the Sheraton hotel in Portland, recently.

Present from the Southern Oregon district at the annual meet were Drs. P. T. Rutter, G. Scott Jennings, George S. Jennings, Milton Snow, Edward V. Chance, Anthony E. Book, Cleatis Lemley, Albert Griffin and Max Flower.

Court Records

DISTRICT COURT
Larry Craig McDonald, angling without license, \$15.
Robert Daniel Richardson, overload, \$42, and \$183.
Richard Joe Cave, failure to stop, \$15.
Delmer Gene Maloy, no vehicle license, \$5.
George William Baker, overload, \$12.
Richard Harold Gartin, overload, \$74.
Raymond Frank Harp, stop sign violation, \$15.
Elmer Green, obstructed vision, \$5.
Richard Ralston Kime, no clearance light, \$10.
Eugene Willard Smith, obstructed vision, \$5.
Nancy N. Jakel, violation of basic rule, \$10.
Buck Levell Dailey, no fixed load license, \$3.
Thomas Stanley Crommer, obstructed vision, \$15.
Thomas Frederick Terza, failure to stop, \$15.
Dorothy Marcia Watkins, no operator's license, \$2.30.

Grover Ludwig Ludwig, failure to stop, \$15.
Lee Edwin Hedgpeth, improper passing, \$5.
Joseph Wesley Lewis, permitting unlicensed person to operate, \$5.
David Ross Marshall, overhanging load, \$10; stop sign violation, \$5.
Ralph Orville Wilson, failure to stop, \$10.
Betty Louise Kirkin, failure to dim lights, \$10.
Gilbert Ross Baker, overlength load, \$10.
Maynard Ivar Carlson, no operator's license, \$5.
Richard Rudolph Holzhauser, violation of basic rule, \$25.

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1 lb. Yuban COFFEE lb. 79c
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Portland Council Tables Ordinance

Portland - (UPI) - The city council tabled an ordinance Wednesday which would have authorized a zone change to permit construction of the controversial low-cost housing project in the Albina district.

The Portland Housing Authority agreed to reconsider the site Monday after objections from Negro and church leaders that a housing project in that area would perpetuate a Negro ghetto.

The council action will result in another public hearing being held before the zone change can be acted upon.

Open Sundays
10:00 A.M.-5:30 P.M.
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