

AGRUPACION CATOLICA UNIVERSITARIA
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Facsimile English Edition

"TO VIR"

**EXEMPLARY
MODEL**

**OF CATHOLICISM
TODAY**



POPE PIUS XII AND MARIAN SODALITIES

"...with what zeal and ardor today's Marian phalanges, following glorious footprints of predecessors, and religious faithfulness to their rules, have striven for first place, under the auspices and direction of the Hierarchy, in works initiated and faithfully continued for the greater glory of God and the good of souls, so that they should be considered among the most powerful groups and spiritual strengths devoted to the defense and propagation of Catholic religion."

"...we can unequivocally affirm that the perfect Catholic, formed by a Marian Sodality since their beginning, is no less fitting to current needs than to those of previous times, given that, quite possibly, never before have we needed more solidly formed Catholics."

"Who can fail to see how good the instruments of apostolate of these Marian Sodalities are, precisely because of their absolute and fervent submission, according to each one's nature and form, not only to this Apostolic See, head and foundation of all Ecclesiastic Hierarchy, but also to the counsel and mandates of the ordinary, received with humble submission and docile obedience?"

"The Marian Sodalities can be rightly called 'Catholic Action, under the inspiration and protection of Our Lady'; and that is not opposed to its organization nor its peculiarities, 'which mostly are and will be, as they have been until now, the tutelage and assurer of splendid Catholic formation.'"

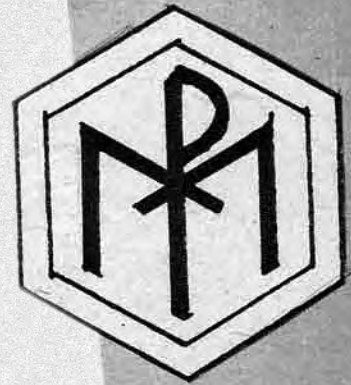
"In effect, as has been declared various times by the Holy See, Catholic Action does not crystalize rigidly into fixed schemes with invariable limits that cannot be transgressed; nor does it aim to achieve its goal in just one way, and in so doing suppress or absorb other associations of active Catholics; rather, it desires, as is appropriate to its role, to unify them all, ally them amicably, translate the good of others into progress for all, in perfect concordance, in union and in charity."

"In the admission of sodalists, let there be selected those that do not content themselves to lead a common and vulgar Christian life, but rather yearn to prepare their hearts for ulterior ascensions of spirit, even to following the most arduous path, according to ascetic norms and to exercises of piety proposed by the rules."

"It is, therefore, characteristic of Marian Sodalities to form sodalists in such a way that they could, according to their particular condition, be proposed to their equals as examples of Christian life and apostolic activity."

"The apostolate, of whatever class it may be, but especially the social apostolate for propagation of the Kingdom of Christ and defense of the rights of the Church, entrusted to Marian Sodalities by the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy, ought to be counted among their primary goals. To offer true and full cooperation to the hierarchical apostolate, the norms of Sodalities must be changed or modified, in some way, to bring about such cooperation."

**("BIS SAECULARI"
from H. H. Pius XII).**



"Consecration to the Mother of God in a Marian Sodality is the complete gift of oneself for life and for eternity.

A gift, not of pure formula nor of pure feeling, but rather effective, validated by the intensity of the Christian and Marian life, by apostolic life, that makes the sodalist the minister of Mary and, so to speak, her visible hands on earth, with spontaneous profusion of overabundant internal life that spills over to all external works of solid devotion, of worship, of charity, and of zeal.

It is what, with special joy, is inculcated by your first rule: giving of oneself seriously to sanctification, each dedicating within one's own state, not in any way but with ardor, in amount and form compatible with one's personal social condition, for the salvation and sanctification of others.

Finally, to apply oneself courageously to defend the Church of Christ. This is the motto of the sodalist, freely and resolutely accepted at the moment of one's consecration. Such is the magnificent program outlined by the rules.

In fact, these rules have done no more than express in precise terms, and nearly codify, the history and constant practice of Marian Sodalities, providentially instituted by the praiseworthy Society of Jesus and approved and copied, and warmly praised by the Holy See"

(Speech delivered by His Holiness Pius XII before 4,000 Marian sodalists on January 21, 1945) ...





*A la Agrupación Católica Universitaria de Cuba, alentando sus
nemerita labor en pro de la formación de la juventud, le otorgamos con
paternales votos la Bendición Apostólica.*

Del Vaticano, 12 de Mayo de 1950

Pius XII

... “The Church is counting on you, as you promised to be.”

You have made a commitment to defend the Church of Jesus Christ. The Church knows it and is counting on you, as in the past it counted on the generations of congregants that have preceded you. Its expectation has not been deceived. Your elders have nobly opened and outlined the path. In all the struggles against the contagion and tyranny of the errors and for the defense of Christian Europe, the Marian Sodalities have combatted on the front line with the word, with the pen, and with the press; in controversy, in polemic, and in apology; with action, strengthening the courage of the faithful, aiding confessors of the faith, collaborating with their assistance and help in the arduous and undermined ministry of the Catholic

priests, persecuting public immorality with sometimes singular methods, but always energetic and effective.

On some occasion, even with the sword in the frontiers of Christianity for the defense of civilization, with Sobieski, Carlos de Lorena, Eugenio de Saboya, and so many other leaders, all sodalists like a thousand and a thousand of its soldiers.

But, why seek examples from the past when in our time, and not in just one nation, thousands and thousands of heroic congregants have combatted and fallen hailing and invoking Christ the King?...”

(Speech delivered by S. P. Pius XII before four thousand Marian sodalities January 21, 1945).



His Eminence the Cardinal Manuel Arteaga was named honorary congregant of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria by its founder, Reverend Father Felipe Rey de Castro, S. J. The first naming of an honorary sodalist had to correspond to he who has been among the first to bless, protect, and encourage this work of Cuban Catholicism.

Just like for his predecessor in the Episcopal See of Havana, Monseigneur Ruiz, the Agrupación keeps a seat of honor in its heart for this Prince of the Church who with his prayers, words, and works has been to this Marian Sodality not only a wise Hierarch, but also a generous father.

The Agrupación will always remember with gratitude those words pronounced by His Eminence on the day he received the congregant medal of the A.C.U:

"I can assure you that of all the gifts, honors, and tributes I have received since His Holiness wished without merits of my own to elevate me to the purple of the College of Cardinals, nothing has

been as moving to me nor has left such a deep imprint in my heart as tonight's act. Because in it, I find fulfilled my aspirations of Archbishop of this Archdiocese, I hear vibrant words that are fertile seed for a true apostolate, and I gaze at the splendid realization of this brilliant and prestigious work that reaches its fulfillment.

The Church can be justly proud of this work. Tonight's act is a display of maturity and of the grace of God working in it.

After witnessing it, I do not know what to do first, whether to thank you who have placed me on the list of the Honorary Sodalists or to lift my heart to the Most High and give thanks for the accomplishment of this great work that makes one conceive hope of a definitive triumph of the Church..."

"Thank you. This Prelate feels honored with the congregant medal of the Most Holy Virgin, which will be for him a perennial encouragement not to defraud the hopes that you have undoubtedly placed in me by selecting me as your first Sodalist..."



REV. FR. FELIPE REY DE CASTRO S. J. Founder of the A. C. U.

Unequaled sculptor of character.

His mission was to forge men of integrity for the Church and for the Nation. The motto for his Agrupación had to be: ¡Esto vir! Be a man! No other would do. His firm resolve that acts of piety and all celebrations exude virility, for it is not coincidental that virtue is twin sister to vir, in other words, to man.

Upon arriving in Cuba, Fr. Rey found that the Catholic adolescent did not often crystalize into the Catholic man, that the devout schoolboy later turned into the indifferent academic and later, the impious professional. Fr. Rey took up arms against that state of affairs. He brought together young men to forge them into image and likeness of Christ.

Heaven was prodigiously supportive of his mission, to the point of endowing him with the fittest qualities for a forger of men. He was role model and intimate friend of Christ. His monolithic personality had been forged from the Rock of Peter in the Ignatian mold. Consequently, he was unshakeable in apostolic resolve and a declared enemy of tepidness and doubt. His language was the language of the Gospel and his will was proudly subservient to that of the Roman Pontiff. Knowledgeable, like few others, of the crooks and crannies of the soul, he was intimate with its contentments and miseries, with its days of light and shadow. An outstanding and penetrating psychologist, he divined attitudes and foresaw situations that he knew how to describe marvelously well, especially in the Exercises. A practical man, who possessed much common sense and for whom effectiveness of effort was one of his favorite ways of measuring work done. His extraordinary mental clarity and unbending and crushing logic reduced to smithereens the sophisms that would twist our paths. Sometimes ironic, always smiling, he possessed a special grace to dissolve tense situations with just a few drops of never-ending good humor. He was a man of experience and perspicacity that with focused pupil lit the way for the divine index finger to direct his own. He had the gift of unerring counsel and the humility to recognize his own errors and defects, along with the resolve to correct and avoid them.

Today, 25 years after Fr. Rey planted fertile seed, one walks into 1111 San Miguel to find 600 professionals and solidly formed students that do Spiritual Exercises in Retreat over four days, that attend courses of serious Catholic formation, who in their majority commune daily, dress the naked and feed the hungry in the neighborhood of Yaguas, and try to alleviate physical and moral ailments; dedicate their leisure time to bring the Christian doctrine and joy to forgotten lepers at El Rincón, fight with valor in private and in public with no other purpose but the apostolic one of defending Christian principles; honor their academic professions by the seriousness, depth, and honesty of their work. What a couple of decades ago was deemed a quixotic endeavor of Fr. Rey, is today a palpable reality and an example to be followed.

If the crisis faced by Cuba is essentially a moral one, due in large part to lack of men of integrity of thought and of action; now offering the nation hundreds of enthusiastic, battle-hardened men who not only do not steal or kill, but who are also imbued with the Christian spirit of self-improvement and individual and collective perfection, seeking in a thousand ways and in diverse fields to implant and improve the spiritual level of its institutions, and striving to be living Gospels, means that the Republic has contracted an unpayable debt with that great Cuban, with that great forger of men that was Fr. Rey, whose work was his agrupados.

CURRENT DIRECTOR OF THE A. C. U. REV. FR. AMANDO LLORENTE, S. J.

Upon the death of Fr. Rey de Castro, the Board of A. C. U. was left bowed over his tomb, like the interrogation mark of an impossible question at a difficult moment, about what person would lunge himself into such a difficult responsibility.

The Holy Spirit, acting through the Society of Jesus, gave us the answer: Rev. Fr. Amando Llorente.

His youthful arm took the Agrupación's reins, and the A. C. U. was raised triumphant to start a second phase of conquests for the greater glory of God.

Thanks to studies completed at Oxford on psychology of the young, with great experience in ministering to souls through direction of the Calvary Spiritual Exercises House, Fr. Llorente understood and assimilated very quickly the complex functioning of the A. C. U. and placed it on the difficult road of outreach, so that the A. C. U. could undertake the spiritual conquest of Cuba.

Without shortchanging the comprehensive formation of the agrupado, Fr. Llorente transformed the already formed A. C. U. into a dynamic body in vanguard: the B. I. P. came onto the scene, and through its pamphlets and conferences extended the reach of the A. C. U. to the most remote sections of the Nation, and the apostolate saw its horizon broaden via additional social works, the Pius XII Exercises House was a utopian dream made real in stone; the Social Circle sent its soldiers to the countryside to share with Cubans the Social Teachings of the Pontiffs; the awaiting battle-ready A. C. U. got caught up in the heat of the battle.



The Agrupación Católica Universitaria is a Marian Sodality

In fact, the Agrupación is one of 80,000 sodalities worldwide that, carrying as their spirit the motto "ad Jesum per Mariam" (To Christ through Mary), have the sanctification of sodalist and of neighbor as its essential purpose, with works being fully framed by profound devotion and taintless love for Mary Most Holy, to whom its members make a perpetual consecration.

Created in 1563, in Rome, when Father Leunis, S. J., founded the Marian Sodality of the Roman College, these institutions began to develop, first in Italy and later in other European nations, until 1773 when they began to extend their sphere of action to the young American continent, as well as Asia and Oceania, taking on intercontinental appearance. To keep alive the original spirit that gave birth to them in Rome, the different worldwide Marian Sodalities began to formally unite with the Sodality of Rome, which due to its historical and spiritual value assumed primacy with the distinctive name of "Prima Primaria."

In 1948, then Pontiff Pius XII, Marian Pope from the ranks of Marian Sodalities, redacted and promulgated the Apostolic Constitution "Bis Saeculari" that, in essence, contains three grand messages for the Sodalities of Mary Immaculate:

1) Promulgates common laws for Sodalities worldwide, by which the indispensable need for strict selection in choosing members for our institutions is emphasized.

2) Declares that Marian Sodalities are and always have been Catholic Action "in fact and by right," celebrating the union of Marian Sodalities with the Ecclesial Hierarchy and urging to make this indispensable union ever greater.

3) Orders greater cooperation with other ranks of Catholic Action.

Extended today throughout the majority of nations of the world (in the last International Congress there was even representation from sodalities of the Church of silence behind the Iron Curtain), Marian Sodalities have a form of government that distinguishes them from every other lay Catholic Institution.

The Director of each Marian Sodality has power, both spiritual and physical, over the Sodality that is under his guardianship, and though he is counseled by a Board of Directors composed of lay sodalists, he does not have to subordinate his actions to the decisions of the Board, for his voice is final in resolution of all problems.

Aiming at close collaboration and zeal for the conservation of common spirit and norms, Marian Sodalities are organized since Septem-

ber 1954 in a World Federation, whose direction falls into the hands of a General Secretariat that resides in Rome and from which emanate all the orders common to the Marian Sodalities of the universe.

On the date referenced above, the World Federation met in Congress for the first time, in Rome, with the aim of joining forces and electing the Executive Council that would lead the World Federation.

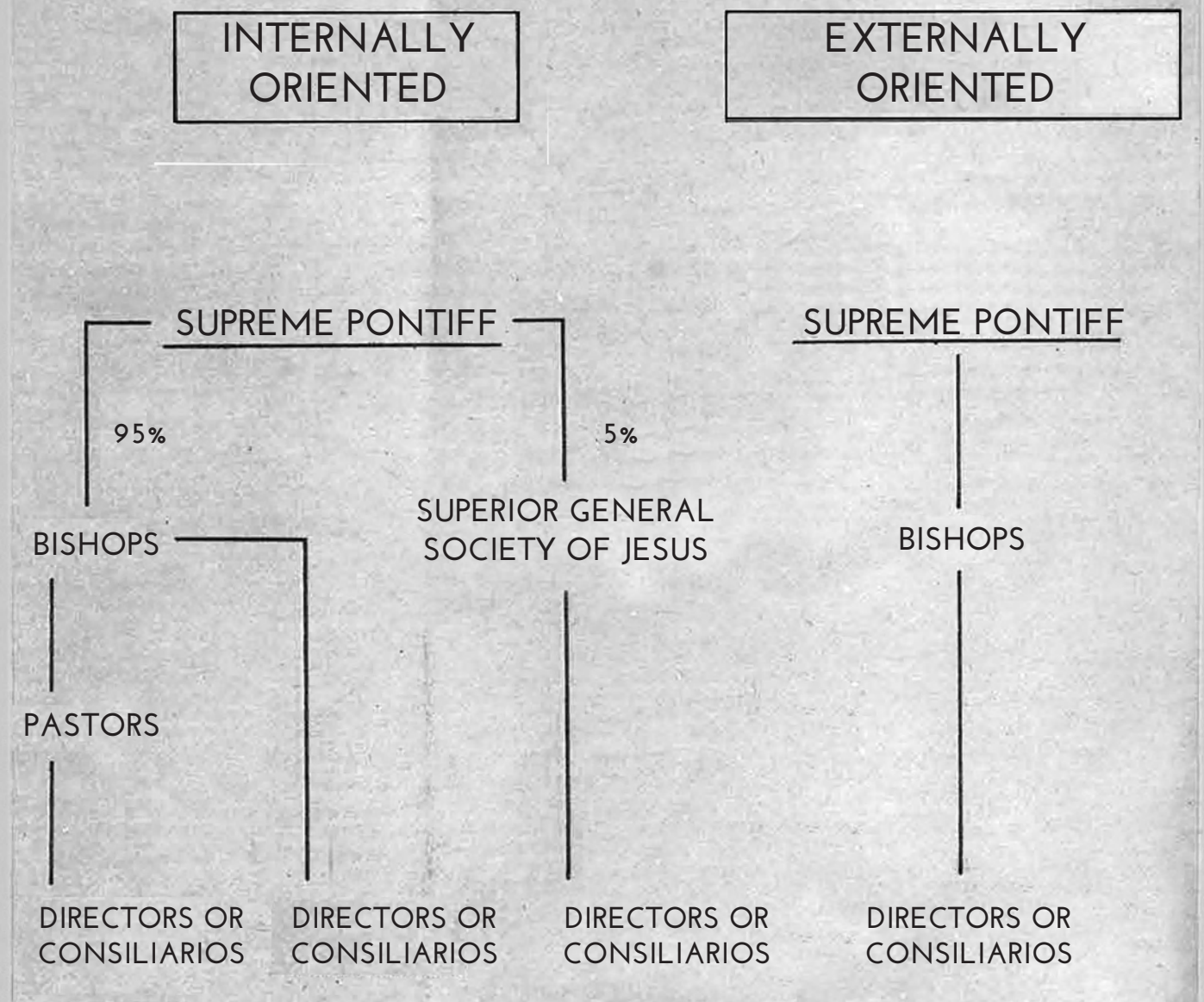
The positions to be filled at that World Congress were those of Director and Vice Director, to be occupied by clergymen, and those of President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Counselors, to be occupied by laypersons.

And there, before 42 nations represented in the Congress, we had the high honor of watching the election, as first World President of the Sodalities, of the Delegate of our Agrupación Católica Universitaria, Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga y Travieso.

Saintly pride, amidst such powerful nations as the United States, Canada, Spain, Germany, and other great nations, at seeing a representative of our small island of Cuba presiding over a global organization.

We also had the profound satisfaction of hearing the name of our own Agrupación Católica Universitaria mentioned as model Collegiate Marian Sodality.

GOVERNANCE OF MARIAN SODALITIES



CONSECRATION FORMULA

Immaculate Virgin Mary, God's Mother and my Mother,

I _____

though altogether unworthy of appearing before your sovereign presence, confident in your graciousness and powerful intercession and encouraged by the desire for greater service to God and his Church, before your Divine Son now on the altar, before the Director of this Sodality and the Sodalists here gathered **I affirm that I want and desire and it is my deliberate and firm determination to consecrate myself today to your Immaculate Heart entirely and perpetually, in order to live according to the spirit of the common rules of Marian Sodalities and the Holy Father Pius XII's Apostolic Constitution, "Bis saeculari".**

I beg, then, for your grace and admirable mercy to deign to accept this, my total consecration to You for life and eternity, as a holocaust offered to your Son Jesus in your motherly hands and, just as you have offered me the grace to desire it and offer it, may you also grant abundantly for me to accomplish it.

Signature

Place and Date

WHY I AM A SODALIST

1
BECAUSE I yearn for the company of **SINCERE FRIENDS** who will know to lend a helping hand at all times; and there are no more solid and true friendships than those that spring from the feet of Mary.

2
BECAUSE I seek those that will encourage me to fulfill my obligations as a man and as a Christian; and there is no better encouragement than **THE EXAMPLES** of a worthy companion.

3
BECAUSE I need a prudent and **EXPERIENCED GUIDE** for the difficult roads in my life; and I have placed all confidence in the prudence and selflessness of my Director.

4
BECAUSE I like to have a safe and joyful place where I can pass **MY HOURS OF REST** serenely; and I have found in the halls of the Sodality the happiness and serenity I was yearning.

5
BECAUSE I acknowledge that my **Morals** weaken when my Faith wavers, and I can only find its support in the **REASONED AND PROFOUND STUDY OF RELIGION**.

6
BECAUSE **MY YOUTH DEMANDS NOBLE ACTIVITIES** for the exercise of its enthusiasm, as the river needs channels for the flow of its waters. Without them, waters are wasted or floods are damaging. With them, fields are freshened, plants are livened, and mills are lighted.

7
BECAUSE I WANT TO HONOR MY HEAVENLY MOTHER like a loving son; and a son who does not transform love for his mother into works is not a true son.

8
BECAUSE in my life, as in every life, to fail to carry aglow the light of A **GREAT IDEAL** is to walk in darkness. And what greater ideal than to better myself and those around me each day as well, even if it is almost imperceptible?... Like a torch: all fire inside; all light outside.

A transcendental day in the life of an agrupado. The Father Director, after blessing the medal of the Most Holy Virgin places it on the new sodalist as a symbol of his new militarism. It will inspire valor in combat and confident hope at the hour of death.



Consecration means total dedication, absolute and perpetual. The sodalist, by penning his signature at the foot of his consecration to the Virgin, belongs to himself no longer, his life must be a sole reflection of the cause to which he has consecrated himself.

The prize for fidelity to this consecration to the Virgin, according to the famous phrase of Saint Alfonso Maria de Liguorio: "To be written unto the book of the Sodality is to be written unto the Book of Life."



Forty nations representing several million Marian sodalists gathered in Rome last year to celebrate the First World Congress of Marian Sodalities.

One of the fundamental actions of that great session was the creation of a global body that would maintain cohesiveness among the Sodalities there present; a body that would be named "World Federation of Marian Sodalities."

The vote count for the position of President, which would govern the nascent organization for five years, elected the delegate of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria of Cuba, Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga y Travieso.

The photo captures the moment at which Dr. Lasaga addresses the congress five consecutive times, in five different languages, pronouncing words of gratitude for the honor of which he was the object.

The election of Dr. Lasaga as President of the World Federation of Marian Sodalities was an honor for the Cuban nation and in particular for the Agrupación Católica Universitaria. For that reason, upon arrival in Havana, he was offered a banquet-tribute, whose Presidency appears in this photo. All the Cuban Catholic institutions were represented at the event.

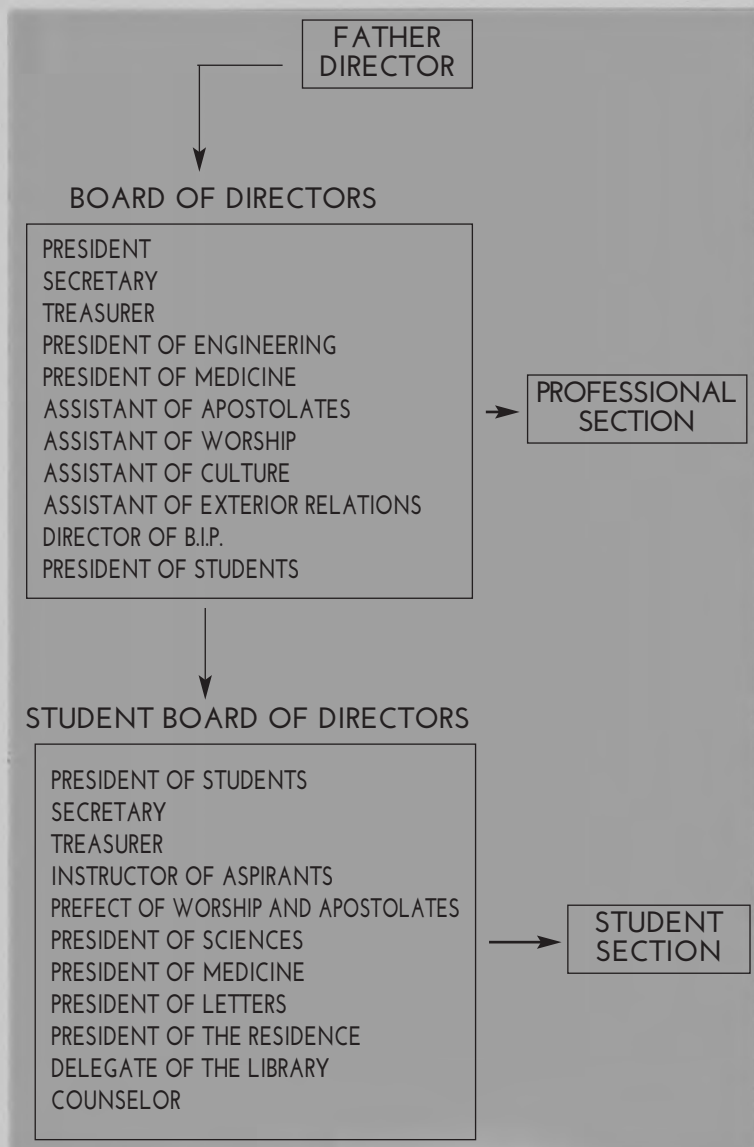


The men's Marian Sodalities of Cuba joined forces in a National Federation that had its first Congress last year. The photo captures a number of delegates from the different Sodalities present, which are: Congregación de la Anunciata, Agrupación Católica Universitaria, Congregación del Colegio de Belén (all from Havana); Agrupación Católica Universitaria y Comercial de Santiago de Cuba, Congregación de Cienfuegos, and Congregación de Sagua la Grande.



The young agrupado before the Most Blessed Sacrament, present on the altar, putting his heart and will into every word, reads his consecration to the Most Holy Virgin.

GOVERNANCE OF THE A. C. U.



The authority that governs the A. C. U., resides solely in the person of the Father Director of the Agrupación, in keeping with the spirit of the Common Rules of Marian Sodality.

From him derives the governance of the Institution.

This is why the Director of the A. C. U. has to be a priest of great spiritual and psychological formation.

The Father Director, responsible for the spiritual unity of the Agrupación, also needs to master the spiritual technique on which this unity is built: the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The Exercises are, in the hands of Father Director, what lend veracity to the stanza of the A. C. U.'s hymn: "Only one is the Leader and Master. Only one is the thought and feeling..."

The Board of Directors is entrusted with counseling the Father Director. It is a body composed of professionals that live the spirit of the apostolate and in which the President of Students is responsible for representing the Student Division of the A. C. U.

The Board of Directors distributes responsibility among its members for direction of different activities of the Professional Division of the A. C. U.; it also has the role of supervising and ultimately resolving all matters regarding the Student Board of Directors.

The Student Section also has a Board of Directors that advises the Sodality on matters relevant to A. C. U. youth and distributes responsibilities and direction of matters among its members. Its work is supervised and presented to the Board of Directors, in whose bosom it is represented by the President of Students.



Change of Presidents in the A. C. U. Manuel Maza, engineer, transfers power to Jorge Echarte, architect. They share like ideals and like abilities. This is why the Agrupación enthusiastically rewards the outgoing President, for work received, and the incoming President so that he knows to render like work.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE "A. C. U." GATHERED WITH THE FATHER DIRECTOR AND SUBDIRECTOR: PRESIDENT: Jorge Rodríguez Bezos. SECRETARY: Sergio García Miró. INSTRUCTOR OF ASPIRANTS: Jorge de la Torre. COUNSELOR: Manuel F. Artime. PREFECT OF SERVICES AND APOSTOLATE: Humberto Alvira. DELEGATE OF VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY: Alberto Hidalgo. PRESIDENT OF THE DIVISION OF SCIENCES: Ramón Domínguez. PRESIDENT OF THE DIVISION OF LETTERS: Eusebio Capestany. PRESIDENT OF THE DIVISION OF MEDICINE: Lino B. Fernández. PRESIDENT OF THE RESIDENCE: Armando Zaldívar. DELEGATE OF THE LIBRARY: Joaquín Colado. TREASURER: Manuel Antón.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE "A. C. U." - PRESIDENT: Eng. Jorge Echarte. SECRETARY: Dr. José Antonio Mestre. TREASURER: Dr. Bartolomé Monserrat. PRESIDENT OF ENGINEERING: Eng. Gabriel Cuadra. PRESIDENT OF MEDICINE: Dr. Roberto Ortiz Crabb. PRESIDENT OF LETTERS: Dr. Manuel Hernández Puente. APOSTOLATE ASSISTANT: Dr. Arnaldo Aponte. ASSISTANT OF SERVICES: Dr. José Rouco. ASSISTANT OF CULTURE: Dr. Miguel Figueroa. ASSISTANT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Dr. Manuel Vega Penichet. DIRECTOR OF THE B. I. P.: Dr. René de la Huerta. PRESIDENT OF STUDENTS: Jorge Rodríguez Bezos.



Changes to the Student Board of Directors have the same spirit as the A. C. U. Board of Directors. The President of Students represents the youth section in the Board of Directors of the A. C. U. But the transcendence of the position is not important when carried out by efficient men and with confidence that these men can only be replaced by others with like attributes. Thus, in passing the Presidency of Students from Manuel Artime to Jorge Rodríguez Bezos, it was clear that this was just one of those ordinary changes that take place every three years at the Agrupación, to serve as a break for some and encouragement for others.



THE WORK OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Fr. Felipe Rey de Castro was Prefect of Colegio de Belén for two years. This was enough time to observe that there were few students that crystalized into true Catholic professionals.

This made him take true interest in the solution to such a transcendently important matter.

Two obstacles stood in the way of formation of Catholic professionals: the hostile environment in which the young man was involved at the University at that time, in the street, and sometimes even at home; and the definitive separation from the source of Christian ideals that Colegio de Belén was for him.

The fruits of this environment were doubts about faith that arose as he acquired professional sciences without scientific religious formation that reaches the same level as intellectual formation, and he had to defend himself with the basic instruction of his schooling, which was enough for secondary school, but not for a professional with higher education.

And Father Rey found the remedy for this illness: the work performed in school must continue as they begin their life at the university in a more solid, loftier form.

That is why he conceived the Agrupación Católica in its definitive form: it would target the students' university years.

And that is the work of the A. C. U., to welcome the student as he exits secondary school or institute, when his youth is dynamic and energetic and only needs a hand to guide and channel it.

His faith is revived, he is helped with difficulties, he is injected, in a word, with new life, and Exercises will crown the work.

If he is truly Catholic, he will see quite clearly that the principles he was taught in school must inform his entire life and must not be abandoned once he graduates from high school.

New horizons are opened for the young man, higher ideals for the glory of God and the good of the Nation.

He is instructed in scientific religion with the same intensity as in his profession.

He is offered an environment of advancement that he will share with other young men that will serve as examples and encouragement for him, an environment shared with professionals that have already reached a life of Catholicism in their careers.

He is made to feel a spirit of family and unity among all, to counteract an environment of selfishness against which he will have to struggle.

His energy is channeled towards a science rid of selfishness and that ought to be employed for the good of the Nation, once formed in the molds of integral Catholicism.

He is offered every means to be first in his career, while being given deep intellectual Catholic formation regarding dogmas of the Church.

This is why this stage of the student is vital to the A. C. U., it is the stage that forms, that molds the spirit in youth, so that it may bear fruit when he becomes a formed-to-the-marrow professional.

Even times of leisure are used for high ideals by the spirit of these young men. In the various tables for family-style breakfast, and in the friendly conversation, the elder teach the younger, the professionals orient the students. And it is here where ideals are adapted to practical life, where apostolic qualms are manifested amidst the confusion of voices in discussions, in the serene tone of advice or in the cheerful smile of a happy idea.



College students from all careers unite fraternally under the same flag, part of the same family. They are intellectuals that are formed to lead a life channeled solely and exclusively to achieve the greater good of the Nation and the greater glory of God.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

For the work of the apostolate to be fruitful and supernatural, it needs force to move it and light to guide it. That force and that light are the Spiritual Formation that the A. C. U. gives to its sodalists.

The Agrupación employs several means for spiritual formation of its sodalists, but the most solid foundation, upon which the spiritual scaffolding of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria is raised and maintained, are the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Spiritual Exercises that sodalists do in complete retreat, in absolute interior and exterior recollection, during three, four, and even seven days.

Exercises in which the sodalist meditates alone with God on the role that the Lord wants to play in his life, on the love and gratitude due to God, who from a cross redeemed him from his sins.

Exercises in which the will is strengthened, and new goals are set on the road of service to Christ, in which to learn to see God in one's neighbor.

And out of the eloquent silence of that encounter between God and the sodalist comes forth the vigorous life of the A. C. U.

There are several acts of piety that keep alive throughout the year the flame ignited in the Spiritual Exercises.

The Sunday Mass in community, considered the official weekly celebration of the Sodality, constitutes the true center of the life of the group throughout the year.

Attendance is mandatory for all agrupados in Havana that are not impeded by some grave reason. This makes average attendance at Sunday mass around 400. There are no special dates for mandatory Communion, because everyone tries to make Sundays "general Communion" day. The number of Communions tally more than 90 per cent of total attendance.

The mass is offered in Latin and an agrupado reads aloud the Epistle and the Gospel in Spanish.

The Father Director takes advantage of the homily of the Mass to elucidate a doctrinal point.

Once the Holy Sacrifice is concluded, the curtains conceal the altar and the President of the A. C. U. goes to the ambo to read the weekly news of the great A. C. U. family: the last offspring of an A. C. U. family, the award won by a university student, an upcoming wedding, etc. Later, the announcements for the following week are given and everyone goes down to the central patio for breakfast and to form different groups that tend to remain in conversation until close to midday. This completes the family spirit that reigns at the Agrupación and that makes it so agreeable from the first day to he that enters the Sodality.

Another pious practice, completely voluntary, is the Saturday "Guardia" of the Virgin Mary, which in total lasts half an hour and consists of: exposition, rosary, and chat by Father Director.

It was instituted years ago to pray for the particular spiritual and material needs of the agrupados, and it has been a source of abundant favors from the Holy Virgin for all attendants. Typical attendance is 150 sodalists.

In the A. C. U.'s chapel, Mass is offered daily for students that live in the Residence of the Agrupación and for all other agrupados that wish to attend.

Daily attendance averages 50. Communion is also offered throughout most of the morning to those who wish Communion but are unable to attend Mass.

Two other celebrations, that due to their importance for the formation of agrupados will be discussed in further detail elsewhere, are Vigils of Christ the King and of Immaculate Virgin Mary.

Religious formation occupies a primary place in the life of the A. C. U. The A. C. U. knows that, lacking this, hopes for works in favor of a more Christian future and a greater nation are in vain.

To that end, the Agrupación uses various means:

"Instruction of aspirants": the Agrupación takes special care in the selection and formation of aspirants, given that the foundations laid will determine the transcendence of the edifice that will be built upon it later on.

One of the most important phases in the formation of these young men is the Instruction of aspirants, a weekly chat offered them, so they may learn about the Agrupación in all its aspects: origin, spirit, ideals, and goals; knowledge of the Agrupación will foster love for it and love will move the aspirant towards a fruitful apostolate.

"Circles of formation": this is one of the most solid foundations for the religious intellectual formation of agrupados. The main ones are these:

Circle of aspirants: besides Instruction for aspirants, the novices also receive a cycle of conferences of intellectual Catholic formation on a weekly basis; they will have to pass an exam before making a definitive consecration to Most Holy Virgin Mary.

In this circle they are taught comprehensively about fundamental points of Dogma, Morality, and Church Services.

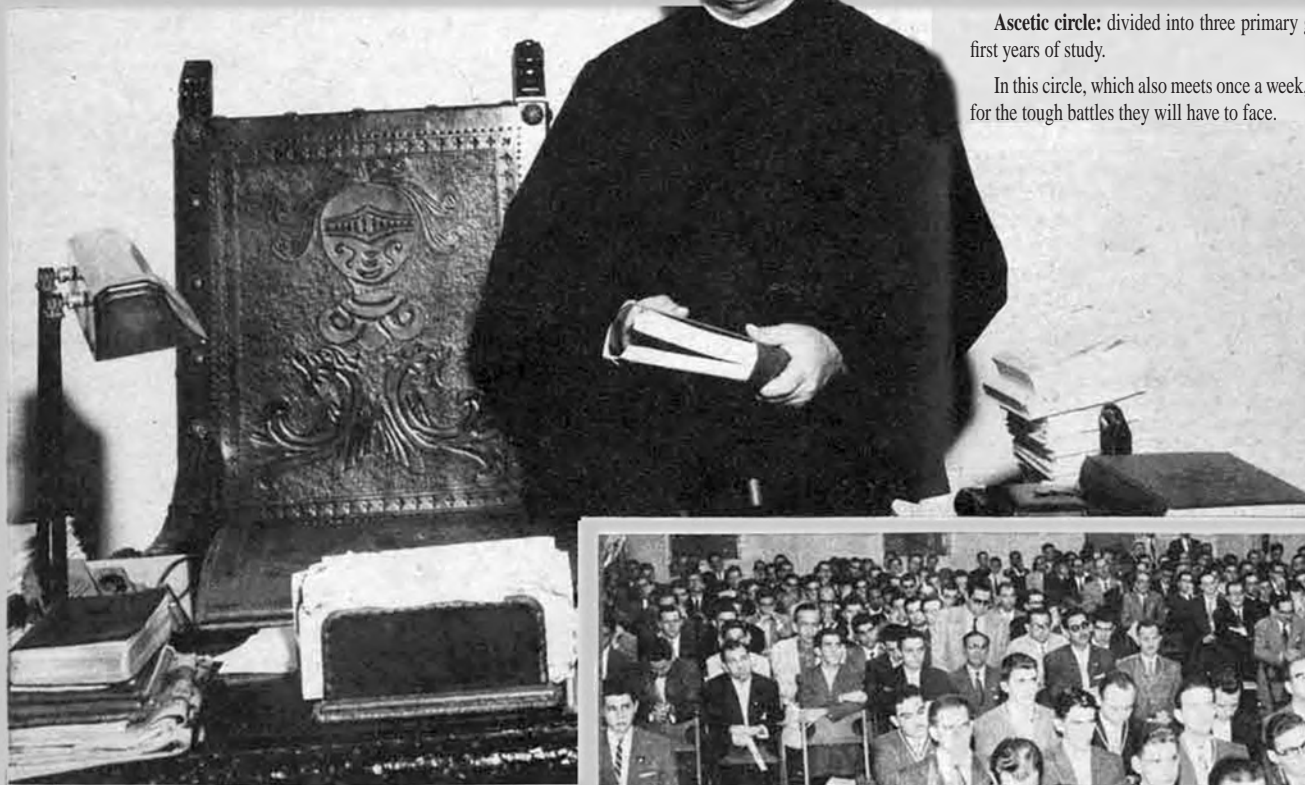
Ascetic circle: divided into three primary groups: professionals, students in their last years of study, and students in their first years of study.

In this circle, which also meets once a week, perfection in spiritual life is studied very carefully, and participants are prepared for the tough battles they will have to face.

Amidst internal recollection, 500 professionals and students follow Sunday mass step by step. Around this celebration, central axis of life at the A. C. U., is interwoven family life. All gather there to listen to the Holy Mass and have Communion. Once finished, the President of the Agrupación goes behind the ambo to announce the program of work for the coming week and to give an account of important news that have occurred in the life of each agrupado: the award obtained, the upcoming wedding, the child that was born.



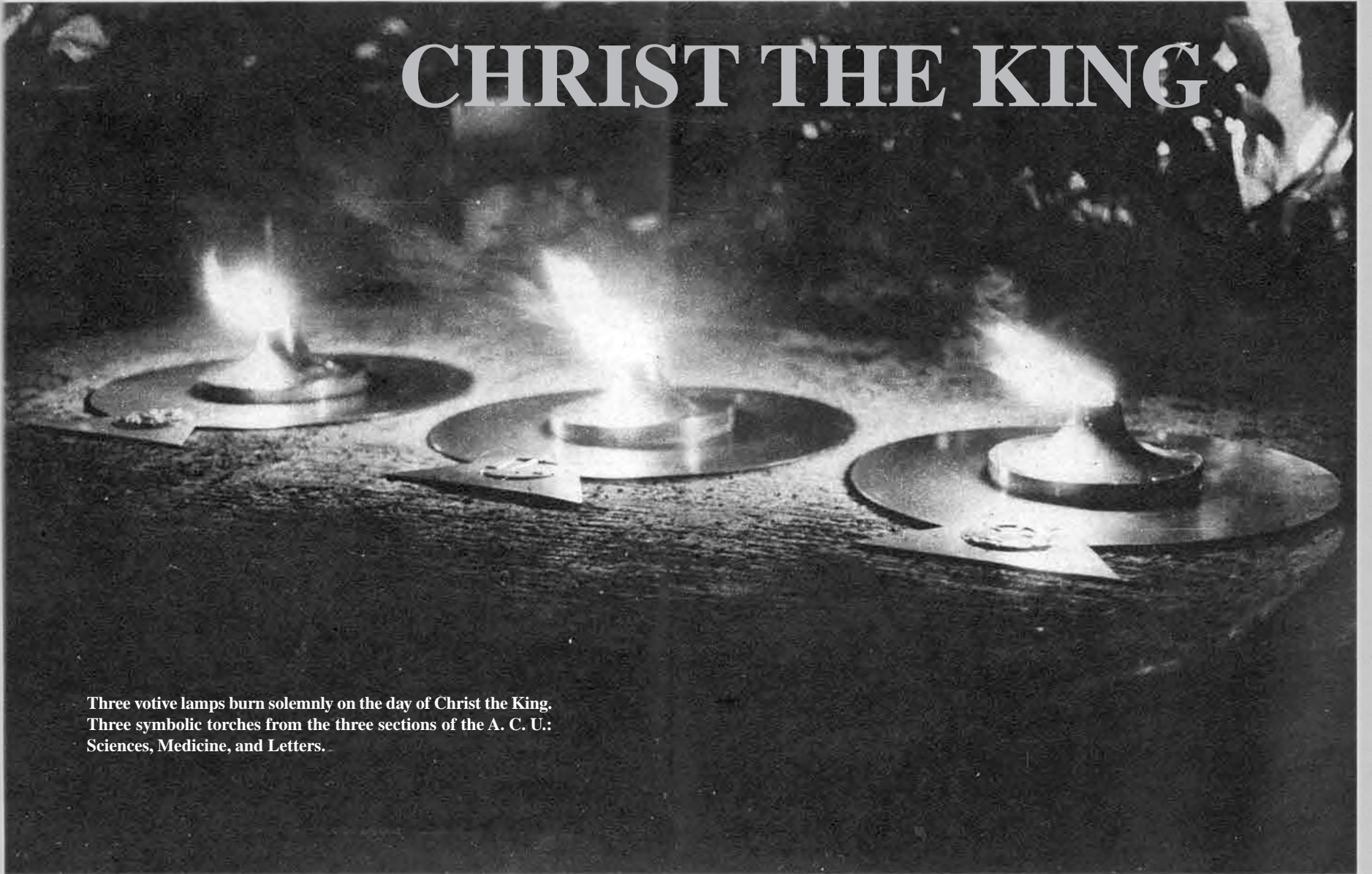
This is the true heart of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria: the small Chapel where Jesus Christ, really and truly present, accompanies them day and night. The Evangelical phrase the disciples said to Jesus is engraved in the simple door of the Sanctuary: "Master, teach us to pray," which is instilled in the heart of each agrupado. Upon entering or exiting the A. C. U. House, he makes a short visit to the Chapel to greet or bid goodbye to the living Christ in the Eucharist. Above the altar, a niche, and inside it with her hands extended to add a symbol of protection, the beloved Mother who will lead the agrupado to an encounter with the Son of the Tabernacle. They will consecrate their lives to Jesus through her. There she is — the Mother, the Patroness, the indisputable Queen of the A. C. U. She will be safe passage that will always lead to her beloved Son. This is why the life of the faithful agrupado can be reduced to these words: "Ad Jesum per Mariam" (To Jesus through Mary).



Although members of the Agrupación can choose the Spiritual Director they wish to counsel and guide them in the difficult road of their spiritual life, the Director and Subdirector, experienced priests who know fully the spirit of young men and of the Agrupación, are the spiritual guides for the majority of sodalists. The spirit of vigor and accomplishment of men of the A. C. U are owed, in great part, to the incessant labor of Father Barbeito, S. J., who appears in this picture, and of Director Rev. Fr. Llorente, S. J.



CHRIST THE KING



Three votive lamps burn solemnly on the day of Christ the King. Three symbolic torches from the three sections of the A. C. U.: Sciences, Medicine, and Letters.



The motto of Marian Sodality: **Ad Jesum per Mariam** (To Christ through Mary), explaining the entire life of the agrupado to march with the help of the Most Holy Virgin towards the goal of every man, which is God, also gives rise to two great annual religious celebrations of the A. C. U.: the Immaculate and Christ the King.

Vigil of Christ the King: two flags advance toward the Monarch of the Sanctuary: first the flag of the Nation, the pennant of this people whose hearts He claims; the Man-God of our Cuba is spoken to, the Lord is asked to bless and forgive the sins of his children. Then comes the flag of the A. C. U. which bows down before Him, in that blue cloth with white letters goes the entire spirit of the Agrupación; there the retelling is made of the triumphs, of the sad defeats; there goals are set, and purposes reaffirmed.

Later, a procession is initiated with the Most Blessed Sacrament that journeys past the altars of the three sections of the Agrupación: Medicine, Sciences, and Letters.

The Most Blessed Sacrament stops at each of the three stations and a sodalist from the corresponding section reads a consecration of his section before Jesus Christ.

Afterwards, the Mass, and finally, coming more from the souls than from the lips of the agrupados, can be heard the vibrant stanzas of the hymn of the A. C. U.

To Christ the King, Supreme Judge of the World, to whose unappealable rule the Universe will be subject; who inspired the holy Gospels to the apostles, the most perfect literary work produced by human intelligence; from whose lips always pours out the truth, and whose teachings contain the only philosophy for man's salvation; to that legislator literati and philosophers, agrupados of the Section of Letters, consecrate their work and concerns. They trust Him to instill justice without vacillation, so that there will not be the slightest shadow of error in their writing, so that He, light of the world, may illuminate our philosophers and gift to the intelligent the truth that only He can give.

Men of the Section of Sciences consecrate themselves to Christ the King, author of the Universe and its physical and chemical laws. The voice of one of them reads the consecration: Engineers, architects, and doctors in Sciences of the A. C. U. consecrate themselves to the Eternal King at the foot of the altar, kneeling before the Most Blessed Sacrament.



The agrupados of the Section of Medicine consecrate the work of their profession to Christ the King, who gave sight to the blind, who cleansed bodies of lepers, who restored Lazarus to life.

IMMACULATE



SODALISTS of the A. C. U. gather before the loving gaze of the Virgin Queen — veterans, already in combat in their professions, guide and orient, set the standard with the fruitful lesson of personal example; and new sodalists that train within the University's ranks, like an impetuous river that runs its course. There are also those that give their name to the A. C. U. on that day, those who are going to surrender their hearts to the Virgin Mother.

They review accomplishments, mourn tepidness, acknowledge faults, and before Her make up for what has been neglected.

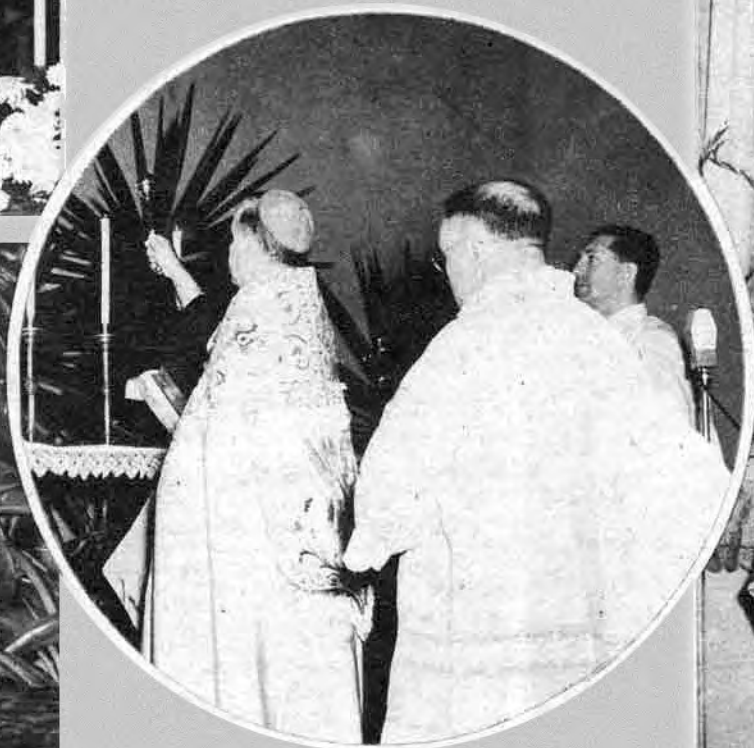
That is the spirit of the **Vigil of the Immaculate**, the formula followed in the celebration is quite simple:

It begins with a patriotic evocation: a prayer for dead martyrs of the nation, with words of recollection and love for those that gave us liberty in Cuba at the cost of their own lives. Afterwards, a holy hour prepares the spirit for the crucial ceremony: the Mass, where aspirants that will become Sodalists that year will make their lifelong consecration before the Most Blessed Sacrament, and where existing sodalists will renew their own.

That is the **Vigil of the Immaculate**, day of Consecration, day of retelling, day to open the heart to new, additional offerings.



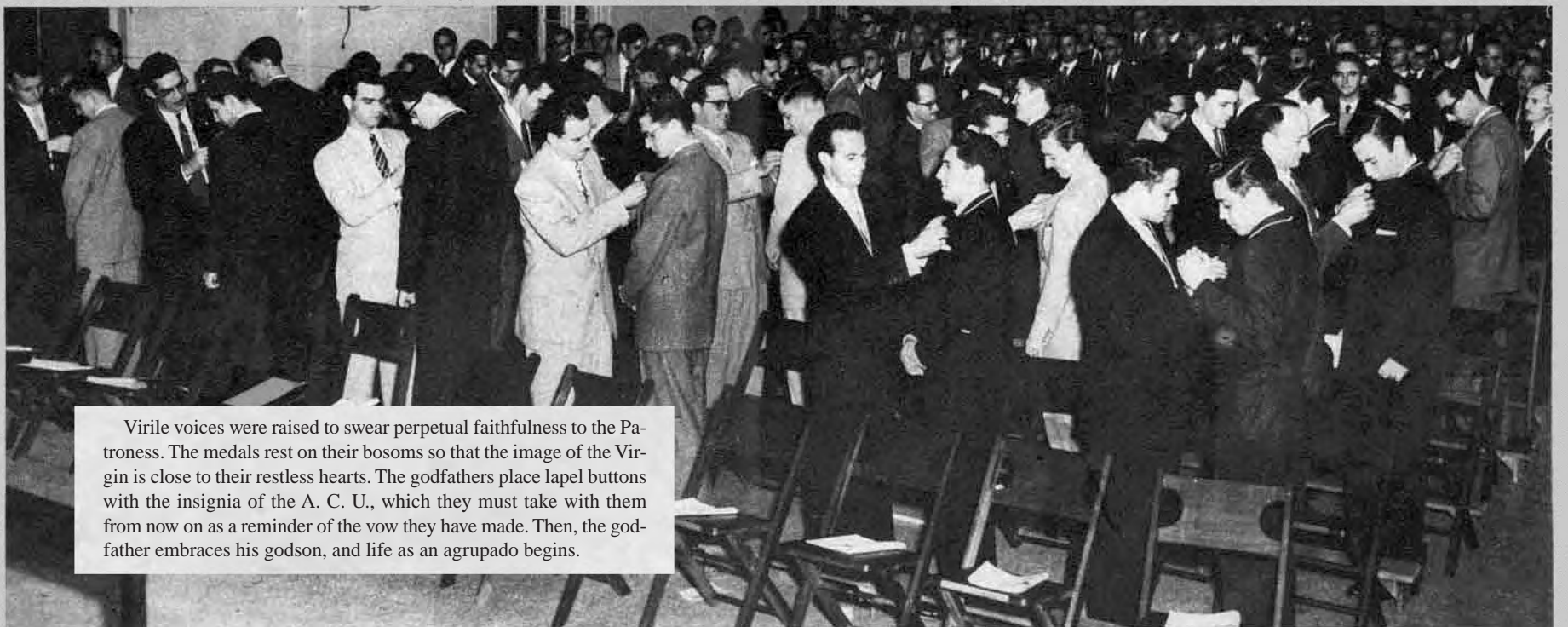
A Mass, at which new sodalists will consecrate their lives to the Virgin, is initiated.



Agrupados wanted to offer a nice gift to the Virgin on her Holy Marian Year. And this desire took shape thanks to the love they professed for Her, for that was the essence of the gift, a gift of love. A love that chose the most central and intimate site at the A. C. U., inspired the hand of Max Borges to raise a grotto there, and guided the chisel of an agrupado, Manolo Carbonell, to give life to Carrara marble through a beautiful image of the Most Holy Virgin. Hence, when Monsignor Muller blessed that work on inaugural day, what he was really blessing was the love of the A. C. U. for the Virgin.



There, in a corner of the patio, the central patio that is the hub of the A. C. U., in its most intimate corner, is found a beautiful grotto that holds the image of the Virgin. The life of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria unfolds before her loving gaze. Before that stylized silhouette of white marble that seems to come to life in the love of the agrupados, the A. C. U. gathers on the day of the Vigil of the Immaculate, to pay homage to Her, Queen, Mother, Intercessor, safe passage on the road to God.



Virile voices were raised to swear perpetual faithfulness to the Patroness. The medals rest on their bosoms so that the image of the Virgin is close to their restless hearts. The godfathers place lapel buttons with the insignia of the A. C. U., which they must take with them from now on as a reminder of the vow they have made. Then, the godfather embraces his godson, and life as an agrupado begins.

INTELLECTUAL PROFESSIONAL FORMATION

To be a good apostle in one's profession it is first necessary to be a good professional.

That is why, even though the A. C. U. attaches no special importance on academic honors as such, it is not uncommon for several sodalists to find themselves among the highest-ranked scholars in each of the University's schools.

This is why the Agrupación spares no effort or sacrifice to offer its students and professionals the most modern and comfortable means to reach the high scholarly level they achieve.

The means that most decisively contribute to this solid intellectual formation are:

Study Circles: The student agrupados tend to come together in Study Circles, according to personal interests, and it is there that they dig further into certain subjects or aspects of their respective careers. Almost all the Circles are led by professionals that also guide the work of the young men.

There are normally four Study Circles operating at the Agrupación: Medicine, Architecture, Engineering, and Law.

Workshops: It is very common to find specialized workshops for each career at the A. C. U., treating subjects of special interest to future professionals or, for one reason or other, to focus on some difficulty.

A series of workshops was recently initiated for postgraduates in the Medicine Circle.

Modern Libraries: are of such importance that they will be treated in more detail in another section.

Intellectual Formation

The intellectual formation of the Catholic university student agrupado must be at a high level in two fundamental aspects: the religious, and the professional.

Any imbalance in one of these aspects with respect to the other, gives rise to men that the Agrupación does not wish to have among its ranks.

If the religious formation is very high and the professional one very low, a type known as "encyclopedic prude" is created that, incapacitated professionally, lacks influence and ascendancy in his field and is not likely to accomplish the high social, patriotic, and religious ideals that the Agrupación upholds.

If the intellectual formation is very high in the professional field, but deficient in the religious terrain, we have an unstable Catholic whose faith weakens from not being able to address problems, doubts, and conflicts that his high professional level will pose to him, because of poor religious formation.

Hence, both intellectual formations must go hand in hand and maintain a high level.

In this way, Catholics will come to accept the apostolate of their profession as ideal and will march for the conquest of the top position that the Agrupación has pointed out to them as their way to reach God.



The Agrupación spares no effort in pursuit of the most complete intellectual formation possible for its professionals and students. This is why it does everything within its power to ensure that the agrupado has the possibility to read the best books or listen to the teachings of the most reputable intellectuals. A good example of the latter was the wonderful conference pronounced by the renowned Spanish man of letters, José María Pemán, about "The obedience of St. Ignatius of Loyola and his assimilation into modernity," on his way through Havana.



A view of the large crowd that filled the hall of celebrations of the A. C. U. completely, in order to listen to the eloquent words of José María Pemán.



Agrupado José Balerdi, in the last university graduation of Agronomical Engineers and faithful to the con-sign of the A. C. U. — "IN EVERY FIRST POSITION, AN AGRUPADO" — offers the result of his efforts to the Virgin: first in class. The Director of the Cuban Bank of External Commerce, accompanied by other executives, hands engineer José Balerdi a diploma and award ideated by the Bank for the top university student in each graduating class.



The Medicine, Sciences, and Letters Sections fortify the formation received at the University with weekly Circles. These Circles close with an assignment that summarizes the material presented. The best works submitted within each Circle garner awards issued by professionals that lead the Circles, in order to encourage efforts and achievements of students. In the photo above we see Rev. Fr. Daniel Baldor, S. J., Vice-provincial of the Society of Jesus of the Antilles, handing out the prizes.



Fr. Salvador Cistierna (Capuchin) leads the Social Circle for students of the A. C. U.

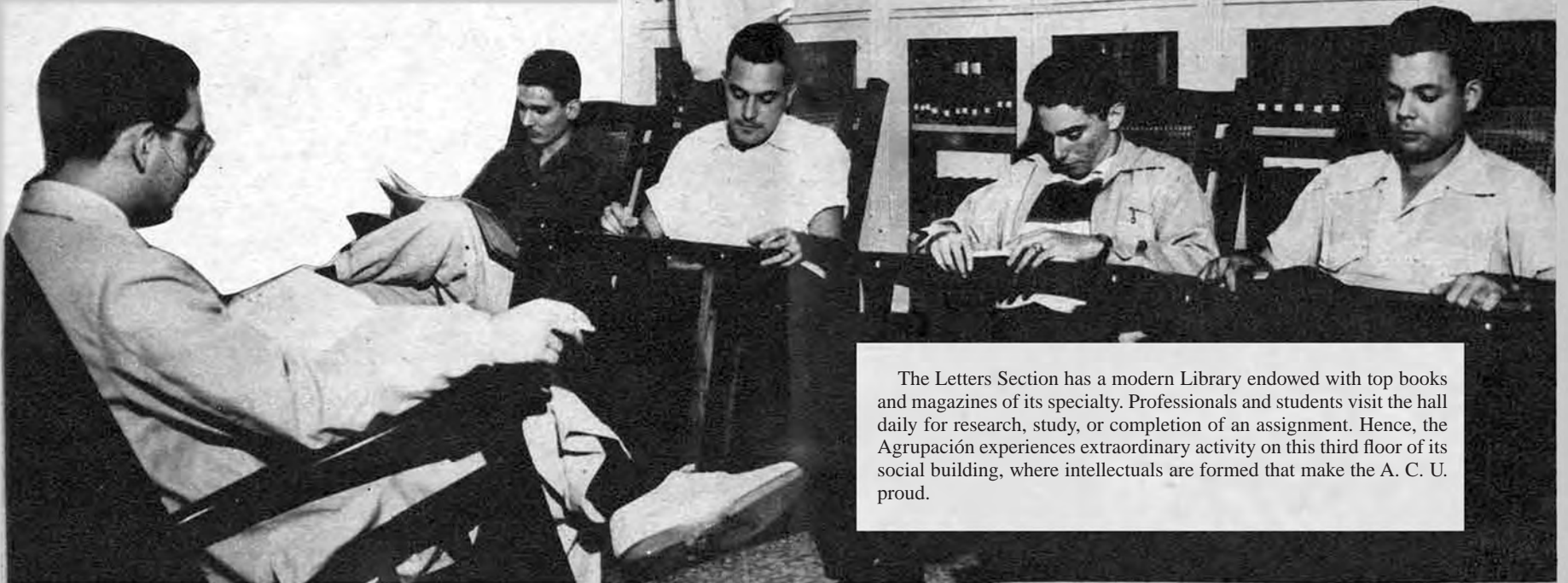
THE LIBRARIES OF THE A. C. U.

They number three (Sciences, Letters, and Medicine), nestled in the top floor of the social building of the A. C. U. They are equipped with air conditioning.

Agrupados can count on all the comforts imaginable for study.

A great many double-occupancy study-rooms fill the breadth of the third floor of the A. C. U., some call it the "second chapel", because of the rigorous silence observed therein.

A formidable collection of magazines and large number of reference books from various academic disciplines stock the libraries of the A. C. U.



The Letters Section has a modern Library endowed with top books and magazines of its specialty. Professionals and students visit the hall daily for research, study, or completion of an assignment. Hence, the Agrupación experiences extraordinary activity on this third floor of its social building, where intellectuals are formed that make the A. C. U. proud.



Engineering and Architecture students rely on a magnificent air-conditioned hall, complete with a well-stocked library full of material on their subjects. The absolute silence observed therein facilitates students' dedication to preparing for college classes. The professional architects and engineers clarify and expand on the most difficult points of their respective careers in private conferences for students



The Medicine library is often visited by students preparing for the regular subjects of their studies, and by many professionals who come to consult monthly national and foreign journals received at the A. C. U.



Brother Aguado dedicates most of his day to the A. C. U.'s administrative matters and to the smooth operation of the libraries. Brother Aguado works in his office arduously all day on the care of all books that come and go in the library, on its proper organization, on epistolary correspondence, and on efficient oversight of the library service.

STUDY CIRCLES



The Agrupación has the Catholic formation of A. C. U. university students among its top duties, which must complement the intellectual formation that they receive at the University. The cohort that first studied the Catholic Formation Track at the A. C. U. graduated this year. The certificate given to these pioneers attests to five years of intense formation on advanced subjects: Treaty on the Church, Grace, Sacraments, Religion, lessons on Natural Rights, and related topics; five years of difficult exams, five years of study, in order not to let the indispensable level of Catholic formation of an agrupado drop below the level of his scientific formation. This is the significance of the five certificates that were handed out to five agrupados by Monsignor Marinas in the last Apostolic Assembly of the A. C. U.



Agrupado, Dr. Carlos Taboada, associate professor in the School of Pharmacology of the University of Havana, was in charge of an advanced workshop on this subject for post-graduates in a conference room of the A. C. U.

SOCIAL Circle: Dedicated to forming agrupados in the social teachings of the Holy Mother Church, it is led by Capuchin Father Salvador de Cistierna.

In contemporary times this Social Circle takes on extraordinary validity, since social injustice born of Liberal Capitalism has empowered a very dangerous communist reaction.

Out of this has come a group of young men that promulgated, in public settings, the social teachings of the Papal Encyclicals to the Cuban people of different regions of the interior of the Republic.

A social justice-oriented newspaper, "El Debate" (The Debate), is also a ripe fruit of this Circle.

Catholic Institute for Cuban Studies: This organism was created as a perfect complement to the Social Circle.

It is totally dedicated to studying the social problems of the Nation and the possible solutions that a Christian approach could tender.

Formation Track: the pillar of intellectual religious formation of sodalists. Agrupados attend courses of higher formation for four years, at the end of which they are tested on the subjects studied. The four main courses are Ecclesia, Life of Grace, Treaty on the Sacraments, and Advanced Course on Religion.

At the end of four years, the agrupado that has successfully completed the courses receives an official diploma of Formation.

Oratory Circles: An institution that aims to have the Cuban nation share its high ideals must train its members in the difficult art of knowing how to expound ideas, convince and persuade an audience.

Therefore, in the Agrupación there are oratory circles, because sodalists must prepare to use the power of the spoken word **efficaciously**.

Redaction Circle: Agrupados also cultivate the written word, effective means of proselytism.

The Redaction Circle is responsible for maturing the writing style of those who feel a vocation to this effective field of apostolate. It meets weekly.

Medicine Circle: The Agrupación maintains a series of well-received workshops throughout the year for post-graduates.

And, as "the good must be brought to all," registration to these workshops is also allowed for doctors that do not belong to the A. C. U.

Among others, the following topics have been covered: Cardiac catheterization, Electrocardiography, Gynecological exams, Electrolytes...

The Law Circle meets once a year and after attending a fraternal banquet it holds an Assembly where several professionals develop topics of interest to lawyers, from a Christian perspective. These topics are widely debated by the entire Circle in the Assembly. The photo offers a view of one of these annual meetings.



The Medicine Circle also has its annual fraternal banquet, and at the end, the work of the year is reviewed and future goals are set. In the last meeting of the Medicine Circle, the decision was made to maintain a cycle of conferences throughout the year on advances in medical specializations that doctors of the Agrupación would present to registered doctors, even if they did not belong to the ranks of the A. C. U. The conferences have already begun, and the outcome was an A. C. U. conference room completely full of doctors that are not agrupados. The Agrupación can be proud of having a distinguished professional, and sometimes several, in every branch of medical specialization, capable of attracting a great many professionals to their presentations.

NATIONAL SURVEY

ABOUT RELIGIOUS SENTIMENT AMONG THE CUBAN PEOPLE

The B. I. P. scientific apostolate, set itself the goal of dotting Cuban Catholicism with a strategic map of our Nation that would clearly show the ideology of our

people and the different influences it receives from diverse proselytizing organizations that proliferate in Cuba.

If the apostolate is going to be effective, the ideological terrain over which the Catholic teaching will be projected must be well-known, if not it runs the risk of creating utopian soldiers that waste their efforts in absurd battles with fierce enemies that do not exist.

Thus surged the idea of "surveys," scientific systems that explore public opinion and give a realistic idea of the public conscience.

To give an idea of how laborious this unique system for learning the truth about public opinion is, suffice it to say that there are powerful institutions dedicated solely to this work. Institutions that invest large capital on technicians that prepare, distribute, tabulate, and draft reports from those tabulations.

The Agrupación had to throw itself completely into this task in order to carry out an effort so necessary for Cuban Catholicism at a ludicrously low cost (compared to the typical cost of these surveys).

The B. I. P. has explored the national conscience three times: to study Protestantism in Cuba, to learn about the religious sentiment among the people of Cuba, and to learn about the religious sentiment of our university students.

The fruit of these laborious surveys are the graphics displayed on these pages.

EXISTENCE OF GOD National Totals

Response	Percent
EXISTS	96.5%
DOES NOT EXIST	1.5%
NO RESPONSE	2.0%

CAN THE VIRGIN ASSIST OR PROTECT THOSE ON EARTH ASKING FOR HER INTERCESSION? National Totals

Response	Percent
YES SHE CAN	85.5%
NO SHE CAN NOT	9.5%
NO RESPONSE	5.0%

IS JESUS CHRIST GOD? National Totals

Response	Percent
JESUS IS GOD	66.5%
JUST A MAN	22.0%
NO RESPONSE	11.5%

RELIGION National Totals

Response	Percent
NO RELIGION	19.0%
CATHOLIC	72.5%
PROTESTANT	6.0%
JEWISH	0.5%
SPIRITUALIST	1.0%
SANTERIA	0.5%
MASON	0.5%

DIVORCE National Totals

Response	YES	NO	No Response
CONVENIENT?	60.0%	36.0%	4.0%
SHOULD ONE REMARRY?	61.5%	33.0%	5.5%
IS DIVORCE ABUSED IN CUBA?	82.0%	11.0%	6.5%

SELECTED PARAGRAPHS FROM THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE A. C. U. RESIDENCE

I. – The Agrupación Católica Universitaria has a student Residence in the social area that is available for all its residents to enjoy.

The social area of the A. C. U. is splendid. Besides religious assistance, Chapel, dedicated Spiritual Directors, etc., it also has other spacious areas, such as Libraries, specialized by career, 20 exclusive study rooms for associates, areas for classes and study circles, large playroom, adjoining patio and garden, etc.

The rooms of the new floor were designed with perfect comfort for the student in mind, with two windows for each student for natural light and ventilation.

II. – Beyond the materiality of its building, the human element that uses it, the Residence aspires to be a model of best practices when it comes to selection of university student; thus, it is required that the applicant:

a) Want to be a practicing Catholic, using the means provided by the A. C. U. for this purpose.

b) Want to excel in his career through constant and serious study.

c) Follow, with ease and goodwill, the order and discipline at the Residence, and the observations that may be made to the resident on these points.

d) Be a well-educated person in his dealing with people and things.

III. – The governance of the Residence is the same as that of the A. C. U. to which it belongs.

IV. – The lack of truth and sincerity, such as lies, cheating, trickery, etc., even if not serious unto themselves, hinder trust, friendship, and familial spirit that should reign among our residents and its Directors, and make the permanence among us of liars or those who are insincere completely undesirable.



In the waiting room of the A. C. U. there is always a swarm of students, usually residents. They tend to sit there in order to wait for the rosary, which is prayed in the Chapel at half past six in the afternoon, or to await their turn to enter the room of the spiritual director, or simply to chat a while and read one of many magazines that are received at the A. C. U. from all parts of the world.



The Agrupación makes an effort to maintain the most cordial relations with Catholic youth associations that work in the university field. In an environment of intimate fellowship, residents of A. C. U. met with residents of Catholic Home, managed by the Federation. Guests of our residents went to a dinner that served, as noted in an exchange of talks, to further intensify a union of young university men that share ideals: those of infusing the spirit of Christ in the university environment.



The modern canteen, nestled in one of the galleries that abut the central patio of the A. C. U., is one of its most functional areas, and of course...one of the most visited.



The rooms of the Residence are spacious and contain, besides beds, a large bookcase where the resident keeps his instruments of work, two study tables, a big closet to keep his clothes, and a bathroom. When a resident visits a neighboring room, he is received at the door or is invited to sit...on the bed.

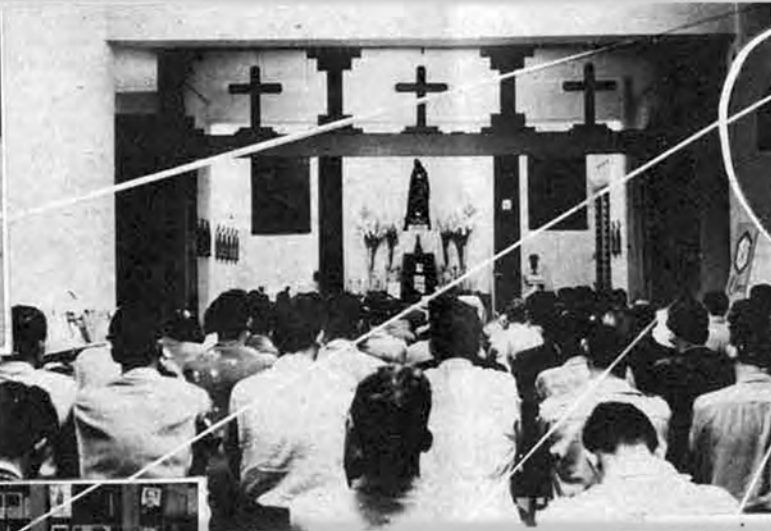


“Community dinners” are occasionally shared in the Residence, under the supervision of the Father Directors and the assisting Brother, in order to resolve issues that concern residents, or simply to acquaint the newly arrived residents with the older ones. There is a tendency for normal student things to come up, such as this spontaneous orator that, among the peals of laughter of his peers, is probably turning the alluded resident’s cheeks red hot with his words.

LIFE AT THE RESIDENCE



Very early in the morning, Father Director begins to awaken residents who have asked him to do so in order to go to Mass. Sometimes a simple tap on the window is enough to wake them.



A great number of students and professionals tend to join the residents that attend early Mass. This is the first celebration of the day.



Those not able to attend Mass because of their occupations often receive Communion at other times throughout the morning, up until midday.



Before turning to daily occupations, there tends to be an exchange of impressions in the reception area of the A. C. U.



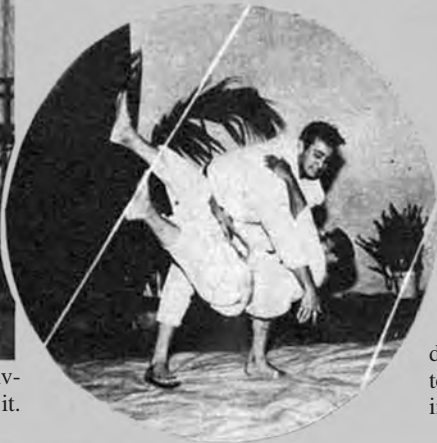
Later, many of them go up to the Library to initiate a long day of study, which is a vital part of the resident.



Others prefer to study in the privacy of their own rooms.



Physical exercise is necessary as a rest from the daily intellectual activities and the gymnasium at the A. C. U. is the most appropriate place for it.



In the residence for post-graduates, professionals consult their problems before going out to their daily battle.



Some prefer to dedicate themselves to their favorite sport, in this case "judo."



It is time for dinner, and, logical in a university environment, clever jokes circulate around tables full of residents.



After dinner, but before getting back to studying, light chatter relaxes those in the patio of the A. C. U.



Those arriving from their classes at the university check the mailbox looking for correspondence from home.



Later, they emigrate to other rooms in search of books.



The day's studies are finished, and the idler residents get together in their rooms to hear stories and anecdotes from the classic "nocturnal chatters" of the Agrupación.



And those that due to their occupations are not able to pray the rosary in the afternoon hours do not wish to retire to rest without offering that gift to the Most Holy Virgin.

WORKS OF PROFESSIONALS

One can serve God in many ways, with charitable works, giving alms, doing work of catechesis... There are those who abandon everything they have... and follow Him; they are the privileged ones that have felt the sweet voice of the Master that is called **RELIGIOUS VOCATION**.

And even within Religious Vocation, the Lord calls to different paths: vocations may be Franciscan, Dominican, Jesuit...

But there is a profound difference between serving God in any other way and serving him within the frame of religious vocation: he who follows the path of the vocation **surrenders himself completely** to the service of God through the labors of apostolate appropriated to his Order, because **the better he is in his Order, the more he serves God** who took him down that path.

The professionals of the Agrupación, as they practice their careers, do so thinking that it is one of the many vocational routes to which God calls, and that their **vocation is religious**, and though it may not lead them to an Order, it still calls for **complete surrender**.

During their student phase they have learned that their perfection as apostles will fundamentally depend on their perfection as professionals.

Therefore the Professional from the A. C. U. surrenders himself completely to his career, and turns his life into desire for constant professional perfection, friar of his career, religious zealot that sees the Will of God in his Firm, his Office, or his Practice, and gives himself up entirely to his career, the route God has placed him in to march toward Him.

Hence, the high professional standard of the A. C. U., hence, the professorships achieved, hence, the scientific prestige of these professionals, because they feel responsible before God for the vocation given to them; while it does not belong to an Order, it is religious and also calls for complete surrender.

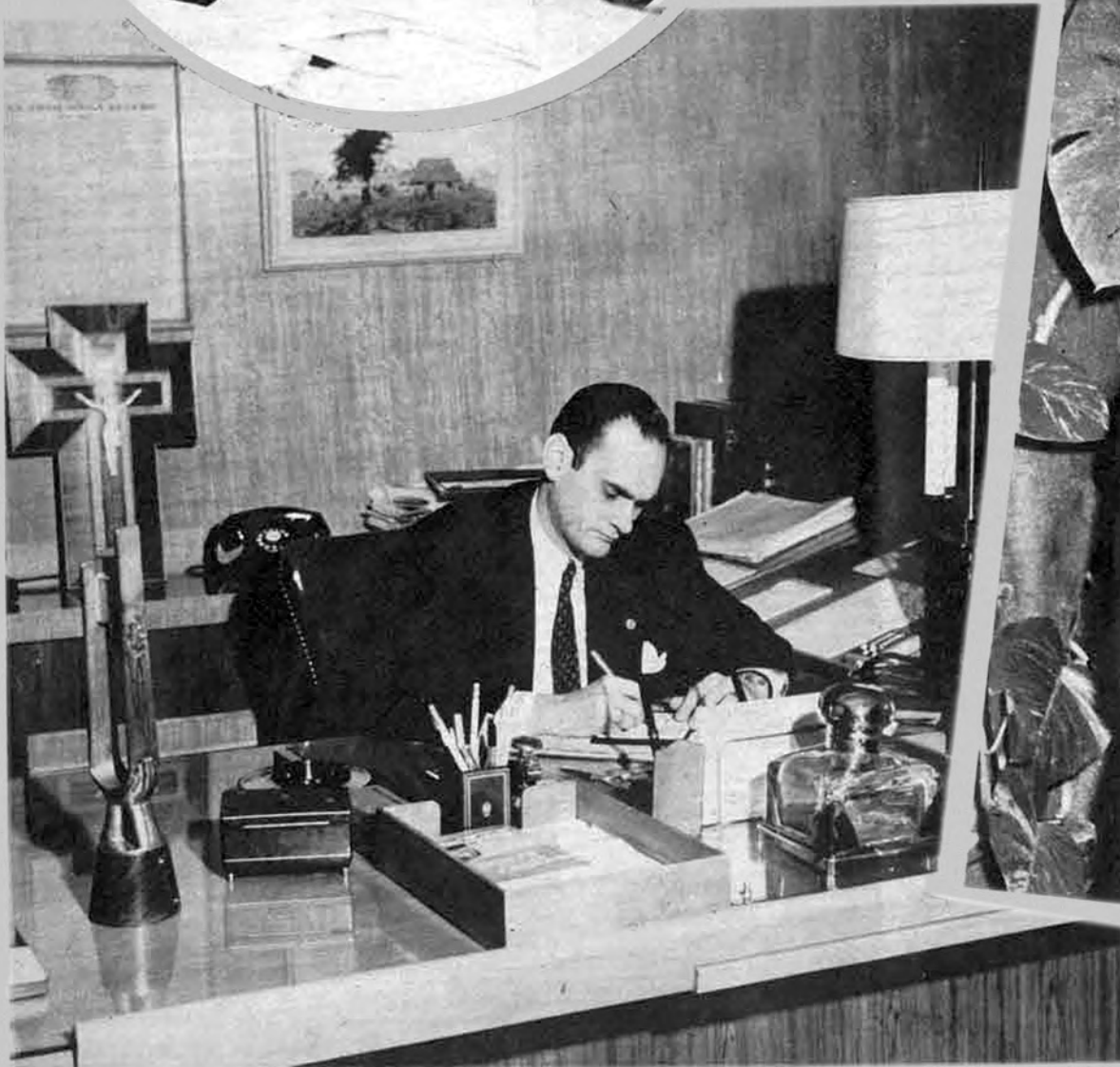
The motto of professionals of the A. C. U.: **To God through one's profession.**

A. C. U. MEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE



Dr. Juan Antonio Rubio Padilla, ex Minister of Health and ex Minister without portfolio, initiator of the A. C. U.

Dr. Alonso Avila, House Representative.



Dr. Alonso Avila, House Representative. Dr. Angel Fernández Varela, Subdirector of "Information" and ex-House Representative, Master of the Agrupación.

José Ignacio Rivero, Director of "Diario de la Marina."

A. C. U. ATTORNEYS



Dr. Marino Pérez Durán. Ex-President of the Agrupación, Dean of the Villanova University College of Law, Secretary of the National Federation of Catholic Schools. Master of the Agrupación.



Dr. Jorge Casteleiro of the "Salaya Casteleiro" law firm. Ex-President of the Agrupación and member for many years of the Board of Directors.



Dr. José G. y López de Villalta. Notary public.



Dr. Manuel Vega Penichet. Assistant of Foreign Affairs of the Board of Directors of the Agrupación.

A. C. U. ENGINEERS



Engineer José Sust, Associate Professor of the College of Civil Engineering of the University of Havana, Master of the Agrupación.



Engineer Melchor Gastón, Administrator of "Central Dolores," President of Small Landowners of Cuba, and Catholic Entrepreneurs.

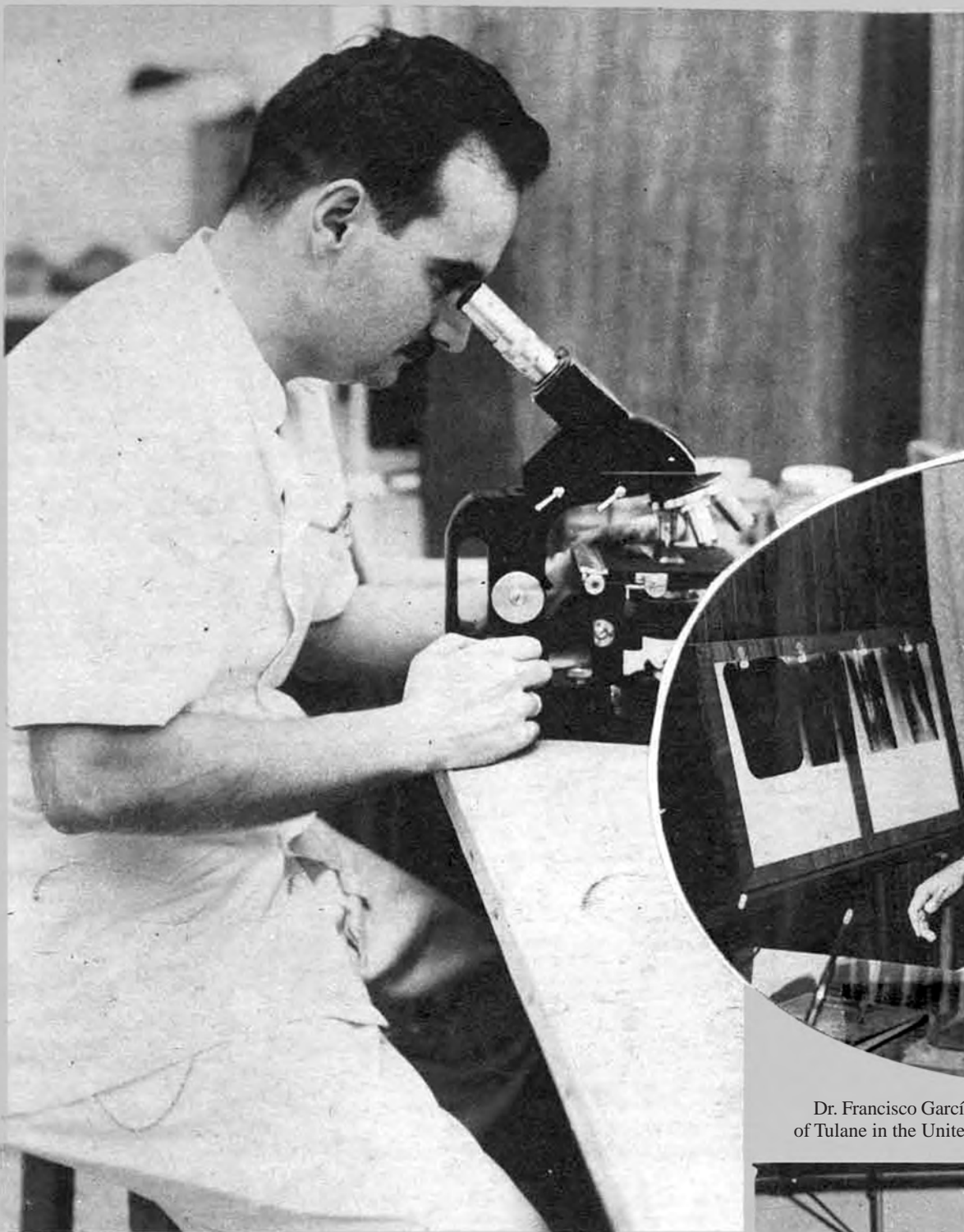


Engineer Jorge Echarte, President of the Agrupación.



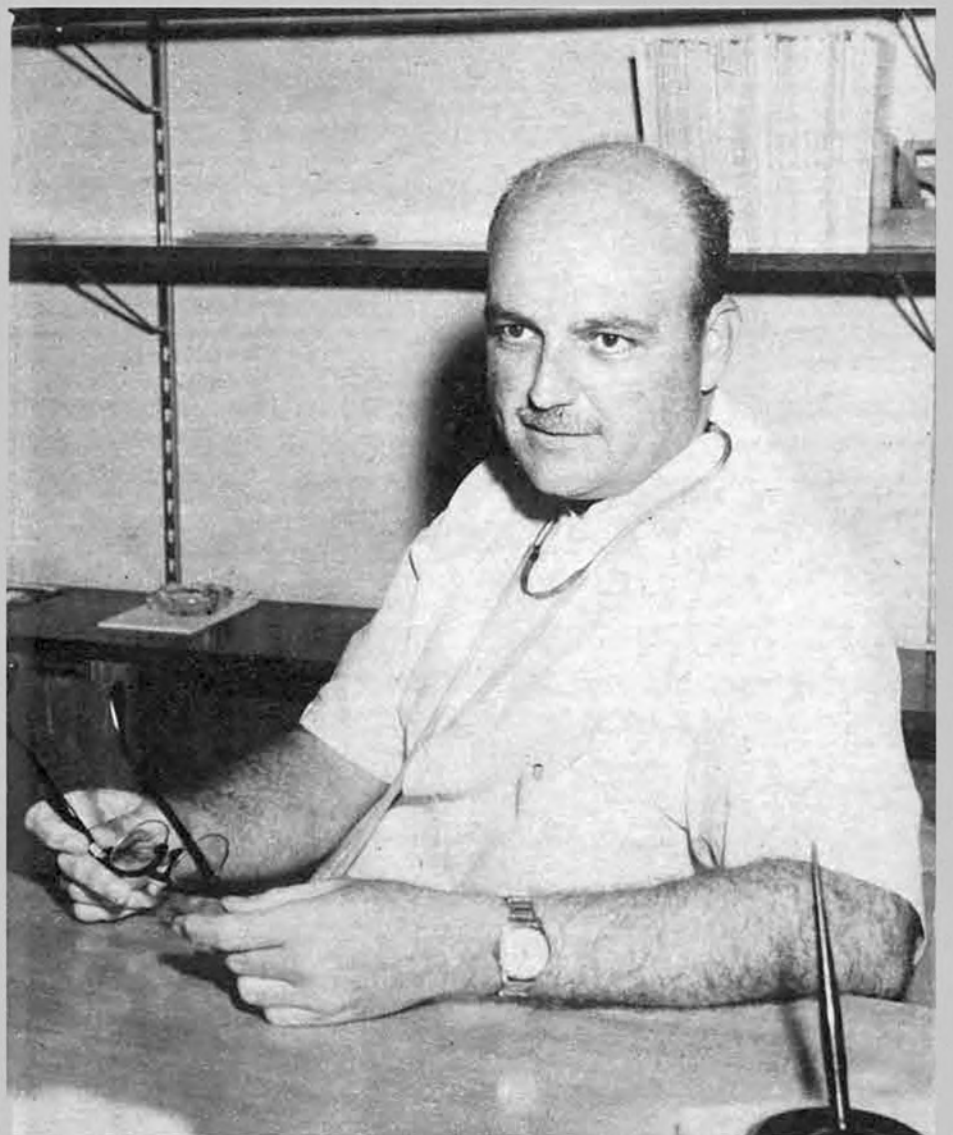
Engineer Mario Suárez, Analyst of the National Concrete Company, Professor of Villanova University.

A. C. U. DOCTORS



Dr. Francisco García Bengochea. Ex-Professor of Neurosurgery of the University of Tulane in the United States.

Dr. Victoriano Pardo. Board of Anatomy and Pathological Histology of the United States, anatomist-pathologist of the Gordon Ward at Calixto García Hospital.

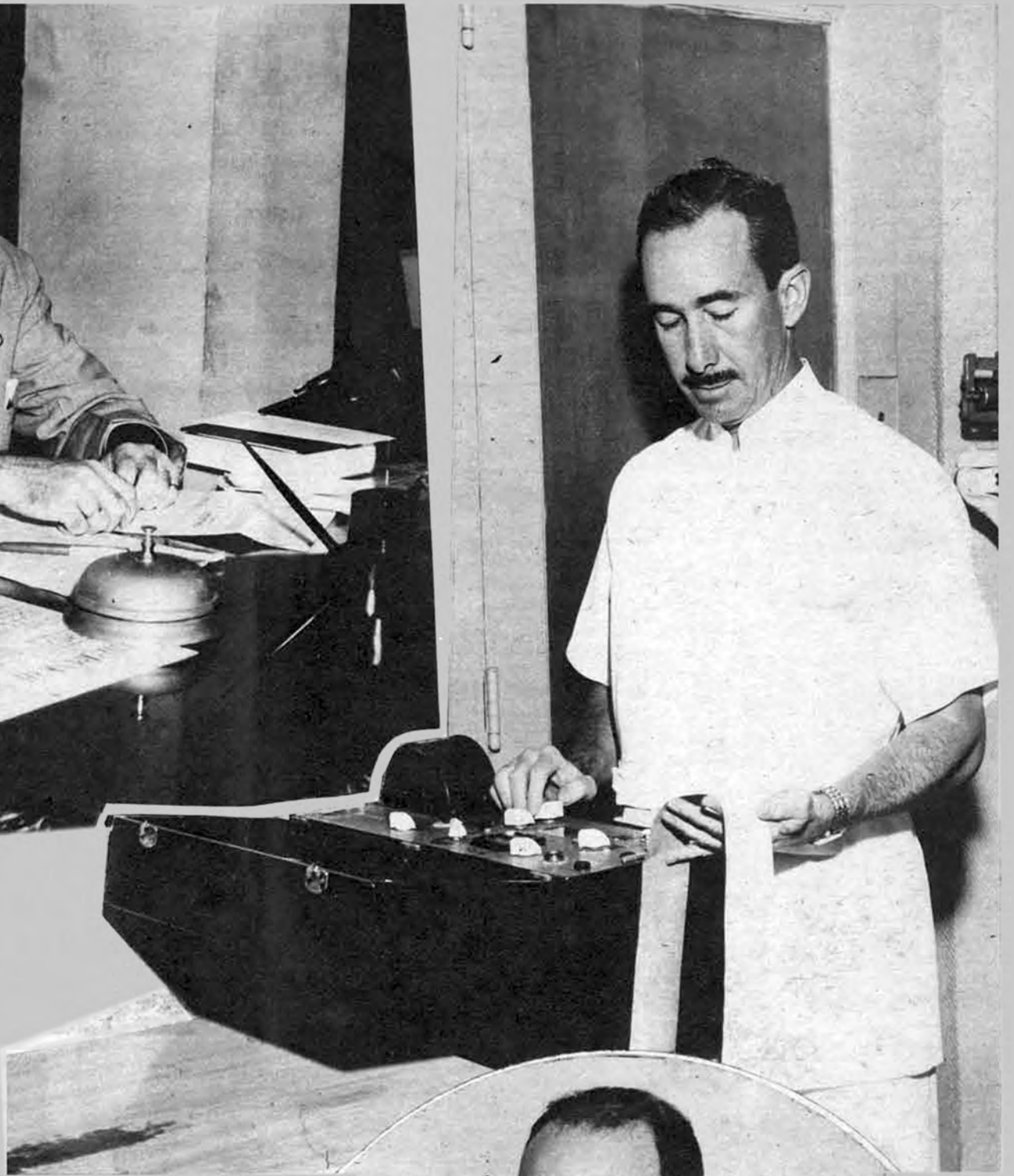


Dr. Armando Ruiz Leiro. Master of the Agrupación. Associate Professor of the School of Pharmacology of the University of Havana. Head of the Clinic of Quinta Covadonga. Head of the Veterans' Ward of Calixto García Hospital. Founder of the Center for Medical Studies.

Dr. Carlos Martínez Arango. Master of the Agrupación. President of the Catholic Institute of Psychiatry. Director of "Sanitarium San Juan de Dios."



Dr. Luis de Velasco. President of the Odonatological National College.



Dr. Sergio Alvarez Mena. Ex-President of the Agrupación. Instructor of Medical Pathology of the College of Medicine of the University of Havana. Head of Cardiology of the Ward of said College.



Dr. Marcelo Alonso. Technical Director of the National Commission of Nuclear Energy. Professor of Nuclear Physics of the Universities of Havana and Villanova.



Architect Eugenio Batista. Professor of the School of Architecture of the University of Villanova.

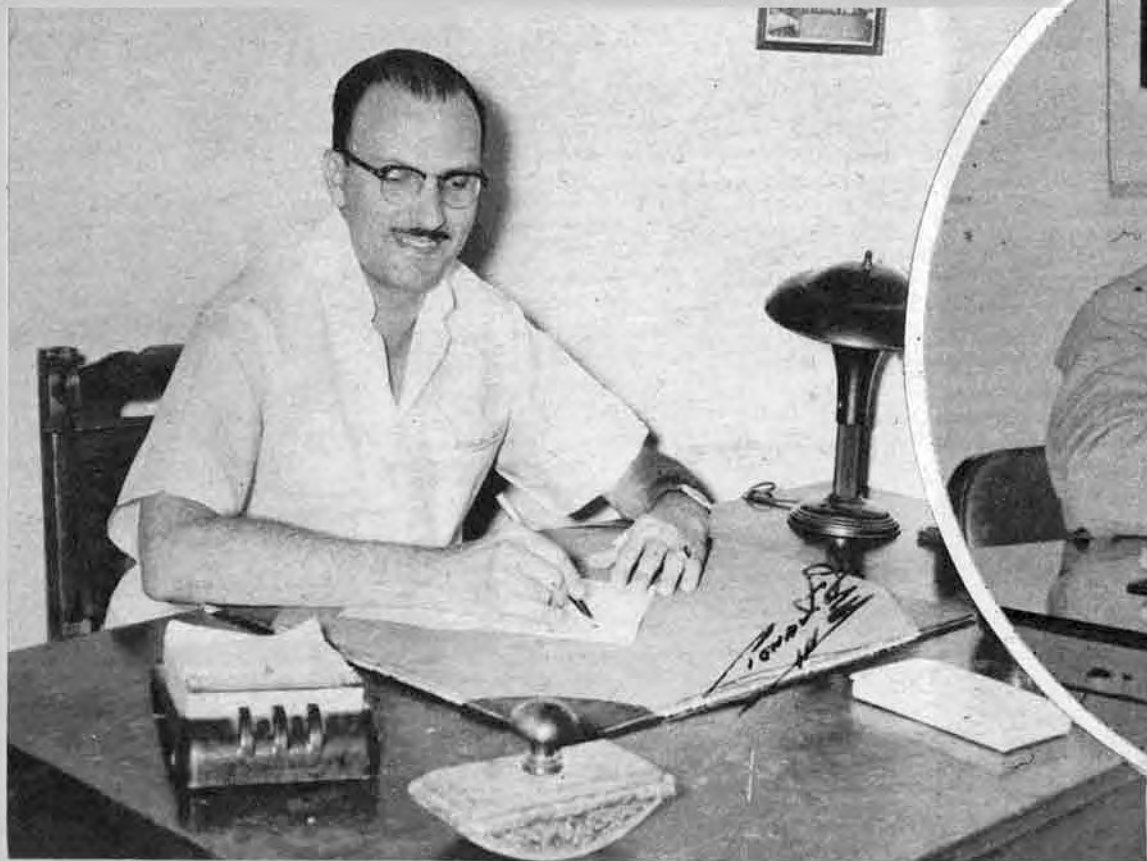


1 – Dr. Antonio Ravelo Mariño, Professor of Industrial Accounting and Business Administration and Secretary of the College of Economic and Commercial Sciences at the University of Oriente.

2 – Dr. Ramón Arias, Doctor of Commercial Sciences, President of Union No. 7 of Catholic Gentlemen of Manzanillo, President of the Commission of Public Accountants of Manzanillo, Delegate for Oriente to the National Assembly of the College of Public Accountants of Cuba.

3 – Dr. Guillermo Bravo, Chief Engineer of the Central Plant of Manacas of Hatuey Brewery.

4 – Dr. Rigoberto León Díaz, doctor, Great Knight Delegate of the San Jeronimo Council number 4016 of the Order of Knights of Columbus, Victoria of las Tunas, and President of Catholic activities within that organization.



Agrupado Families



The Alberto Camacho and Silvia San Pedro family with their eight children.

The family is, without doubt, the solid and indestructible unit of the Nation, and since the primary aim of the A. C. U. is to struggle relentlessly to elevate the Nation to God, the creation of model Christian families is one of the most fruitful labors of the Agrupación.

And this is precisely one of the fields in which the A. C. U. can stand proud and show Cuba a group of families that serves as role model for the home Christ wants for his followers.

Large families, exemplary counterpoints to the materialist and today's absurd systems; Catholic families, not of insubstantial and lukewarm Catholicism, but rather of active spiritual life and apostolate. Agrupado families that have as their goal and ideal in life the sentence they teach their children from a young age: "To Christ through Mary."



The Manolo Vega Penichet and Graciela López family with their ten children.



The Manolo Suárez and Elita Gastón family with their 13 children.

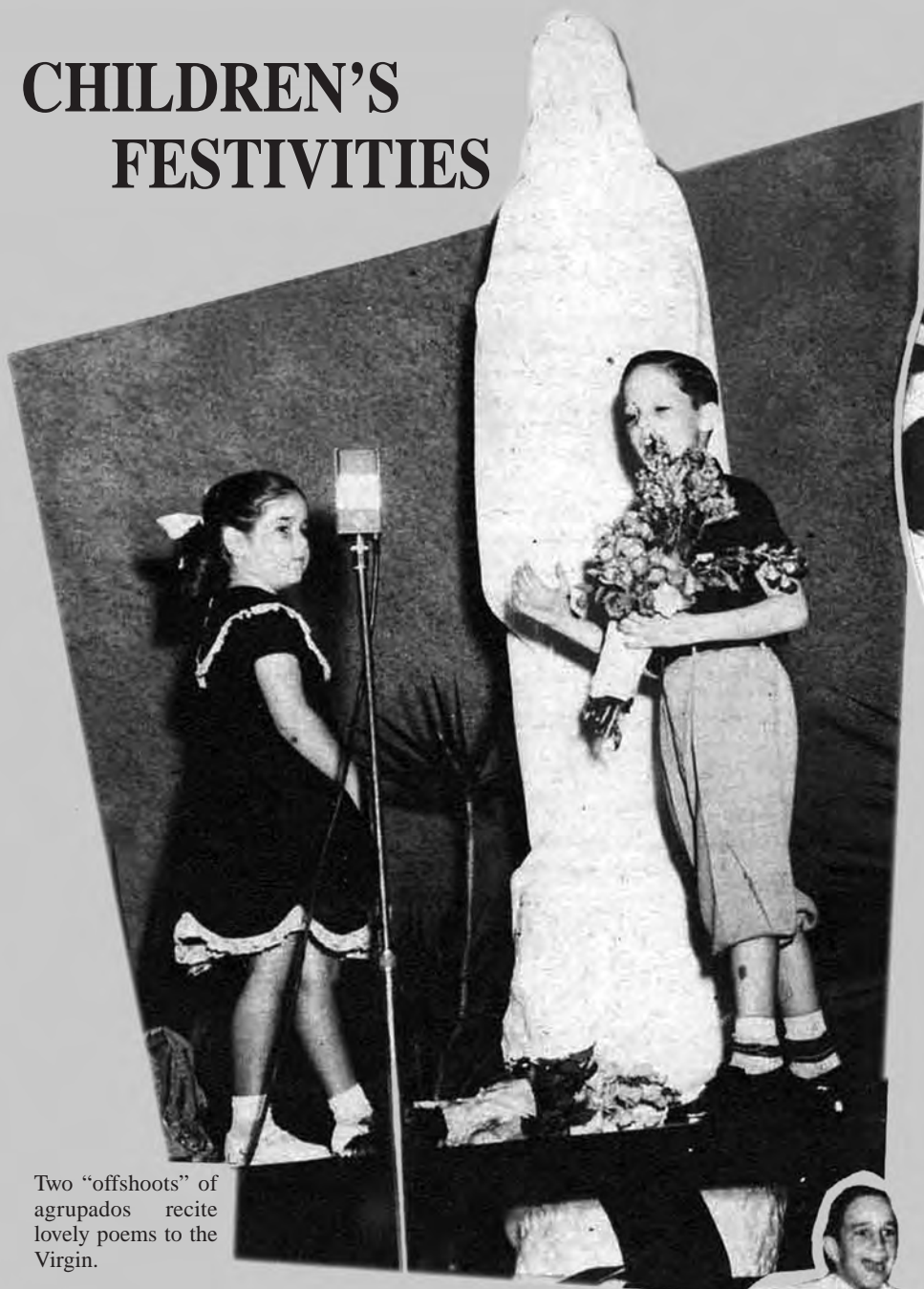


The Renán Lórenz and Terina Carvajal family with their eight children.



The José López y García de Villalta and Tarsila García family with their seven children.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVITIES



Two "offshoots" of agrupados recite lovely poems to the Virgin.



Blindfolded, they must pass the mug of cocoa from one to another.

To celebrate the day of the Holy Family, the Agrupación gathers the families of its members every year in a celebration that begins with Mass and ends with a children's festival.

Since the Agrupación came into possession of land at Coronela, "La Asunción" farm has been the ideal location for the festivities of this great day.

After the blessing of the children of agrupados by the A.C.U's Father Director, the horde of children scatters over the grounds of the farm where horse rides, sack races, carousels and piñatas bring fun and joy to the flock of children and... their parents.

The spirit of the home of Nazareth is fully alive on his day.



Adults also enjoy the piñata.



Sack races give joy to the children and parents who watch them.

The magician entertains the troop of children.

A. C. U. "Cana" Groups



FOUNDERS "CANA" GROUP

To facilitate the assimilation of the spirit of the Agrupación by wives of agrupados, and to encourage their participation in the life of the Agrupación, several agrupado married couples began, some years ago, to meet in one of their houses, taking advantage of those nights to read and discuss books on religious formation.

They consulted Father Llorente, who received the idea warmly and proposed to form other groups willing to adopt a like system of formation.

The first group was called Cana, in memory of the wedding in the Gospel, and a great many of them were organized.

These groups meet once a week in the home of one of the participating families and each month have a joint meeting with Father Llorente at the A. C. U.

Currently, there are eleven groups with more forming. And thus advance agrupado marriages, in deep spiritual intimacy, towards the conquest of eternal salvation by planting model homes in Cuba.



"ST. IGNATIUS" GROUP



"FATIMA" GROUP



"NAZARETH" GROUP



"BELEN" GROUP



"ST. THERESA"
GROUP



"HOLY FAMILY" GROUP, of the teams of marriages
of the Agrupación.



"LOURDES" GROUP



GASTON FAMILY

A family, with Agrupación tradition, in which two men are agrupados and the five sisters are married to distinguished agrupados.



Two students that worked in the parody of "Hamlet" pose for a picture as they finish their performance at the A. C. U. theater.

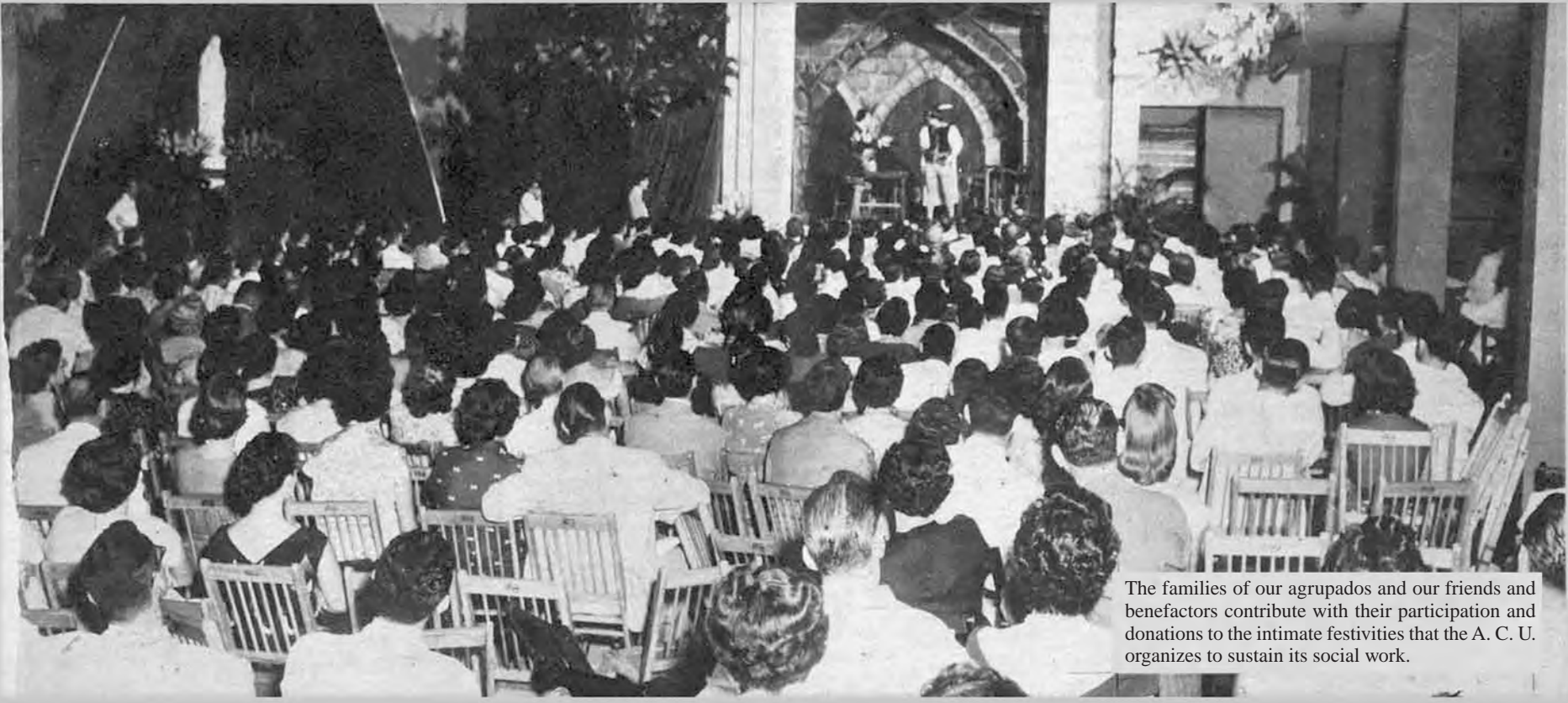


A scene from the latest comedy presented by the student group of A. C. U. theater, "Romeo's Complex."

A scene from the humorous play, "Romeo's Complex," presented in the A. C. U.'s patio in celebration of the Agrupación's Student Festival.



"Hamlet" talks on the phone with "Ophelia," in a humorous scene of the parody of "Hamlet."



The families of our agrupados and our friends and benefactors contribute with their participation and donations to the intimate festivities that the A. C. U. organizes to sustain its social work.

The "Cor Unum" group of daughters of agrupados, older than 14, meets to better their formation, cooperate with the work of the Agrupación, and perform works of Apostolate.



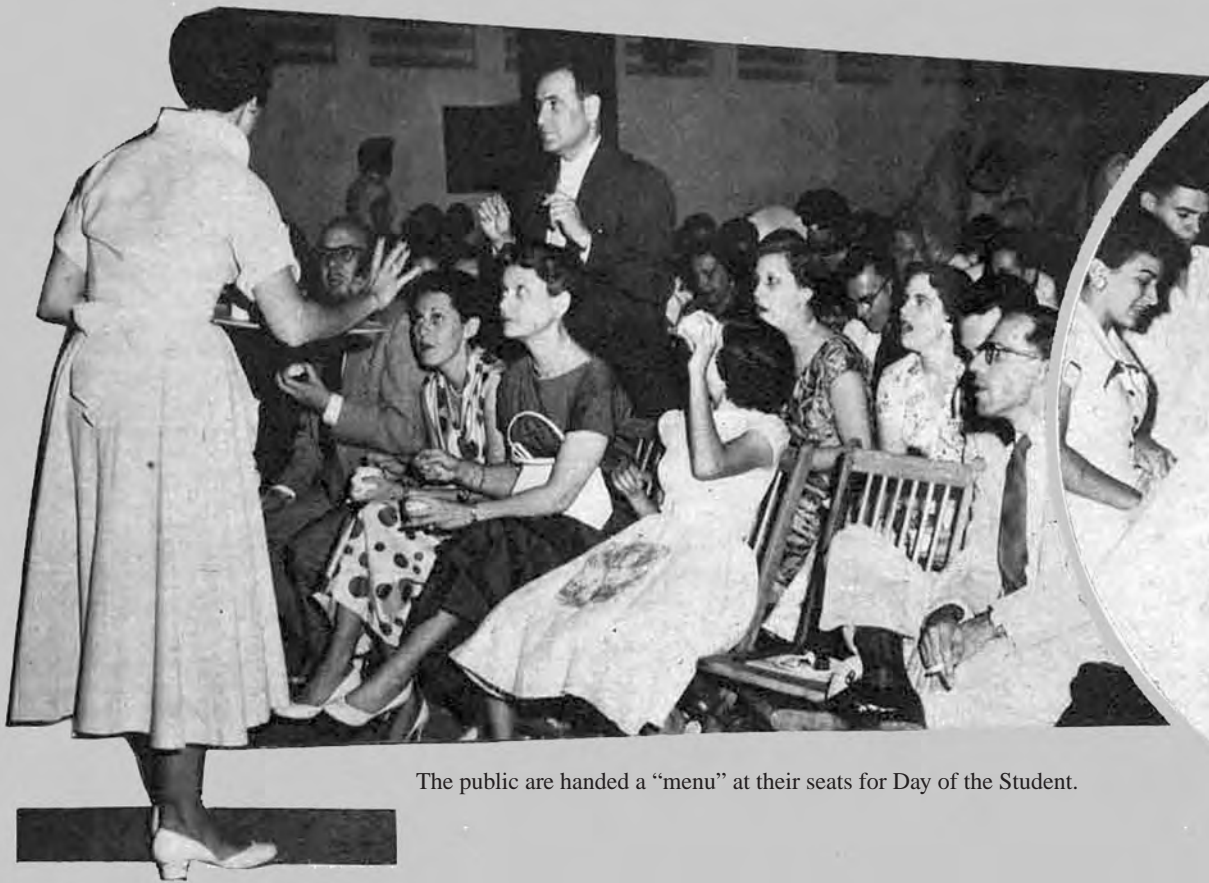
Group members coming together to decide about the tasks to be carried out during the Via Crucis of Calvary.



"COR UNUM" GROUP OF THE DAUGHTERS OF AGRUPADOS. - Machine sewing. - The spokesperson of Study, Miss Lala Suárez, working with the president in one of the meetings dedicated to sewing, Miss Loló Casteleiro, and with the Social spokesperson, Miss Margarita Fernández Llano, on making baby baskets for impoverished families in Yaguas and La Lisa; one of the works of apostolate of the "Cor Unum" group of Daughters of Agrupados.



Secretary with meeting minutes. - The secretary, Miss Carmencita Rouco, reading the minutes of the previous meeting, and answering questions from the spokesperson of Piety, Miss Teresita Suárez, regarding the date that was to be chosen for distribution of baby baskets.



The public are handed a "menu" at their seats for Day of the Student.



One of the drink-stands moved in for the Day of the Student.



Court of Mary Reparatrix young ladies' group that cooperates efficiently in the social works of the Agrupación and also takes part in the organization of festivities that are celebrated by the A. C. U. for the benefit of social works.

The agrupados and their spouses are the ones in charge of tending to diners at festivities organized by the Agrupación for the benefit of social works. →



Adult and young ladies of the Court of Mary Reparatrix prepare the "buffet" for a benefit festivity at the A. C. U.'s central patio.

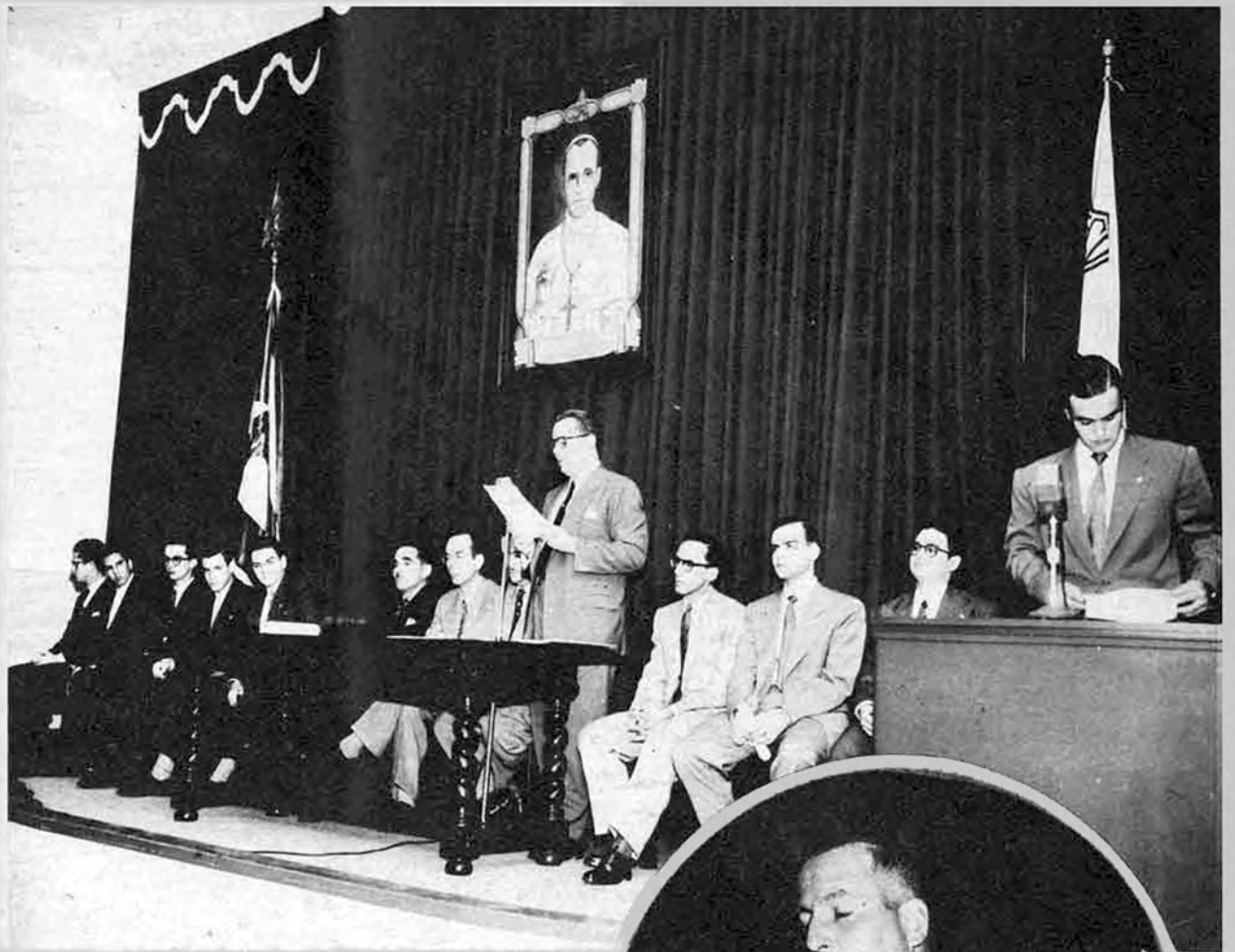


A view of the banquet hosted at the A. C. U.'s Celebrations Hall in honor of the naming of Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga, as President of the Word Federation of Marian Sodalties.

Apostolic Assembly



His Most Reverend Eminence, Monsignor Manuel Arteaga, Archbishop of Havana, and honorary agrupado, closes the Apostolic Assembly on "Protestantism in Cuba."



Agrupados that took part in the Apostolic Assembly, and studied the principal pontifical documents of Pius XII, in filial tribute to the Supreme Pontiff.

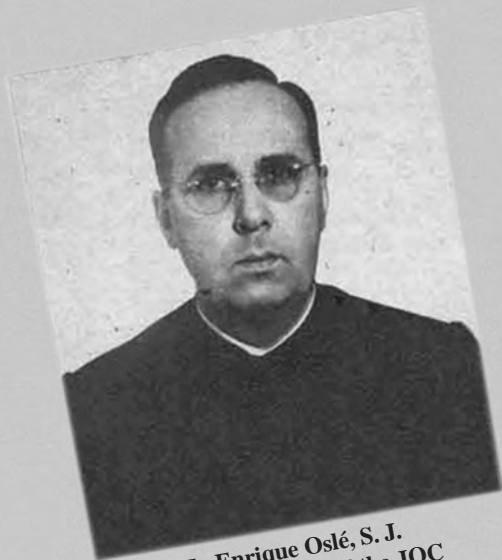


One topic of great interest at the Apostolic Assembly was "The religious sentiments of the people of Cuba." →

Apostolic Assembly. Key event in the life of the Agrupación brings together many agrupados, family members and friends in Celebrations Hall.



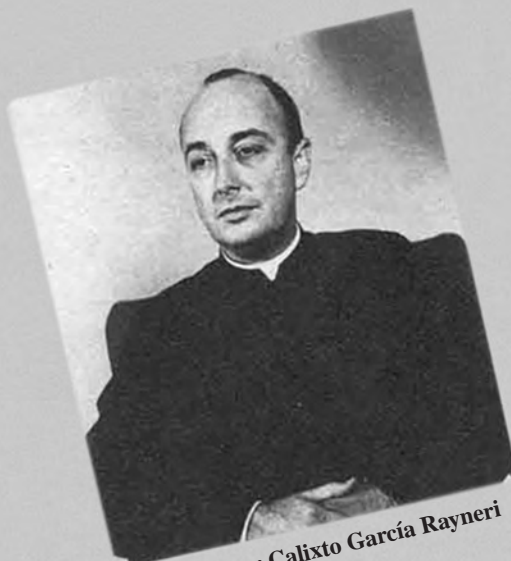
A . C . U . R E L I G I



Fr. Enrique Oslé, S. J.
National Assessor of the JOC



Fr. Alberto de Castro, S. J.



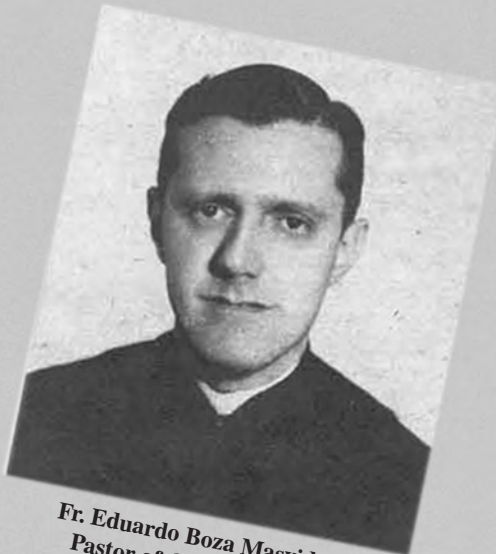
Monsignor Calixto García Rayneri



Fr. Luis Ripoll, S. J.



Manuel Estrada, S. J.



Fr. Eduardo Boza Masvidal,
Pastor of Charity Parish



Oscar de Castro, S. J.



José Miyares, S. J.



Ernesto Martín, S. J.



Fr. René Le...
Director of the House
Exercises of Calvary
of the "Legion"



Carlos Rodríguez, S. J.



Jorge Sardiña, S. J.



Jorge Munguía, S. J.



Francisco Pérez Lerena, S. J.



Eduardo Habach, S. J.

It was there, by the dusty path
Jesus was lovingly raised to tell the
him: "If you would be perfect, go,
to the poor, and you will have treasure
me."
And the Gospel goes on to say
sad because he was rich.
Twenty centuries have passed since
Twenty centuries through which t
ears.
That was his message to accom
earth.
There he marked the path to prie
Today, at the A. C. U., far from
the God-Man preach, but faithful r
has been heard the voice of Jesus
spirit.
The divine invitation to the life
go unheard there.
"If you would be perfect..." And
soft, loving, resonates with gloriou
C. U.
And the Agrupación answered t
forcefulness, splendor: thirty-one
to the call of the Lord, thirty-one
picked up their cross and have foll
The Agrupación blesses the depa
ranks will now be propelled by its

THE AGRUPACION PRAYS TO GOD TH

IOUS VOCATIONS

paths of Judea, where the voice of
 all the young man that interrogated
 go, sell what you possess, and give
 treasure in heaven; and come, follow

say that the young man went away

and since those words.

which they have rung in all humanity's

to accomplish true perfection here on

the priesthood with precise limits.

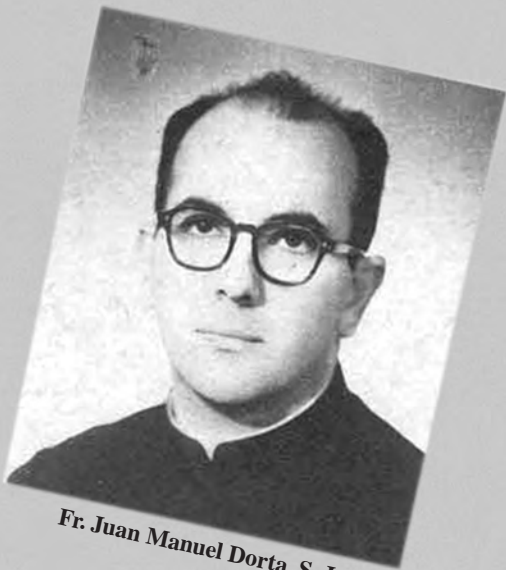
from the glorious Palestine that saw
 a full reflection of the words of Jesus,
 Jesus Christ in the deepest part of its

life of priestly perfection could not

And the voice of the Master, firm,
 glorious timbre in the heart of the A.

answered the call. Answered with valor,
 one of our best sodalists said "here"
 one of our bravest agrupados have
 followed Him.

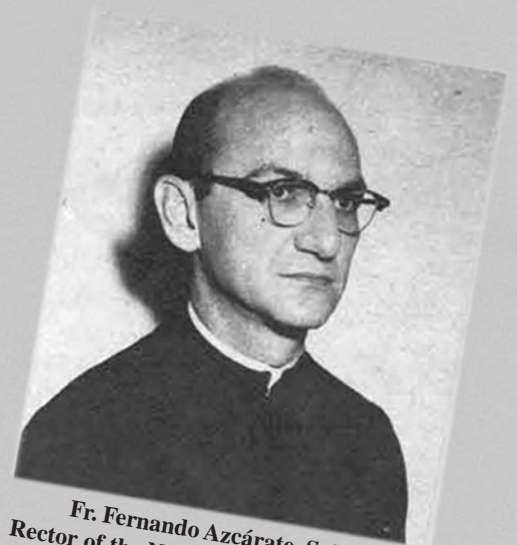
the departure of its faithful sons, for its
 fraternal heroes.



Fr. Juan Manuel Dorta, S. J.



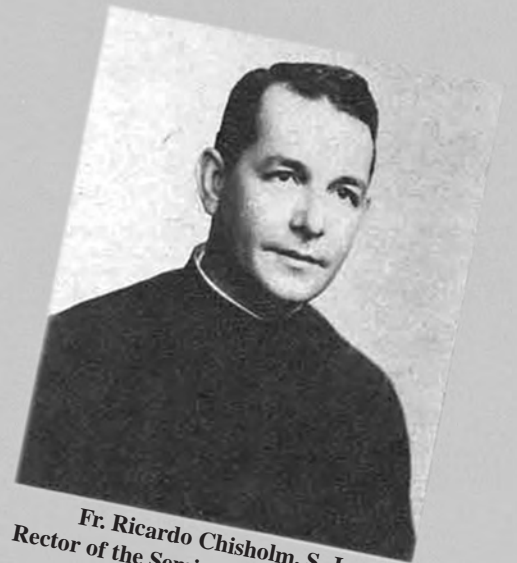
Fr. José López Naranjo, S. J.



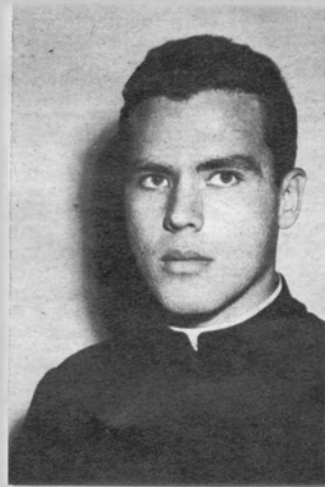
*Fr. Fernando Azcárate, S. J.
 Rector of the Novitiate of S. Estanislao*



*Fr. Juan Suárez,
 Priest of Madruga Parish.*



*Fr. Ricardo Chisholm, S. J.
 Rector of the Seminary of Puerto Rico.*



Nelson García, S. J.



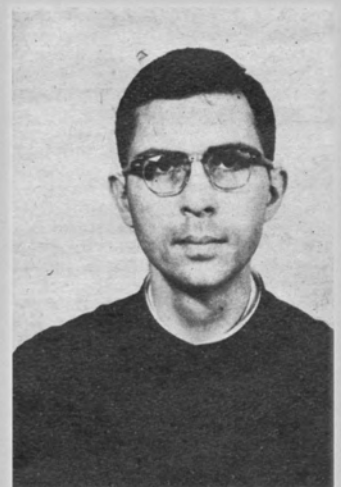
*Fr. José León, S. J.
 House of Spiritual
 Ministry and Chaplain
 of Christ."*



Oscar Mendez, S. J.



Julio Burunat, S. J.



Alberto Roque, S. J.



Ricardo Moreyra, S. J.



Miguel Pichardo, S. J.



Fernando Martínez, S. J.



Federico Arvesú, S. J.



José D. Acosta, S. J.

THANKFULLY FOR ITS BENEFACTORS

THE AGRUPACION AND THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES



If in the world of today the Catholic movement sought a formula encompassing all means to convert negligent Catholicism into militant Catholicism; if one sought a sure way to perfection out of a lackadaisical spiritual life, both things would surely be found in the pious practice that strategist of the soul, St. Ignatius Loyola, published in a book entitled: "Spiritual Exercises to conquer oneself, and regulate one's life, without determining oneself through any tendency that is disordered."

If one wished to know the opinion of the Catholic Church about the effectiveness of the Exercises that the Society of Jesus has introduced all over the world, one could cite, among others, the opinion held by our current Pontiff Pius XII:

So says His Holiness Pius XII: "It is the wisest and most universal spiritual code, endless source of the deepest piety, irresistible encouragement for conversion, safe passage to the highest spirituality and perfection."

Consequently, the Agrupación adopted this great source of spiritual energy as the axis of its life.

In fact, the Exercises are the axis of the spirituality of the Agrupación. The potent vitality that enlivens it is almost completely due to them, as is its eagerness for perfection and its concept of sacrifice and sense of duty. It is necessary to seek in them the origin of its charity, as well as the secret of its union, its discipline, and its strength.

From them must come not only the reformation of life, but also much more, the energies to carry it out in practice. From here, the Board agreed on January 13, 1932 that to become Sodalists all candidates must perform Spiritual Exercises, repeating them every year as strict obligation, such that they may make a stop in their lives periodically to study themselves, determine what they should amend or improve in themselves, and nurture their souls in veneration of mental prayer. This periodic repetition that makes the life of the agrupados develop in annual cycles determined by the schedule of Exercises, is the reason that, as the will to continue the struggle for the next twelve months is strengthened, the spiritual level of the Agrupación is maintained at the desired height.

Thanks to this practice, which has never ebbed, balance and maturity of judgment about the truth of concepts and self-knowledge have been achieved, along with desire for perfection and will to apostolate work are the most salient notes of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria.

Precursor in Cuba of sessions of Spiritual Exercises in retreat for men, the Agrupación has written the most brilliant page of its apostolate by making them known, propagating them, and having them become a natural part of Cuban Catholicism.

First by example and direct promotion, then by the active collaboration of the Patronage Pro-House of Exercises, conceived and given life by agrupados whose creative energy was shaped in the magnificent house of Calvary; it has gotten other organizations to identify themselves with this admirable apostolate, to the point that, with Colegio de Belén and Calvary not being enough to house the amount of men that annually perform exercises in Havana, it has been necessary to construct another house, Pius XII, for use by agrupados, because these were not easily finding space in the other two.

The Agrupación cannot be denied the legitimate pride of setting the foundation for this apostolate, of working to build it up to a level unexpected at its beginning, and of continuing to be its principal agent.

Frs. Felipe Rey de Castro and Amando Llorente at a session with agrupados that they jointly led at the Calvary House of Exercises.



Fr. Felipe Rey de Castro, founder of A. C. U. and originator of Spiritual Exercises for young men in Cuba, at one of the most recent ones given at Calvary.



The agrupado students fill numerous sessions of Spiritual Exercises every year. This picture was taken when the Agrupación did not yet have its own House of Exercises and did them at St. Ignatius House at Calvary.



Fr. Amando Llorente, Director of the Agrupación, with a session for professionals and students at the new Pius XII House of Exercises.

The first session of Exercises for candidates and postulants of the A.C.U. was held in February of 1956, when construction of the Pius XII House of Exercises of the A.C.U. was not yet completely finished.



The "Pius XII" House of Exercises is preparing girls from religious schools for Spiritual Exercises. Here we see a session for "American Dominicans."



The wives of agrupados had a session of Exercises with Fr. Llorente at "Pius XII."



Different views of the session of Exercises given by Fr. Llorente, Director of the Agrupación, to Superiors of Religious Orders

Unarguably, one of the words that jumps to mind when we see and consider this work, is **MONUMENT, A.C.U. MONUMENT**

The House's symbolic value is in the "hidden foundations" that Father Llorente spoke of in his inaugural speech; there, very deep, supporting the concrete foundations in the profundity of humble anonymity; there are the foundations of constant and heroic sacrifice by agrupado families that surrendered totally to the work of the House. Only 25 years of fecund life can bear such fruit.

And the perfume of the monument that is this blessed house is elevated to national levels when the labor of the A.C.U. is projected on it, namely, the spiritual revolution of the Cuban people constituted by the movement of the Exercises of St. Ignatius.

And the pioneering labor takes us back years, to the Holy Week of 1927, during which a young Spanish Jesuit man, Fr. Rey de Castro, in battle against the Cuban environment of the time, cloistered himself in Spiritual Exercises with an initial university group that was willing to do them in Cuba.

There, our founder was placing the cornerstone of the A.C.U. that would march toward God by the same roads as Ignatius of Loyola.

But there also was the breach by this movement, renovator of consciences, that was to give so much light to Cuba and Glory to God.

Therefore, the House of Pius XII is both a monument and a functional symbol of the spirit with which was born and made fruitful the Agrupación throughout 25 years, of the spirit that pouring itself out, opened in Cuba the path towards a new, solid and effective Catholicism.

So... because it was an imperiously vital necessity, because it is sitting on hidden foundations of constant and heroic sacrifices, because it is the spiritual axis on which the Agrupación turns and on which, in fact, is turning the throbbing Cuban Catholicism of today:

This is why these brick walls taste of monument and symbol.

Monument and symbol of 25 years of intense formation.

Monument and symbol of copious crops for Christ's fold.

Monument and symbol of 25 years of constant heroism

Monument and symbol of 25 Marian years of existence, lived only for the greater glory of God. .

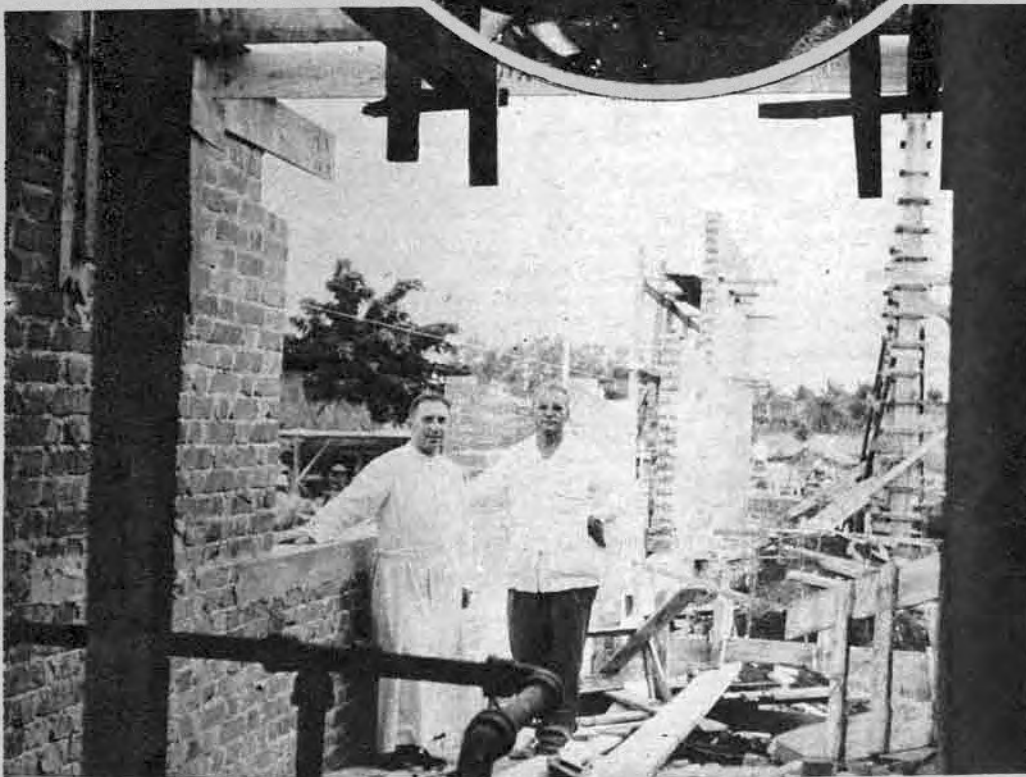


The Most Excellent Nuncio of His Holiness, Luis Centoz, blesses the cornerstone of the House of Exercises.



Ms. Mercy Gastón de Barcia signs the records of the cornerstone. →

Fr. Llorente and Dr. Barcia, the heart of the initiative, inspect the house to assess progress early in the construction of "Pius XII."



Maricusa Olmo, wife of the current President of the Agrupación, Eng. Jorge Echarte, designer and builder of the Pius XII House of Exercises, seals the cornerstone.



Magnificent entrance to the farm owned by the Agrupación on lands of la Coronela, where the "Pius XII" House of Exercises is nestled.

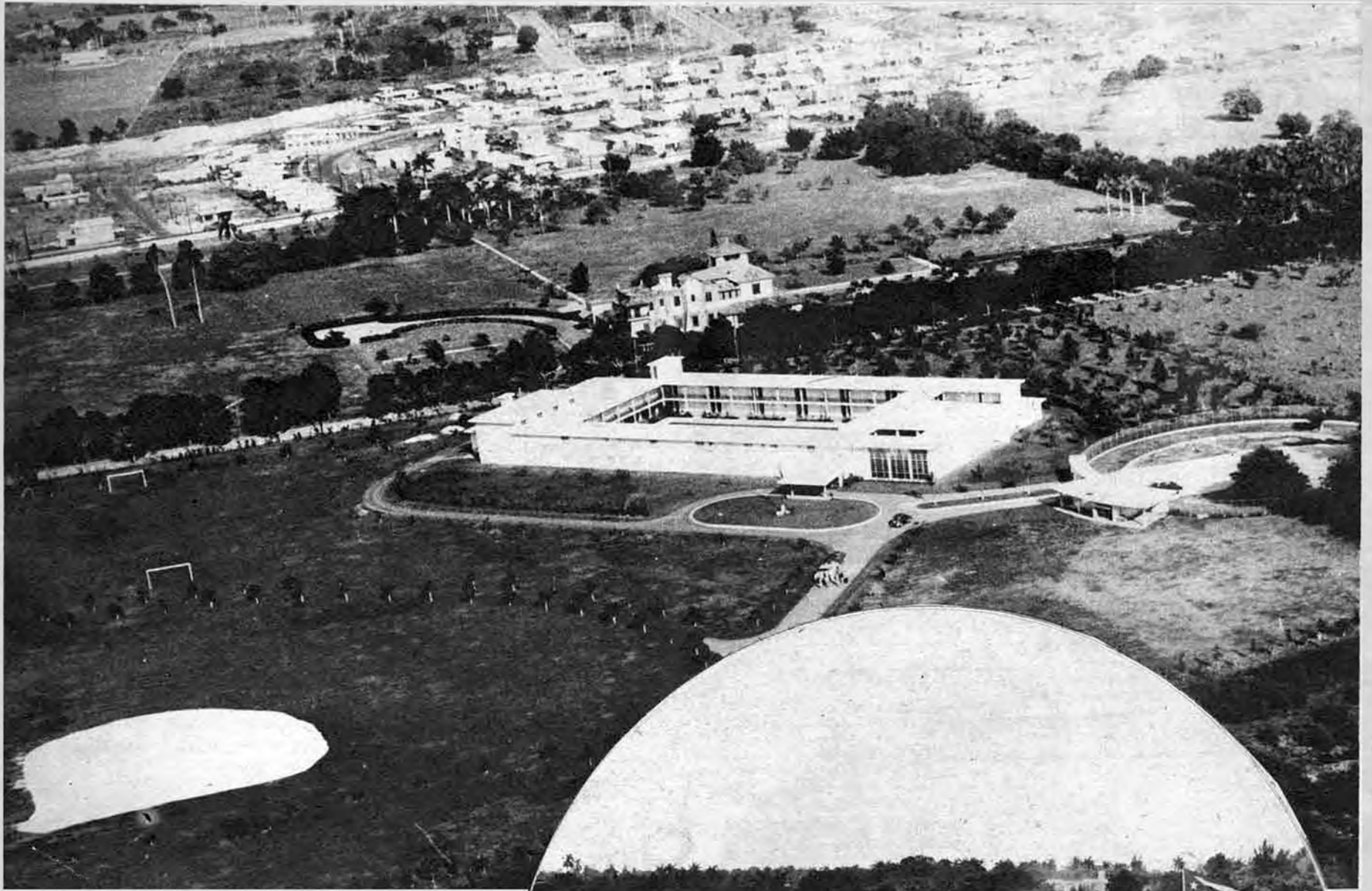
The Most Excellent Nuncio of His Holiness, Luis Centoz, blesses the new A.C.U. "Pius XII" House of Exercises, on the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the A.C.U. From right to left: Rev. Fr. Daniel Baldor, Vice-provincial of the Society of Jesus of the Vice-province of the Antilles; Dr. Julio Morales Gómez, National President of Catholic Action; Fr. Amando Llorente, Director of the A.C.U.; mayor of Marianao, Mr. Orué; Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga, President of the Word Federation of Marian Sodalties, and President of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria, engineer Manual Maza. →



Mrs. Mercy Gastón de Barcia, accompanied by her daughters Josefina and Mercy, cuts the symbolic ribbon, opening the entrance to Pius XII House of Exercises. ←

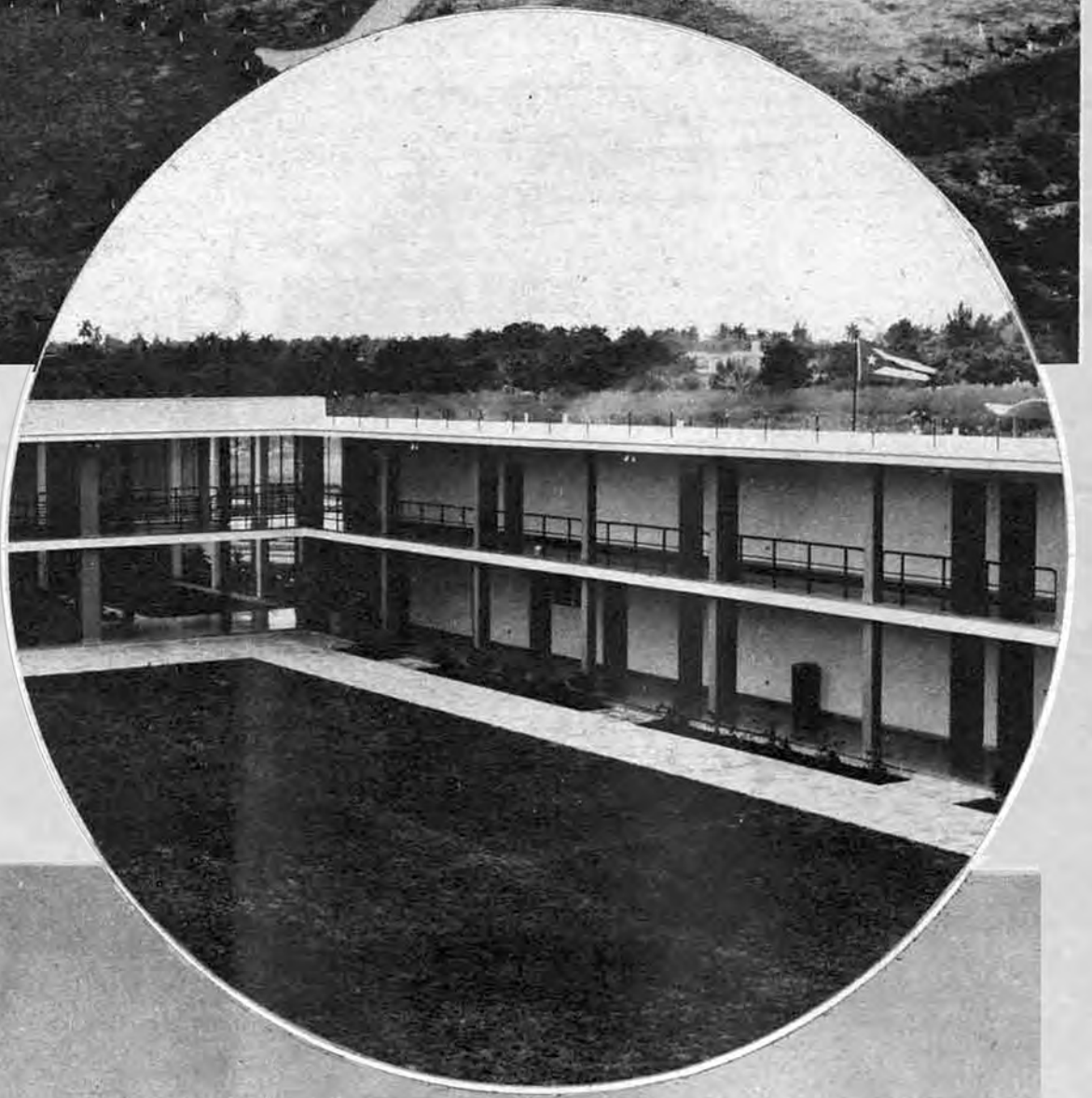
Agrupados, family members, protectors, and friends of the Agrupación attend Mass, celebrated in the farm's picnic shelter, prior to inauguration of the House of Exercises. The Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Calixto García, agrupado, representing His Excellence Cardinal Arteaga.



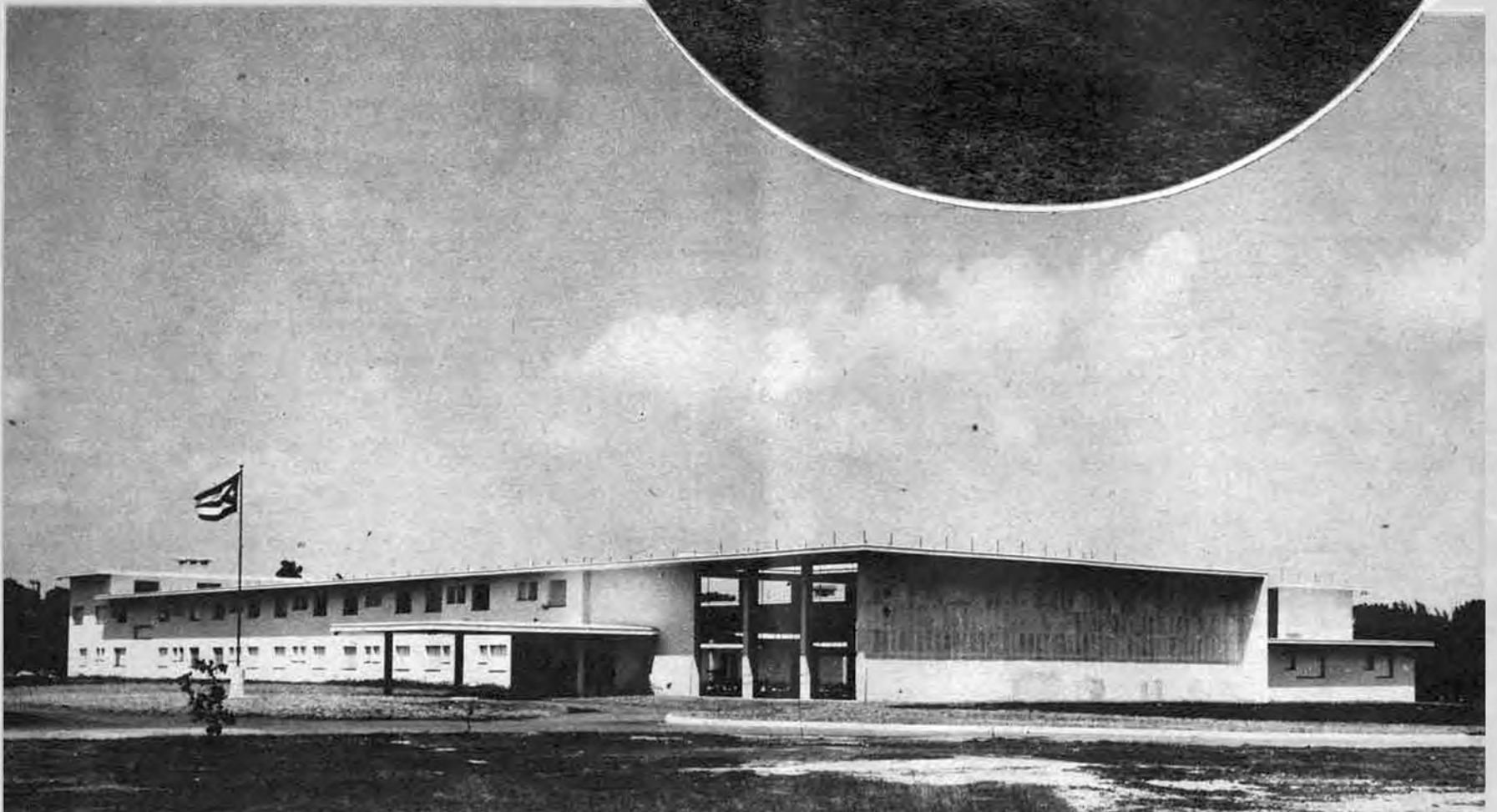


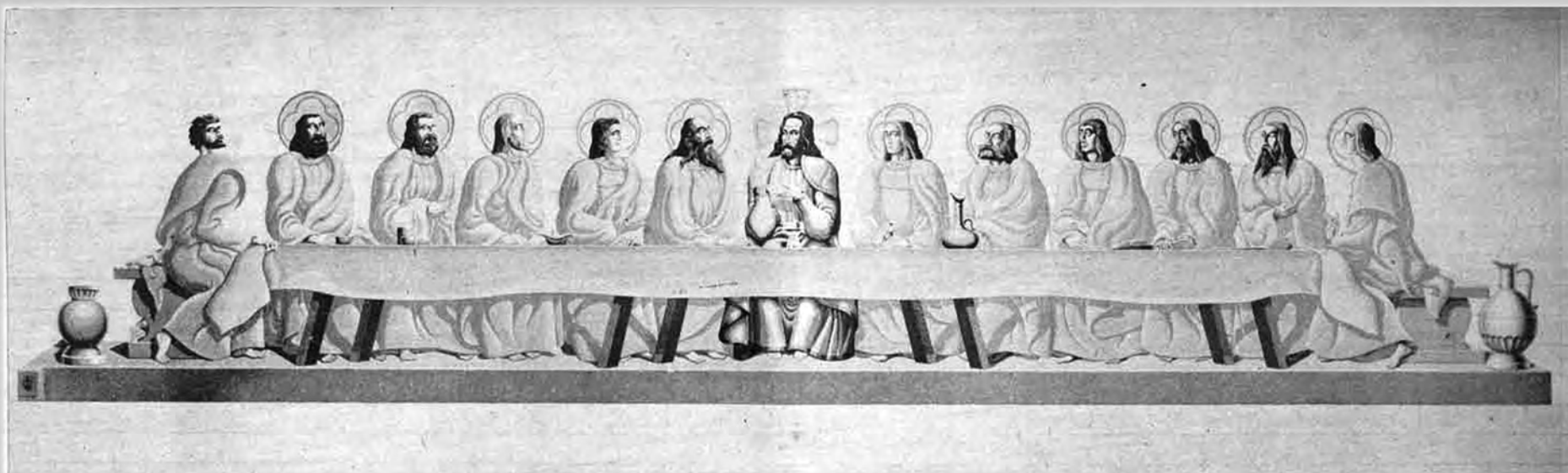
Aerial view of the grounds of Coronela where the A.C.U. has its Pius XII House of Exercises. On the grounds are a softball field where agrupados have games on Sundays and a picnic area for the A.C.U.'s social functions.

View of one of the corners of the House's interior patio. Exercitant bedrooms essentially encircle the patio. →



Entrance of Pius XII House.





A view of the most beautiful mural, "The Last Supper," painted by the great Cuban muralist Hurtado de Mendoza in the dining hall. A gift of gratitude for Exercises done in this house.



The heart of the house is the modern chapel where exercitants meditate points covered by Fr. Llorente during the session. A powerful air-conditioning unit maintains a comfortable temperature throughout the day. In the back, on the marble wall, can be read the three key questions of the Spiritual Exercises: What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What should I do for Christ?



Pride of the Pius XII House of Exercises is the magnificent ramp that facilitates access to the upper floor.



A session of Exercises has finished. The agrupados serve breakfast to their A.C.U. peers on the day of departure.

APOSTOLATE OF THE A.C.U.

If the Agrupación, with all the energy it possesses, with that great quantity of men replete with firm ideals it relies on, did not project those values to the Nation, did not contribute to strengthening and elevating our Cuban society, it would be a selfish institution, it would be the "withered fig tree" of the Gospel, a beautiful, robust tree that does not produce fruit.

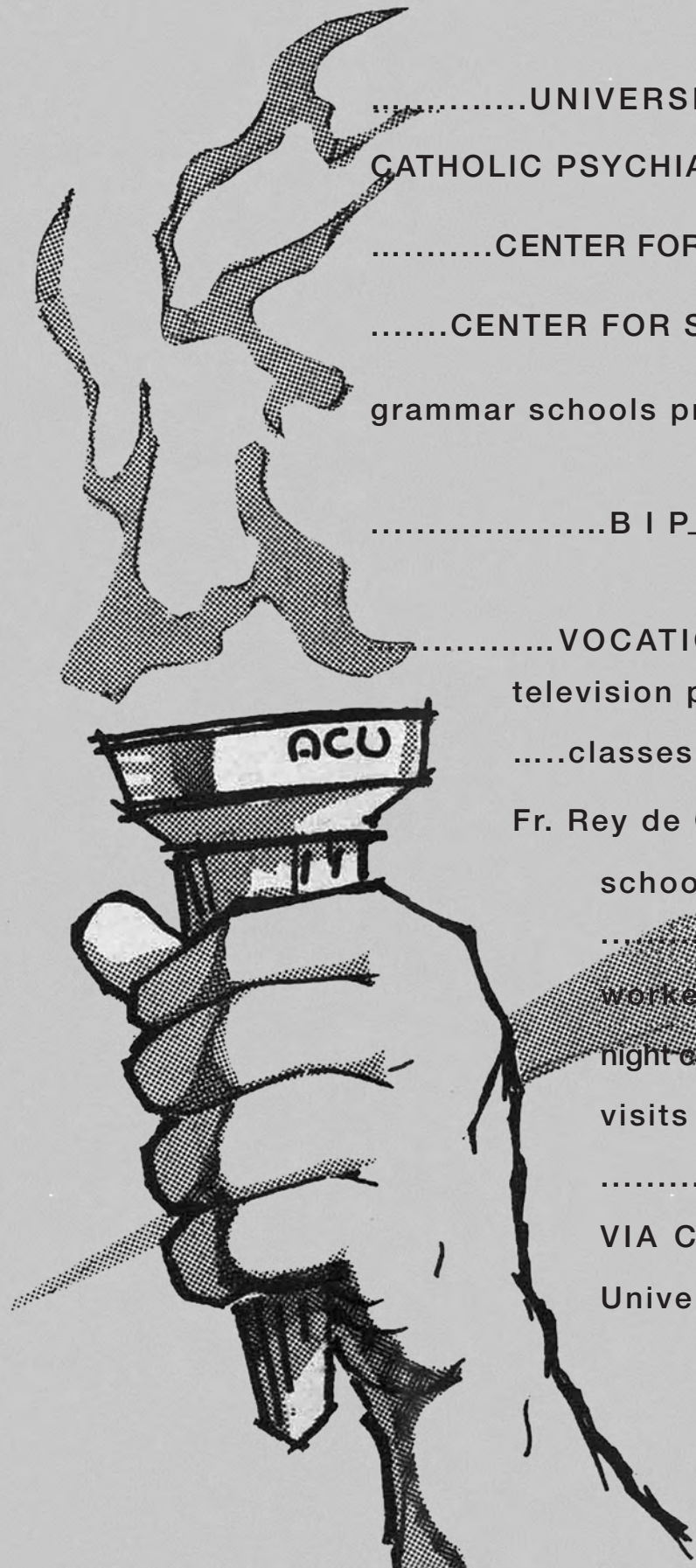
But fortunately, the Agrupación understands the important role God has entrusted to it within our Nation, and it has turned its fruits toward Cuba.

The intense professional and religious formation the Agrupación gives to its young men, is like water that flows constantly into a cup, fills it up, and spills over.

Thus, those ideals, love for God and for Nation, fill the spirit of the young, and the cup of his soul fills completely and spills over in works for God and for Nation.

The secret of true apostolate lies in the spilling over, born of the love of a soul already replete with love.

If not so, the fruits spoil, all is vanity, all is selfishness; God and Nation are harmed, for one cannot give what one does not have.



-UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS.....
- CATHOLIC PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE.....
-CENTER FOR STUDY OF MEDICINE.....
-CENTER FOR STUDY OF MATHEMATICS.....
- grammar schools professors.....
- pamphlets.....
- B I P _____ surveys.....
- conferences.....
-VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTION.....
- television program.....
-classes in private schools.....
- Fr. Rey de Castro SCHOOL-DISPENSARY
- school-dispensary of La Lisa.....
-night schools.....
- workers' cooperative of la Lisa.....
- night classes in "San Lorenzo" dispensary....
- visits to lepers of "El Rincón".....
-Pogolotti dispensary..
- VIA CRUCIS at CALVARY.....
- University fraternities.....

APOSTOLATE!!!

SCIENTIFIC APOSTOLATE

“The apostolate God and Nation desire from each man is that which he alone can do and others cannot.”

This phrase may not be printed in a book, but if we know anything at all about the spirit of the Agrupación, it is that it lives fully by this postulate.

Therefore, the Agrupación Católica Universitaria has always tried to focus its apostolate to fields where its university-centric nature can bear apostolic fruit and non-university-centric institutions cannot.

Thus, agrupados have embraced the scientific apostolate as the fundamental one.

This is the reason they have been able to accomplish the following works and deeds:

University Professor: The apostolate of university professorship must logically be one of the goals of a group of professionals full of ideals, that have put forth all the means within their reach to become authorities in their diverse professions.

The University provides knowledge, but it must also provide ideals and form the student socially, patriotically, and morally; no better way to accomplish this, then, than through professors who possess all these qualities. This is why agrupados feel obligated to prepare themselves to accomplish this work. The Agrupación has already conquered 28 professorships among the universities of Havana, Catholic University of Villanova, Oriente, and some foreign ones.

Catholic Institute of Psychiatry: Founded in August 1952, following that outward impulse that is uncontrollable in the Agrupación, this organization is a typical example of the apostolic outreach of the Agrupación.

This Institute, directed by Dr. Carlos Martínez Arango, aims for the scientific cultivation of Catholic Psychiatry, the professional advancement of its members, and the improvement of psychiatric assistance to Cuba.

The Institute has carried out very valuable studies and investigations that it has, in part, made known through different publications and Congresses.

Among its works of greater transcendency is the workshop on ideas of Psychiatry for Spiritual Directors, given at the Colegio de Belén, which enjoyed great practical success. Many of its principles have already been incorporated into the practices of some of the institutions, for example the norm, adopted by several Cuban religious orders, to submit those wishing to enter the order to psychiatric evaluation.



Dr. Armando Ruiz Leiro, Master of the Agrupación and Associate Professor of the School of Pharmacology at the College of Medicine of the University of Havana, and engineer José Sust, also Master of the Agrupación and Associate Professor of the School of Communications at the College of Civil Engineering of the same University, take the oath of rigor.



As the school year begins at the National University and Catholic University of Villanova, the agrupados that are part of the faculty of those Universities, along with Masters of the Agrupación, take the oath ordered by Pious X during Mass. In the photo are Masters of the Agrupación and agrupados that are part of the faculty at the University of Havana and of Villanova.

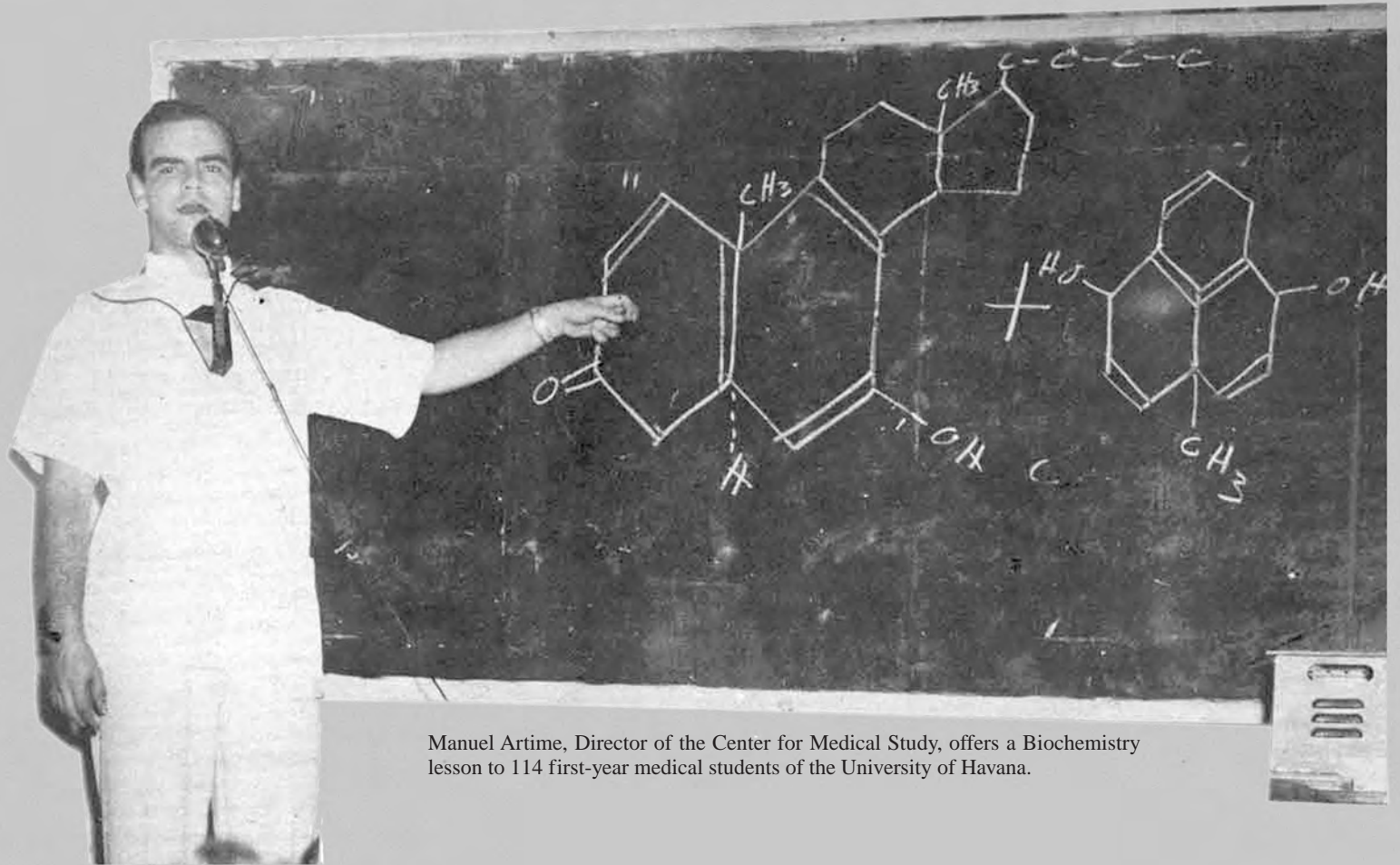


Dr. Marcelo Alonso, Physical Chemical and Physical Mathematical Sciences, faculty of the Universities of Havana and Villanova, takes an oath over the Holy Gospels. Next to him, and getting ready to take the same oath, is Dr. Ángel Fernández Varela, Master of the Agrupación, and Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga, Master of the Agrupación, Dean of Psychology of the University of Villanova.



The Catholic Institute of Psychiatry holds a monthly conference where it expounds an important point of this science. The Christian focus of the psychiatric problems are expounded by Rev. Fr. Azcárate, SJ, Rector of the Novitiate of Saint Stanislaus of Calvary. Presided by Dr. Carlos Martínez Arango.

CENTERS
OF
UNIVERSITY
STUDIES



Manuel Artime, Director of the Center for Medical Study, offers a Biochemistry lesson to 114 first-year medical students of the University of Havana.



The favorite sons of the Agrupación, in terms of scientific apostolate, are the Centers of University Studies, institutions led by agrupados, with agrupado professors, that impart scientific knowledge to university students that wish to deepen their understanding of their careers.

There are two Centers for University Studies: The Center for Medical Study, founded 22 years ago by Dr. Armando Ruiz Leiro, today part of the faculty at University of Havana.

The technique and quality of teaching at this Center can be seen in the high percentage of outstanding grades and awards that students get at University of Havana.

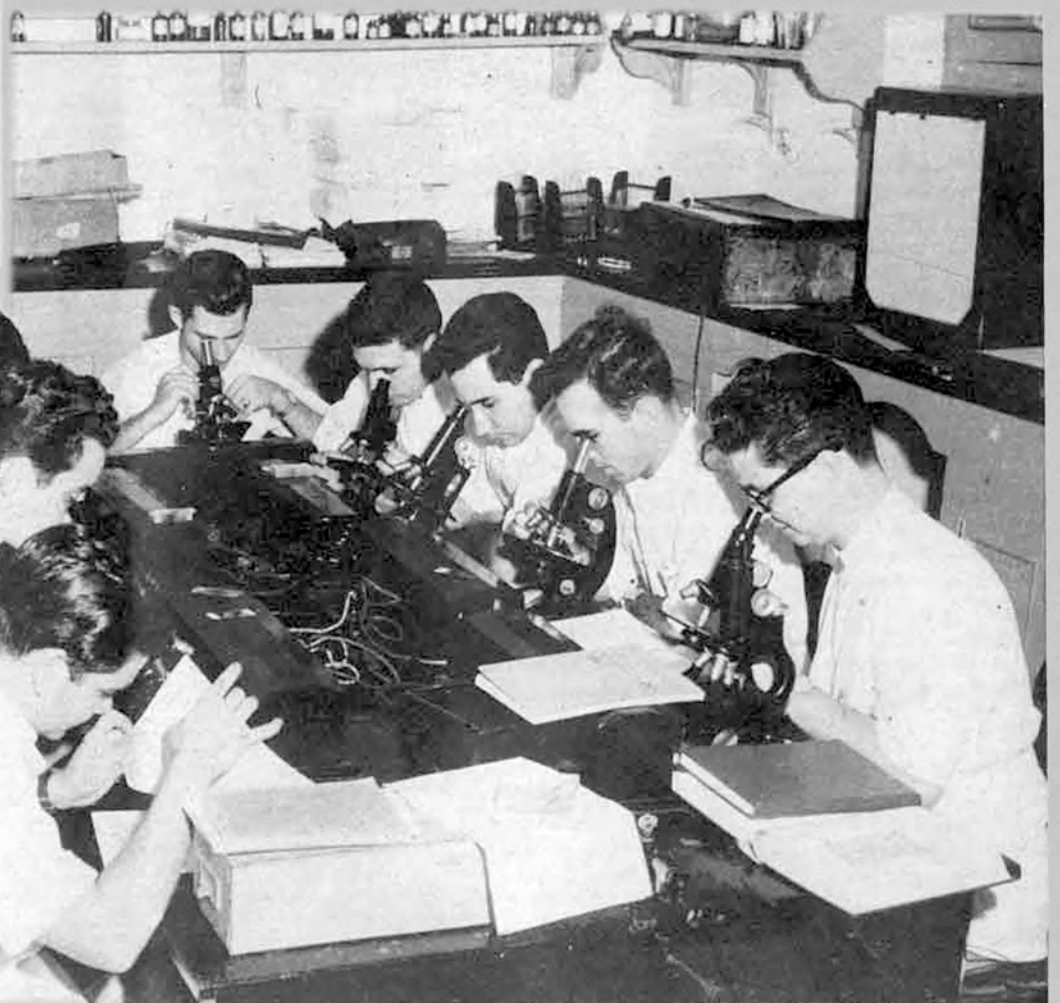
Despite specializing in quality of students rather than quantity, the Center for Medical Study already faces the problem of lacking a site with sufficient capacity, given the great amount of students that request entrance into it; 753 students passed by its classrooms the previous school year, and this year the enrollment had to be limited due to lack of space.

The Center has an efficient Laboratory that adds practice to the theory learned in classrooms.

In this Center, the agrupado professionals give post-graduate courses to doctors who wish to update a field or enhance a specialty.



Partial view of one of the classrooms of the Center for Medical Studies directed by professionals of the A.C.U.



The Center for Medical Studies has a well-equipped laboratory where students receive a necessary practical complement to the theory received in the classrooms. In this photo, the students are engaged in the practice of Histology.

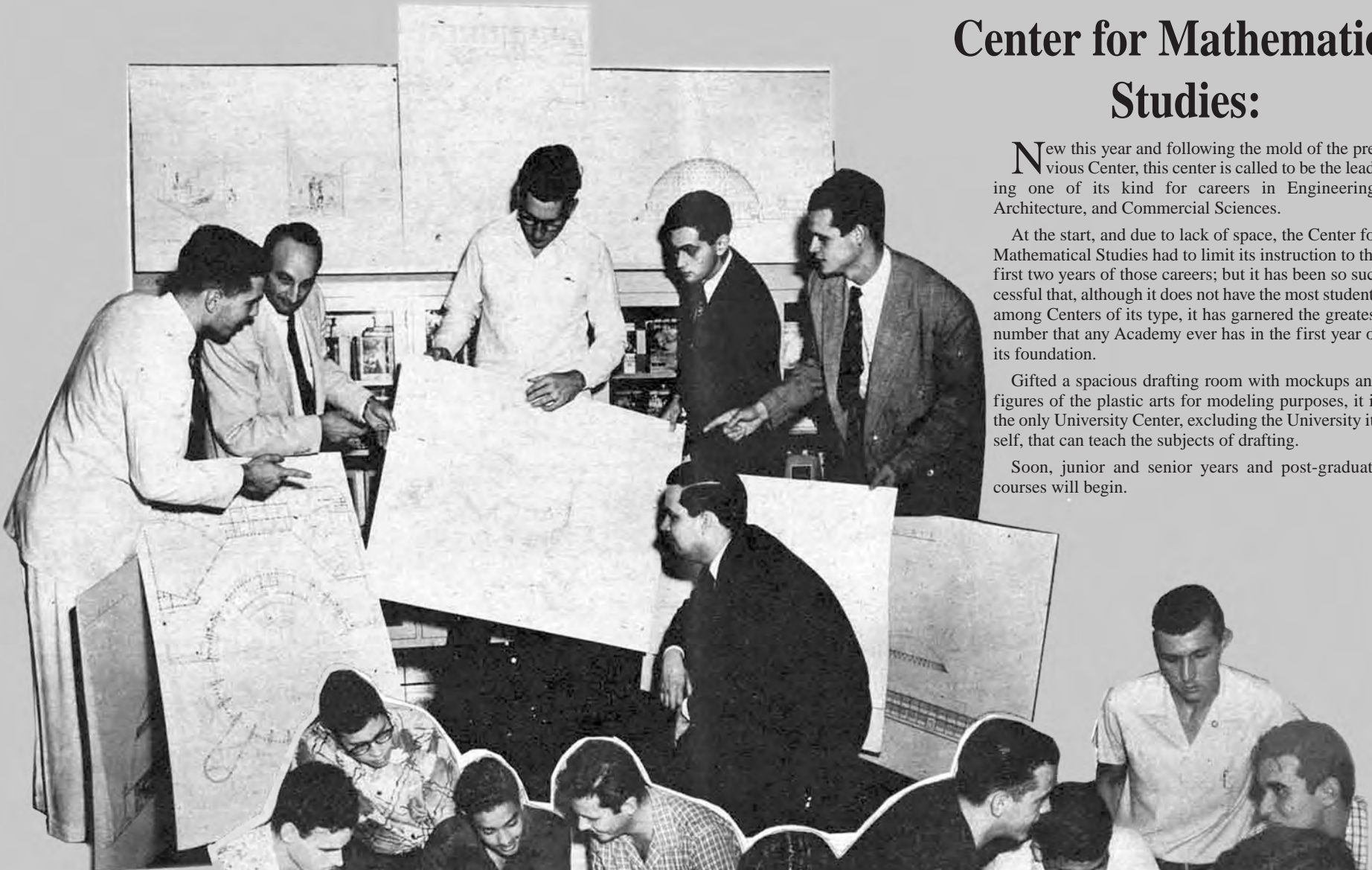
Center for Mathematical Studies:

New this year and following the mold of the previous Center, this center is called to be the leading one of its kind for careers in Engineering, Architecture, and Commercial Sciences.

At the start, and due to lack of space, the Center for Mathematical Studies had to limit its instruction to the first two years of those careers; but it has been so successful that, although it does not have the most students among Centers of its type, it has garnered the greatest number that any Academy ever has in the first year of its foundation.

Gifted a spacious drafting room with mockups and figures of the plastic arts for modeling purposes, it is the only University Center, excluding the University itself, that can teach the subjects of drafting.

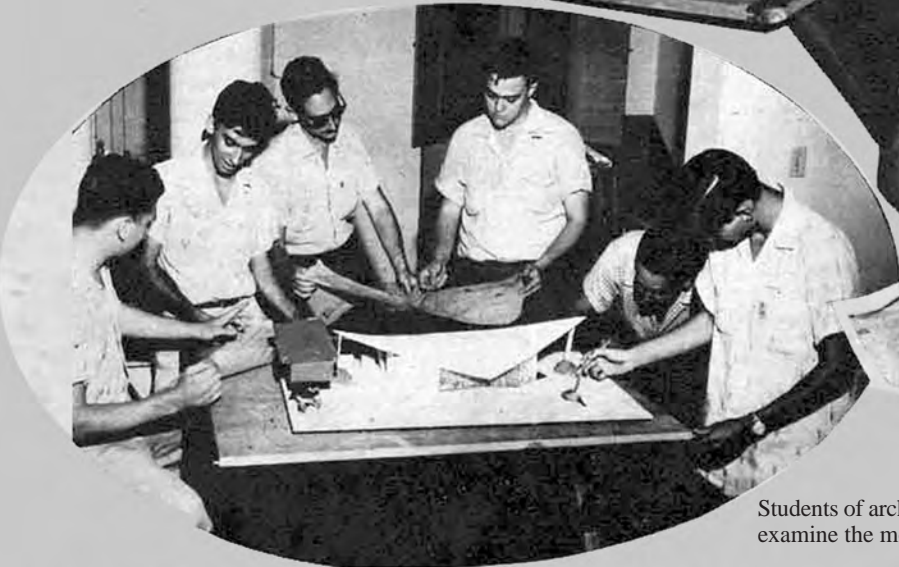
Soon, junior and senior years and post-graduate courses will begin.



Professionals and students of Architecture of the Center for Study of Mathematics analyze the project of the Cathedral of the Savior, a competition sponsored by agrupado architect Eugenio Batista.



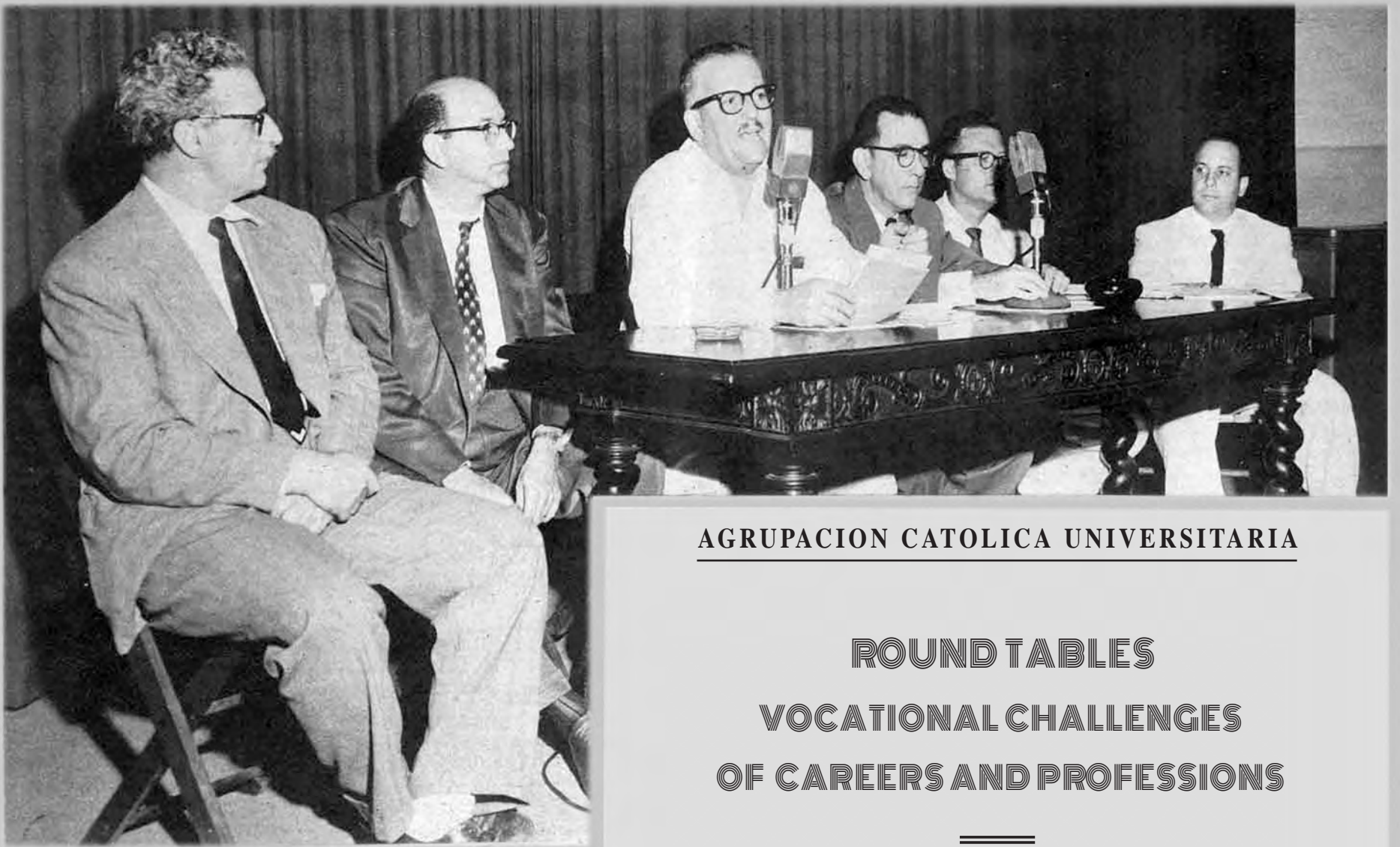
Students in a drafting class of the Center for Study of Mathematics.



Students of architecture of the Center for Study of Mathematics examine the model of a residence in Design class.



Students follow with interest a class of the Center for Study of Mathematics.



AGRUPACION CATOLICA UNIVERSITARIA

**ROUNDTABLES
VOCATIONAL CHALLENGES
OF CAREERS AND PROFESSIONS**

Considerations on choosing methods, necessary aptitudes, environmental influences, economic possibilities in our country, and other points of view.

April 23-25-26-30

May 2

1957

**ADMISSION COMPLEMENTARY FOR ALL STUDENTS
OF FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL**

San Miguel No. 1111
Havana

The vocational orientation Round Table discussed the topics of Engineering, Sciences, and Architecture and was made up of (from left to right) Dr. Ernesto Ledón, professor of the College of Chemistry of the University of Havana; engineer José Sust, professor of the School of Engineering of the University of Havana; agricultural engineer Manuel Maza, ex-president of the College of Agricultural Engineers; Dr. Virgilio Acosta (Moderator), professor of the School of Engineering of the University of Villanova; architect Agustín Beale, professor of the School of Architecture of the University of Villanova, and engineer Roberto Fernández Morrell, professor of the School of Chemical Engineering of the University of Villanova.

Facsimile of the promotional flyer and cover of the program of one of the numerous conferences organized by the A.C.U. about vocational issues.



Students of fourth and fifth year of Secondary School from different Colleges and Institutes of the capital fill the conference room of the A.C.U. to listen to talks about Vocational Orientation.

University Fraternities

Aiming to extend Catholicism, even if in a less intensive way than in Sodalities, the Agrupación created related Fraternities, where the spirit of brotherhood and spiritual and intellectual advancement are infused into the student.

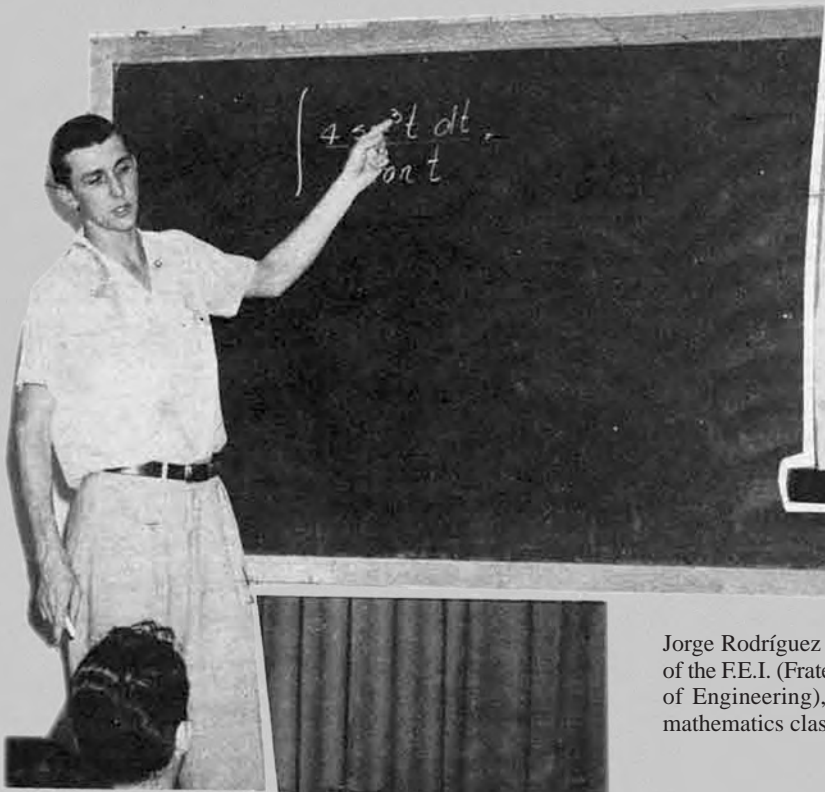
There are currently three Fraternities:

The FEI for students of Engineering.

The CEA for Architecture.

The UFAM for Medicine.

Dr. Roberto Salomón delivers a medical conference to members of the U.F.A.M. (Fraternal Union of Students of Medicine). →



Jorge Rodríguez Bezos, President of the F.E.I. (Fraternity of Students of Engineering), in an advanced mathematics class.



Engineer Manuel Suárez Carreño, Dean of Engineering of the University of Villanova, delivers a conference to members of the F.E.I.



Students from the different fraternities periodically organize cycles of conferences, which many of its members attend.



BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA

A special chapter within the scientific apostolate of the Agrupación must be consecrated to the B.I.P.

The main activities of the B.I.P. can be summarized in these three points:

- a) Compilation of topics of interest to Catholicism.
- b) Conferences on controversial issues.
- c) Pamphlets promulgating Catholic doctrine.

Ably directed by Dr. René de la Huerta, the B.I.P., in its charter to investigate public opinion, has carried out important work in the time since its foundation: The national survey on "religious sentiments of the people of Cuba," on "Protestantism in Cuba," on "the religious sentiments of Cuban university students," and the survey still underway on "the socio-economic problem of the Cuban farmer."

With respect to its section on conferences, the B.I.P. has poured itself out to the exterior, reaching Cuba's six provinces through its speakers, who go wherever they are called. The most-discussed topics until now have been: "The defense of chastity from the medical point of view," "The social tragedy," "The dignity of human beings," "Christian social justice," "Freemasonry," and more.

In terms of its section on Publications, the B.I.P. maintains a pace of ten pamphlet publications per year, pamphlets that have reached a circulation of half a million, with thirty different titles. Many of these pamphlets have been requested by other Spanish-speaking nations, especially Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Santo Domingo, Colombia, Bolivia, Panama, and Nicaragua. The B.I.P. has grown its reach from national to international.

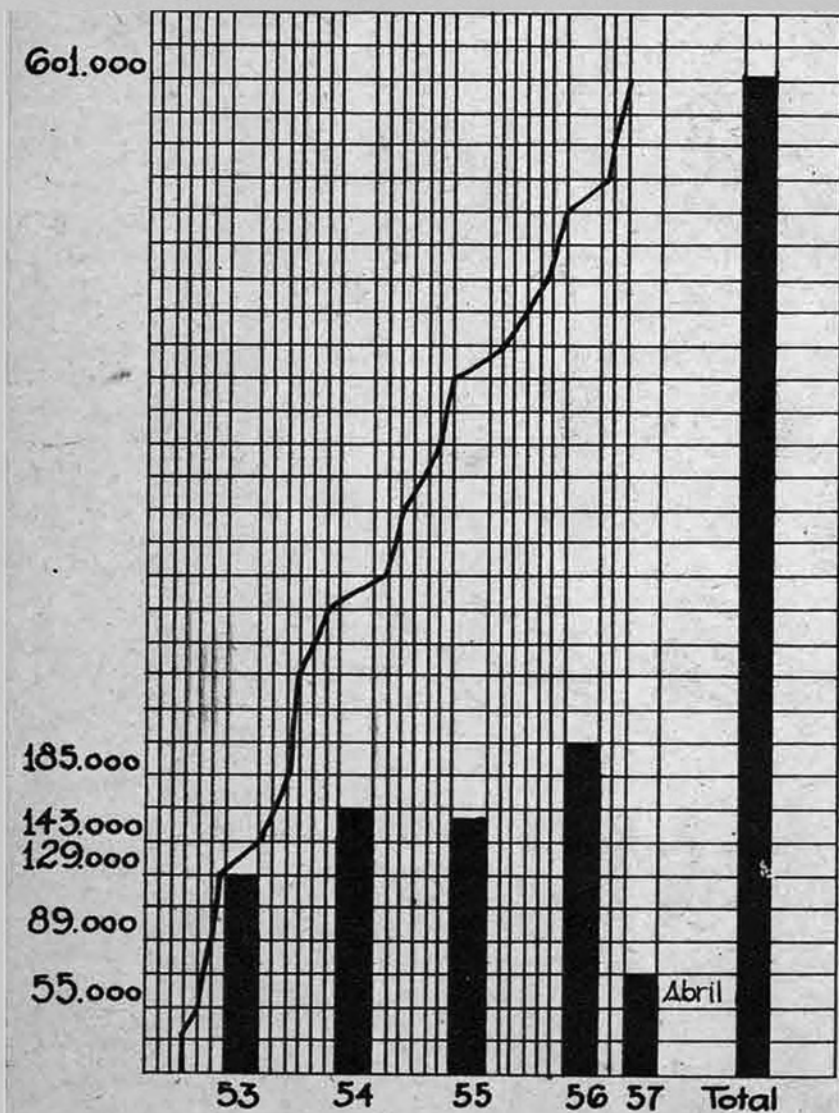


31 Distribution Centers in Cuba

14 centers in Havana. 3 in Santiago de Cuba. 5 in Matanzas. 4 in Las Villas. 4 in Camagüey. 1 in Pinar del Río.

Distribution Houses in 12 Countries

El Paso, Texas, U.S.A., New York, U.S.A. Guatemala. Mérida, Caracas, Maracaibo, in Venezuela. David and Panama, in Panama. Quito and Guayaquil, in Ecuador. San Juan, in Puerto Rico. Ciudad Trujillo, in Dominican Republic. Bogotá, in Colombia. Mexico City, in Mexico. Managua, in Nicaragua. Montreal, in Canada.



FASTEST GROWING CATHOLIC PUBLICATION IN CUBA

1953	89,000	pamphlets
1954	143,000	"
1955	129,000	"
1956	185,000	"
1957 JAN. - MAR.	55,000	"
Total	<u>601,000</u>	

Reverend Father Director:

This sacred sodality was already knowledgeable of the cultural, social, and apostolic activities of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria of Havana, Cuba, and of their good name in the Church.

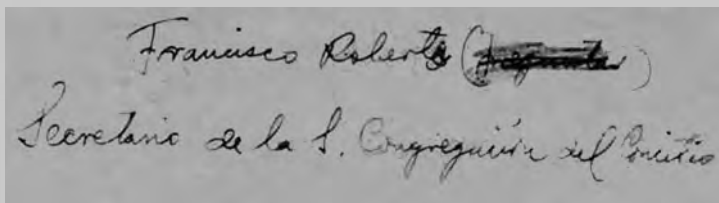
Now it has just received much appreciated recognition for the collection of pamphlets that the Bureau of Information and Propaganda of said Agrupación publishes and distributes inside and outside its nation's borders. This Sacred Sodality commends itself for such a noble initiative in defense of the faith and does not waiver in commending said publications for wholesome content, exquisite presentation and a style worthy of those who devote themselves to like apostolates.

The priceless treasure of our faith, under attack in today's world by all manner of adversaries, must be defended by us with bravery and decisiveness, using the means made available by the most modern methods. And it must be now as it was in the first centuries of Christianity – young intellectuals, most enthusiastic and best scientifically prepared – that must be at the forefront, under the guidance of hierarchical authorities.

The means for defending the rights of our religion must be at all times – as presented in the pamphlets of the Agrupación – serene, based on Holy Scripture and the living magisterium of the society that Christ instituted on earth as continuation of his redeeming work, and full of charity toward our brothers that, either have not yet seen the light of the faith or, in difficult times, have moved aside from the good path.

May the Lord bless this beautiful work of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria and stir up new imitators in this transcendental time for Christianity in Cuba and all Latin America.

Receive, Reverend Father, my respectful greetings,



Francisco Roberts (Signature)
Secretario de la S. Congregación del Concilio

Rev. Fr. Amado Llorente, S. J.
Agrupación Católica Universitaria
San Miguel 1111

Havana (Cuba)

Ssg.





Dr. René F. de la Huerta, Director of the B.I.P. and author of various pamphlets, receives the title of Master of the Agrupación in an Assembly of the A.C.U.

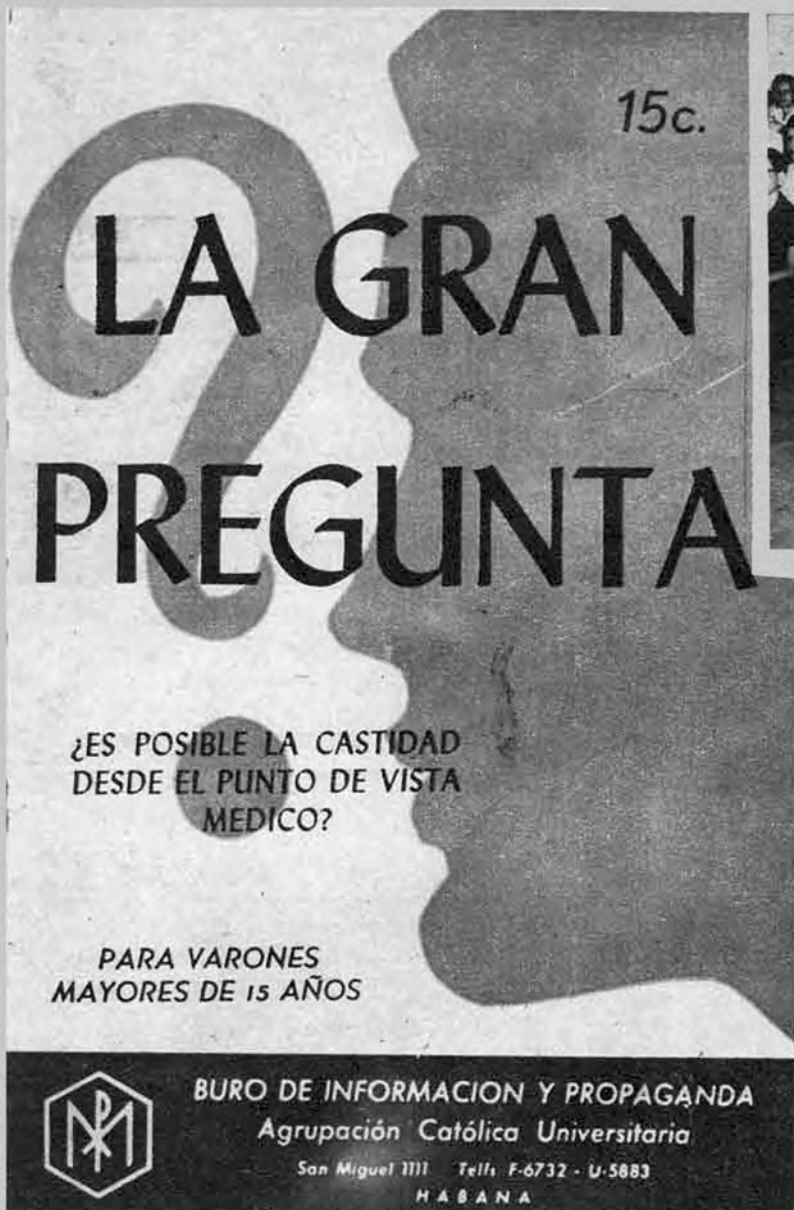


To facilitate the sale of the pamphlets of the B.I.P., these display units were placed in the main Churches, Religious Colleges, Catholic Centers of the Capital and the interior of the Republic.

José Manuel Calleja and Florencio Sánchez, students of Medicine at the Agrupación, dedicate free time from their studies to the management and work of the Office of the B.I.P.



The offices of the Bureau, managed by agrupados, have to work throughout the entire day to satisfy the great demand for pamphlets of the B.I.P., now requested by foreign Catholic Institutions.



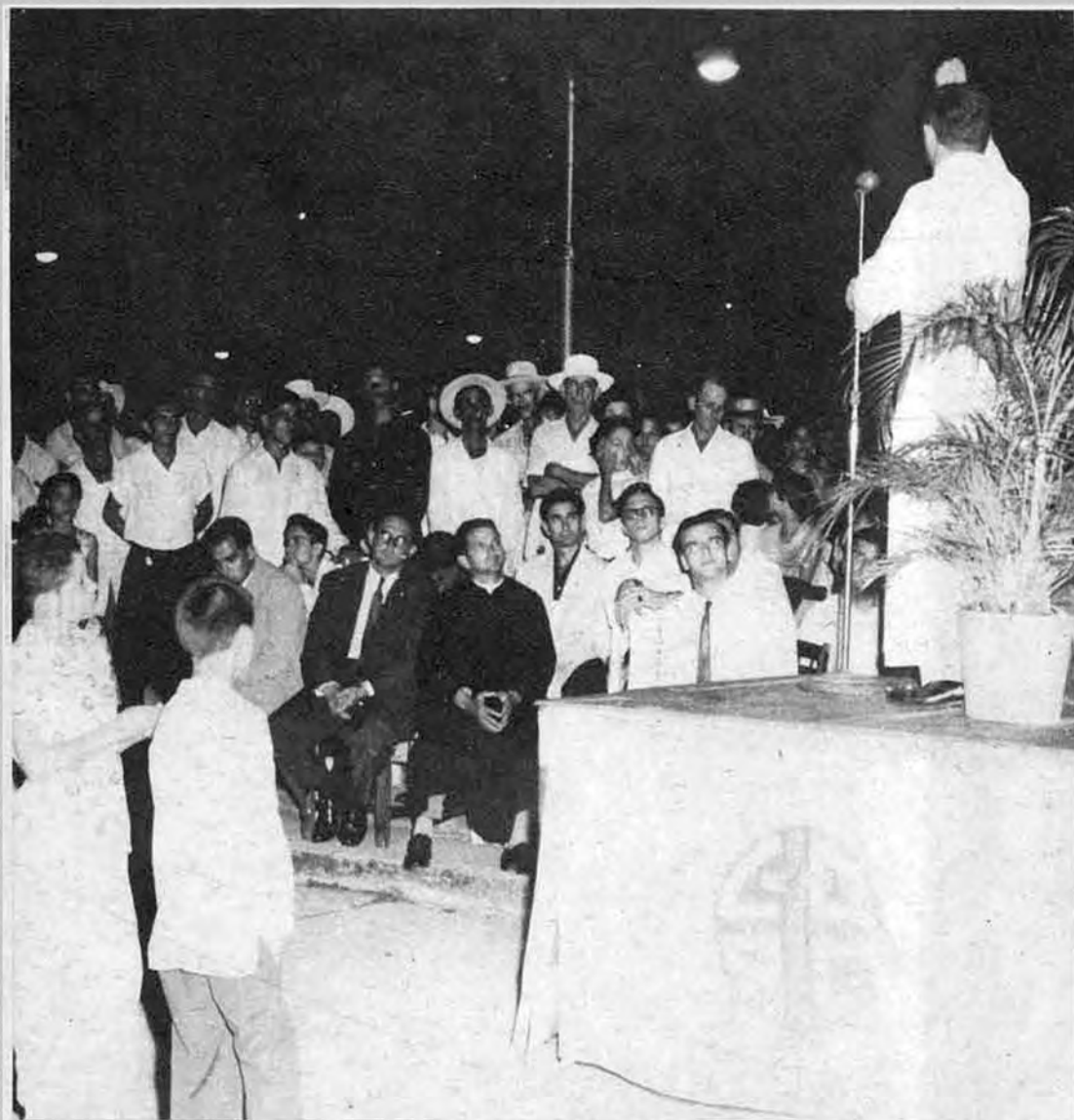
This pamphlet, whose fifth edition has been recently released to the public, is the one sold to attendees of conferences on the **“medical defense of chastity,”** that have even been delivered in the most remote parts of Cuba.



Hundreds of young people have listened to the scientific truth shared in conferences on sexual issues. The photo captures a portion of the youthful audience that listened to the conference during a recent visit to Sancti Spíritus by a speaker of the B.I.P.



The **“medical defense of chastity”** is one of the conferences that the B.I.P. has been responsible for presenting all over the island.



A view of the crowd that gathered at the foot of the platform that was raised in a town park to hear the social teaching of the Church from the lips of the speaker.



The **“San Antonio de Río Blanco”** Council of the Knights of Columbus handed a Diploma to the Agrupación for work carried out in defense and propagation of Catholic teachings.

A.C.U. RESIDENCE

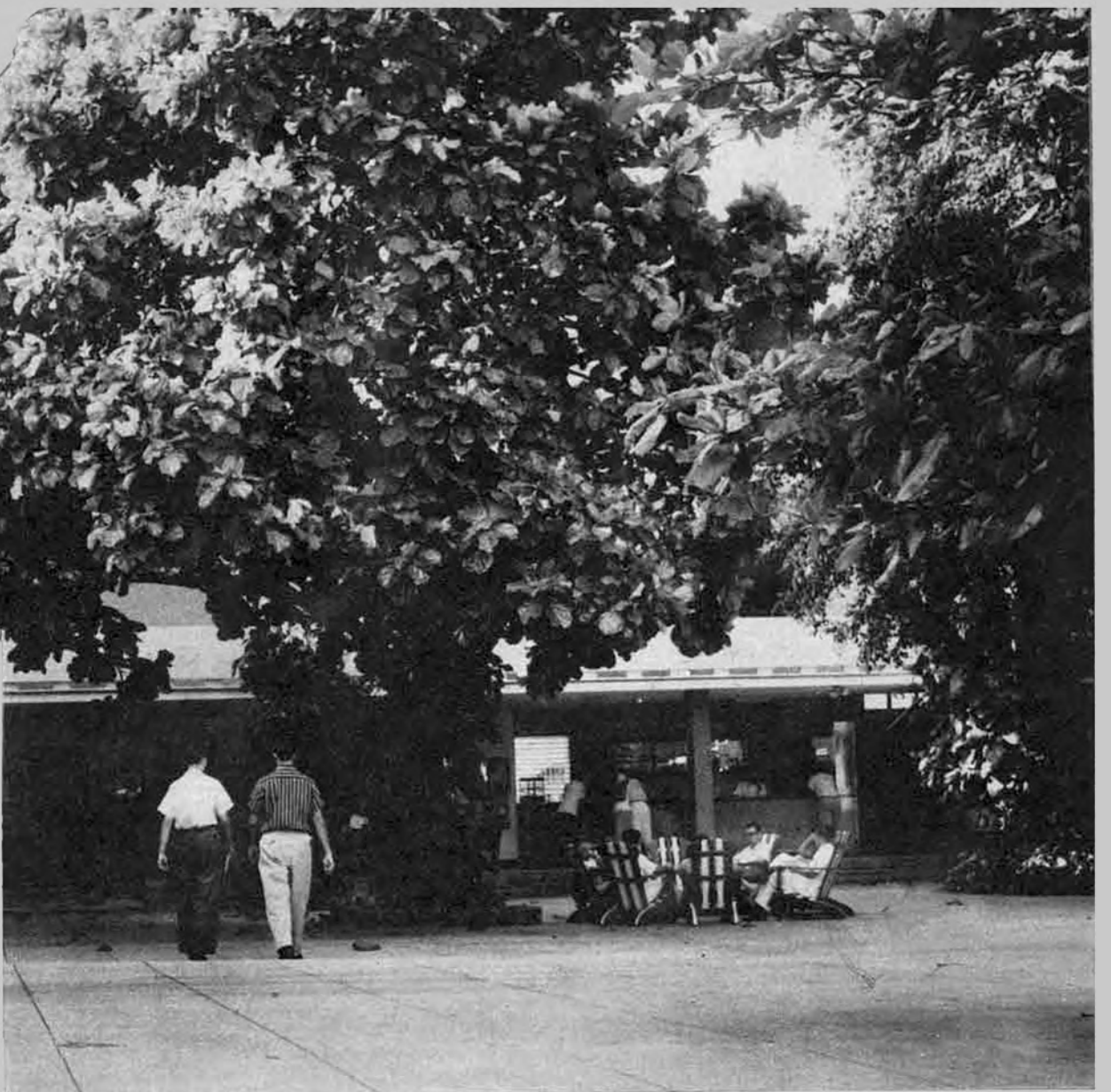
And even though he was followed by many, Jesus Christ chose only twelve. Twelve that would live with him constantly. Twelve that would drink directly from the Fount itself, the divine teachings.

Twelve that would provide culture and spirit to the new Church that He was to form among men.

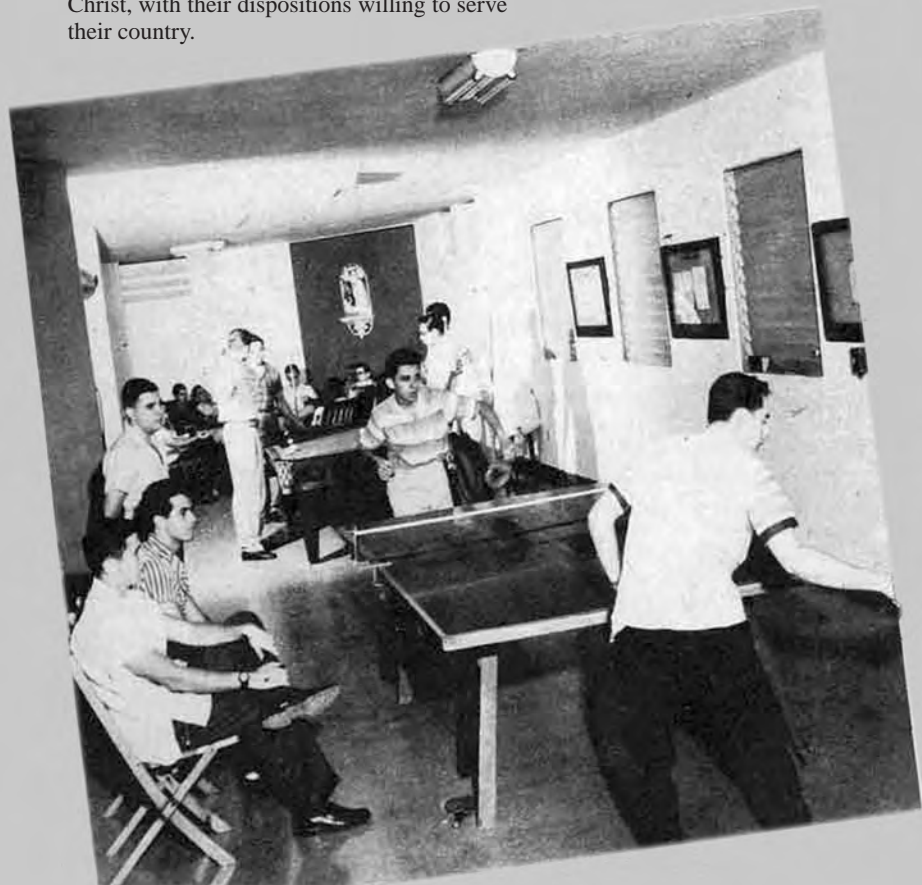
And this is the gist of what the Residence means for the Agrupación: young men who, living in her year-round, could drink in the spirit of the A.C.U. directly; young men who, turning themselves into the quintessence of the feeling and thinking of the Agrupación, would be the ones who through their conversations, their advice, their performance, and even just their presence, create the culture of apostolate, study, and life in Christ that is to reign around parts of the Agrupación, especially in the central patio, the dynamic heart of the ACU.

But, though it was thought that this was the spirit that should reign from the start, the reason for the foundation of the Residence was another: it happened that numerous young men, some with magnificent agrupado potential, had come from the interior of the Republic. And due to their formative immaturity and the detestable nature of the environment in and around their residence, did not persevere in the ACU and eventually were lost to the ACU and to Christ.

As to the outcome, there they are; 61 young men that live in the Residence of the Agrupación, with its environment of wholesome happiness, with its dynamic spirits of study and apostolate, with their plethoric lives of Christ, with their dispositions willing to serve their country.



Around this appealing central patio are the rooms of the Residence for university students that the Agrupación has in its social building. Verdant trees give shade to this patio where the activities of the residents take place. The comfortable seating, located under the shade of these trees, are places of relaxation where students can have a fraternal chat with brothers in the residence during well-deserved recesses from studies. In the back of the gallery that surrounds the patio can be seen games of entertainment available in the Residence for their use; on the right side of the gallery is the modern canteen where a resident can find everything he needs for daily living.

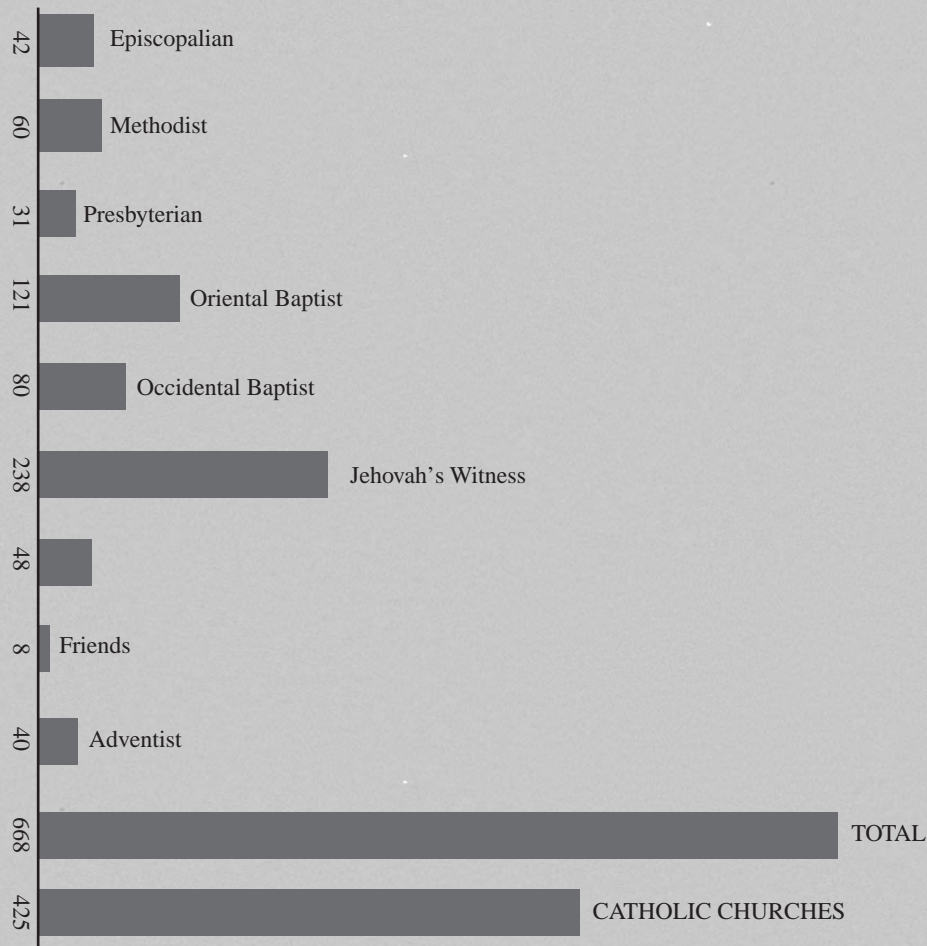


After the arduous daily struggle of classes, the residents and the university students of the A.C.U. in general, share a moment of healthy and happy relaxation in the halls of the Agrupación. It is time to foment a spirit of deep friendship, of camaraderie without derogation, so stimulating and attractive to those who visit the ACU for the first time.

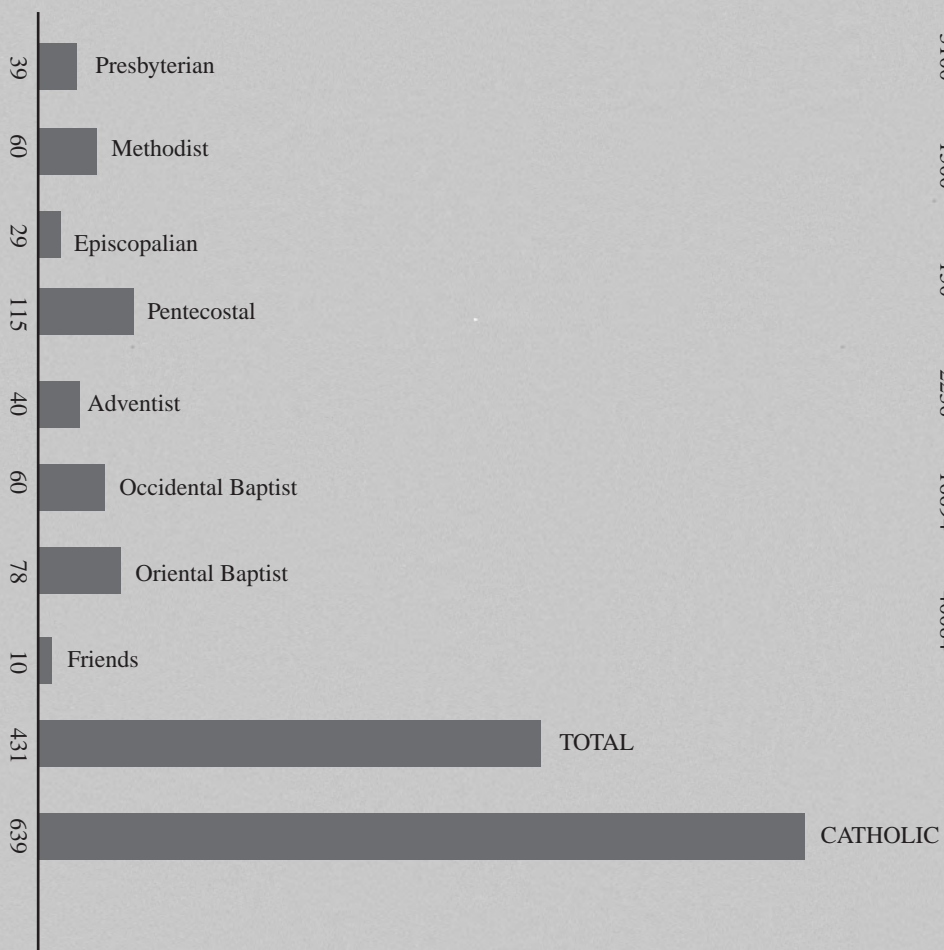
Above: some of the comfortable rooms in the Residence of the A.C.U. Below: the spacious gallery that surrounds the central patio and serves as a dining room for the Residence.

SURVEY ON PROTESTANTISM IN CUBA

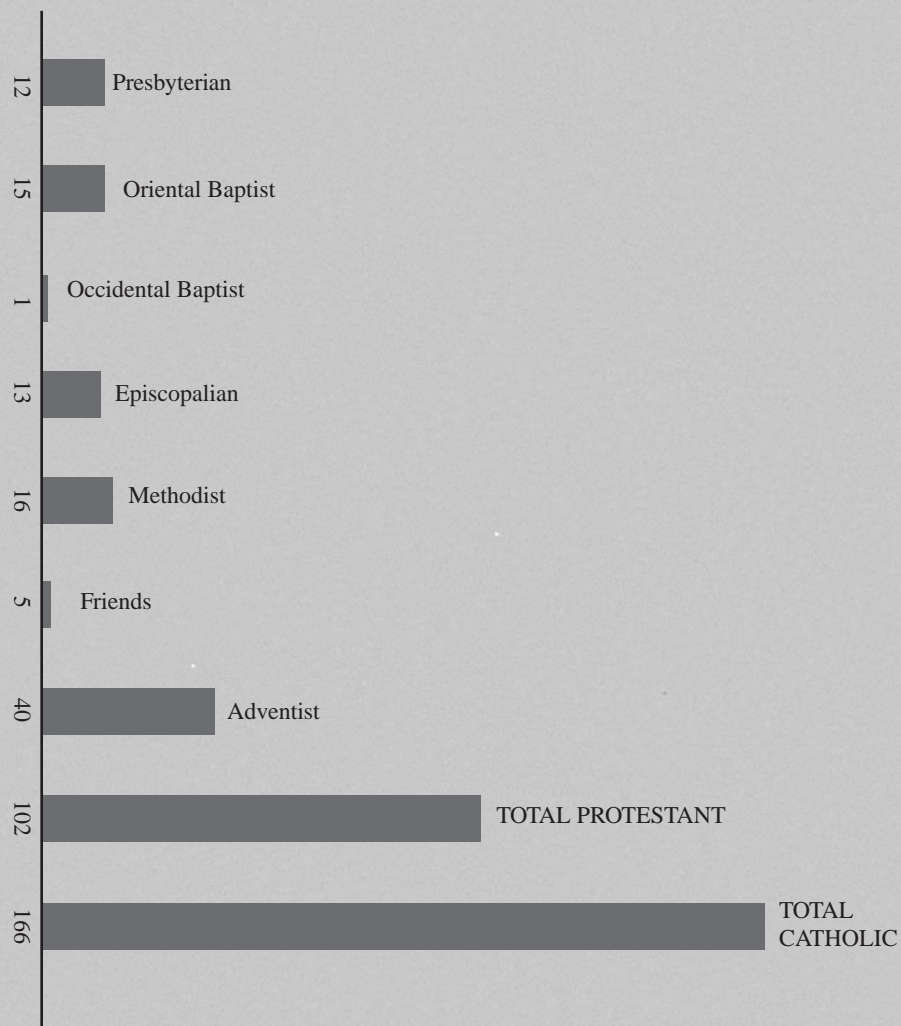
NUMBER OF CHURCHES



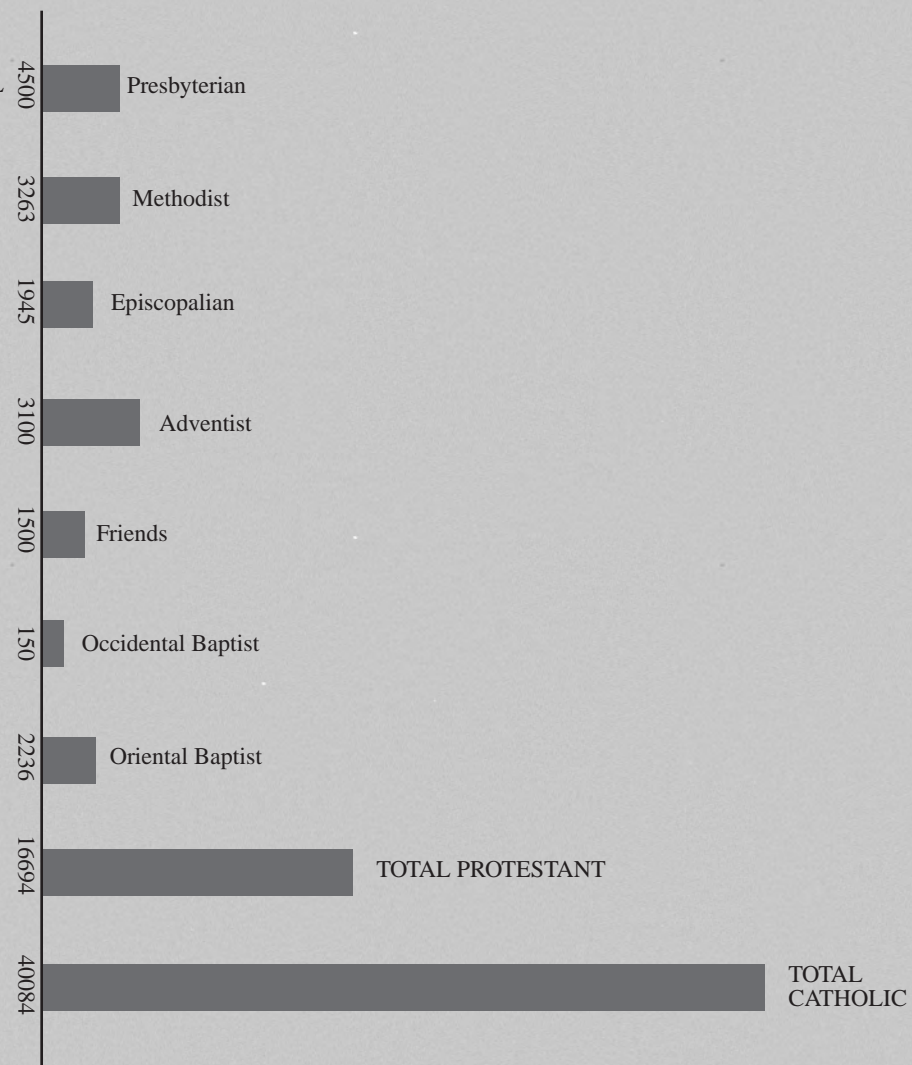
NUMBER OF MINISTERS



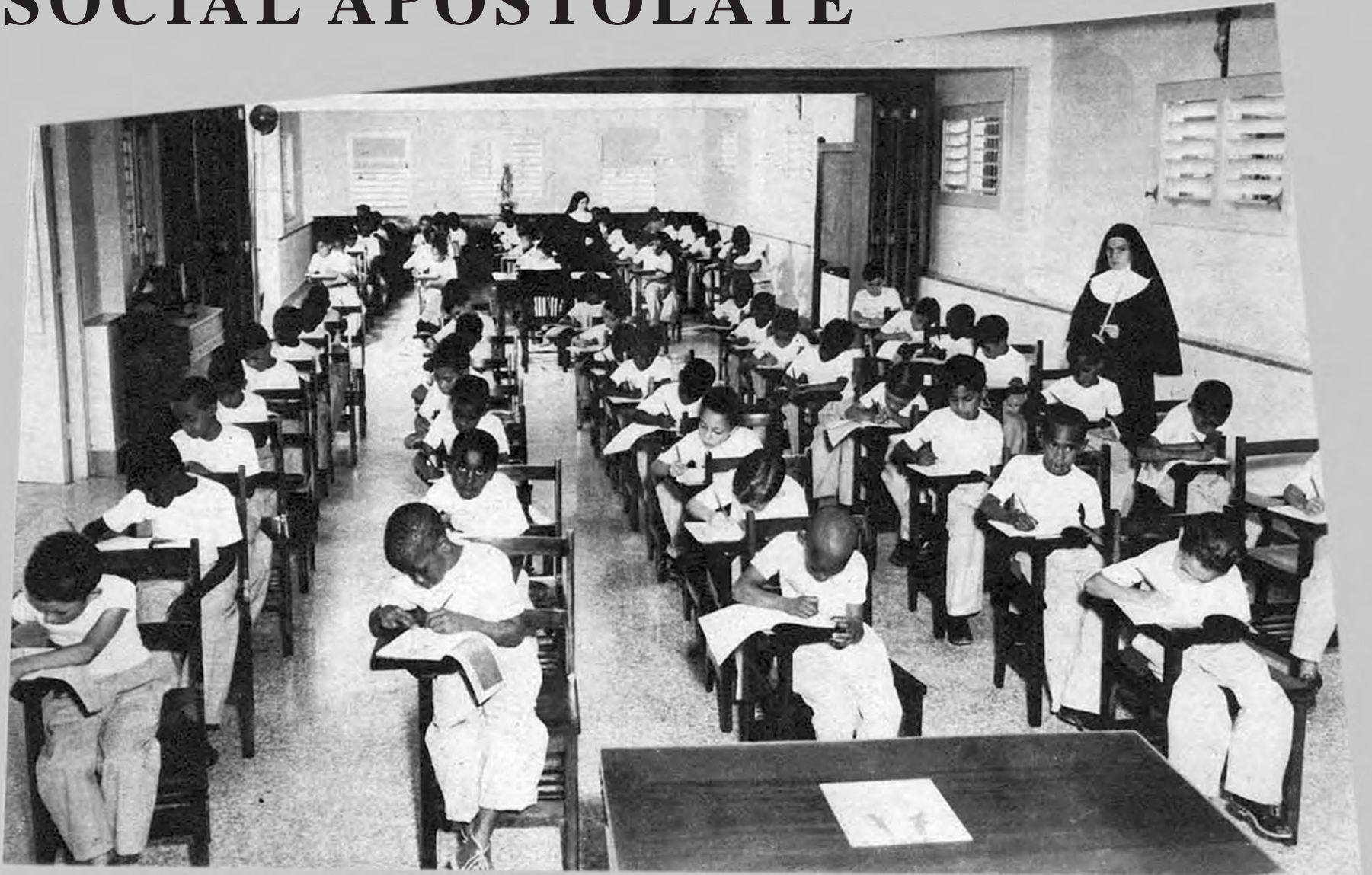
NUMBER OF CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT SCHOOLS



NUMBER OF CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT SCHOOLS
Catholics and Protestants



SOCIAL APOSTOLATE



Even though the Agrupación gives extraordinary importance to its scientific apostolate, it does not lose sight of other types of apostolates of undeniable currency, a good example being its social works:

School-Dispensary Fr. Rey de Castro, S.J. The Agrupación has a modern building in the neighborhood of Yaguas, where neighbors of the area are offered free school, medical and religious services.

Around 300 children attend day schools and 110 workers receive night classes that serve as preparation for admission into Belén School of Electromechanics. The academic part is led by three religious Servants of the Sacred Heart and of the Poor who are in charge of teaching in grade school, and 21 agrupados are in charge of nightly instruction of workers.

The children are offered a daily snack and, once a year, they are provided with school uniforms and footwear. Every year, there is a handout of clothing for the children, and on Three Wise Men's Day they are given toys.

The sodalist ladies of the "Court of Mary Reparatrix" take part in religious instruction of children, and also have a group of ladies from the neighborhood to whom they impart classes on domestic arts, typing, stenography, and English.

Besides the religious activities of Sunday Mass, baptisms (around 150 per year), preparation for first communion (around 80 per year), in the Yaguas there are 3 sodalities that have emerged from the social work there; one sodality of 82 adult women members, led by Mrs. Clementina Coello, one of the most regular collaborators of the Agrupación; one, of young ladies with 45 members, and one of couples with 40 couples.

With respect to Medical Services, they are offered a system of medical consultations during 6 working days of the week, tended by 9 doctors and 2 dentists from among agrupados.

The testing services they require, as well as the medications they need, are administered free of charge by the Dispensary.

A team of 27 students of the Agrupación takes care of drawing blood and giving injections.

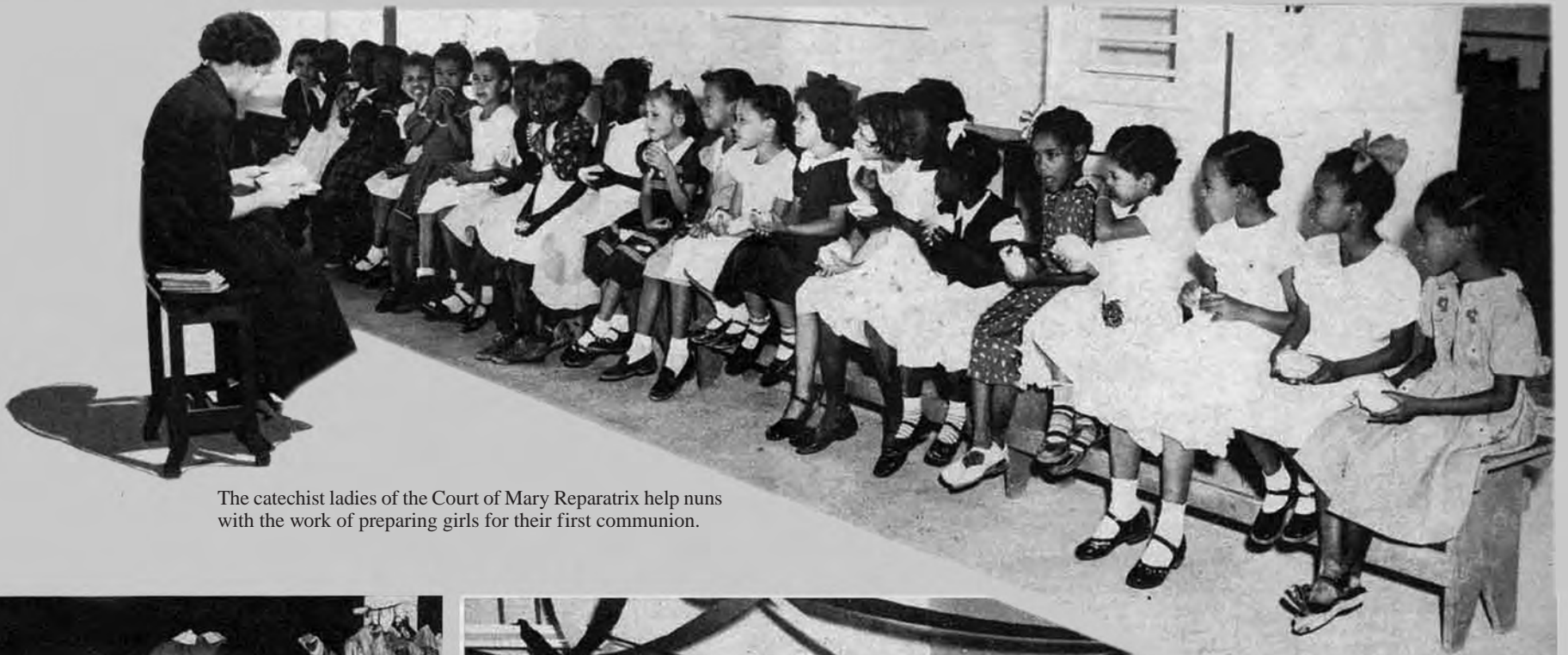
The generosity of the agrupados and of the benefactors of the ACU has made possible the construction and support of these schools in the neighborhood of the Yaguas. The boys and girls of this neighborhood, around 300, receive religious and academic instruction given by three nuns, uniforms for the school year, and daily breakfast and snack.



The young students of "Fr. Rey de Castro" School-Dispensary form a line to go to class.



View of the front of the School-Dispensary, which the Agrupación Católica Universitaria built for nearby residents of the neighborhood of Yaguas.

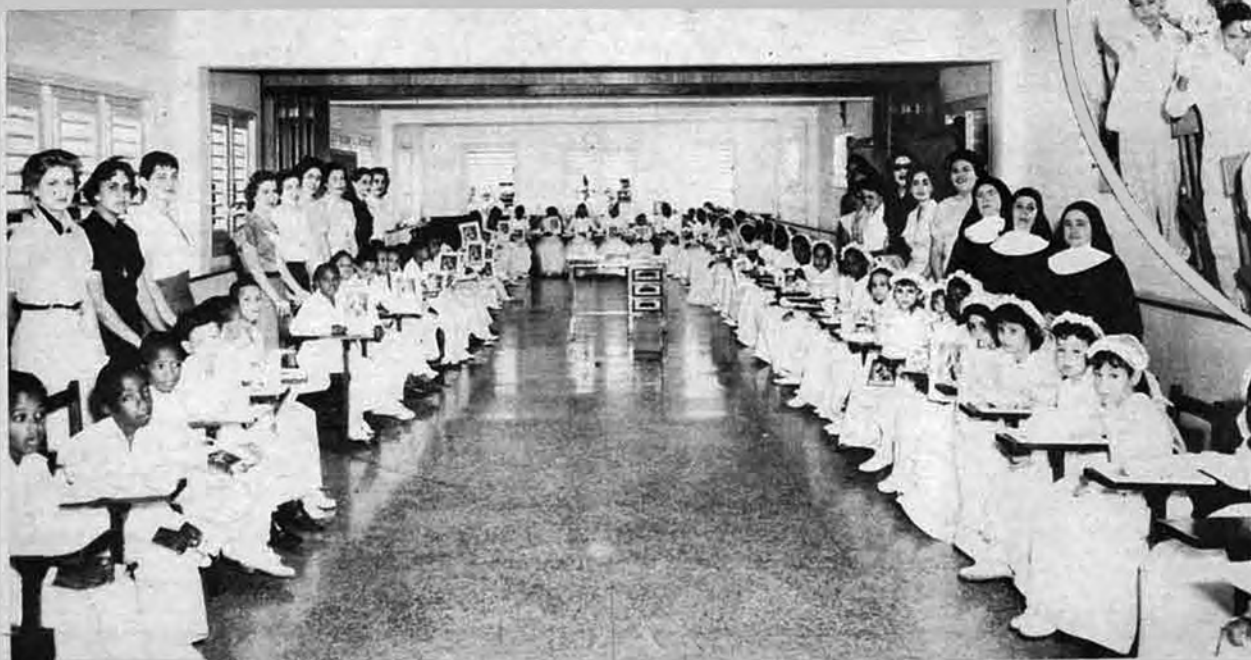


The catechist ladies of the Court of Mary Reparatrix help nuns with the work of preparing girls for their first communion.



During the year, the students from "Fr. Rey de Castro" School receive rewards on two occasions: once on Christmas day, and the other at the end of the school year. All are rewarded, but the rewards are based upon good attendance and academic achievement. The nuns and catechist ladies order fabrics from shops for the outfits that are mostly made by them.

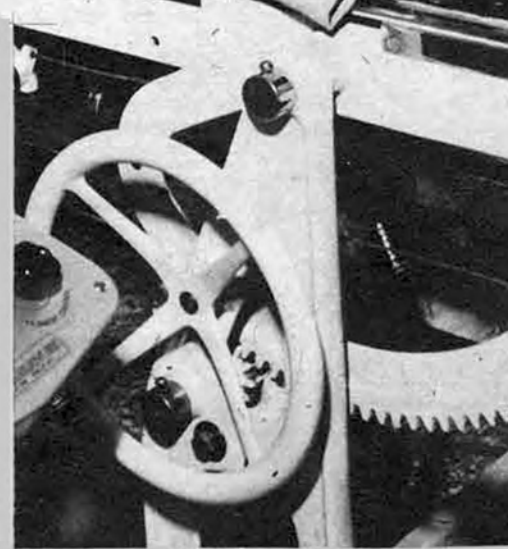
After their first communion, they gather to have breakfast served by nuns and catechist ladies, and to take pictures with them and receive gifts given to them by the School.



Every Sunday, the Fathers of the Agrupación say Mass in the patio of the School-Dispensary and explain the Gospel of the day. The children, family members and neighbors participate in the Holy Mass. The agrupados help during the Mass and lead in prayers. This is an extraordinary day in which 80 boys and girls receive Jesus Christ in their lives for the first time.



A group of doctors of the Agrupación tends the "Fr. Rey de Castro" Dispensary. The Medical Department provides service through consultations, testing services, vaccinations, and handing out medications to those in the neighborhood who need it.



A modern X-Ray machine fills the need that agrupado doctors may have for this type of equipment, in tending to the children of the school or others in the neighborhood.



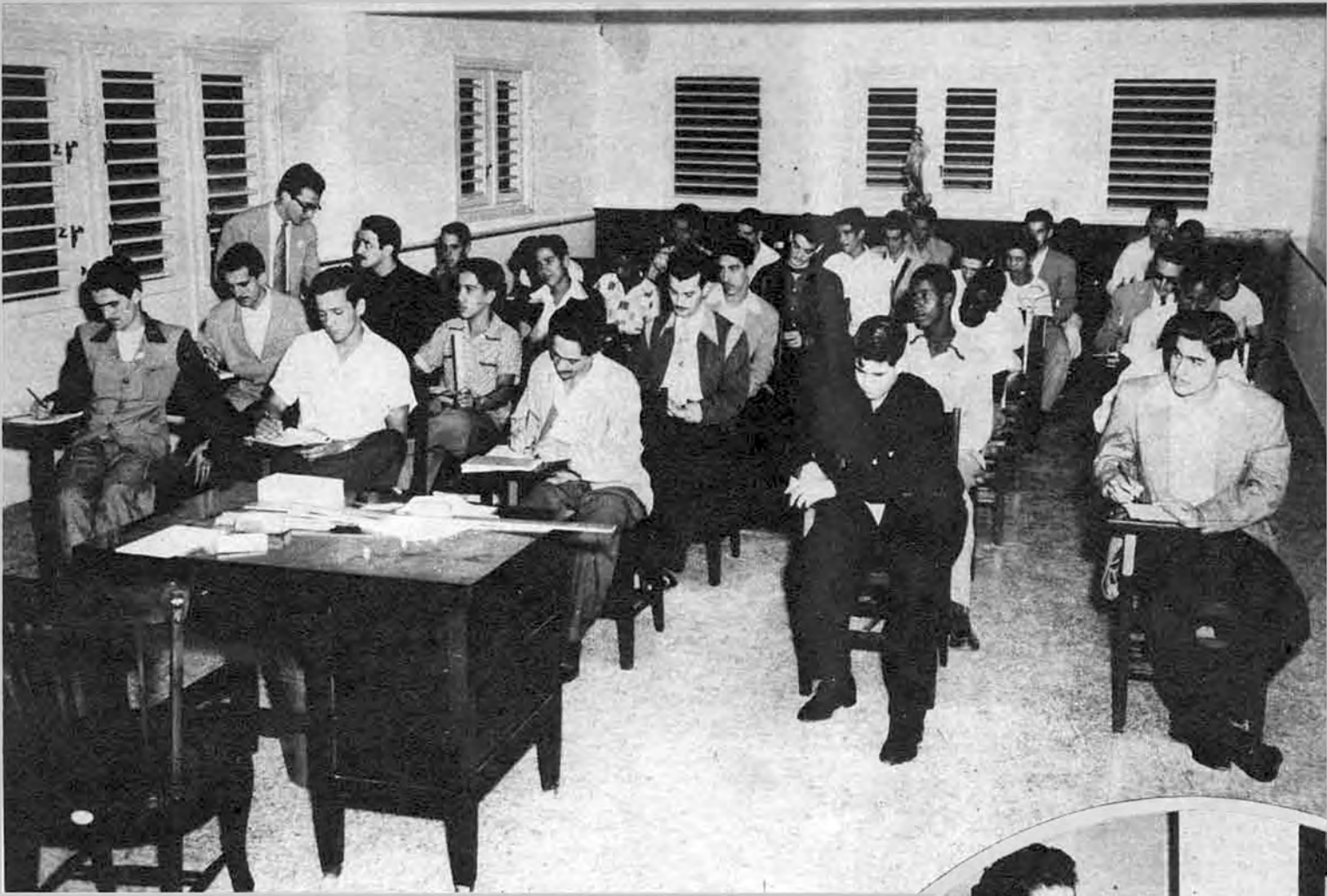
Wives of agrupados and volunteering ladies work as nurses for the "Fr. Rey de Castro" Dispensary.



Four dentists of the ACU offer their services, free of charge, in the magnificent Dental Cabinet set up by the Agrupación in the "Fr. Rey de Castro" Dispensary.



The agrupado doctors offer assistance in the "Fr. Rey de Castro" Dispensary. Dr. Rolando Rodríguez, pediatrician, and his wife Mrs. Mariña Alcoz, examine a student from the School.



Classrooms of the "Fr. Rey de Castro" School, which during the day are used by children of the neighborhood, are used at night by agrupados to teach workers. Students receive instruction and preparation for entry into Belén School of Electromechanics. Certification from this school will open doors into many industries where they can be placed as technicians.



Two ladies of the "Court of Mary Reparatrix" assist three students of Typing in the night school for workers that operates in the "Fr. Rey de Castro" School.

Students from Night Schools of "Fr. Rey de Castro" School attend a parting dinner before Christmas vacation. The agrupado professors of the school are in charge of serving food. There is good rapport between workers and professors.



Dr. Francisco Pérez Vich and wife, who appear in the photo, tend weekly to a team of Christian couples that has been formed from among families in the neighborhood of Yaguas.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OF LA LISA

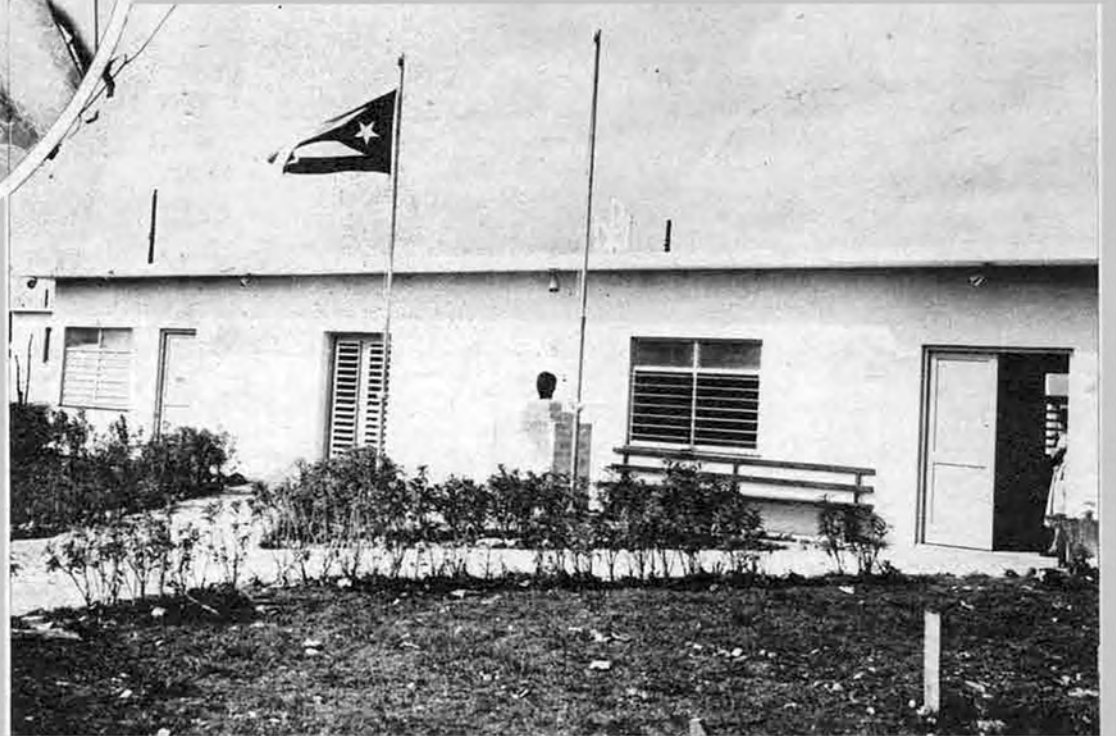
As a gift from a group of former students of "Sagrado Corazón" and other collaborators, the Agrupación received the building for the school in the "Balcón de la Lisa" neighborhood. In this poor and working-class neighborhood, the A.C.U. set up a system of day and night classes similar to the one functioning in Yaguas.

160 poor children receive instruction during the working days of the week; a large group of young ladies and women of the neighborhood receive instruction in domestic arts three times a week, given by various collaborating ladies and by the Catechist ladies.

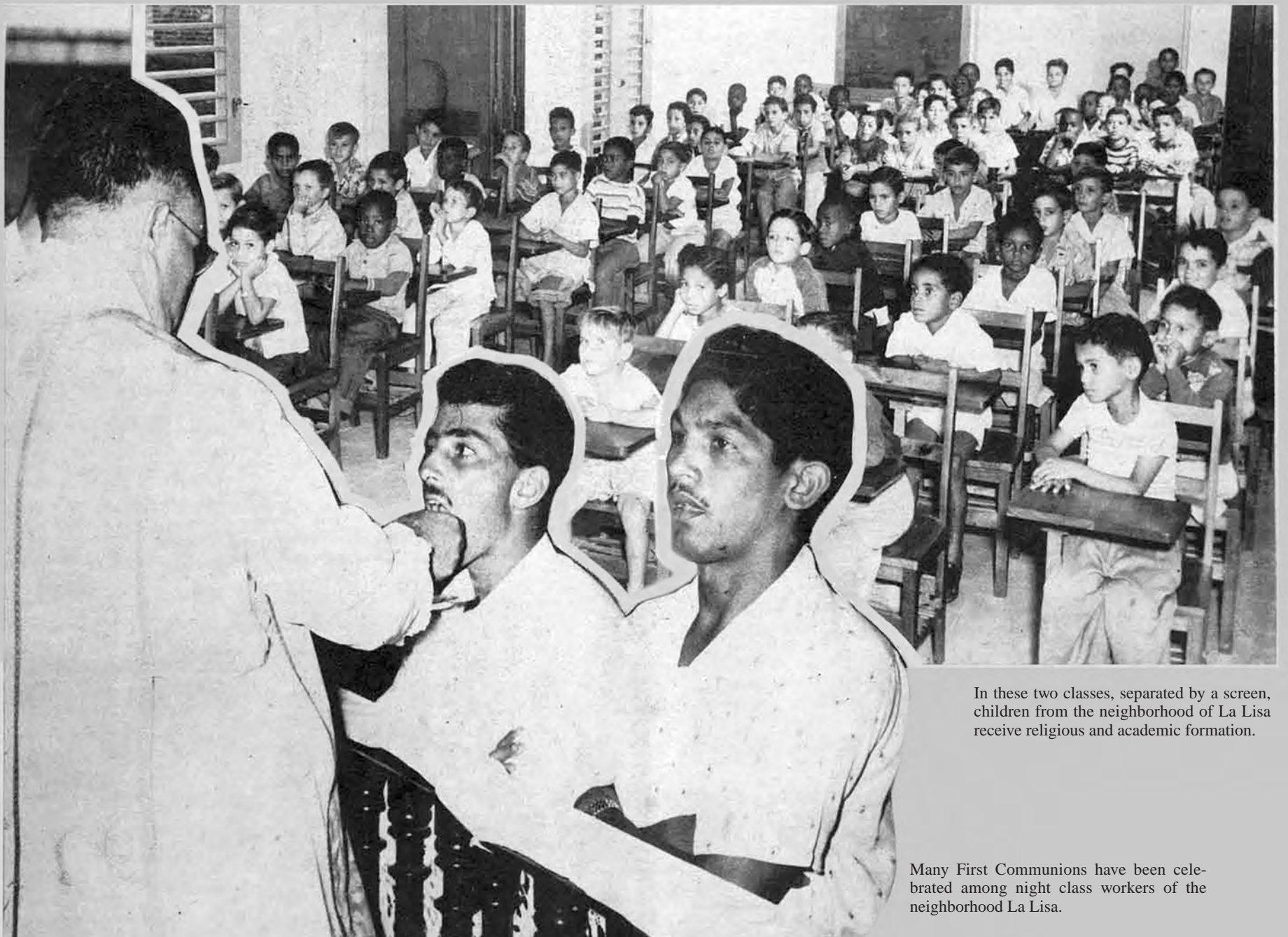
At night, primary education and literacy classes, as well as those for entry into the School of Electromechanics.



The work of agrupados in the "Sagrado Corazón" night-school for workers of the neighborhood of La Lisa has fostered great intimacy among workers and young men of the Agrupación. As a fruit of this intimacy comes, most of the time, the conversion of the worker. The photo captures the moment in which Fr. Barbeito, sub-director of the A.C.U., baptizes one of the students. Next to him, Dr. Alvaro Ledón, director of this work for over twelve years.



In the neighborhood of La Lisa, next to Havana, the Agrupación maintains another School for boys and girls. Two teachers give classes in the mornings and afternoons to some 200 students.



In these two classes, separated by a screen, children from the neighborhood of La Lisa receive religious and academic formation.

Many First Communions have been celebrated among night class workers of the neighborhood La Lisa.

NIGHT CLASSES FOR WORKERS IN "SAN LORENZO"



One of the most flourishing night schools is the one maintained by the Agrupación in the School of "San Lorenzo." Fourteen agrupados offer classes to numerous students at that school, which obtain great grades on the entrance exams for the School of Electromechanics.

Besides the ones already offered in Yaguas, the Agrupación, trying to cooperate with the ideal of improving conditions for the Cuban working class, gives classes in literacy, primary education, and entrance to Belén School of Electromechanics at that exemplary work of the Augustinian Fathers, the San Lorenzo School-Dispensary. An average of 160 workers attend these daily classes, from which they come out prepared to continue studies in the School of Electromechanics. Twenty-seven agrupado professors tend to this work.



These are families of workers that, under the direction of the Agrupación, have formed the Workers' Cooperative of the neighborhood of La Lisa. They trust and feel safe that, because of the small capital that they have all saved and deposited in the cashbox of the Cooperative, this will serve to help them in difficult times and to improve their current standard of living.



The Treasury of the Cooperative is made up of workers that have been chosen by their peers. The money is deposited in the Bank. Every week, residents of the neighborhood come to deposit their savings in the cashbox of the Cooperative.

WORKERS' COOPERATIVE



The director of the Cooperative of La Lisa, Humberto Alvira, Engineering student of the Agrupación, explains to some families of the neighborhood the functioning and advantages of the workers organizing themselves in cooperatives to face difficult economic times and to advance their standard of living.

In its important social outreach, the Agrupación managed to carry out an experimental project that has yielded unexpected results, the creation of a workers' cooperative in the neighborhood of Balcón de La Lisa.

The social strategy of Humberto Alvira, director of the work, has managed to make a reality of something that should be broadcast throughout the nation and that can contribute economic improvement to many. Besides the actual cooperative, workers that belong to it receive religious and social instruction.

Visits to "EL RINCON" Leper Sanitarium



CRAMMED into the interior of the "pisi-corre" (stationwagon) of the Agrupación, the cheerful group of young students goes to visit the lepers admitted to El Rincón nearly every month.

Guitars, harmonicas, sweets, cigarettes, and glee circulated amidst the aged pavilions of El Rincón upon the arrival of agrupado students.

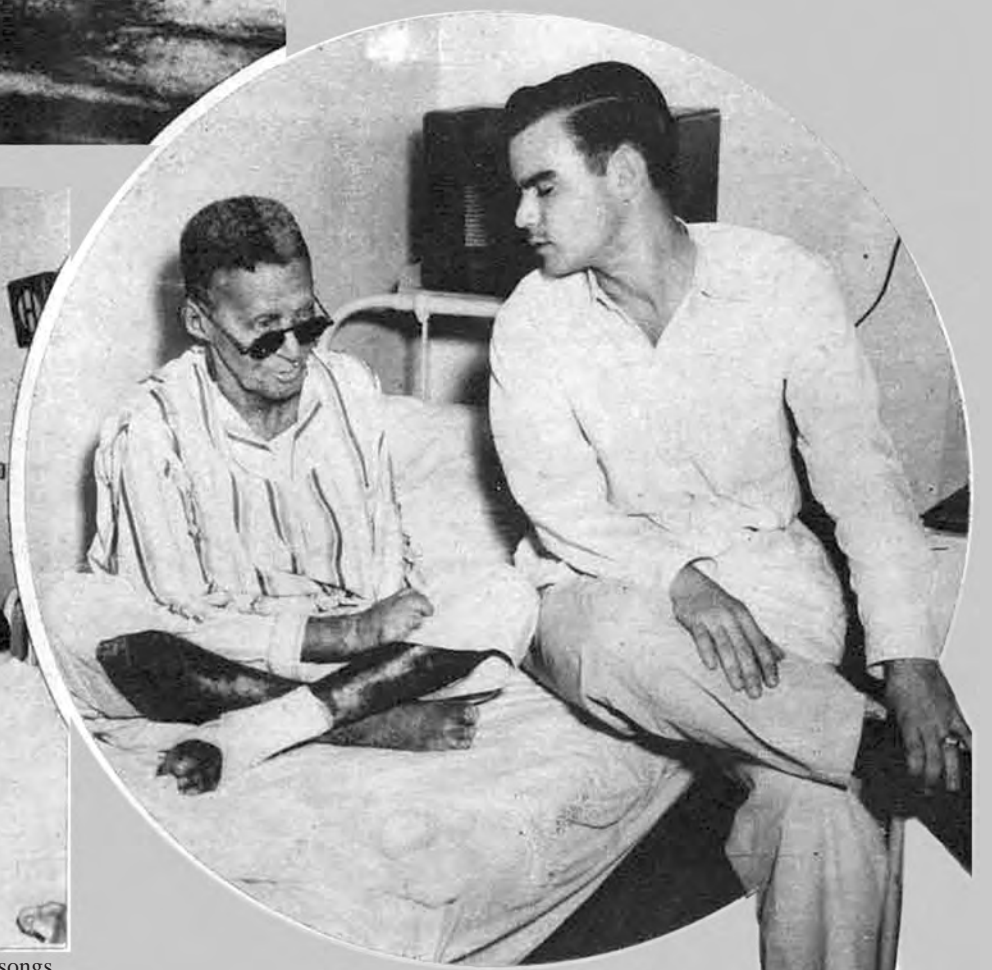
Upon finishing the little "show" where songs and jokes were intermixed, the anticipated word from the Fr. Director or Sub-director brings a balsam of comfort to the poor patients.

Many times, more than a hand to heal a wound, a smile is needed, a kind word to bring peace to the soul.

The visit to lepers is finished, the guitars and harmonicas that filled the Halls of "El Rincón" with cheerful music are now quiet, but on the lips of all the agrupado students is the smile that comes from doing a good deed.



From the control room of the Sanatorium, agrupados transmit musical notes of popular songs, or funny phrases from a dialogue through the loudspeakers of the different wards. The Fathers of the Agrupación, always close this transmission with a few brief words of comfort and encouragement for the patients. The transmission is finished and the Fathers and the agrupados visit different wards to talk with patients and leave them a reminder of the visit.



This is Pascual, the little blind leper, first patient of this Sanatorium, tended by nuns of Charity. Pascual often dedicates heartfelt poems and paragraphs full of gratitude and eloquence to Fathers and agrupados that visit him.

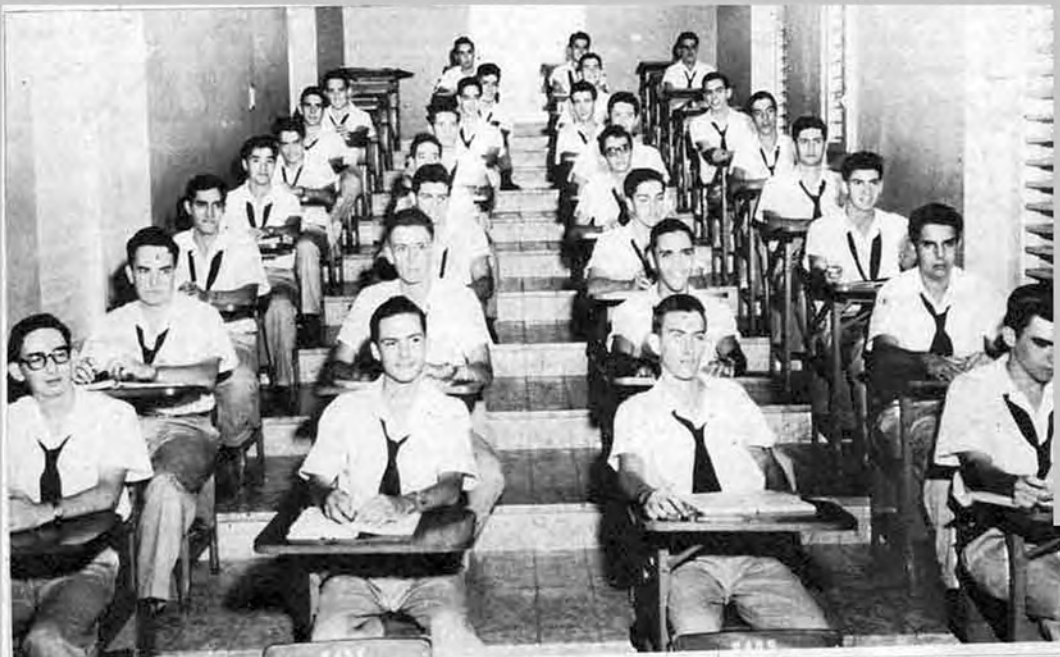
Religion Classes in Lay Schools



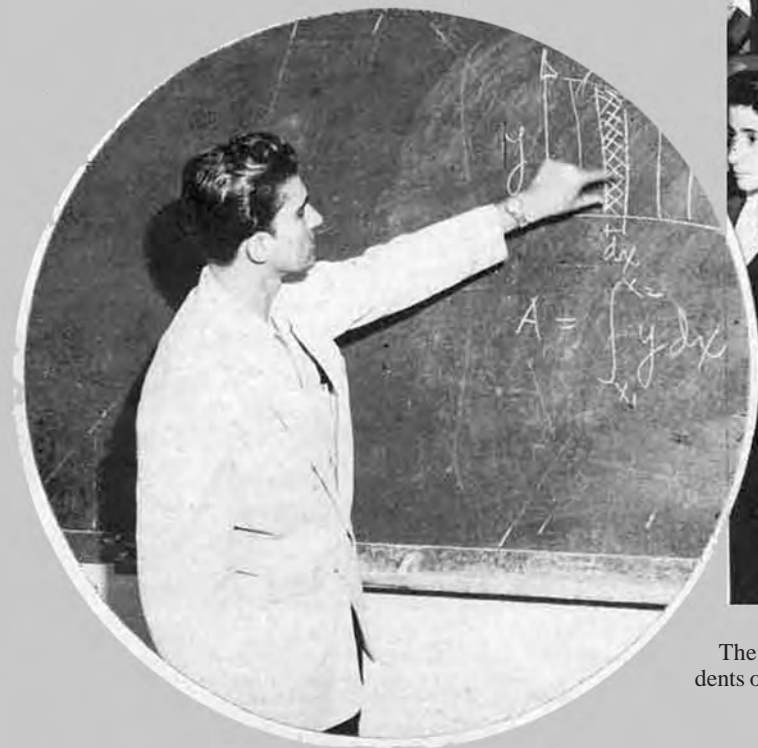
Religion classes in private Schools begin in primary grades and extend to the last years of secondary school.



Eusebio Capetany is one of the agrupados that dedicate themselves to giving Religion and Morality classes to Secondary students in private schools.



Another A.C.U. apostolate is to offer Religion classes in the schools not directed by Religious. The photo captures a moment of class in one of the final courses of Secondary School.



The apostolate of Magisterium among secondary school students of our private campuses is one of the main ones of the A.C.U.

Students of a school that receive religious instruction from agrupados.

TELEVISION



Ignoring barriers that may limit new fields of apostolate, the Agrupación, in cooperation with the feminine Marian Sodality, "Mystic Rose," has taken the voice of Catholicism to television via a Sunday program that goes on air from 12 to 1 PM, through Channel 2 television, entitled "Man and God."

Dr. Valentín Arenas, director of the program, has garnered a great viewership and has managed to turn it into what its motto professes: "Lighthouse for a world that becomes increasingly inhumane and materialistic, precisely because it drifts away from God."

Fr. Barbeito, Sub-director of the A.C.U., celebrated Holy Mass before the cameras in the first part of the program.



The program card, "Man and God," placed before Television cameras, as it is launched on air by Channel 2.



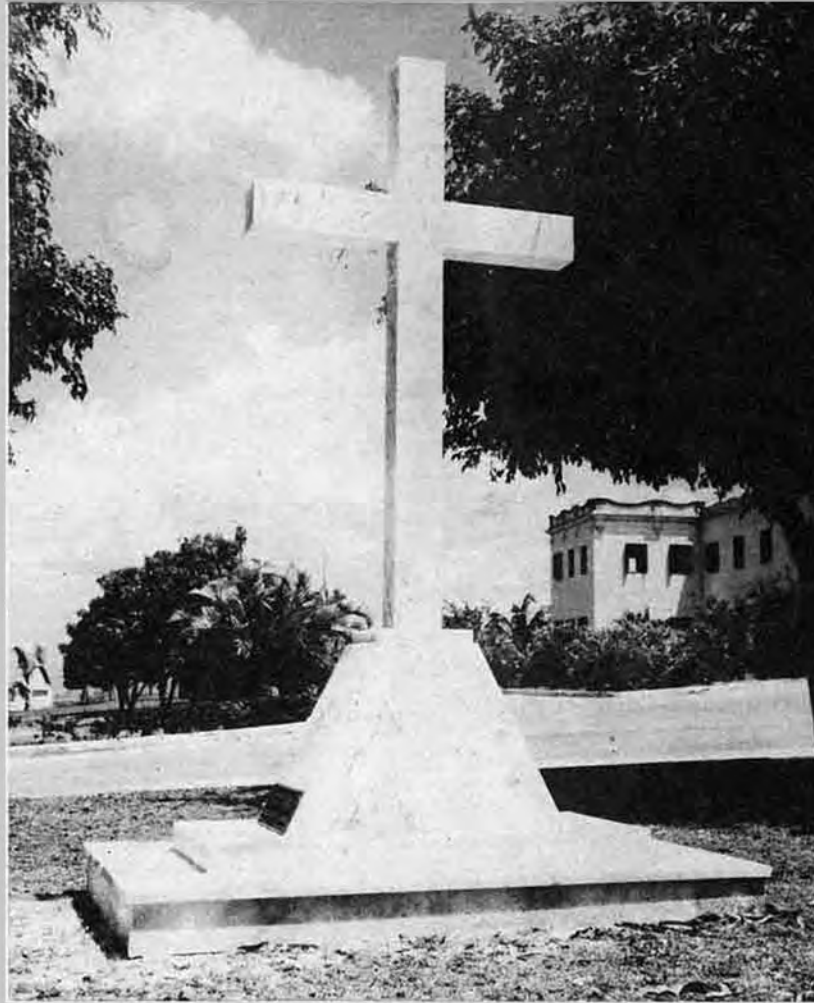
Dr. Valentín Arenas, son, director of the program, makes Catholic commentaries on national current events.



Sometimes, a few guests are invited and a current event is widely debated. The young ladies from the Mystic Rose Sodality usually wrap up the Sunday hour of television with a musical number, or a commentary on feminine current events, or an interview of a female.



Finally, the remainder of the program may turn to a guest interview.



CALVARY VIA CRUCIS



VIA CRUCIS

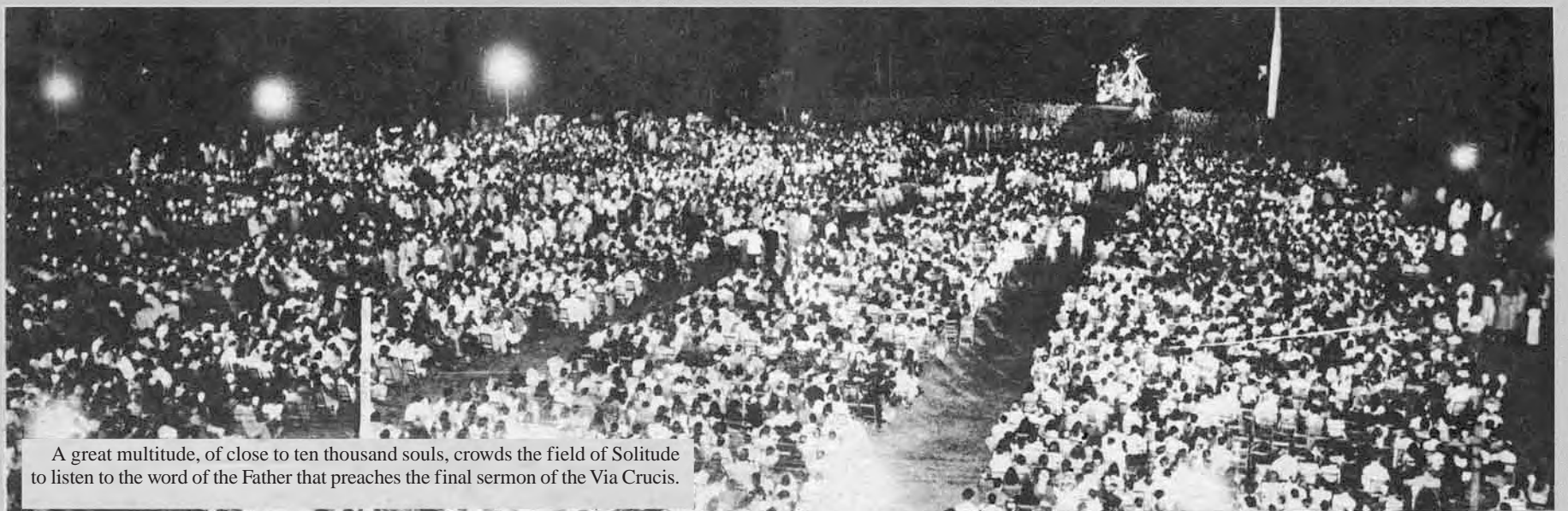


Fr. Llorente, Director of the A.C.U. preaching the Sermon of Solitude before images of the Crucifix and the Holy Virgin of Sorrows.

Sixty crosses carried by men who have volunteered parade before an immense turnout that awaits its time to participate in the great procession that travels through fourteen stations placed around the farm.



The great Via Crucis of Calvary is led by the community of the novitiate of Saint Stanislaus of the Society of Jesus.



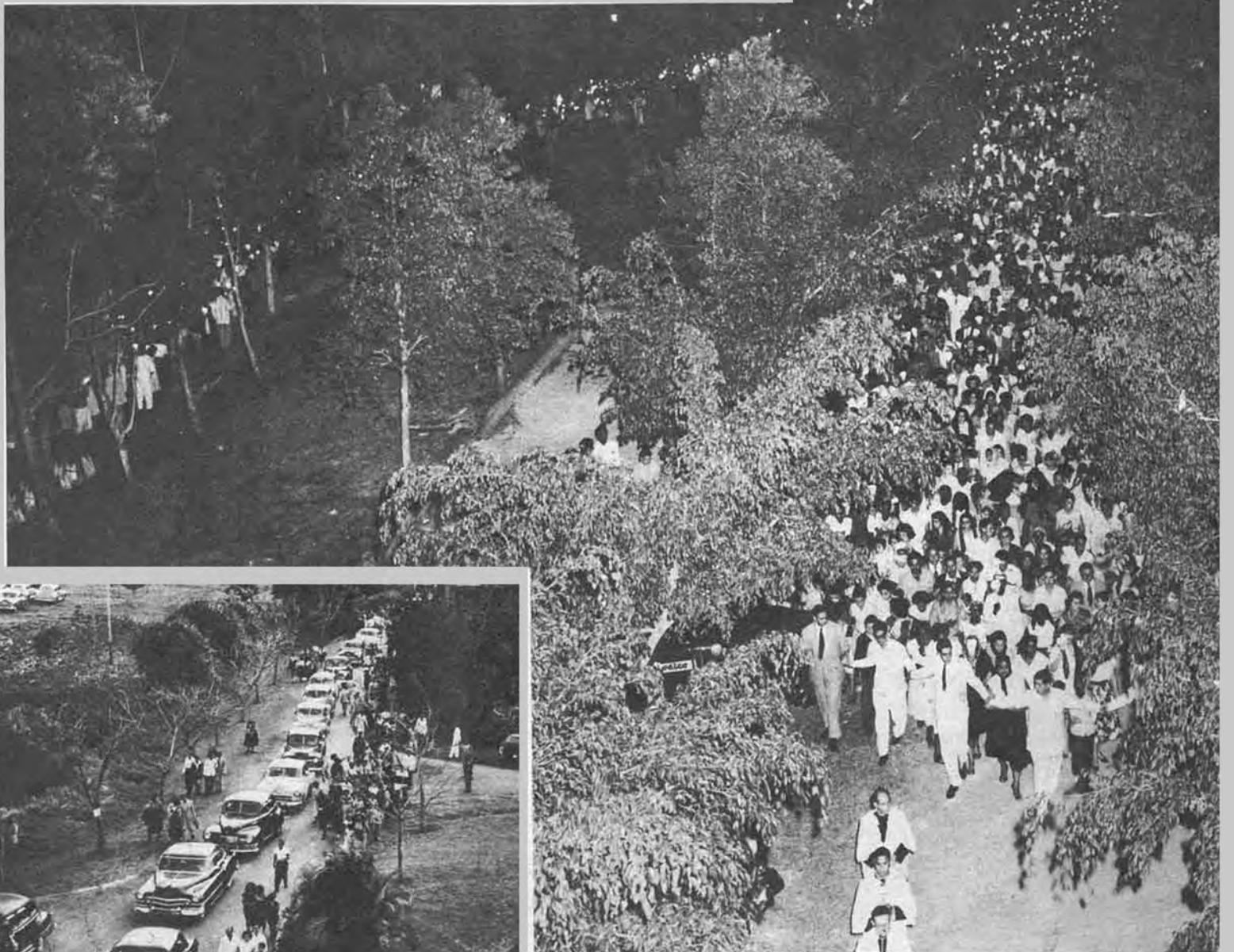
A great multitude, of close to ten thousand souls, crowds the field of Solitude to listen to the word of the Father that preaches the final sermon of the Via Crucis.



The great multitude travels the stations of the Via Crucis of Calvary. Each hand carries a lit candle; the contrast between the lights of the river of candles and the darkness of the night is unforgettable.

Agrupados place themselves in the fourteen stations of the Via Crucis with torches to light the path traveled by the immense multitude that gathers at Calvary on the evening of Good Friday.

The vehicles arrive at Calvary from the early hours of the afternoon in uninterrupted succession. One of the parking zones is visible in the top left.



While those who march at the head of the Via Crucis are reaching the Field of Solitude, the last ones are just leaving it, a true human river over a kilometer long.

FESTIVITIES IN LAS YAGUAS



The students from the night schools have their production under the direction of agrupado professors of the School. These celebrations serve to bring teachers and students together. The picture captures a moment of these representations. In it can be seen Frs. Llorente and Barbeito, Director and Sub-director of the A.C.U., and Brother Aguado. The catechist ladies, many students from the School, and members of their families witness the representation.



The actors from the Night School of Yaguas are surprised in one of the acts of the comedy.



The orchestra of the School livens up one of the intermissions.



← A representative act of "Peter's Boat," where a boy from Yaguas plays the role of Pope.



HYMN OF THE AGRUPACION

Only one our Leader and Master,
Only one our feelings and thoughts,
Only one common goal that unites us,
Come what may we will say, "Esto Vir."

Christ our Lord has a life-giving message,
For a world that is thirsting for God,
Our voices will be that of Christ,
Our hands will be his holy hands.

Our invincible sword: science and knowledge,
Our unyielding shield: pray'r and love,
The most precious honor: to serve,
Living in action and service for all.

Only one our Leader and Master,
Only one our feelings and thoughts,
Only one common goal that unites us,
Come what may, we will say, "Esto Vir."

[International, English version]



A.C.U. PUBLICATIONS

The apostolate of the pen, intellectual apostolate that it is, is one of the A.C.U.'s top objectives. We will understand this fully when we understand that the Agrupación edits six different monthly publications in addition to books and other pamphlets that are not regular, but as needed, and leaving aside the scientific literature written by agrupado professionals in their field of specialty.

In the picture above one can find a collage of these publications of the A.C.U.

Firstly, we should mention the book appearing at the center of the top row: "History of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria", written by Dr. Miguel Figueroa y Miranda for the 25th Anniversary of the A.C.U., which marvelously recounts the evolution of the Institution. A B.I.P. pamphlet entitled **What is the A.C.U.?** written by Dr. José Ignacio Lasaga in English and Spanish, serves to illustrate what an individual or an institution may want to know about the nature and life of this Cuban Marian Sodality.

When it comes to monthly publications, two are of particular scientific interest: "Medical Lumen," published by the Medicine Circle of the A.C.U. with original scientific papers from Circles.

The B.I.P. pamphlets are not included in the picture above, covered elsewhere in this fascicle, are written for the general public on critically important subjects relating to Dogma, Apologetics and Morality from a Catholic perspective.

The Social Circle of the Agrupación also has a general interest publication, "The Debate" newspaper, wherein the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church are expounded upon, as are important current events in Cuban society, in light of said teachings.

It is a periodical that can and should be in the hand of worker and manager, of government and governed. The forthrightness of its intention and level of combativeness is expressed by its motto: "Prudence of spirit is a virtue, of flesh is claudication and cowardice."

Three intimate bulletins, for internal circulation, are published monthly: "Esto Vir", a bulletin that serves to share the Sodality's feeling and thinking, and faithfully reflects the very life of the Agrupación; it is the publication sent to the Agrupación's sister institutions.

"Esto-Ver" possesses the jovial and joyous spirit of the A.C.U.'s university student, for internal circulation only.

"Esto-Virito" is a publication for Aspirants of the A.C.U., half comical, half serious, it attempts to be a faithful representation of the life of A.C.U.'s Aspirants.

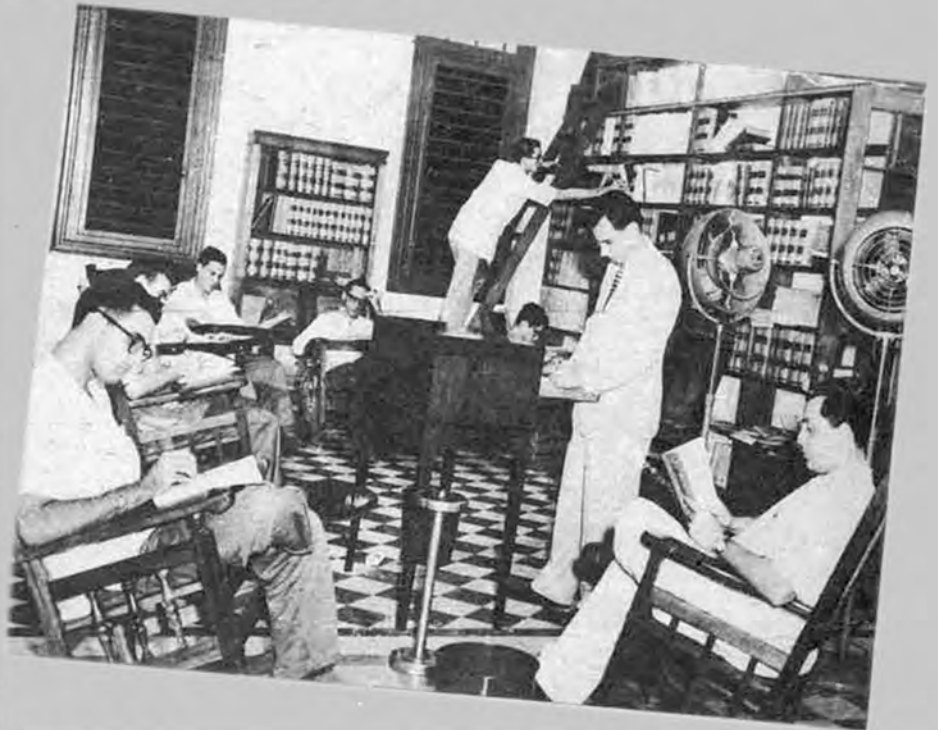
These are the main publications of the Agrupación Católica Universitaria.



Located next to the Agrupación's main entrance is a brand new bookstore, with top works from prestigious publishers, where agrupados and family members can obtain books on Catholic and intellectual formation.



A.C.U.



"Esto Ver"



We are grateful for the anonymous gift that made the publication of these pages possible; through them the Agrupación wishes to put to practice Jesus Christ's counsel: "LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN". (MATTHEW 5:16)