

Mexican-American Claimed Worse Off Than Negro

Editor's Note — While Negro demonstrations occur in other states, a Latin-American movement for political and economic advancement gathers strength in Texas. It is PASO, the Political Association of Spanish-Speaking Organizations. PASO has directed the takeover of one city's government in Texas. It looks on this as a start.

By PRESTON McGRAW
United Press International
Crystal City, Tex.—(UPI)—

The way Albert Fuentes Jr. sees it, the Mexican-American is worse off than the Negro in Texas and other southwestern states.

The Negro has a tangible cause — segregation. He can demonstrate against it and seek help in courts.

The Mexican-American, according to Fuentes, is not segregated. He can go anywhere, and everywhere he finds himself tolerated but not accepted.

Tolerance, but not acceptance, crushes the spirit as much as

outright segregation, Fuentes feels. Fuentes, 33, is state executive secretary of the Political Association of Spanish-Speaking Organizations (PASO).

PASO is growing rapidly. Fuentes said it is organized in more than 50 Texas counties, part of which have more Mexican-Americans of voting age than Americans of other extraction.

The battle cry of PASO is political and economic equality. But its leaders, already successful men, appear to be driven as

well by a burning desire for more than tolerance. Win One Election.

Crystal City is PASO's stronghold. Last April a state of five Mexican-Americans took over the city government from a city council that other Americans always had dominated.

Crystal City has 6,500 residents — 85 per cent of whom are Mexican-American. American, 15.5 per cent of whom are not Mexican and 3 per cent of whom are Negro. The 14.5 per cent white non-Mexicans pay 85 per cent of the taxes.

Those whose heritage is not Mexican called "Anglos" in Crystal City do not like this new government. They are trying to do something about it.

M. Dale Barker, editor and publisher of the weekly Zavala County Sentinel, summed up the Anglo attitude as follows: "We have no objection to officeholders of Spanish extraction, but we do object to outside interests coming in, directing things and putting puppets in office."

By "outside interests," Barker meant PASO and a local of James Hoffa's Teamster's Union, which provided the backbone in Crystal City for the Latin victory.

Representatives Cannery Workers.

"If they would just let us alone we would have something

real nice here." Mayor Juan agent of the Teamsters' Union, Cornejo said. Cornejo's pronoun and his Anglo constituents called (see-may-bo) is the local him "Mayor Cornejo Joe."

The Teamsters Union got into Crystal City politics because it represents approximately 300 workers in the California Packing Co. canning plant in Crystal City.

The cannery workers are not only 100 per cent Latin; they also are the best-paid workers in town, according to Fuentes. And, since they work under outside contract, they cannot be intimidated.

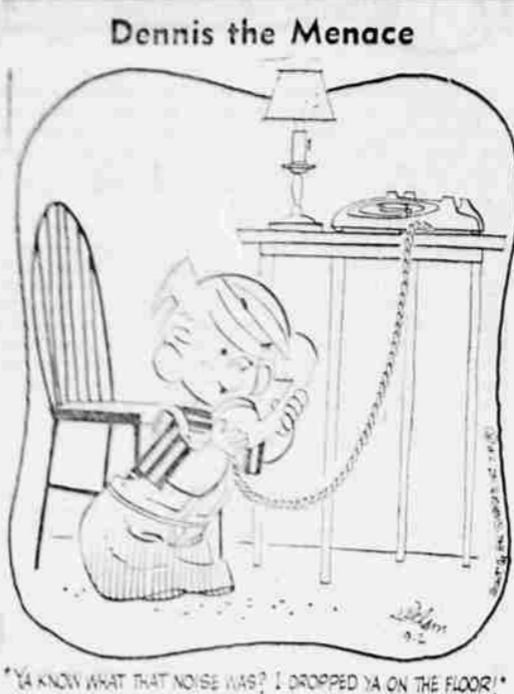
Fuentes and his boss, Albert Pena Jr., 43, live in San Antonio, 120 miles to the northeast. Pena is a lawyer, a commissioner in Bexar county (San Antonio) and state chairman of PASO.

Fuentes and Pena, the father of PASO, see their Crystal City victory as the beginning. They already are organizing an assault on the county government in Zavala county in next year's primaries.

See Negro Aid. They also think that PASO can work itself into a coalition with Texas Negroes, union members of all races, and ultra-liberal members of the Democratic party.

Pena, in an interview, cited these figures: In 1960, there were 900,000 Latins and 850,000 Negroes of voting age in Texas.

Pena and Fuentes think Latins and Negroes by themselves could determine who is elected



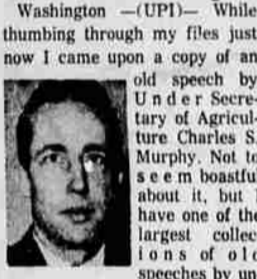
"YA KNOW WHAT THAT NOISE WAS? I DROPPED YA ON THE FLOOR!"



CARRY BODY — Rescue workers carry the near Moab, Utah. The name of the dead man blanket covered body of one of eight miners has not yet been released. (UPI) known dead in the explosion of a potash mine

Everybody's an Expert

West, New York Rabbi Cast Actors In Principal Parts of New Novel



Washington —(UPI)— While thumbing through my files just now I came upon a copy of an old speech by Under Secretary of Agriculture Charles S. Murphy. Not to seem boastful about it, but I have one of the largest collections of old speeches by under secretaries of agriculture in the western Hemisphere.

What attracted me to Murphy's speech was his bold assertion that there are two fields in which virtually all Americans are experts. He listed them as quarterbacking a football team and solving the farm problem.

Actually, of course, there are three fields. Murphy neglected to mention that most of us also are expert casting directors.

I estimate that I spend approximately 25 per cent of my waking hours casting movies and plays. When I am asleep, the percentage is even higher. Unexpected Thrill

I never read a novel without visualizing certain actors playing the parts of the main characters. And this week I got an

unexpected thrill. I made the acquaintance of Herbert Tarr, a New York rabbi who has written a novel titled "The Conversion of Chaplain Cohen." And he invited me to help him cast his book.

"The main female character is a girl who hates men," Tarr said. "I think I'll cast that one myself."

"Good," I said. "Whom do you see in the part?"

"Elizabeth Taylor," Tarr said. "I must have had a funny look on my face because Tarr immediately went on the defensive, which is a fatal flaw in a casting director."

"You will have to admit it would be a challenging role for her," he said.

"It certainly would," I said.

"And whom were you thinking of for the role of Chaplain Cohen: Pat 'Brien'?"

Tarr led his fingers. "Wonderful..." he exclaimed. "I hadn't thought of him. I had been thinking more in terms of Frank Sinatra."

Having settled on the major characters, we buckled down to casting the supporting roles and bit parts. It went harmoniously until we came to the fat girl who in the book attempts to seduce the rabbi.

I wanted to assign the part to Tuesday Weld, provided she could make the weight but Tarr held out for Imogene Coca.

If he insists on being stubborn about it, we may have to go to arbitration.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the council. The council deals with problems, major and minor, entertained by guidance counselors and marital workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Violet Y. — I want him to accompany him to Europe.

Drew Y. — It's only a short business trip.

Violet Y. — My husband's making a trip to Europe next

month and, since I've never been there, I'd like to go along this time. Another reason is that, by coincidence, a new lady buyer from his firm will be in France then too. Coincidentally, ever since she began working at the place, my husband has had numerous "business conferences" at night. In 25 years previously, he never had any.

Drew Y. — What can I do with a woman whose imagination runs wild? Our organization, a dairy business, is starting to import cheeses. I make two or three trips a year and this is just a routine flyer. I'd love to take Vi to Europe, but she won't see anything on this run — she should wait until I can combine a marketing junket with my vacation. The whole idea springs from her jealousy.

The Council: It's plain that Violet doesn't want to enjoy Europe. Her aim is to be sure Drew doesn't do so — at least during a business trip. Her interest is not in touring but in trailing. Our advice is that she separate the two urges. Certainly she won't do much sight-seeing if all she's looking at is Drew. And just as certainly, if he and Career Girl have an assignation on the agenda, they'll manage it somehow, if not under Violet's nose then behind her back. So her first problem boils down to trust. That's something to be hashed out on this side of the Atlantic. Violet may decide to plunk back local money into a stock with a private use as a business or a vacation expense. On the other hand she may prefer to plunk under her nose. Violet's decision and the Council's are up to her. A real job-journalist like us.

REWARD FOR THE JAMESTOWN FESTIVAL

Jamestown, Va. — (UPI)—A \$500 reward has been offered for information leading to the return of a 350-year-old official seal of King James I stolen from the Jamestown Festival Park.

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